June 13, 2018

Governor’s Office of Planning & Research  
Re: HOLLYWOOD CENTER PROJECT  
Tracking Number: 2018051002

The Hollywood Center Project (HCP) falls within the boundaries of the Hollywood United Neighborhood Council (HUNC). HUNC met on June 18, 2018 and has voted to recommend that the Application for Environmental Leadership Development Project protection by the Hollywood Center Project be Rejected based on the following facts and observations:

1. The original Millennium Project, the precursor project for the Hollywood Center Project, was filed by Millennium Hollywood LLC in 2013. A Court Order in 2015 prevented the project from moving forward due, in part, to questions as to whether or not the project ran under or was adjacent to the Hollywood Earthquake Fault Zone. In addition, CalTrans had substantial concerns for the impact of the original Millennium Project on the adjacent freeway entrances. The proposed Hollywood Center Project is simply the old Millennium plan with some minor changes, with the major issues continuing to be unresolved.

2. There are concerns about the developer's (Millennium Partners') construction methods/choices that they will bring to this project. Millennium Partners' is the developer responsible for the Millennium Tower in San Francisco that is currently in litigation due to the Millennium Tower having already tilted 2 inches and sinking 16 inches into the ground (exceeding initial expectations that it would settle 12 inches during its lifetime) because of their decision that it was unnecessary for the foundations to go down to bedrock.

3. Both the “old” Millennium Hollywood project, the San Francisco Millennium project, and the Hollywood Center Project involve extremely tall buildings and dense development and requires (or required) substantial and unusual variances. As a result, all of the above concerns demand a greater scrutiny by the public. The fact that the earlier version of the Hollywood Center Project as well as the
current version is to build next to the Hollywood Fault Zone, and that they made a decision to build the San Francisco Millennium Tower on what now turns out to be inadequate footing, makes it clear that limiting the time to file any lawsuit would be detrimental to the public interest. The public safety concerns are the potential problems of an earthquake and any damage that might occur to the HCP as well as the extensive problematic issues and potential public area problems that will result from the extreme size of the development if not built with adequate safeguards and oversight.

4. Hollywood is geographically at the center of Los Angeles. The Hollywood Center Project is of such a massive scale that any major failure on its part could negatively impact the ability of the city to transact business or for safety vehicles to get to the areas of need. This is especially true if, as CalTrans concluded with the original Millennium Project, the Hollywood Freeway access is compromised due to the lack of complete and transparent planning and construction of the HCP.

4. The extreme size of the project, and the complexity of the major issues of public safety and potential infrastructure failure that this project will cause makes it virtually impossible that any of the major problems will be observable in the 275 day period in which a lawsuit could be filed against the project under the Environmental Leadership Development Project designation.

To deny the public this right of remedy in light of the extraordinary safety issues that are raised and by the developer’s prior construction record would be a major disservice to the public.

5. Relieving the developer of the potential of any lawsuits being filed could encourage them to make what would be expedient and perhaps cost-saving construction decisions that could cause major safety and environmental problems that would affect a significantly-populated geographical area. It is critical that all manner and methods of review and redress be available to the public to ensure that this project is built in a safe and responsible manner.

Thank you for your consideration,
Sincerely yours,

Jim Van Dusen*  
Chair, Planning and Land Use Management Committee

Susan Swan*  
President

*signed electronically