

Communication from Public

Name: M. Robinson

Date Submitted: 07/31/2019 02:05 PM

Council File No: 00-9999

Comments for Public Posting: MUSIC BOX THEATER Sergio Ibarra, City Planner Los Angeles Department of City Planning Major Projects Unit 221 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 1350 Los Angeles, California 90012 Dear Mr. Ibarra, I have been an active member of the Hollywood community since 1948 as a resident, a film maker and an actor in theater and film and I have had the privilege of experiencing the Fonda Theater first hand both as a performer and as a member of an audience. Without a robust long-term agreement for the continued right to access Gower, the fate of Hollywood's premier music venue is in jeopardy. Since it's opening on October 18, 1926, (then known as the Carter DeHaven Music Box) The Fonda Theater has been an important part of Hollywood's history. Among the first investors in the new theater were John Barrymore, John Gilbert, Reginald Denny, King Vidor, and Mae Murray.[2] It opened in 1926 with a revue called Fancy. The Music Box switched from revues to legitimate theater in 1927 with the west coast premiere of Chicago, starring Clark Gable and Nancy Carroll. Stage plays continued at the Music Box for nearly two decades—aside from a period beginning in 1936 when the site was used as a broadcasting studio by Lux Radio Theater.[3] In 1945, Fox West Coast purchased the building and remodeled it for film exhibition in a Streamline Moderne decor, which included covering the Spanish Colonial Revival façade with sheet metal. Opening in February, 1945, the theater showed movies for 32 years; first as the Guild Theatre, then as the Fox Theatre, and finally as the Pix Theatre, before closing its doors in 1977.[4] The Nederlander Organization reopened the house as a legitimate theater in 1985, and renamed it in honor of film and stage actor Henry Fonda. In ensuing years, productions such as the Pulitzer Prize winning play Glengarry Glen Ross, and Driving Miss Daisy graced the stage. Efforts to restore the theater to its Roaring Twenties glory began in 2002, culminating in the original name being placed back on the marquee.[5] In 2012, Goldenvoice took over the Music Box and changed the name back to The Fonda Theatre.[6] The theater was named the top venue in Los Angeles by LA Weekly in 2015.[7] Now is the time to stand up to big development and act to save LA's most adored concert venue. Please help to ensure that this historic venue is protected and remains a jewel of Hollywood for generations to come. Sincerely,

Mary Margaret Robinson 8086 Woodrow Wilson Drive Los
Angeles, CA. 90046