November 30, 2012

Srimal Hewawitharana
Environmental Specialist II
Los Angeles Department of City Planning
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Request for Extension for Public Comment Period for Millennium DEIR

Dear Ms. Hewawitharana:

The Board of the Hollywood United Neighborhood Council (HUNC) voted at its regularly scheduled Board meeting on Monday, November 19, 2012 to formally request an extension on the review period for the Millennium project in our area. While we have been tracking this development for years, the timing of the release of the DEIR right before the start of the holiday season has not allowed us as much time as we feel is needed to properly analyze and comment on a project of this size and impact. We join with numerous other community organizations to ask that the December 10, 2012 deadline be extended by an additional 30 or 45 days.

HUNC only just received the DEIR, which is sizable in length and heavy on details, in early November. While we were able to convene one meeting of our Planning & Land Use Committee to hear a presentation from the developer on the proposal, many questions remain among our committee members and the public. Also, as noted by the Hollywood Dell Civic Association and others, it is very difficult to respond to a project that does not include a specific proposal, but instead a matrix of options that range between FARs of 4.5 to 6. HUNC has gone on record opposing any kind of skyscraper, and would prefer lower heights.

Reference was made at our Board meeting by a Millennium representative to community benefits, but these are to be negotiated between the developer and the City, which make it difficult for our Board to see what the final package might be for the project. We are underwhelmed by what we have heard, showers for bike riders for example, and curious whether the City will ask for tangible improvements that will help mitigate not just the impact that the project will have on the intersections deemed by a traffic consultant to be impacted, but more generally across Hollywood to help improve overall mobility.

Our Board is holding a special meeting, in conjunction with our PLUM Committee, on December 6 to further discuss the issues around this project and prepare a list of issues we would like to see the Planning Department address before Millennium goes before the City Council. Given how long we have waited to engage in this conversation and how incomplete and at the same time overwhelming the information about this project is, we ask for an extended Public Comment period so that we and other interested community groups can fully consider the potential impact to local small businesses and residents.

Sincerely,

SUSAN SWAN               ERIK SANJURJO               SCOTT LARSON               JIM VAN DUSEN
President               Vice President             PLUM Co-Chair               PLUM Co-Chair