

## Communication from Public

**Name:** J. Ross, Secretary, West L.A. Sawtelle N.C.

**Date Submitted:** 12/07/2021 02:08 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0246

**Comments for Public Posting:** To the City, 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).

**WLASNC Board FY 2019-2020**

Jamie Keeton - Chair/ At Large Rep.  
Eric Nakamura - Vice Chair/ Business Rep.  
Jay Handal - Treasurer/ Organizational Rep.  
Korie Schmidt - Secretary/ Business Rep.

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Ron Migdal - At Large Rep.  
Ehsan Zahedani - At Large Rep.  
Jay Ross - At Large Rep.  
vacant - Organizational Rep.  
vacant - Organizational Rep.



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[www.WestLASawtelle.org](http://www.WestLASawtelle.org)

Melissa Jones, Planning Dept. [Melissa.Jones@LACity.org](mailto:Melissa.Jones@LACity.org)

Re: **12244 W. Pico Blvd. – Support for designation as city Historic and Cultural Monument - CHC-2019-6975-HCM. ENV-2019-6976-CE**

To the City,

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).

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Findings and justification:

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Ex parte communications: J.Ross conferred with representative Marcello Vavala of the Los Angeles Conservancy about Board scheduling.

Disclosures and conflicts of interest: None disclosed by any committee members.

To government agencies: Only the Chair and designated Boardmembers may testify to public agencies on behalf of the West L.A. Sawtelle NC. The Board requests that the Council Office and private/non-profit entities do not testify or speculate on behalf of the NC.

*/s/ Jamie L. Keeton*

Jamie L. Keeton, Chair WLASNC

cc: Len Nguyen, Ben LaZebnik, Council District #11 (Len.Nguyen@LACity.org, Ben.LaZebnik@LACity.org)

## Communication from Public

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Jamie L. Keeton, Chair WLASNC

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