

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Richard Oosterom

**Date Submitted:** 11/27/2019 04:08 PM

**Council File No:** 17-0545

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Los Angeles City Council, I oppose the street vacation granting the air rights over Wilshire Boulevard for LACMA's new building project. The proposed building is too small, too expensive, and as Christopher Knight recently reported in the Los Angeles Times, fundraising has stalled as projected costs balloon. Further more, there is no reason to loose one architectural monument to build a new one. LACMA should restore and embellish the existing Pereira campus, perhaps even eliminating the Arts of Americas building and restoring the original entranceway. It is galling the celebrities who otherwise stand up for architectural preservation have been convinced by the Board of the museum that the Pereira campus has no significant value. Can they speak to why they can champion other architects but dismiss Pereira? As for the new design crossing over Wilshire it appears that no one is thinking of the street effect being a dark underbelly, in essence, blocking the view of any motorist or pedestrian along Wilshire. I can't imagine that any presentation was given that accurately shows how much this will effect the mood and image of Wilshire Blvd. Cross under any bridge now and regardless of how well designed, you feel like you've crossed under a bridge. And the sight lines for viewing the museum from any given point along Wilshire will never allow one you fully comprehend the new design, see it in totality. Not one illustration offered to the public showed any sort of accurate view traveling towards and under the proposed new building from the East or the West. I urge you to vote against this giveaway of public space for a project that the vast majority of Angelenos and critics oppose. Please be the voice of reason and help protect the precious public resources that are LACMA and the beautiful Miracle Mile. LACMA is a world class museum but in all honesty too much time and money is being spent on this project. Between the loss of the May Building in their plans for lack of fundraising and loss of interest, and no respect for the original buildings of the campus, it feels like the board of LACMA too involved with personal ego wishes than they are at being stewards of the museum and it's collections. Sincerely, Richard Oosterom

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Tom Knechtel

**Date Submitted:** 11/27/2019 08:58 PM

**Council File No:** 17-0545

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Los Angeles City Council, I oppose the street vacation granting the air rights over Wilshire Boulevard for LACMA's new building project. The proposed building is too small, too expensive, and as Christopher Knight recently reported in the Los Angeles Times, fundraising has stalled as projected costs balloon. I urge you to vote against this giveaway of public space for a project that the vast majority of Angelenos and critics oppose. Please be the voice of reason and help protect the precious public resources that are LACMA and the beautiful Miracle Mile. As an artist who is represented in LACMA's collection, as a teacher who takes my students to the museum, and as a citizen whose tax dollars contribute to this museum, I urge you to rethink this situation. To build a museum that has less room, no room to grow and whose manifold problems have been identified by many qualified critics, it's folly for us to throw our money into this project. Please, let's stop and rethink this situation. sincerely, Tom Knechtel 3263 South Barrington Avenue, LA 90066  
ninoknechtel@gmail.com

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Myron Meisel

**Date Submitted:** 11/27/2019 12:08 PM

**Council File No:** 17-0545

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Los Angeles City Council, I oppose the street vacation granting the air rights over Wilshire Boulevard for LACMA's new building project. The proposed building is too small, too expensive, and as Christopher Knight recently reported in the Los Angeles Times, fundraising has stalled as projected costs balloon. I urge you to vote against this giveaway of public space for a project that the vast majority of Angelenos and critics oppose. Please be the voice of reason and help protect the precious public resources that are LACMA and the beautiful Miracle Mile.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Brendt Rioux  
**Date Submitted:** 11/27/2019 12:12 PM  
**Council File No:** 17-0545

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, As an LA resident and taxpayer of the last 9 years, I would like to express my concern over the proposed renovation to LACMA. I strongly opposed the proposed renovation, as it will cost over half a billion dollars, with over \$117 MILLION of this coming from taxpayers-- And for what? Less art, less square footage, less efficiency, less care for historic architecture, and less reason for community engagement. Please do not allow others to profit off LA's significant losses. Please take a stand tomorrow morning and demand better for your city and its residents. Please DO NOT SUPPORT the LACMA renovation plan. It will: Reduce the existing gallery square footage by more than 10,000 square feet. There is no reason that this much money should result in a \*shrinking\* of the museum. If anything, at this price, it should be significantly expanding to hold more art! We cannot support a massive renovation that results in 8% less space than LACMA has today. Replace three beloved, historic existing structures erected when LACMA opened in 1965, plus a fourth completed in 1985. These buildings may need some modern updates, but they are architecturally beautiful buildings that are a treasured part of LA's history. What's more, they are able to hold more art than what is being proposed! Redesign the space to create longer walks through wastefully huge hallways and corridors to get from artwork to artwork. Big open hallways may look impressive to some snobby architects, but the general public attends art museums to see ART. Whatever space holds the most art per square footage is going to be the best. This new design favors high, empty ceilings. This proposal is asking for lots of money for lots of hot air! Reorganize the art from an educational, chronological, historical presentation, to a thematic mish-mosh based on the subjects of the paintings. A "mixtape" might be okay for your high school crush, but for actual high school students looking to learn about art history, the new layout is a step backwards that will confuse rather than enlighten. Architect Zumthor's design creates practical problems. Gallery walls will be concrete, which seriously complicates hanging art. Ambient light from glass walls and windows makes lighting art difficult. And 30-foot ceilings can't easily accommodate economical lighting systems. This is an ego-driven money pit! I can't think of another major museum renovation anywhere in the world that spent over \$100 Million in Taxpayer dollars to SHRINK a museum. This makes no sense and if you support the plan, taxpayers will NOT support you. Please take a moment to consider the importance of this week's vote for future generations. If you really want to put \$117 Million to good use, please consider funding arts education programs for school age children. If you're not already convinced this proposal is a bad idea, please consider the additional facts in these two recent LA Times articles: [https://www.latimes.com/entertainment/arts/la-et-cm-lacma-shrinking-20190402-story.html?fbclid=IwAR0adfG6W-2fuxe\\_IP8QKSqQ\\_lhIjjsEf8kUXpznfuTLv4Igp4pRack](https://www.latimes.com/entertainment/arts/la-et-cm-lacma-shrinking-20190402-story.html?fbclid=IwAR0adfG6W-2fuxe_IP8QKSqQ_lhIjjsEf8kUXpznfuTLv4Igp4pRack) and <https://www.latimes.com/entertainment/arts/la-ca-cm-lacma-zumthor-collection-20170528-htmistory.html?fbclid=IwAR2CPY5CERR4Pma2p9Hqu2zO03O8BeUK1aEwbjM6LYmXQ6ylo-w3QDhTC8> Sincerely, Brendt Rioux  
Los Angeles, CA 90028

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Peter Hess

**Date Submitted:** 11/27/2019 12:20 PM

**Council File No:** 17-0545

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Los Angeles City Council, I oppose the street vacation granting the air rights over Wilshire Boulevard for LACMA's new building project. The proposed building is too small, too expensive, and as Christopher Knight recently reported in the Los Angeles Times, fundraising has stalled as projected costs balloon. As an artist, I am much more interested in the museum collection, exhibition space and community outreach than an aggrandized display for ambitious museum directors and billionaires. I urge you to vote against this giveaway of public space for a project that the vast majority of Angelenos and critics oppose. Please be the voice of reason and help protect the precious public resources that are LACMA and the beautiful Miracle Mile.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Stuart Denenberg

**Date Submitted:** 11/27/2019 12:42 PM

**Council File No:** 17-0545

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Council Members As concerned observers of the process by which Zumthor was "chosen" by Michael Govan to design the new County Museum, we must object. The design is more than flawed--it is tragic. It disrupts the encyclopedic function of our own "Los Angeles Metropolitan" or "Louvre," costs far too much money, reduces the exhibition space and constrains it by virtue of concrete walls and large swaths of glass, and, finally, exposes the bridge over Wilshire to the easiest possible target of a terrorist attack by truck bomb parked below--over in an instant at vast loss of art and more importantly, life. PLEASE--listen to the architecturally expert voices and the larger the art community. Deny the air space over Wilshire to this dreadful, short-sighted, and inadequate design. Thank you.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** J.M. Moss

**Date Submitted:** 11/27/2019 01:24 PM

**Council File No:** 17-0545

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Los Angeles City Council, I oppose the street vacation granting the air rights over Wilshire Boulevard for the Los Angeles County Museum of Art's new building project, aka The Carbuncle. The proposed building is too small, too expensive, and as Christopher Knight recently reported in the Los Angeles Times, fundraising has stalled as projected costs balloon. LACMA is important to me because William Pereira's original design was symbolic of Los Angeles during the booming 1960s. There is nothing wrong with it, and restoring the campus to the original genius design would respect our history in a significant way, and save money. Privatizing public property and buildings amounts to money laundering: funneling our tax dollars to developers. It's scandalous, and an abuse of the citizens and our history. Someone is benefiting from this proposal, and it is not people of Los Angeles County, the museum, or the art. I urge you to vote against this giveaway of public space for a project that the vast majority of Angelenos and critics oppose. Please be the voice of reason and help protect the precious public resources that are LACMA and the beautiful Miracle Mile.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** William Ferry

**Date Submitted:** 11/27/2019 01:32 PM

**Council File No:** 17-0545

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Los Angeles City Council, I oppose the street vacation granting the air rights over Wilshire Boulevard for LACMA's new building project. The proposed building is too small, too dysfunctional, too expensive, and as Christopher Knight recently reported in the Los Angeles Times, fundraising has stalled as projected costs balloon. I urge you to vote against this giveaway of public space for a project that the vast majority of Angelenos and critics oppose. Please be the voice of reason and help protect the precious public resources that are LACMA and the beautiful Miracle Mile. LACMA had the opportunity to utilize the former May Company department store building and chose not to. Not to mention that the William Pereira buildings should not be destroyed. They are architecturally significant to the design history of what makes Los Angeles unique. It will be a very sad day for Los Angeles lovers of art and architecture should you grant the air rights for this project. Sincerely, William Ferry 960 San Pasqual Street, #301 Pasadena, CA 91106  
wilferry@gmail.com

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Nickolaus Frey

**Date Submitted:** 11/27/2019 01:38 PM

**Council File No:** 17-0545

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Council Members: The Los Angeles County Museum of Art is, or was, an important part of my life and mixing with breadth and depth of our wonderful city's varied population...as was our encyclopedic exhibit space...you could wander from Ancient Persia to Picasso in the span of five minutes...it is doubtful that the new, though poorly planned construction of the museum will have this quality. Therefore, I oppose the street vacation granting the air rights over Wilshire Boulevard for LACMA's new building project. The proposed building is too small, too expensive, and as Christopher Knight recently reported in the Los Angeles Times, fundraising has stalled as projected costs balloon. I urge you to vote against this giveaway of public space for a project that the vast majority of Angelenos and critics oppose. Please be the voice of reason and help protect the precious public resources that are LACMA and the beautiful Miracle Mile. sincerely, Nickolaus Frey, Freylaw1@gmail.com