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Sent time: 06/01/2020 12:40:38 PM
To: Mindy.Nguyen@lacity.org; mayor.garcetti@lacity.org; councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org
Cc: Catherine Collinson <cacollinson@yahoo.com>; alex@mcapus.com; david.ryu@lacity.org; vince.bertoni@lacity.org; kevin.keller@lacity.org
Subject: Public Comment--Hollywood Center Project Environmental Case: ENV-2018-2116-EIR, State Clearinghouse No.: 2018051002
Attachments: Comment Letter_The Hollywood Center_ENV-2018-2116-EIR_Submitted by CCollinson_06012020.pdf

Please see my attached comment letter regarding the Hollywood Center Project Environmental Case: ENV-2018-2116-EIR, State Clearinghouse No.: 2018051002. Thank you.

June 1, 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 (alex@mcapus.com)

David Ryu, LA City Council Member District 4 (david.ryu@lacity.org)

Vince Bertoni, Director of City Planning (vince.bertoni@lacity.org)

Kevin Keller, Officer 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 sign 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 1645 Vine Street, at the corner of Hollywood Blvd. The building is identified in the EIR as: 6300 Hollywood Boulevard (B.H. Dyas Department Store Building/Broadway Department Store), Map No. B.12.

I am shocked and disheartened that the EIR was released on April 16, in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic, with only a 45-day comment period. To expect me to review a 1,500-page document in the middle of the Safer at Home order that has completely disrupted my life and the daily lives of other stakeholders is inappropriate and disrespectful. Moreover, over the past few days, the city has been under siege with protests, riots, and looters—a crisis that has required the deployment of the National Guard. As a result, my review of the EIR has been limited by this administrative failure.

First, 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 views of such Hollywood landmarks as the Hollywood Sign and the Griffith Park Observatory, diminishing the aesthetic and cultural significance of the building.

Second, 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 as a result of the approximately 30 projects that have already approved and are underway in the Hollywood area. Furthermore, diminished ridership on public transportation will result from concerns over the spreading of infectious diseases in crowded spaces. None of these factors are 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 appalled by the audacity and incompetence of this conclusion.

Third, 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.

Last but certainly not least, the project is planned in close proximity, if not directly on top, of the Hollywood Earthquake Fault. While numerous geological studies have been conducted with differing opinions, the one thing that is not controversial is the presence of a major fault line near the proposed project site. Why would the City of Los Angeles approve the building of towers that could be severely damaged, split, or collapse in the event of an earthquake —thereby endangering the lives of tens of thousands of Angelinos and tourists?

In summary, I vigorously oppose The Hollywood Center project for the reasons stated above. I am respectfully requesting that you decline approval of it. In doing so, I also would like you to consider alternative uses of the land—perhaps as parks, open air pavilions or other more appropriate uses that can enhance the Hollywood experience for residents and tourists for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Catherine Collinson

**Catherine Collinson, Homeowner
The Broadway Hollywood
1645 Vine St., Apt. #713
Hollywood, CA 90028**