



Crossroads Project Comments

1 message

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Mon, Jul 24, 2017 at 10:15 PM

To: alejandro.huerta@lacity.org

Cc: artdecola.adsla@gmail.com, councilmember.ryu@lacity.org, councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org, cd4issues@lacity.org

Dear Mr. Huerta:

As a member of Hollywood Heritage and a long time member of the community, I am writing in opposition to the Crossroads Project, because of its disastrous effects on Hollywood.

- 1) It would tear down historic structures, including the Hollywood Reporter building, which are still in use more than 80-100 years after creation. This means they are being adaptively reused. The Hollywood Reporter building itself had a major impact on Hollywood as the site of entertainment trade papers for more than 80 years. It was built by one of Hollywood's most important figures and designed by a famous architect. Older construction is the only 100% green solution, since it is already standing, doesn't hurt the environment, and releases nothing to the atmosphere, whereas new construction causes the destruction of trees and other landscapes, is more likely to suffer termite damage, contains many plastic elements, and releases pollutants into the atmosphere. We need well made older buildings, not green wood, poorly made stucco and glass that will deteriorate quickly.
- 2) We are in a desert, having to import water since 1913. Where is all the additional water, etc. coming from for all these new tenants, since it can't take care of us now? How will 80-90 year old water/sewage pipes survive all this extra usage, since many are exploding now from said usage?
- 3) Why tear down affordable rent control units that the middle class are living in to build upscale residences, when we have a growing homeless population because people can't afford the upscale places? Where is the middle class supposed to go, live like sardines, move to Palmdale, or hope they can become a chauffeur or maid to a robber baron? Downtown is heading to a crash, since they are at 9% vacancy and growing because of overbuilding. Are we trying to do the same in Hollywood? We need rent control and middle class units, not more upscale residences that people aren't buying or renting and sitting on the market forever.
- 4) We do not need 22 alcohol permits within two blocks of three schools and two churches, unless you want to see how many children or churchgoers can be hit and killed. We are in a drug and alcohol crisis, do we want to see how badly we can raise it?
- 5) Why do we want to destroy business along Hollywood and Sunset Boulevards in order to create a new Times Square? The developers idea is to create a giant funnel pulling people away from these main streets and therefore destroying their businesses. We already have a main intersection, Hollywood and Highland, we don't need another one.
- 6) We don't need to see Las Palmas altered. It is laid out as all the streets in Hollywood were, to differentiate and mark the distances between farms. Changing directions will cause even more traffic problems and require water pipes, sewage pipes, electrical wiring, etc. to be rerouted to create a new, not needed street.
- 7) We do not need to lose views of the Hollywood Hills from the South, nor lose sight of Mid-Wilshire/lower Hollywood from the North because of three 30 story towers dominating the skyline, taller than everything else. No one will be able to see the Crossroads any more, because everything is going to dwarf it. We also don't need a hotel, with bars, across the street from a high school, unless you're trying to see the degradation of the high school students.
- 8) We do not need more luxurious hotels, we need good middle class hotels because there are virtually none. People coming to the TCM Classic Film Festival and Cinecon ask where there are good but cheap hotels in the Hollywood area, and when finding none, are staying in the Valley, Koreatown, or mid-Wilshire areas and driving, therefore putting more cars on the street. Do we only care about the rich now, or does the middle class mean anything to the city of Los Angeles?
- 9) We do not need increased traffic in the city. The developers are building as if there are still streetcar lines down Hollywood and Sunset Boulevards and Highland Avenue, when we only have one subway line in Hollywood. The people "working" in the new buildings won't be able to afford to live there, so they'll be driving great distances to get there. People coming to the hotel will be driving cars, not taking the subway to get there. The rich living in their fancy condos will not be riding buses or taking the subway with the unclean masses. Traffic is bad now, people will walk faster than traffic will be moving if all this goes through. And we'll still have only one subway line when it's all finished.
- 10) One building in Crossroads will be torn down and another moved and altered. That is not "preserving" Crossroads, that is altering and destroying history.
- 11) Where are the patrons of the Egyptian Theatre are supposed to park when this does away with virtually all the parking lots around it? Are you trying to destroy the business at a historic landmark? What about Miceli's? Boardner's? Larry Edmunds? Pig n Whistle? Mel's? etc.? Where are their patrons supposed to park and do business, or do they not matter any more?

12) The open Crosswalk and open spaces will give more space for the homeless to camp out, so I'm glad they want to be a homeless shelter.

I ask that the city oppose the approval of this project, which would destroy the community atmosphere and environment of Hollywood.

Sincerely,
Mary Mallory