

Communication from Public

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Date Submitted: 10/31/2021 04:03 PM

Council File No: 21-0968

Comments for Public Posting: To the City Councilmembers: Thank you for the opportunity to express my concerns regarding the proposed apartment building at 13921-13923 Vanowen, Van Nuys. My initial concern is that we were not kept informed of this process. Apparently, there was a critical meeting on July 22, 2021 that somehow was not conveyed to the residents of the neighborhood. The vote taken at that meeting allowed the developer to move forward with no opposition, even though we would most certainly have opposed it. We had no voice in the process. It is worrisome that we were somehow left out of the loop. The biggest issues for me regarding the building itself are the height of the building, the gross lack of parking, and the noise and privacy factor from the rooftop patio and entertainment area. It is puzzling to me that 10 years ago a shorter building with less units was not allowed. Why now is this bigger building moving forward? I don't believe there has been an environmental impact study done. I completely understand the need for affordable housing in Los Angeles, but the luxury units presented here do not seem to fit that bill. This is a middle-class neighborhood and I just find it hard to believe that the high-income tenants the developer wants to attract will be interested in living on Vanowen. If the building was one story less and had no rooftop patio and adequate parking – adequate parking meaning more than one parking spot per unit – I don't think I'd have much of a problem with it. But in its present state I feel that it's going to be an overpriced building with many more occupants in each unit than is comfortable. Also, the mega-drought and the water restrictions currently in place don't jell well with the idea of a new swimming pool and spa for the building. We need to think of the future of the area and the environmental issues that come with new construction. And importantly, if this building is approved, it will most certainly pave the way for more, larger buildings in the area. There is not one building that high in many, many blocks, and we all know how grandfathering works. Thank you for the opportunity to air my concerns. Yvonne Ramond