



CITY TOURISM DEPARTMENT

LOS ANGELES CONVENTION CENTER 1201 S. FIGUEROA STREET LOS ANGELES, CA 90015

(213) 741-1151

June 9, 2021

Economic Development and Jobs Committee Office of the City Clerk 200 North Spring Street, Room 395 Los Angeles, CA 90012

Honorable Councilmembers:

SUBJECT: ANGELS LANDING

As Executive Director of the Los Angeles City Tourism Department (CTD), I would like to express our support of the Angels Landing project proposed by Angels Landing Partners, LLC. The project is located in Downtown Los Angeles and would further the City's goals regarding convention and tourism growth, and in turn increase economic development of the region, thus creating long term benefits for our residents, businesses and other stakeholders.

The mission of CTD is to enhance and increase Los Angeles' prominence as a worldclass tourist and convention destination. CTD promotes policies that drive economic development, create jobs and improve the experience visitors have when visiting the City's unique cultural, sports, entertainment, and leisure attractions.

As you may know, CTD recently completed the City's first <u>Tourism Master Plan</u>, which is a destination management plan that analyzes Los Angeles' tourism assets and looks at what infrastructure is required in order to handle the large increase in visitation expected in the upcoming years. The Tourism Master Plan contains many important recommendations to develop and position Los Angeles as a leading tourist destination. Understandably, one of the key recommendations is to identify and advocate for new hotel development opportunities.

The Angels Landing project contains two hotels that would deliver up to 515 rooms, which would improve the City's hotel stock and be consistent with the goals of the Tourism Master Plan. Hotels are essential providers of high-quality jobs and account for a substantial part of the workforce in Los Angeles County. These entry-level, well-paying jobs lead to careers and economic stability. The integration of the Metro station in the Angels Landing project will help facilitate the flow of tourists to the destination and

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allow for more workforce transit options. The other mixed-use elements of the project, including affordable and market-rate housing and a variety of quality retail and restaurant uses, make the project site an attractive destination for visitors and residents of the City.

Importantly, this project has the scale to materially enhance the City's tax base and it has the ability to help Downtown Los Angeles recover from the economic effects of the pandemic. In addition, the project would also be a valuable asset in the City for hosting the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games and would support the long term vitality of the Los Angeles Convention Center as the pandemic subsides and international travel returns. Accordingly, CTD feels that the Angels Landing project aligns with its mission, the City's major tourism-related initiatives, and the Tourism Master Plan, and thus encourages the City to ensure that Angels Landing Partners can feasibly develop the project.

For the reasons noted above, and generally to advance Downtown Los Angeles and the City as a world-class destination, CTD supports the Angels Landing project and looks forward to its approval and eventual opening.

Respectfully submitted,

Doane Liu

Executive Director

DL:DL

Exec. Ref. No. 21-071

cc: Councilmember Kevin de Leon, Council District 14

Sharon Tso, Chief Legislative Analyst

Milena Zasadzien, Department of City Planning