

**From:** Eric Dowdy <edowdy@leadingageca.org>  
**Sent time:** 05/19/2020 10:38:18 AM  
**To:** mindy.nguyen@lacity.org  
**Subject:** Support for Hollywood Center  
**Attachments:** Hollywood Center - SUPPORT.pdf

---

Ms. Nguyen,

Please see the attached letter of support for the Hollywood Center. We believe this is an important project to meet the desperate housing needs of older Californians. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at any time. Thank you for your consideration.

Eric Dowdy, MPPA | Chief Government Affairs Officer | LeadingAge California | P [\(916\) 469-3376](tel:9164693376) | F (916) 254-5742  
1315 I Street, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95814 | [leadingageca.org](http://leadingageca.org) | [edowdy@leadingageca.org](mailto:edowdy@leadingageca.org)



**THANK YOU** to our **members** for  
*Keeping California's Older Adults Safe!*



1315 I Street, Suite 100  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
P: 916-392-5111  
F: 916-428-4250  
[www.leadingageca.org](http://www.leadingageca.org)

May 19, 2020

Department of Planning, City of Los Angeles  
Attn: Mindy Nguyen  
221 North Figueroa Street, Suite 1350  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Hollywood Center Project - ENV-2018-2116-EIR

Dear Ms. Nguyen,

I submit this letter on behalf of LeadingAge California in strong support of the proposed Hollywood Center project. Our 600+ members and partners include not-for-profit organizations representing the entire field of aging services, businesses, consumer groups, foundations and research partners.

Since 1961, our organization has advocated for the critical needs of older adults throughout the state. As time passes, and we collectively face a potential economic collapse, we recognize that there is no greater need for these adults than shelter, especially in larger cities where the cost of living exceeds that of Social Security benefits.

In the U.S. more than 35 percent of people over the age of 65 live entirely on their social security benefit. In large cities like Los Angeles it is often the case that the benefit received is insufficient to pay for rent, in addition to food, healthcare, and other monthly necessities. Rental housing is a popular housing option for older adults who seek more accessibility and less maintenance. However, while there are over 200,000 older adults in affordable rental housing in California, almost two-thirds of senior households who qualify for affordable housing don't receive it, because there is just not enough supply.

Hollywood Center would be a part of the solution. The 133 units in this project dedicated for very low to extremely low-income older adults is exactly the type of development Los Angeles needs. The idea of creating residential developments that specifically provide safe and affordable housing for our older population should be encouraged.

Additionally, as we support the need to preserve the health of older adults, we also believe just as critical is the health of our planet. Hollywood Center's LEED Gold commitment and Transportation Demand Management Program will incentivize residents and visitors alike to utilize alternate modes of transportation, thereby limiting carbon output and ensuring the health of residents today and into the future.

The cost of development in Los Angeles is high, and with this pandemic it is only expected to increase. Projects like this which incorporate affordable housing managed by an experienced and responsible non-profit housing provider are a great way to ensure that the supply needed continues to grow, as we know the demand will not stop. For that reason, we support Hollywood Center and ask that you please do not delay this project. It's time to give affordable housing the attention it deserves. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Dowdy".

Eric Dowdy, MPPA  
Chief Government Affairs Officer