# THE SILVERSTEIN LAW FIRM

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July 8, 2020

MAJOR PROJECTS UNIT

#### VIA EMAIL

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#### VIA EMAIL

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#### VIA EMAIL

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# VIA EMAIL

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Mitch O'Farrell, Councilmember Jeanne Min, Chief of Staff Council District 13 200 N. Spring St., Room 480 Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re:

Demand for Inclusion of Original, June 1, 2020 California Geological Survey Comment Letter re Hollywood Center Draft Environmental Impact Report; Case No. ENV-2018-2116-EIR; SCH 2018051002

Dear Mayor Garcetti, City Attorney Feuer, Councilman O'Farrell, and Mr. Bertoni:

With regard to the controversial Millennium "Hollywood Center" project by the same developer responsible for the Leaning Tower of San Francisco disaster, it has come to our attention that the California Geological Survey ("CGS"), the state agency responsible for seismic safety and mapping issues, prepared an analysis of the Hollywood Center Draft Environmental Impact Report ("EIR").

### Engineer who signed off on Millennium Tower says builders needed one more expert to certify soil

"The Tower is on a landfill and should have gone to bedrock and he knew it but he wanted to appease the developer, Millennium Partners, by greasing the skids, and he got caught." <a href="https://www.bizjournals.com/sanfrancisco/news/2017/02/03/engineer-millennium-tower.html">https://www.bizjournals.com/sanfrancisco/news/2017/02/03/engineer-millennium-tower.html</a>

Mayor Eric Garcetti City Attorney Mike Feuer Councilman Mitch O'Farrell July 8, 2020 Page 2

It has also come to our attention that the CGS's analysis was signed, stamped, and ready to be filed with City Planning on or before June 1, 2020. However, it was suppressed from the EIR process and from public view at the last minute. We believe the developer interfered with the release of this document. This would not be the first time the developer was accused of hiding crucial information.

To date, the state has violated our rights under the Public Records Act, Govt. Code § 6250 et seq., by failing to comply with my requests for that document. Given concerns about seismic safety issues at the Hollywood Center site, this CGS document is critically important, and must be part of the Hollywood Center EIR.

## Herrera sues developer for failing to tell home buyers that Millennium Tower was sinking

"My office has a duty to protect all the taxpayers of San Francisco," City Attorney Dennis Herrera said. "We are not going to sit by and allow a developer – or anyone else – to enrich themselves at the expense of others **by hiding crucial information** that they're required by law to disclose." https://www.sfcityattorney.org/2016/11/03/herrera-sues-developer-failing-tell-home-buyers-millennium-tower-sinking/

On behalf of my client, StopTheMillenniumHollywood.com, as well as dozens of community groups and thousands of Los Angeles residents already on record in opposition to this dangerous project, we request each of you to join us in demanding that the CGS make its original, June 1, 2020 document public now. The public has had enough of the City Council and other officials looking the other way for developers.

We also ask each of you to confirm that the CEQA and land use application processing for Hollywood Center will cease until the CGS's unaltered report, i.e., the one prepared, signed and stamped on or before June 1, 2020, is provided. Alarmingly, we have learned that state actors are currently altering the CGS's original document to "sanitize" it, with the apparent intent to pass off such altered document as the original, or just to bury the original and replace it with this doctored version.

At a time when LA City Hall is under withering FBI scrutiny, your constituents need fullest transparency and accountability. We urge you to stand for transparency and public safety by joining us in the above demands. Perhaps this will help restore some of the public's confidence in how the City approaches development projects – especially those built in earthquake fault zones.

Please promptly make your position known on this critical issue. Thank you.

Very truly yours,
/s/ Robert P. Silverstein
ROBERT P. SILVERSTEIN
FOR
THE SILVERSTEIN LAW FIRM, APC

RPS:vl

cc: Nury Martinez, City Council President Councilman David Ryu CD4 and CD13 Constituent Groups