

Communication from Public

Name:

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Council File No: 23-0340

Comments for Public Posting: Dear City Council Members, City Council Planning & Land Use Management Committee Members: I am writing to you in support of appeals filed & hoping you will not approve a school build at 15526 Plummer Street. Building a school there is a TERRIBLE idea for many reasons. Please reject the Letter of Determination issued by City Planning. Brightstar Valor should stay in its present location. It is already built & there is room to expand there. Moving the school would displace current students. It will require more water usage. The proposed new location would not provide room for future expansion. The property in question is a RESIDENTIAL property and in a RESIDENTIAL neighborhood. It is a single story, single family dwelling which is surrounded on all sides by single story, single family dwellings. There are already 12 existing elementary schools in North Hills, a town of 5.5 square miles with many empty classrooms. Another school is not needed or necessary. Established trees would need to be removed which are needed for our air quality. New trees to replace some of those trees will require more water to be used. Traffic is already gridlocked during school drop off/pick up hours. Brightstar's Valor Academy would be approximately 1/2 block away from Sepulveda MS and 1/2 mile away from Carlos Santana ES, in the middle of the block on Plummer between Sepulveda Blvd. and Orion Ave., creating a bigger traffic nightmare. It will also create even more pollution/unhealthy air due to 1000 more idling vehicles that would result from school drop-offs/pickups. It is reckless, careless & irresponsible to attract students to the proposed new location. Along with serious health risks, I have no doubt accidents, injuries & possibly deaths will ensue with all the student drop offs resulting in crossing Plummer west of Sepulveda. We need open space. Mission Hills-Panorama City-North Hills have an average of 0.5 park acres per 1,000. LA County has an average of 3.3 park acres per 1,000 people. We are in dire need of open space preserved for the entire community. It would be great to restore the 1914 house, create a museum and new open space for the entire community. BrightStar Valor Academy's plan will not restore the house and it would not be open to the public. They will build upon some of the last open space available in North Hills. Building a school on the property will destroy the setting where the oldest house in North Hills is

located. The house built in 1914 has been identified as a historic resource and has been designated as a Historic Cultural Monument. It is appalling BrightStar Valor would even consider building a school within approximately 500' of the 405 freeway. We live closer to Sepulveda (further east than 15526 Plummer) & the black freeway soot is a huge problem for us. See ZI NO. 2427 - Freeway Adjacent Advisory Notice
<http://zimas.lacity.org/documents/zoneinfo/ZI2427.pdf> states to "Avoid locating the following sensitive uses within the project: schools, day care facilities..." In April 2016, the LACC "...amended Articles 5 and 9 of Chapter IX of the L.A.M.C. requiring all new mechanically ventilated buildings located within 1,000 feet of the freeway to install air filtration media... Are the children going to be kept indoors at all times while at the school to avoid breathing in the black soot & exhaust fumes? No recess, no fresh air, no sunshine, no physical activity during the day? Please do NOT approve a school build at 15526 & 15544 Plummer Street