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Councilmember Tom LaBonge
 Via email: om.labonge@lacity.org

Re: 245 Motion on RAP Self-operation of the Greek Theatre

April 21, 2015

Dear Councilmember LaBonge:

We urge you to support the Section 245 Motion that halts the fast tracking of the RAP self-operation plan by asserting jurisdiction over the current plan for RAP to assume management of the Greek Theatre.

The Los Feliz Neighborhood Council (LFNC) was disappointed to learn that on April 15, the RAP Commission approved the Staff recommendation to go forward with this plan.

When the City Council denied approval of RAP's RFP award choice, RAP was instructed to reevaluate the RFP proposals or institute a new RFP process in close consultation with the community and the Council's Arts, Parks, Health, Aging and River Committee. RAP did neither of these.

Instead, staff came up with a new option: RAP will run the venue. Insufficient time was afforded the public to review this proposal and offer comment. We feel they rendered a hasty decision with insufficient detail at their disposal and little public consideration and did so with an alarming lack of transparency.

The LFNC wishes to register our opposition to this move. We concur with the Greek Theatre Advisory Committee (GTAC) letter of April 8th and the Los Feliz Improvement Association letter of April 12th stating that the city is not qualified to undertake the management of this venue. We also agree that, for the sake of the community and the venue, the best course would be to enter into a two-year extension of the expiring contract with the current operator so that you have time to prepare a new RFP.

Both the Recreation and Parks Commission and the Recreation and Parks Department have failed to engage the Neighborhood Councils and the community in the process that led to this decision. We feel strongly that this decision is a mistake and disregarding the needs of the community is an unconscionable mistake.

Please, assert Council jurisdiction over this matter.

Sincerely,

Linda Demmers

Linda Demmers, President
 Los Feliz Neighborhood Council

Cc: Herbert J. Wesson, Jr., President of the Los Angeles City Council