

## MANDEVILLE CANYON ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 49802  
Los Angeles, CA 90049



Dear Honorable Members of the Planning and Land Use Management Committee:

The undersigned environmental organizations and residential associations join the more than eleven thousand community members who have signed a petition opposing the Benedict Canyon Hotel Project. We strongly support the Motion filed by Councilmember Paul Koretz (CF 21-0777) recommending the Director of Planning to rescind the initiation of a General Plan Amendment for the Project.

We urge you to stand with your fellow Councilmember, the community, and residential and environmental organizations in support of the motion that will ensure this commercial project will not “strain infrastructure in a community otherwise planned, and developed for low-density, single-family development. The City has sufficient lands zoned for hotels with commensurate infrastructure within fully urbanized areas.” This inappropriate General Plan Amendment, if allowed, would circumvent and undermine years of careful environmental planning that have been accomplished by this committee.

We support the Councilmember’s motion for the following reasons:

1. This project will have a profoundly negative impact upon the fragile and critical environment of one of the most precious resources in Los Angeles — the Santa Monica Mountains;
2. The location of the proposed commercial hotel project in a high fire severity zone in the middle of an established wholly residential community will imperil the lives of the residents;
3. The project will destroy mountains and hillsides, wildlife habitat and corridors, protected and significant trees, cause significant light pollution, noise and air pollution, and increase traffic on narrow, substandard streets connecting the westside of Los Angeles to the San Fernando Valley.
4. The proposed General Plan Amendment creates a dangerous and unacceptable precedent for future, uncontrolled development in environmentally sensitive areas of Los Angeles.

Passing the motion will end further use of scarce resources of the City and community and bring the commercial portion of this project to an end, while allowing the City further review of possible residential construction alternatives that conform to existing zoning.

More than 11,000 have already signed a petition imploring **NO HOTEL AND ZONE CHANGE IN THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS**. The leading environmental organizations in the region have gone on record against the hotel— including Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, TreePeople, the Hillside Federation, Citizens for Los Angeles Wildlife, the Benedict Canyon Association, the Bel-Air Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council, the Center for Biological Diversity, and the Santa Monica Mountains Task Force of the Sierra Club. All are united against the destruction of our environment for an ill-conceived and dangerous commercial hotel.

For all of these reasons and others in the record, we ask for your support.

Respectfully,

Teri Kahn  
MCA President