

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Brenda Martinez

**Date Submitted:** 02/09/2022 12:41 AM

**Council File No:** 22-0050

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am pleading as a constituent of CD14, board member of the Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council and Public Works liaison to oppose or table the renaming of Bailey Street after Vicente Fernandez at this moment. More outreach has to happen since our community has become very divided and the center of controversy. In our BHNC General Board meeting a few weeks ago, the division and the animosity was palpable. While our LA City Council seats on their meeting mostly discussing how to spend our money on banal things and cutting their working days but not their paychecks, or renaming streets without consulting the people and voting on banners to advertise the super bowl, allocating money to developers, delaying the passing of necessary regulations for developers. One perfect example of one huge developer in Boyle Heights, East LA Community Corporation an LLC/Non-profit of over 200million dollars and over 700 affordable housing unit.....One corporation? How is that possible? Meanwhile, our communities suffered from Covid-19 cases, evictions, unemployment, violence, homelessness, lead-contaminated soil, polluted air, limited parking, outrageous parking fees, and filthy streets, all exacerbated during this pandemic. Also, we have seen a massive deployment of 4G/5G cell towers and antennas, some illegally built ( building w/expired Conditional Use permits) like at our green space/community garden in La Casa del Mexicano property also owned by East LA Community Corporation and a case well known by many cities and state officials. We have so much to advocate. Instead, the focus is; on elected officials increasing their popularity, gaining votes, or trying to distract us from the real issues. Our Planning and Land Use Management Committee has not passed a motion (CF21-1414 )that will dramatically impact communities like Boyle Heights. It is disheartening to see their apparent priorities. I honestly hope this marks a genuine transition to open communication between elected officials and constituents. The Neighborhood Council is an Advisory Board to our City Council, is here as a vibrant source, to be the liaison to our community's concerns and to be inclusive, Not to be ignored. Thank You for your consideration weather you opposed or table this motion, Remember that the attention needs to be on working together and active listening to your constituents. Gracias!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Paul Guijarro

**Date Submitted:** 02/09/2022 10:32 AM

**Council File No:** 22-0050

**Comments for Public Posting:** The Public Works Committee The Los Angeles City Council: I strongly urge the Public Works Committee to vote against the renaming of Bailey St. to Vicente Fernandez St. I'm a resident of Boyle Heights, hispanic and a member of the LGBTQ+ community. I take great offense that Council member DeLeon would dismiss/diminish/excuse Fernandez's homophobic comments while he was alive which stated that Fernandez would deny an organ transplant from a homosexual. There is deep-seated homophobia and toxic masculinity that exists in the hispanic community which leads to discrimination, abuse, assaults and even murder of members of the LGBTQ+ community. Fernandez further perpetuated the notion that members of the LGBTQ+ community are less than by making that homophobic statement. I find it alarming that the Council member DeLeon would move to honor a public figure who has used hateful speech towards members of the community he represent. Council Member DeLeon's Boyle Heights office was made aware of several incidents that targeted me, my partner and my home in Boyle Heights for being members of the LGBTQ+ community. The incidents are the following: -During the fall of 2021 our Pride Flag was stolen from our front yard's flag pole. -During the summer of 2021 my neighbor two doors down, called me and my partner faggots, told us "whatever you ares" to go back to wherever we came from, told us that we needed to seek forgiveness from God, and then told us that we are damned to hell. -During the summer of 2021 the front wall of our home was spray painted with large lettering stating "GO HOME". -During the spring of 2021 a political yard sign was stolen from our front yard. Given the targeted hateful actions, which gladly haven't escalated further, I feel that the Council Member is basically making all those actions acceptable by attempting to honor a public figure who very clearly made homophobic statements. I wonder how it is that the Council member can claim to support the LGBTQ+ community in Boyle Heights as he so sated during the first Pride Festival in Boyle Height (Orgullo Fest) but still chooses to make a motion to honor a homophobic public figure. The Public Works committee and the city council at large should look to the "Better Angels" of this great City of Los Angeles and honor local heroes who don't or haven't spread messages of hate.

Extolling a public figure who spread homophobia by changing an existing street name in his honor is simply wrong and dangerous for the LGBTQ+ community. Once again, please don't continue the cycles of hate that perpetuate homophobia, hate, and violence towards LGBTQ+ community members and vote NO on the renaming of Bailey St. Sincerely, Paul Guijarro