

Public Comments Not Uploaded PLUM meeting comment | October 1, 2020 | Council #20-1098

1 message

Mark Cully <markcully@gmail.com>
Reply-To: clerk.plumcommittee@lacity.org
To: clerk.plumcommittee@lacity.org

Fri, Oct 2, 2020 at 6:38 PM

Dear sir or madam:

Yesterday, October 1, 2020, I participated in the Planning and Land Use Management Committee hearing which was conducted telephonically beginning at 10AM.

One of the agenda items, #20-1098, specifically concerning the Motion (Ryu - Bonin) relative to updating the Baseline Mansionization and Baseline Hillside Ordinances, was of particular interest to me for it directly affects the area where I live, Playa del Rey. Accordingly, I attempted to voice my support for the proposed amendment to the ordinances during the public comment portion of the hearing, however, the Zoom system terminated my telephone call prior to being able to provide a full 2 minutes of comment.

Please accept this email as my support of amending the current BMO to include the areas of Venice, Pacific Palisades, San Pedro, and, in particular, my own neighborhood of Playa del Rey. I can attest to the fact that my neighborhood is under attack from speculators who are purchasing heritage homes and bungalows, bulldozing them and attempting to build oversized homes which do not match the scale, size, mass, or character of surrounding homes; rather, those who are building homes are often face-less developers whose goal is to construct the largest home allowed by building guidelines. Once the homes are constructed, they are marketed for an outrageous amount of money, the developer is long gone and the neighbors around the home are left with an oversized, out-of-character building, manytimes suffering from excessive shadowing and destroyed views.

Currently, there are multiple proposed McMansion projects in my neighborhood which are in the review process with our local Neighborhood Council PLUC committee; some projects have been soundly rejected at PLUC hearings, while others have unethically refused to participate in the Neighborhood PLUC process, thus not allowing neighborhood input. Regardless of whether or not applicants circumvent the application process, without the BMO as a backstop, developers, speculators and house-flippers will continue to exploit Planning Department loopholes and avoid review by Neighborhood Councils. in order to generate a quick profit while leaving a path of neighborhood destruction.

In closing, the neighborhoods of Venice, Pacific Palisades, San Pedro, and Playa del Rey need and deserve the same protections afforded other areas of the City of Los Angeles.

Many thanks for allowing me to provide my comments.

Mark C. Cully
Playa del Rey