May 18, 2020

TO: Department of City Planning
   City of Los Angeles
   221 North Figueroa Street, Suite 1350
   Los Angeles, CA 90012
   Attn: Mindy Nguyen, City Planner via Email: Mindy.Nguyen@lacity.org

CC: Eric Garcetti, LA City Mayor (mayor.garcetti@lacity.org)
   Mitch O’Farrell, LA City Council Member District 13 (councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org)
   Central Hollywood Neighborhood Council District 4 (alex@mcapus.com)
   David Ryu, LA City Council Member District 4 (david.ryu@lacity.org)
   Vince Bertoni, Director of City Planning (vincent.bertoni@lacity.org)
   Kevin Keller, Office of City Planning (kevin.keller@lacity.org)

RE: Public Comment—Hollywood Center Project Environmental Case: ENV-2018-2116-EIR
   State Clearinghouse No.:2018051002

Dear Department of City Planning, Mindy Nguyen, Mayor Garcetti and Councilmember O’Farrell,

I am a homeowner at the Broadway Hollywood Building Stakeholder and
Historic Resource: The building and site are a LA Historical-Cultural Monument and the
building is a contributor to the Hollywood Blvd Commercial and Entertainment District with its
primary entrance now located at 1665 Vine Street, at the corner of Hollywood Blvd. The
building is listed in the EIR as 6300 Hollywood Boulevard (B.H. Dye Department Store
Building/Broadway Department Store, Map No. B.12.

I am shocked that the EIR was released on April 15, in the middle of a pandemic, with
only a 45-day comment period. To expect me to review a 1500-page document in the middle of
a Shelter in Place order that has completely disrupted my daily life is clearly inappropriate. My
review has necessarily been limited by this administrative failure.

The EIR fails to adequately examine the very negative aesthetic impact of the Hollywood Center. Its two gigantic skyscrapers irreversibly damage the integrated visual look of the
Hollywood area from whatever direction you look. Additionally, an iconic feature of Hollywood is the Broadway Hollywood sign, which can be viewed by cars on the 101 Freeway as they enter Hollywood. This view will be lost. The aesthetic damage is equally severe at the Broadway Hollywood (and neighboring buildings), since the Hollywood Center will block view of such Hollywood landmarks as the Hollywood Sign and the Griffith Park Observatory, diminishing the
aesthetic and cultural significance of the building.
Perhaps most importantly, the EIR is completely deficient in its conclusion that the Hollywood Center will have no significant transportation impact. Before the pandemic traffic was jammed at the Hollywood/Vine intersection. This has been exacerbated by the recent installation of a four-way walk sign (which was not taken into account in the EIR). Traffic will be even worse in future years since diminished ridership on public transportation will result from concerns over the spreading of infectious diseases in crowded spaces. Neither of these factors is considered in the EIR.

The Broadway Hollywood will be particularly negatively impacted because its only entrance is a narrow alley that can be entered only by going south on Vine past Hollywood Blvd and then turning right. The increase in traffic at the Hollywood/Vine intersection will make it even more difficult to enter our building.

Notwithstanding this, the EIR reaches the ridiculous conclusion that the Hollywood Center Project will result in no increased traffic. I am shocked by this conclusion and request that the traffic study be redone appropriately.

Finally, the EIR notes that the Hollywood Center may take up to six years to build. This will clearly result in major traffic disruption for a long period. This factor by itself demands that the utmost scrutiny be given to the project before it disrupts Hollywood for the better part of a decade. It is clear to me that such scrutiny has not occurred.

Sincerely,

[signature]

Cyrus Katsifian