

DECLARATION OF KARAN SURI

1. I live and own real property in the neighborhood of the proposed Belmont Project (“Belmont” or “Project.”) This Declaration is made in opposition to the application for a SCEA regarding the Belmont Living Center, ENV 19-5735-SCEA and against the other entitlements sought by the Project.
2. The following facts are within my personal knowledge, except for those facts stated on information and belief, which I am informed and believe are true, and if called upon to testify, I could and would testify competently thereto.
3. This site is too far to be walking distance to land uses known as neighborhood convenience businesses especially for senior citizens. The closest would be located in the Westwood Village (the “Village” or “Westwood”) located north of Wilshire which is too far a walk for a senior. When my parents stay with me in the neighborhood, they will not walk to Westwood Village because it is too far and the walk can be dangerous given the vehicular traffic on Wilshire. I also avoid walking to the Village for all of same reasons.
4. At the site of the proposed site for the Belmont Project, Wilshire Boulevard (“Wilshire”) is currently 8 lanes. That is as wide as many of the widest freeways in Southern California that I have experienced and cars can reach very high speeds. The Belmont Project is located on the south side of Wilshire requiring a cross-over to access the Village.
5. Those of us who live nearby or drive along Wilshire know that it is one of the busiest traffic corridors in Los Angeles. It’s a very unpleasant street to walk because it’s noisy, and filthy with auto and bus dust, and the speed of the traffic is unnerving. It is not a nice place to stroll. You will not see many people walking on the portion of Wilshire near the proposed site for the Belmont.

6. In order to cross over Wilshire to get to Westwood Village, the wait for the light will take about 4-5 minutes. That is one of the longest light waits I have ever noticed.
7. Importantly, the time allowed for crossing over Wilshire is 25 – 30 seconds. That amount of time is barely enough for me, a healthy young adult, to cross before the green light turns to red.
8. In addition to that, there are cars making right and left turns onto and off of Wilshire. So if a car that is rushing to beat oncoming traffic, whether entering or exiting Wilshire doesn't look carefully for a pedestrian or otherwise doesn't see you, then those turns become dangerous. I have experienced near misses many times when I cross the north-south streets intersecting with Wilshire. I have been fortunate not to have been hit by a car because I am alert and able to react quickly to a car turning that failed to notice me in the cross walk.
9. My own experience, including my empathy for my parents' unwillingness to walk on Wilshire, causes me to worry about the safety of someone that is only semi-nimble, someone with an ambulatory device, or someone not paying the amount of attention that I pay to safely cross the streets necessary to reach the Village from the site of the proposed Belmont Project.
10. For all of these reasons, plus the need to carry things home I drive to Westwood to get groceries from Whole Foods, Trader Joes and Rite Aid. I need a car to get there and bring everything back.
11. From my observations, the residents of the residential buildings located along Wilshire Boulevard in the vicinity of the proposed Project do not walk to the Village.
12. Most of the buildings that one would pass by when walking between the Belmont site and the Village are office buildings. This sterile land use contributes to the unpleasantness of that walk.
- 13.. You will rarely see people walking on Wilshire to get to the Village.
14. I simply don't feel comfortable walking along Wilshire.

15. Cars are going so fast and there are so many cars using Wilshire that it is unnerving.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed March 1, 2021, at Los Angeles, California.



KARAN SURI