

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: The March 16, 2021 telephonic hearing of Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) Committee of the Los Angeles City Council was cancelled due to “audio issues”; but all the problems mentioned in my March 12 public comment remain as of now, 2 months later. Furthermore, I have since been advised that the Stuart is mostly occupied by clients from People Assisting The Homeless (PATH). PATH is using the Stuart as temporary housing—essentially a hotel—before placing clients in permanent housing. Moreover, please note that the Stuart is next door to Aria, a permanent supportive housing development at 1532 Cambria Street built using HHH funds. All occupants of Aria are formerly homeless individuals as well, plus Aria is specialized for people with disabilities—including mental disabilities that cause certain Aria occupants to randomly assault innocent passersby unprovoked, for which at least one Aria occupant has been arrested and is incarcerated (Los Angeles County Sheriff booking no. 6145112, Los Angeles Superior Court case no. BA471404). Far from alleviating the quality-of-life problems caused by homeless encampments in the surrounding neighborhood, the Stuart Hotel and Aria greatly magnify such problems because those building’s occupants invite their homeless friends and romantic partners to hang out, loiter outside and even move into their private units. In other words, not only are the occupants of the Stuart problematic, but they invite problematic guests as well. The concentration of this many homeless individuals with so many mental issues, placed here by foundations like PATH and Affirmed Housing in coordination with various agencies of the City and County and State, constitute a public nuisance and state-created danger, among other state and federal causes of action. Finally, according to Google Maps, the Stuart is situated within 500 feet of 3 schools: Esperanza Elementary School at 680 Little Street, John Leichthy Middle School at 650 South Union Avenue, and the Belmont Adult School at 1510 Cambria Street. The City Council must require 24-hour state-licensed on-site security at the Stuart Hotel. A U.S. District court case in Northern California (Hastings College of Law vs. City & County of San Francisco, case no. 3:20-cv-03033) provides a clear legal roadmap to force the necessary changes at the Stuart Hotel, if the City Council fails to do so.