

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at NCsupport@lacity.org.

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Contact Information

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(9) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(1)

Date of NC Board Action: 02/26/2020

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 12/07/2021

Update to a Previous Input: Yes

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 20-0246

Agenda Date: 12/07/2021

Item Number: 14

Summary: At the Feb. 26, 2020, meeting of the West Los Angeles Sawtelle N.C., the Board of Directors voted 9-0-0, to support the proposed designation as Historic and Cultural Monument designation for the old "Chili Bowl" round building, request that the developer integrate the building in place into new construction projects, and authorize the Chair to submit Community Impact Statements in the future (recusal: J.Handal).

Facts and background: 1. The Cultural Heritage Commission voted to support designation as a HCM on Feb. 6. 2. This building is the best, intact example of this design of a circular restaurant, which was part of the "Chili Bowl" chain. Only 2 remain in L.A., and the other is partially demolished. 3. The original diamond-shaped sign is intact, along with the original porch and steps, and windows and door locations. Very few renovations were made 4. This location remained open late during WWII aircraft production at the Douglas Aircraft Factory (now Santa Monica Airport). 5. This is a "programmatic" design, in which both the exterior and interior have unique characteristics that warrant preservation. 6. Staff report:

<https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/392ac16c-ea4c-4231-88ad-5289db71d4c7/CHC-2019-6975-HCM.pdf>

Findings and justification: 1. Adaptive re-use of old buildings adds charm and character to communities, and are an alternate to the same, bland mixed-use cubes that dominate architecture of new projects in West L.A. these days. 2. Santa Monica mandated the preservation of the Quonset hut on Broadway, which is a beautiful part of the site (and next to a large, modern mixed-use building).