

Communication from Public

Name: Brian Perry

Date Submitted: 01/13/2023 06:03 PM

Council File No: 22-0975

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Honorable Members: On behalf of Bright Star Schools' Valor Academy Middle School in North Hills, I ask the PLUM committee to support the Historical-Cultural Monument designation for the house located at 15526 Plummer Street. The house located at 15526 Plummer Street in North Hills is an original residence from the 1910s, and it has historical community significance. In purchasing this property to build a permanent campus for Valor Academy Elementary School, Bright Star Schools intends to preserve the house and its historical defining features in alignment with the requirements and guidelines of the US Department of the Interior's standards. Bright Star's Valor Academy schools have provided a high-quality, free, public charter school education to children in North Hills and the San Fernando Valley since 2009. Valor Academy Middle School was founded in 2009, and since our founding, we have been a strong and committed community partner. In addition to serving over 500 of our community's children and families, we have hosted community clean-ups and community events at our North Hills campus. Valor Academy Elementary School's students and families deserve a state-of-the-art, permanent campus to support their learning. The location at 15526 Plummer Street is just a mile from our middle school campus, and ideal for our families and the community. In building a campus at 15526 Plummer Street, Bright Star Schools will preserve the historic house as part of the campus. Bright Star Schools will be an excellent steward of the historic house, and our Valor Academy public schools will continue to be strong and committed community partners in North Hills. One of our core values at Bright Star Schools is integridad, which to us means to speak our own truth, and to advocate for those whose voices are not heard. In addition to preserving the historic house, we also intend to incorporate its history into our academic program. We will embrace the history of the 1910s when the house was built, while also acknowledging that our schools and houses in the North Hills community reside on the lands of the indigenous Tongva/Gabrielino people, and recognizing that during the 1910s when the house was built, Latinx community members were prohibited from owning property in North Hills. As the majority of the students and families we serve today at Bright Star Schools are Latinx, we have

an opportunity to acknowledge and begin to heal the historical racism of our community and build a brighter future together.
Sincerely, Brian Perry Principal, Valor Academy Middle School
Bright Star Schools