## DEPARTMENT OF

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CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

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October 12, 2021

The Honorable City Council City of Los Angeles City Hall, Room 395 Los Angeles, California 90012

Attention: PLUM Committee

Dear Honorable Members:

## SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PROJECT EXEMPTION REQUEST FOR A PROPOSED PROJECT AT 2107 - 2121 S. WESTWOOD BOULEVARD; CASE NOS. CPC-2020-5994-DB-SPR-VHCA & ENV-2020-5995-SCPE

The proposed project involves the demolition of four vacant commercial buildings (approximately 11,660 square feet), one of which has a vacant second floor residential unit, and the construction, use, and maintenance of a new, five-story, 80,480 square-foot mixed-use building with 92 residential units, including eight (8) dwelling units set aside for Very Low-Income Households (or 8.7% of the proposed density). The building will be constructed with two (2) levels of subterranean parking and 125 vehicle parking spaces. The project includes 17 studio units, 62 one-bedroom units, seven (7) one-bedroom units with a loft, three (3) two-bedroom units, and three (3) three-bedroom units, 1,553 square feet of ground floor commercial space and a total of 7,740 square feet of open space.

It is hereby requested that the City Council consider and determine if the proposed project qualifies for a Sustainable Communities Project Exemption (SCPE), pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 21155.1.

PRC Section 21155.1 provides that projects are statutorily exempt from CEQA if a hearing is held by the City Council and the City Council finds, based on the whole of the administrative record, that the project qualifies as a transit priority project as defined by PRC Section 21155(b), and further meets all of the criteria set forth in PRC Section 21155.1 (a) and (b) and one of the criteria of subdivision (c). If the City Council finds, after conducting a public hearing, all of the above, then the project is declared a Sustainable

CITY OF LOS ANGELES



ERIC GARCETTI

MAYOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICES 200 N. Spring Street, Room 525 Los Angeles, CA 90012-4801 (213) 978-1271

VINCENT P. BERTONI, AICP DIRECTOR

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ARTHI L. VARMA, AICP DEPUTY DIRECTOR

LISA M. WEBBER, AICP DEPUTY DIRECTOR Communities Project and shall be exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The Department of City Planning has reviewed the SCPE that was prepared for the proposed project and is recommending that the City Council determine that the project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to PRC Section 21155.1

## Actions for the City Council:

The City of Los Angeles finds, upon a review of the entire administrative record, including the SCPE Case No. ENV-2020-5995-SCPE, and all comments received, that:

- 1. The proposed project qualifies as a transit priority project pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21155(b), which by definition means that the proposed project is consistent with the general use designations, density, building intensity, and applicable policies specified for the project area in the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) prepared by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21155(a); and contains more than 50 percent residential; provides a minimum net density greater than 20 units an acre; and is within one-half mile of a major transit stop or high-quality transit corridor included in a regional transportation plan per PRC Section 21155(b); and
- 2. Finds that all criteria in PRC Section 21155.1(a) and (b) are met, including environmental criteria, land use criteria, and at least one criteria (affordable housing) in PRC Section 21155.1(c).

Therefore, the City of Los Angeles finds that the proposed project qualifies as a transit priority project that is declared to be a Sustainable Communities Project and is therefore exempt from CEQA, in accordance with PRC Section 21155.1.

Sincerely,

VINCENT P. BERTONI, AICP Director of Planning

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Heather Bleemers Senior City Planner

VPB:HB:RO

Enclosures

Sustainable Communities Project CEQA Exemption – 2121 Westwood Boulevard – Case No. ENV-2020-5995-SCPE Appendix A Energy and Water Efficiency Report

Appendix B Land Use Maps and High Quality Transit Area

Appendix CProject Consistency with SCAG's 2020-2045 RTP/SCS

Appendix DWill Serve Letters

Appendix E Phase I

Appendix F Methane Report

Appendix GPreliminary Endangerment Assessment and Soil Management Plan

Appendix HHistoric Report

Appendix I Geotechnical Report

Appendix J Soil Report Approval Letter

Appendix K Water Consumption and Solid Waste Generation Tables

Appendix L Planning Set Site Plans and Landscape Plans

Appendix M LA Housing Replacement Unit Determination

Appendix NProject Consistency with SCAG's 2020-2045 RTP/SCS Mitigation Measures

Appendix OArborist Report