

Communication from Public

Name: Christian Wrede
Date Submitted: 12/01/2021 08:34 AM
Council File No: 21-0829-S1

Comments for Public Posting: I checked City Council File No. 21-0829 and City Council File 21-0829-S1 again this morning and the documents referenced in my Tuesday, November 30, 2021 4:24 PM email below still have not been uploaded to either file. These are highly relevant materials that bear directly on determinations that must be made by the City Council in connection with Item 15 and Item 16 on the Agenda for today's December 1, 2021 City Council meeting. I have been uploading them since November 18 and have validated confirmation emails for each and every one of my uploads. I do not see how City Council deliberations regarding Item 15 (City Council File 21-0829) or Item 15 (City Council File 21-0829-S1) on today's, December 1, 2021 City Council agenda can proceed based on an incomplete record, particularly since no PLUM hearing was held. The materials in question are available at this link: <https://1drv.ms/u/s!AnVsqeKedk15hZxNrbF6AeCtWx6cyw?e=gDxo9A> Similarly, I do not see a pdf I uploaded last night showing that the LADOT missed the statutory deadline, missed its self-imposed deadline and failed to provide documents relating to the replacement of existing surface lot beach parking at LADOT No. 731. Please ensure that all of these records are properly uploaded--and made available to the public as well as the entire City Council and their staffs--before the City Council proceeds with any deliberation involving Item 15 (City Council File No. 21-0829) or Item 16 (City Council File No. 21-0829-S1). Thank you, Christian Wrede -- Fight Back, Venice fbv@fightbackvenice.org On Tue, Nov 30, 2021, at 4:24 PM, Melinda Novoa wrote: > Hello, >> Thank you for bringing this to our attention and we are working as quickly as we can to get those documents uploaded. >> Thanks, > Melinda > -- > Melinda Novoa > Council and Public Services Division > Office of the City Clerk > 213-978-0420 >>>> On Tue, Nov 30, 2021 at 4:24 PM Fight Back, Venice wrote: >>>> Dear Mr. Bencomo: >>>> Twelve days ago, I started the arduous process of uploading records (sometimes in pieces due to the City Portal's 5 MB upload limit) to City Council File No. 21-0829 and City Council File No. 21-0829-S1 behalf of Venice Vision and others. >>>> I received--and validated--confirmation emails for all of those uploads. Specifically, I have 145 validated confirmation emails covering 11/18 and 11/26 for 21-0829 but I don't see any of those documents (or even any postings for 11/18 or 11/26) on the record. >>>> Similarly, I have 429 validated confirmation emails for 21-0829-S1 for 11/25, 11/26 and 11/29, but I don't see any of those documents on the file or any postings at all for 11/25 or 11/26. >>>> The documents for which I received upload confirmation from the City are contained in the folder at this link: <https://1drv.ms/u/s!AnVsqeKedk15hZxNrbF6AeCtWx6cyw?e=cR0EbN> >>>> Please let me know immediately if you have any trouble accessing

these records and confirm that they will be uploaded to both 21-0289 and 21-0829-S1 in advance of the City Council hearing tomorrow, December 1, 2021. >> >> Thank you, >> >> Christian Wrede >> >> -- >> Fight Back, Venice >> fbv@fightbackvenice.org >> >>

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 12/01/2021 08:45 AM

Council File No: 21-0829-S1

Comments for Public Posting: December 1, 2021 City Council hearing, Agenda Items 15 and 16 Council File 21-0829 and 21-0829-S1 40-lot Venice median project Honorable City Councilmembers, Approval of this project would be one of the worst mistakes of your tenure. I assume that all of those who support the project want more affordable housing. Those who oppose the project support more affordable housing too. But I cannot agree that a project that breaks essentially every land use law in the book, spot zoning at its worst, and costs the taxpayers an exorbitant price per unit, is the way to provide affordable or homeless housing. This project makes a mockery of our land use laws and all of us, including you and your role. This project site should never have been approved by the City Council. It was a terrible mistake, or worse. The City Council was deceived. This is not underutilized land, it's Open Space and visitor parking and serves as beach and canal access. Eliminating Open Space is wrong at every level, for any reason. Every single General Plan and Land Use Plan in the state requires the protection and expansion of Open Space. So why not here? This is spot zoning at both the city and the state level! And a special state law, AB 1197, was passed to exempt only L.A. projects like this from CEQA. This should never happen in the coastal zone, let alone the dual coastal zone. I've watched project approvals throughout the California Coastal Zone for over a decade and I've never seen a project approved that violates the Coastal Act and the local land use plans so dramatically. This isn't only a zone change; it's about making a new coastal zone land use subarea for only one project that is vastly different from the rest of Venice so it can violate all of the usual Venice Coastal Zone laws. Covering 40 lots, this would be by far the largest project ever approved in the Los Angeles coastal zones. This is a forty-lot consolidation!! The rest of the adjacent Canals area prohibits any lot consolidation, and only in certain multi-family neighborhoods in Venice is a 2 or 3-lot consolidation is even allowed. This is 40 lots! A large part of Venice's character is its small scale. This giant Big Ugly Box on 40 lots would be a scar on Venice for our lifetimes and beyond. Hollywood Housing and Venice Community Housing think that their project is so important that it should violate every rule in the book. They don't think the rules should apply to them. Don't we all agree that no

one is above the law? We expected something very different when we voted for HHH. Never again. Even if it's not funded with HHH money, it's funded with taxpayer dollars in one way or another. We need to be able to trust the City and our housing agencies with prudent and cost-effective decisions and this project flies in the face of our ability to do that. Taking actions like this that violate our hard fought and precious land use and housing laws is wrong and feels criminal. The site should never have been selected. That was the fatal error. The Public was not noticed about that decision and was left in the dark about that process. The applicant wants you to think of this as some kind of a public benefit but in the total scheme of things, using open space, costing the taxpayers a fortune to benefit so few, is doing the public wrong and is the opposite of a public benefit—a public harm. If you approve this today, especially without any discussion of the significant valid concerns, it will be one of the worst decisions you have ever made. Do not fall for the notion that all affordable housing is good. This one comes at too high a price and in violation of all our Coastal Zone land use laws, including CEQA, that are in place to protect us and our precious environment from projects just like this. Don't be a part of this horrendous and unacceptable project, don't do it! Protect yourself and protect us. Please don't approve this illegal project. Please abstain.

December 1, 2021
City Council hearing, Agenda Items 15 and 16
Council File 21-0829 and 21-0829-S1
40-lot Venice median project

Honorable City Councilmembers,

Approval of this project would be one of the worst mistakes of your tenure.

I assume that all of those who support the project want more affordable housing. Those who oppose the project support more affordable housing too.

But I cannot agree that a project that breaks essentially every land use law in the book, spot zoning at its worst, and costs the taxpayers an exorbitant price per unit, is the way to provide affordable or homeless housing. This project makes a mockery of our land use laws and all of us, including you and your role.

This project site should never have been approved by the City Council. It was a terrible mistake, or worse. The City Council was deceived. This is not underutilized land, it's Open Space and visitor parking and serves as beach and canal access. Eliminating Open Space is wrong at every level, for any reason.

Every single General Plan and Land Use Plan in the state requires the protection and expansion of Open Space. So why not here? This is spot zoning at both the city and the state level! And a special state law, AB 1197, was passed to exempt only L.A. projects like this from CEQA. This should never happen in the coastal zone, let alone the dual coastal zone.

I've watched project approvals throughout the California Coastal Zone for over a decade and I've never seen a project approved that violates the Coastal Act and the local land use plans so dramatically.

This isn't only a zone change; it's about making a new coastal zone land use subarea for only one project that is vastly different from the rest of Venice so it can violate all of the usual Venice Coastal Zone laws.

Covering 40 lots, this would be by far the largest project ever approved in the Los Angeles coastal zones. This is a forty-lot consolidation!! The rest of the adjacent Canals area prohibits any lot consolidation, and only in certain multi-family neighborhoods in Venice is a 2 or 3-lot consolidation is even allowed. This is 40 lots!

A large part of Venice's character is its small scale. This giant Big Ugly Box on 40 lots would be a scar on Venice for our lifetimes and beyond.

Hollywood Housing and Venice Community Housing think that their project is so important that it should violate every rule in the book. They don't think the rules should apply to them. Don't we all agree that no one is above the law? We expected something very different when we voted for HHH. Never again. Even if it's not funded with HHH money, it's funded with taxpayer dollars in one way or another. We need to be able to trust the City and our housing agencies with prudent and cost-effective decisions and this project flies in the face of our ability to do that.

Taking actions like this that violate our hard fought and precious land use and housing laws is wrong and feels criminal.

The site should never have been selected. That was the fatal error. The Public was not noticed about that decision and was left in the dark about that process.

The applicant wants you to think of this as some kind of a public benefit but in the total scheme of things, using open space, costing the taxpayers a fortune to benefit so few, is doing the public wrong and is the opposite of a public benefit—a public harm.

If you approve this today, especially without any discussion of the significant valid concerns, it will be one of the worst decisions you have ever made.

Do not fall for the notion that all affordable housing is good. This one comes at too high a price and in violation of all our Coastal Zone land use laws, including CEQA, that are in place to protect us and our precious environment from projects just like this.

Don't be a part of this horrendous and unacceptable project, don't do it! Protect yourself and protect us. Please don't approve this illegal project.

Please abstain.

*For the Love of Los Angeles
and our precious Coast,*
Robin Rudisill
(310) 721-2343

Communication from Public

Name: Joel J Shapiro

Date Submitted: 12/01/2021 09:26 AM

Council File No: 21-0829-S1

Comments for Public Posting: The Venice Median Project Files # 21-0829 and 21-0829-S1 December 1, 2021 To City Council, I am a 35 year Venice home and business owner and a physician. I write to vehemently oppose this Venice Median project. Combining lots: This project is combining 40 lots when the Venice Specific Plan states combining lots is not allowed. Instead the City has bypassed the normal Planning and Building & Safety process required of all construction projects. This massive structure eliminates safe sidewalks and bikeways, exactly opposite of current laws. Cost is outlandish: This massive structure is costing close to \$1 million per 430sf unit. Rather, if we utilize the 500 acres near LAX, far more services and appropriate housing can be built to handle hundreds of homeless individuals. Tiny Homes have been built with services for \$50,000 in other parts of Los Angeles. That cost is 5% of this proposed monster of a structure. Not serving the homeless: There is no sober living requirements nor priority to serving the homeless. Avoiding CEQA: The developers promised a “full Environmental Impact Report, the highest level of environmental review” and “ will follow all regular public approval processes with the City and Coastal Commission”. The opposite is occurring. Way over the height limit: The height limit on the canals is 22 feet going to 30 feet maximum. This building reaches 70 feet. Waiving requirement to Improve abutting streets and sidewalks: Anywhere else in the City such a development would be required to bring the abutting streets and sidewalks up to current code, this property has been exempted... This project cannot exist if they are required to do so. Substantial under parking: The Venice Specific Plan calls for 677 spaces for this size project. It is supplying only half, and that is with untested mechanical parking. This is fitting a square peg into a round hole. In conclusion, this massive overbuilt plan should not be allowed to come to fruition. Do your public obligation and oppose this project. Thank you. Joel Shapiro, M.D. Founder Electric Lodge Performing Arts Center Venice, CA