

Communication from Public

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Council File No: 26-0623

Comments for Public Posting: TO: Los Angeles City Council FROM: Eagle Rock Valley Historical Society SUBJECT: Designation of Sparkletts Headquarters as Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument.

Honorable City Council Members, Eagle Rock Valley Historical Society Is proud to sponsor the Sparkletts Headquarters Building the application for Cultural Historic Monument status. Last Spring, after over 100 years of operating in Northeast LA, Sparkletts Water company was suddenly shut down with workers, many living in our community were either laid off or transferred to another location, and an iconic building was abandoned. As a result, our organization started to hear from community members asking about the building's status and its historic significance were surprised to learn it had never been officially designated. The headquarters building with its Moorish Revival features has appeared in numerous historic surveys as going as far back as the early Gebhard and Winter, (1977) A Guide to Architecture in Los Angeles. Most recently it appears in the City's own Survey LA as an Individual Resource. Mr. Luftman report further detailed the building's historic significance and its qualifications as a Historic Cultural Monument. Both your Cultural Heritage Commission and Planning and Land Use Management Committee adopted the findings in the staff reports and recommend that the building be designated a Los Angeles City Historic Cultural Monument with a unanimous vote. The nomination is only for the headquarters building and not most of the Sparkletts 8.5-acre site. We believe it has enormous potential for a variety of future uses, light industry, affordable housing commercial mix similar to the industrial district downtown or the large site could be used for much needed recreational and park facilities. The retention of the historic headquarters adds to that potential. Therefore, our purpose in designating the building is to preserve the historic and assure that it be considered in any reuse of the site. Our goal as a historical society our goal not to just memorialize historic sites but to preserve an unvarnished history of our community that can serve as a learning tool for generations to come. We want to continue to work with the City, the owners and the community to achieve a future use that continue to be a source of pride for everyone. We that the City Council support the nomination and designate the historic Sparkletts Headquarters as a Historic Cultural Monument.

Sincerely, Frank F. Parrello Board Chair Historic Landmarks
Committee