

Communication from Public

Name: Ethan Senser
Date Submitted: 06/10/2021 11:30 AM
Council File No: 20-0813-S1
Comments for Public Posting: Please see attached letter.

Dear members of the PLUM Committee,

I write on behalf of Food & Water Action to state our strong concern about the insufficient study of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions in the Olympic Tower Project.

As our city moves to achieve 100% renewable energy, and combat the effects of climate change – we must work to ensure that our actions across all level of government and planning are consistent with our efforts to build a green, equitable and affordable city.

The Greenhouse Gas analysis contained in the Project's Environmental Impact Report (EIR) fails to comply with CEQA Guidelines. Specifically, the GHG plans relied upon in the EIR are aspirational and lacking any binding, project-specific requirements. Despite the Project's GHG emissions exceeding thresholds routinely used by the City for other City Projects, the City erroneously refuses to apply the same thresholds now to this project.

Just as importantly – as our most vulnerable residents are facing an eviction crisis and the compounding effects of climate change, the last thing our city should be incentivizing is a new development that lacks any affordable units.

Given the insufficient Greenhouse Gas emissions analysis for this project, we urge the PLUM Committee not to approve the Olympic Tower Project. Its failure to comply with CEQA, along with its excessive greenhouse gas emissions should be taken as a clear signal that our city deserves better.

Sincerely,

Ethan Senser (he/they)
Southern California Organizer
Food & Water Action