

From: Flora Melendez <flora.melendez@lacity.org>
Sent time: 06/03/2020 08:05:52 AM
To: Mindy Nguyen <Mindy.Nguyen@lacity.org>
Subject: Fwd: MILLENNIUM HOLLYWOOD CENTER DEIR..Comments..DEIR ENV-2018-2116 EIR 20180E1002

Hi there.

I'm forwarding an email received by Vince.

Thank you.

~ Angie



LOS ANGELES
CITY PLANNING

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: Vince Bertoni <vince.bertoni@lacity.org>
Date: Fri, May 29, 2020 at 10:23 PM
Subject: Fwd: MILLENNIUM HOLLYWOOD CENTER DEIR..Comments..DEIR ENV-2018-2116 EIR 20180E1002
To: Flora Melendez <flora.melendez@lacity.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <emma.riordan@aol.com>
Date: Fri, May 29, 2020 at 10:23 PM
Subject: MILLENNIUM HOLLYWOOD CENTER DEIR..Comments..DEIR ENV-2018-2116 EIR 20180E1002
To: <emma.riordan@aol.com>

Comments for Millennium Hollywood Center DEIR....

http://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2013/13-0593_misc_5-15-13.pdf

Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic Crisis.....it was impossible to go through the massive Millennium Hollywood Center DEIR...with no physical meetings, stay at home orders, no Neighborhood Council meetings... .

It would have been nice, decent, to have a comment period extension, as per many requests...so I am submitting comments on The Hollywood Millennium DEIR, from 2013...which I'm more familiar with..it is the same developer, of yet another oversized, traffic inducing, Hollywood historic compromising, out of context project, on the same state geologist confirmed dangerous building site....

It's the story of the opposition expressed, and the lawyers comments representing the opposition, before all the lawsuits were withdrawn once Millennium contributed generously so they would like the obscene projects\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

It has all of Caltrans issues with the Millennium projects that CD13 councilmember stood up and claimed at the city council hearing that Caltrans wasn't opposed to Millennium projects.

'Caltrans waves red flag on Millennium Hollywood project'....

Caltrans has made it clear that without significant changes in the giant Millennium Hollywood project, the effect on the 101 Freeway could be disastrous.

<http://www.latimes.com/business/realestate/la-fi-hiltzik-20130619,0,1425817.column#>

The Judge shut the projects down and agreed with Caltrans ..'Inadequate Traffic Studies'..

It's the story of a developer paid historic preservation consulting firm, and the city went along with their analysis/claim there was no historic compromise plopping the monster skyscrapers in front of the Historic Cultural Monument #857, Capitol Records Building, or compromising the National Historic Register of Famous Places area of Hollywood, totally ignoring, and in conflict with, Hollywood Heritage reasons why they were all wrong for and would compromise the Historic area.
<https://www.hollywoodheritage.org/millennium>

Once again, Millennium got what it paid for, and the city went with the PAID CONSULTANT'S historic 'analysis'....\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

Everyone was/is shamefully on board with blocking, overwhelming, and basically trashing Hollywood's iconic, world renown Historic Resources, The Capitol Records

Building and The Hollywood Sign.

What kind of city allows this?

It also might have LA Conservancy issues/problems/opposition there, until THEY withdrew their law suit and then they liked the projects too..Millennium
\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

And AMDA's issues/problems with the projects until Millennium made a generous contribution, enough for them to withdraw their law suit and like the projects..

...as well as The W Hotel.

Since the city refused to give Angelenos a DEIR Comment Extension, for Millennium's newest projects, ...this is the best I can do, with the kids home from school, the mother in law not well, both husband and myself out of work, lining up and waiting to get into the grocery store, disinfecting everything that comes into the house...and trying to keep the rest of us virus free and healthy and survive A STRESSFUL, FRIGHTENING, PANDEMIC CRISIS.

So, thank you, Planning Director, CD13 Councilmember, and L.A. Mayor for being so very, very understanding.....

2013 Millennium DEIR
http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2013/13-0593_misc_5-15-13.pdf

[IN 2013...COUNCILMEMBER GARCETTI ASKED FOR A MILLENNIUM DEIR COMMENT PERIOD EXTENSION HE GOT IT.....](#)
[THERE WERE NO 'UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES', LIKE A PANDEMIC CRISIS.....](#)

[City of Los Angeles](#)
[February 2013](#)
[Millennium Hollywood Project](#)

[LETTER NO. 04 - COUNCIL OFFICE OF ERIC GARCETTI](#)
[\(pg. 41\)](#)

[Eric Garcetti Councilmember](#)
[13th District Councilmember](#)
[City of Los Angeles](#)
[District 13](#)
[November 2, 2012](#)

[Comment No. 04-1](#)

[The Planning Department has released the draft Environmental Impact Report \(EIR\) for the proposed Millennium Project at 1750 Vine Street, which commenced a 45 day public comment period:](#)

[The proposed project is large in scale and includes what could be one of the tallest buildings in all of Hollywood.](#)

[As I'm sure you are aware, the proposed project has generated controversy among my constituents.](#)

[Accordingly, I request that the public comment period be extended to 60 days to increase the public's opportunity to comment on the draft EIR.](#)

[Letter #4..Page 41..](#)
http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2013/13-0593_misc_05-15-2013.pdf

City File 13-0593
<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=13-059>

MILLENNIUM HOLLYWOOD CENTER DEIR COMMENT PERIOD EXTENSION REQUEST REJECTED.....

Hi,

The City has received your request, together with other requests, for an extension of the Hollywood Center Project Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) comment period in light of COVID-19.

Per CEQA Guidelines Section 15105, the public review period for a Draft EIR should not be less than 30 days nor should it be longer than 60 days,

-----EXCEPT UNDER UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES-----

Thank you.



A PANDEMIC CRISIS IS NOT 'UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES'

A developer of a project that a Judge previously shut down, comes back with another project on the same site, warned by state geologists it's too dangerous to build on, has an active EQ fault running through the site, and people could die if they build there, but that's not.....

'UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES'

Millennium) Hollywood Center EIR: Does the City Really Want to Hear from the Public?

<https://citywatchla.com/index.php/cw/los-angeles/19789-hollywood-center-eir-does-the-city-really-want-to-hear-from-the-public>

Millennium...Despite Corruption Charges, LA Officials are Cutting Corners for Skyscrapers on Earthquake Fault

<https://www.citywatchla.com/index.php/cw/los-angeles/19658-despite-corruption-charges-la-officials-are-cutting-corners-for-skyscrapers-on-earthquake-fault>

MILLENNIUM HOLLYWOOD POSTER CHILD FOR PAY TO PLAY CORRUPTION

<https://citywatchla.com/index.php/la-watchdog-hidden/19847-millennium-hollywood-poster-child-for-pay-to-play-corruption>

Editorial: Just How Dirty is L.A. City Hall? The Times Editorial Board 18 May 2020

<https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2020-05-15/city-hall-corruption-huizar-silent>

To Keep Track of City Hall Corruption, Follow the Lies and Trust Your Eyes

<https://citywatchla.com/index.php/cw/los-angeles/19813-to-keep-track-of-city-hall-corruption-follow-the-lies-and-trust-your-eyes>

Millennium.....HOLLYWOOD CENTER IS MILLENNIUM

The Millennium project is disturbing example of L.A. City leaders trying to get a massive development approved despite formal warnings by the State of California of the project's proximity to the Hollywood Earthquake Fault.

This "rupture fault" is capable of actually rupturing the surface of the land, splitting buildings into pieces.

In 2013, when the project was being considered by the City Council, a rare letter was sent to Council President Herb Wesson by the head of the state's California Geological Survey, alerting Wesson that the project "may fall within an earthquake fault zone."

State Geologist John Parrish said his agency launched a study of the Hollywood fault after several independent studies suggested it may be active.

He warned that that if a deeper study, expected by 2014, found the Hollywood fault to be active, the City of L.A. would be required by state law to withhold permits for new development projects *until testing could prove that there is no risk*. (See Attachment 20. Letter from John Parrish, State Geologist, California Geological Survey).

LA Weekly reported: "State geologists released a long-awaited new map of the Hollywood fault, which confirmed that the Millennium twin skyscraper project, as activists claimed, sits directly atop a fault trace – an old rupture that marks the active fault – and thus is illegal to build."

Caltrans also jumped in, warning that the massive proposed twin skyscrapers, of a precedent-setting height and size for Hollywood, would severely back up the 101 Freeway, creating hazards and environmental effects that could not be mitigated.

Community activist George Abrahams called for a Grand Jury investigation to review how the Millennium project won backing from the City Geologist, Building & Safety, Planning Commission, City Council and the Mayor.

He told *LA Weekly*: "This whole matter stinks so badly that it's time for a criminal investigation to get to the bottom of how City Hall colluded with the developer for so long to hide the truth." (See Attachment 21. *LA Weekly*, March 6, 2014, "[An Earthquake Could Topple Hundreds of Buildings, and L.A. Leaders Are Doing Nothing](#)")

City safety officials agreed with the developer and ignored the California State Geologist, using old maps pre-dating the new findings, and insisting that there was no active fault and the proposed twin skyscrapers were appropriate.

On July 24, 2013, in a 13-0 vote and backed by Mayor Eric Garcetti, the project was approved by City Council.

In 2015, a judge halted the project, ruling that the City of Los Angeles failed to fully assess how the \$1-billion project would affect surrounding neighborhoods.

According to the *Los Angeles Times*, "In a 46-page decision, Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge James C. Chalfant said Los Angeles inappropriately disregarded the concerns of Caltrans that traffic on the 101 Freeway might significantly worsen with the development and be unsafe." (See Attachment 22. [Los Angeles Times. "Judge halts Millennium Hollywood skyscraper project"](#))

It is chilling that today, the investor-developers still seeking to build the Millennium skyscrapers in Hollywood, are the same investment partners who built the disastrous sinking Millennium Tower in San Francisco. That building is sinking into the earth, and leaning over because of its failing foundation.

Millennium Partners anchored the building in sand, not rock.

In 2015, residents of the luxury condo units, which range from \$1.6 to \$10 million, realized their building was sinking.

By 2018, Millennium Tower had sunk 17 inches and tilted 14 inches.

In September 2018, large cracks appeared in a thick window, prompting the City of San Francisco to issue a notice of violation. (See Attachment 23. *NBC Bay News*, September 4, 2018, "[New Crack in San Francisco's Tilting Millennium Tower](#)")

More than 50 lawsuits are underway in San Francisco by condominium owners living in the tilting and sinking Tower. This rare disaster has been widely exposed by *New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and "60 Minutes."

Yet today, the same Millennium Partners group of investor-developers are trying, a second time, to get their twin skyscrapers approved — and they have moved one of their proposed towers directly atop the Hollywood Quake Fault, in defiance of the California State Geologist.

The proposed Millennium twin skyscrapers also have a new name, "Hollywood Center," to escape the Millennium Partners' stained name from its sinking building in San Francisco.

The name change has worked so far: there's been no L.A. media coverage linking the sinking San Francisco skyscraper to the two men proposing twin skyscrapers next to and atop an L.A. quake fault.

However, the *Los Angeles Times* did report the following:

"Most alarming is the fact that the *proposed new project is sited astride the Hollywood Fault Zone and the 7.0 magnitude active Hollywood Earthquake Fault*, as officially Alquist-Priolo mapped by the State of California."

Any construction of an occupied building across this fault is unsafe folly. (See Attachment 24. *Los Angeles Times*, April 12, 2018, "[Controversial \\$1-billion Hollywood high-rise project relaunched by developer](#)").

In the fall of 2018, *The New York Times* reported even worse news:

Earthquake scientists gathering in Los Angeles unveiled a seminal new study that upwardly revises estimates of damage to West Coast skyscrapers from a quake.

The Southern California Earthquake Center, a research organization of seismologists and engineers, has found that the severity of shaking in L.A. and West Coast cities *has been significantly under-estimated*.

L.A.'s tall buildings are, as a result, dangerously under-designed.

Engineers found that buildings higher than 20 stories can suffer far more damage, with greater potential for collapse and widespread death, than believed by local engineers.

The Mayor, City Council and City Departments took no steps to respond, yet researchers at the Southern California Earthquake Center warned that municipal engineers would undoubtedly push back against the shocking findings. (See Attachment 25. [New York Times. June 27, 2018. "A Seismic Change in Predicting How Earthquakes Will Shake Tall Buildings"](#)).

<https://www.2preservela.org/grand-jury-complaint-investigate-pay-to-play/>

STATE GEOLOGIST WARNINGS IGNORED...

"We feel very confident..we're very confident it's there," Parrish told reporters..

"Surface rupture is very dangerous.

In fact, it's calamitous to structures that are built across the surface trace of an active fault."State Geologist Dr. John Parrish....

"It has the potential to rupture sometime in the future..the best thing to do is stay off the trace.."State Geologist Tim McCrink)

MASSIVE HOLLYWOOD PROJECT SITS ATOP QUAKE FAULT, CALIFORNIA SAYS
<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-hollywood-fault-map-20141106-story.html>

"Our conclusion from the data is that there is an active fault, and it does run right along the course that's right along the map," state geologist John Parrish said.

STATE MAP SHOWS ACTIVE FAULT LINE UNDER PROPOSED HOLLYWOOD SKYSCRAPER PROJECT
<http://abc7.com/news/map-shows-fault-line-under-proposed-hollywood-skyscraper-project/384590/>

"It has the potential to rupture sometime in the future..the best thing to do is stay off the trace.." State Geologist Tim McCrink

NEW STATE FAULT MAPS SHOW HIGHER EARTHQUAKE RISKS IN HOLLYWOOD
<http://articles.latimes.com/2014/jan/08/local/la-me-0109-hollywood-fault-20140109>

The state's new map shows that the proposed Millennium Hollywood skyscraper project is within the roughly 500-foot fault zone.

State geologist John Parrish said the state's fault line goes underneath Millennium

"We feel very confident about where we drew that line, within a 50-foot accuracy back and forth..we're very confident it's there," Parrish told reporters at a downtown Los Angeles news conference.

"Surface rupture is very dangerous. In fact, it's calamitous to structures that are built across the surface trace of an active fault."

Los Angeles officials did not order trenching for any of the three projects before the City Council approved those projects.

L.A. COUNCIL OK'S HOLLYWOOD SKYSCRAPERS DESPITE CONCERNS OVER QUAKE FAULT LINE
<http://articles.latimes.com/2013/jul/24/local/la-me-millennium-vote-20130725>

"...concerns about seismic safety were raised, citing the project's proximity to the Hollywood fault.

On Saturday, the head of the California Geological Survey, John Parrish, sent a letter to Council President Herb Wesson alerting him that the skyscrapers "may fall within an earthquake fault zone."

Parrish said Wednesday that a map drawn by his agency in 2010 showed that the Hollywood fault "goes right through the Millennium site."

He criticized a seismic report produced by the developer that said extensive testing showed that the building site was safe and did not lie on the fault line.

Parrish said the report did not refer to his agency's map and left out other important information.

Mayor Garcetti announced Wednesday that he would sign the deal.."

JUDGE THROWS OUT HOLLYWOOD MILLENNIUM SKYSCRAPER PROJECT
<http://www.laweekly.com/news/judge-throws-out-hollywood-millennium-skyscraper-project-5530876>

Millennium San Francisco Leaning and Tilting Tower

60 Minutes

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gTB_HkocZQQ

Questions Mount..Millennium San Francisco

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mBkC11Ymh_4

Millennium San Francisco..More Bad News...Investigative Report

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wfmHw91tuWl>

Millennium San Francisco Can't Stand Straight

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/high-end-san-francisco-apartment-cant-stand-straight/>

Millennium San Francisco Leaning and Tilting Tower

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CmzplpXg5hU>

Millennium (San Francisco) Woes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QBync9-fWpo>

San Francisco's Big Seismic Gamble.....

Link: <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2018/04/17/us/san-francisco-earthquake-seismic-gamble.html>

With Millennium Tower, San Francisco got a foretaste of what it means to have a structurally compromised skyscraper

The area around Millennium Tower is considered among the most hazardous for EARTHQUAKES

The US Geological survey rates the ground there - layers of mud and clay- as having a very high risk of acting like quicksand during an earthquake, a process known as liquification."

Millennium Tower has sunk almost a foot and a half and is leaning 14 inches toward neighboring high rises.

THE DEVELOPER AND CITY OFFICIALS KNEW OF THE BUILDING'S FLAWS FOR YEARS BUT KEPT THEM CONFIDENTIAL UNTIL 2016, WHEN NEWS LEAKED TO THE PUBLIC.

[San Francisco's Landmark Tower for the Rich and Famous is Sinking and Tilting](http://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/SF-s-landmark-tower-for-rich-and-famous-is-sinking-and-tilting)

<http://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/SF-s-landmark-tower-for-rich-and-famous-is-8896563.php?t=1ef0887a203aa214ae&cmpid=twitter-premium>

P.J. Johnston, spokesman for tower builder Millennium Partners and its principal owner, Sean Jeffries, said a nine-month, independent structural safety review in 2014 "determined the settlement has not significantly affected the seismic performance of the building, and does not represent a safety risk."

Millennium's engineers anchored the building over a thick concrete slab with piles driven roughly 80 feet into dense sand.

"To cut costs, Millennium did not drill piles to bedrock," or 200 feet down, the transit center authority said in its statement. Had it done so, the agency said, "the tower would not be tilting today

<http://sf.curbed.com/2016/8/1/12341914/millennium-tower-sinking>

Millennium Tower roundup: Soil testing begins, developer insists it was built to code and inspectors may have known about issues in 2009

Now, a separate report given to homeowners at the site says that the building could sink as far as 31 inches eventually.

http://www.bizjournals.com/sanfrancisco/blog/real-estate/2016/09/millennium-tower-sf-tilting-scandal-details-emerge.html?ana=e_me_set1

San Francisco board of supervisors millennium hearing -- 9-22-2016

http://www.bizjournals.com/sanfrancisco/blog/real-estate/2016/09/millennium-tower-sf-tilting-scandal-details-emerge.html?ana=e_me_set1

Sinking Millennium Tower puts building agency on the spot

<http://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/Sinking-Millennium-Tower-puts-building-agency-on-9220921.php>

<http://www.businessinsider.com/why-is-millennium-tower-sinking-2016-9/#san-francisco-supervisor-aaron-peskin-says-yes-in-early-september-peskin-raised-suspicion-that-city-officials-knew-the-building-might-sink-before-anyone-moved-in-11>

video of hearing:

http://sanfrancisco.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=11&clip_id=26197

A 58-story skyscraper in San Francisco is sinking and people are fighting over whose fault it is

<http://www.businessinsider.com/why-is-millennium-tower-sinking-2016-9/#millennium-tower-sits-on-the-edge-of-san-franciscos-eastern-shoreline-1>

Everything we know about the Millennium Tower scandal - Business Insider

<http://www.businessinsider.com/why-is-millennium-tower-sinking-2016-9/#theres-also-confusion-about-why-the-buildings-developers-were-allowed-to-anchor-the-building-80-feet-into-packed-sand-rather-than-200-feet-down-to-bedrock-12>

L.A. IGNORES STATE GEOLOGIST FOR MILLENNIUM PROJECTS.....

State Geologist Dr. John Parrish confirmed Millennium Hollywood Vine building site is on an active EQ fault line, and warned is too dangerous to build on.

MASSIVE HOLLYWOOD PROJECT SITS ATOP QUAKE FAULT, CALIFORNIA SAYS

<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-hollywood-fault-map-20141106-story.html>

"Our conclusion from the data is that there is an active fault, and it does run right along the course that's right along the map," state geologist John Parrish said.

NEW STATE FAULT MAPS SHOW HIGHER EARTHQUAKE RISKS IN HOLLYWOOD

<http://articles.latimes.com/2014/jan/08/local/la-me-0109-hollywood-fault-20140109>

The state's new map shows that the proposed Millennium Hollywood skyscraper project is within the roughly 500-foot fault zone.

"We feel very confident about where we drew that line, within a 50-foot accuracy back and forth..we're very confident it's there," Parrish told reporters at a downtown Los Angeles news conference.

"Surface rupture is very dangerous. In fact, it's calamitous to structures that are built across the surface trace of an active fault."

Los Angeles officials did not order trenching before the City Council approved projects.

PRESS RELEASE:

WHILE PANDEMIC RAGES, CITY OF LA RELEASES ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR NEW MILLENNIUM HOLLYWOOD PROJECT

Under a Cloud of FBI Investigations, and for Same Developer that Built the “Leaning Tower of San Francisco,” LA Officials Slap Public in the Face

In the midst of the COVID-19 crisis, the City of Los Angeles on April 16, 2020 released the draft environmental impact report for the new Millennium Hollywood skyscrapers project. And the City did so with the bare minimum 45 days for the public to comment.

“Could the city be any more corrupt at this time?” said attorney Robert P. Silverstein, who has successfully fought the LA City Council and Millennium developer for several years.

Regarding the city’s action today (see notice from City Planning Dept. at bottom of this email), Silverstein noted:

“This is the project that the Mayor Eric Garcetti and Councilman Mitch O’Farrell greenlighted to put skyscrapers on top of the 7.0-magnitude Hollywood Earthquake Fault.”

“This is the project where Councilman Mitch Englander in July 2013 mysteriously conducted the hearing that led to the City Council’s approval.”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xMe7fq_ZXcQ&t=13s

“Englander last month agreed to plead guilty to federal obstruction of justice, part of a wider-ranging federal corruption probe of LA City officials.”

“This is the project that won the City Council’s Planning and Land Use Management Committee approval in June 2013. Two of the committee’s three members were Councilman Jose Huizar, who is himself under FBI investigation, and Englander, soon to be in federal prison.”

“This is the project where the City’s Department of Building and Safety, under then head Raymond Chan, approved the developer’s bogus earthquake studies. The FBI is also investigating Chan, as repeatedly reported in the media.”

“This is the project where the California State Geologist warned the City Council of grave threat to human life because of the project’s location over the Hollywood Earthquake Fault. The mayor and City Council ignored the state’s top geologist.”

“This is the project that Caltrans fought, stating the city and Millennium’s traffic studies were fraudulent.”

“This is the project from the same developer, Millennium Partners, guilty of the ‘Leaning Tower of San Francisco’ disaster.”

“And this is the project that more than 40 community groups and thousands of residents pleaded with city leaders to deny, all to no avail.”

That forced stopthemillenniumhollywood.com, community groups represented by Silverstein, to sue the City Council and Millennium in 2013.

In 2015, Silverstein and the community won the trial against the City Council and Millennium.

The City Council and Millennium appealed and lost.

The City Council then went to the California Supreme Court and again lost.

“But like Jason from the grave, Millennium is back.”

“This time they slightly tweaked the project and are lurking under a new name, called ‘Hollywood Center’.

But a rose by any other name stinks just as bad,” Silverstein said.

“ ‘Hollywood Epicenter’ is more accurate,” he added.

“These massive proposed skyscrapers will have all the dangers of the original project, and more.”

Silverstein explained that developer Millennium Partners rebranded the project

...“to avoid the taint of their bogus earthquake studies, and to hide their connection to the San Francisco leaning and sinking tower, one of the biggest construction screw ups in modern times.”

On the same day Garcetti is reported in the LA Times to be looking at pay cuts and furloughs for city workers because of the COVID-19 crisis, and announced “there will be big cuts,” his Planning Department drops this bomb on the public, said Silverstein.

“In this dire time, it’s a disgrace that Garcetti and his strained city staff are working so tirelessly for a developer with such a shady record,” Silverstein said.

“What kind of leadership is this, and how many more city officials should the FBI investigate?” asked Silverstein.

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