

File # 0617

Leni Fleming <lenifleming@gmail.com> Mon, Jun 29, 2015 at 6:42 AM

To: michael.espinosa@lacity.org

To the Los Angeles City Council: Thank you for considering public opinion regarding possible closing of the Micheltorena Tunnel.

In May I had the opportunity to visit the Cypress Park Art Tunnel on Figueroa Street. As I'm sure you know, that tunnel used to look exactly the way the Micheltorena Tunnel does now. It had suffered from decades of abuse; it was a disaster of garbage, graffiti, hypodermic needles, and had a history of crime.

Yancey Quinones, with the support and assistance of then-Councilman Ed Reyes, cleaned, painted, lighted and transformed the tunnel into a public space that is now regularly used as an art gallery. It has proved to be a magnet for Angelenos who love art, architecture, and an evening out with like-minded people.

We would like to do the same thing with the Micheltorena Tunnel. Yancey has assured us he is certain we could be successful because the situation is so similar to Cypress Park. He has assured us of his help and support. We have neighboring businesses interested. The Micheltorena School parents are enthusiastic. We plan to work closely with LAPD regarding safety issues.

We ask that you delay your decision on closing the Tunnel for 6 months, in order to give us time to put together a workable budget and plans. We feel sure that we can turn the Micheltorena Tunnel into something you -- and Silver Lake -- would be very proud of.

Thank you for careful attention to this.

Sincerely,

Leni Fleming
2130 Apex Avenue, LA 90039
(323) 608-6618