

Communication from Public

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Date Submitted: 05/26/2021 10:05 AM

Council File No: 20-1308

Comments for Public Posting: I am opposed to the project being planned at 2520-2668 Eastern Avenue, 2647-2651 N. Lombardy Blvd. I am a resident of the 14th Council District. As millions of trees have perished in California, now is not the time to remove native protected threatened trees such as the Southern California Black Walnut. Removing a Black Walnut Woodland, one of the few remaining in Los Angeles County must not happen. We are facing a future with many more wildfires. The Southern California Black Walnut is a wildfire resilient tree. They provide habitat for many species of our local wildlife including owls and 29 species of birds. Planting replacement trees do not mitigate the loss of mature trees. Many of the new trees will not survive and it takes decades for these new trees to provide the community with the benefit of mature trees. The Black Walnut tree was used by the Chumash. There are few groves of Black Walnuts left. Here today, you can save this Woodland. The California Black Walnuts are endangered. Please protect these trees for our children and future generations. I am concerned of the pollution this project will bring to this neighborhood both during the construction and from the probable 200 additional vehicles that will be used by the residents of the project. Eastern Avenue already has a great deal of traffic. Lombardy also has traffic. Cars entering Lombardy and Eastern will be idling as they wait to enter these streets. This will bring more pollution to an already polluted area. The PM 2.5 pollution is in the 84th percentile according CalEnviroScreen. According to CalEnviro Screen 3.0, this census tract has a high risk of cardiovascular incidents. There were 76 heart attacks and 76 asthma attack emergency room visits per 10,000 people in this census tract during a two year period. Short-term exposure to outdoor air pollution following a heart attack has been shown to increase the risk of death. Long-term exposure to air pollution may also result in premature death for people with a previous heart attack. The effects of air pollution may also be greater in the elderly and people with other preexisting health conditions. The pollution created during construction will be harmful to this at risk community. The PM 2.5 pollution and noise from this project puts the health of this community at risk. I am further concerned that the community was denied the opportunity to participate. The hearing notices being sent during this pandemic are almost

entirely in English even though this census tract 6037201601 is 47 percent linguistically isolated which are households where no one over age 14 speaks English well. Linguistically isolated households may not hear or understand important information when there is an emergency like an accidental chemical release or spill according to CalEnviro Screen 3.0. A Spanish speaking resident receiving the hearing document will see a document almost entirely in English. When they turn the page over again the document is almost entirely in English except for one small line of type which says the individual can call this number for information in Spanish. When they call the number there is a message which is first is in English. The information that they can request a translator is listed in English. All of this adds up to most Spanish speaking individuals being denied the right to participate. They will probably look at the notice and not even see the Spanish portion that they can call the number. If they do call they receive a message and who knows if they will know to ask for a translator or if they will merely be told they don't have to attend. This discourages participation by Spanish speaking individuals. Further, the community can not come together and pass out flyers to let people know what is going on because of the safer at home orders. This further puts the community at a disadvantage and limits participation. Further I would like to note that the preprinted comment letters presented in favor of this project are not bilingual. The opponents of this project had petitions in Spanish and English. This project also puts neighborhood children at risk from traffic accidents. Vehicles attempting to leave the project will get frustrated and drive dangerously. Finally, please consider this is a high fire severity zone. Consider the future that we know. Climate change is real and will bring more wildfires to California. These buildings and the density they will bring will put the community at risk when trying to flee a wildfire. The 30-36 foot buildings set close together will be virtual chimneys in a fast moving wildfire. An extremely large number of residents fleeing a fire's only exit is through Eastern. Please do not be responsible for putting this community at risk. Please do not approve this project. Do not allow the destruction of a Black Walnut Woodland.