

Communication from Public

Name: Andrew Rudick
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Council File No: 23-0007-S23
Comments for Public Posting: Please see attached pdf.

To the Honorable Councilmember of CD13, Hugo Soto-Martinez:

WHEREAS on Feb 5, 1979, the Los Angeles City Council adopted CF78-3949; which codified protocols for “additional stars” on the Hollywood Walk of Fame; and where Paragraph 1 of Exhibit A states:

“Requests for installation of an additional name or names in the terrazzo sidewalks on Hollywood Boulevard and Vine Street (Hollywood Walk of Fame) made to the City shall be in writing. Departments or City officials receiving such requests shall forward them to the City Council for referral to the Public Works Committee. Upon receipt of any such written request from a City department or official, the Public Works Committee shall transmit said name(s) to the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce for their review and recommendation as to approval for inclusion and location(s) thereof within the Hollywood Walk of Fame. The Hollywood Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) may also receive such requests direct, and shall inform the City Council at least semiannually through the Council's Public Works Committee of the names submitted direct to the Chamber which are being considered. The Chamber shall include as part of its recommendation, the finding that each of the candidates was or is an outstanding member of the entertainment industry.”; and

WHEREAS Paragraphs 3 and 4 of Exhibit A state:

“3. Recommendations of the Chamber shall be transmitted direct to the Public Works Committee, the Council Member representing the Hollywood Walk of Fame area, and the Board of Public Works. Upon receipt of the Chamber's recommendations, the Board of Public Works shall instruct the Bureau of Engineering to prepare a report as to the proposed location(s) as related to the engineering, design, and public improvement requirements, if any. Such report shall also contain a location sketch of the proposed placement of recommended names. The Board shall review the report of the Bureau of Engineering and make its recommendation to the Public Works Committee within 30 days from the date of receipt of the recommendations from the Chamber. Such review and recommendation of the Board of Public Works shall not take into consideration the merits of the involved names which have been recommended.

4. The Public Works Committee shall then make its recommendation to the Council, and upon City Council approval of the name(s) and location(s), the Department of Public Works shall proceed at once to grant the permit(s) required by Section 28.04 or other pertinent sections of the Municipal Code, if any, subject to the following conditions:

a. That said work be done in strict accordance with the plans and specifications for the Hollywood Boulevard and Vine Street Improvement District, and without cost to the City.”; and

WHEREAS there is no contract or “MOU” between the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce or Hollywood Historic Trust with the Los Angeles City Council and the City of Los Angeles that supersedes CF78-3949; and

WHEREAS the Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Commission stated on 6/14/23, “Removing, replacing or adding a star emblem and lettering would not constitute a substantial alteration of the HCM” under Sec. 22.171.14 of the L.A. Charter, and the State Office of Historic Preservation stated in July of 2022, “Local government holds all land use authority over property under its jurisdiction, despite historical designation.”; and

WHEREAS the star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame honoring Donald J. Trump (CF06-3258) is not a designated local historical cultural monument, state landmark, or national landmark, but a sixteen-year-old, City-sanctioned, privately-owned honorific on the public right of way that exists solely at the discretion of the City, and that which is frequently vandalized and periodically destroyed by members of the public; and

WHEREAS the City of Los Angeles does not yet follow a deaccessioning or “removal” policy for statues, art, monuments, honorifics, or naming rights on City property; and

WHEREAS Then-Mayor Garcetti's Civic Memory Working Group Report from 2021 describes as one of its key recommendations in its reconsideration of memorials: “[...] removal will, in certain cases, remain the best option.”; and

WHEREAS no official language exists from the City of Los Angeles alleging any permanency for any star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame; and

WHEREAS the removal of any name on the Walk of Fame would be exempt from any environmental impact report under the California Code of Regulations 15061(b)(3) CEQA “common sense” exemption; and

WHEREAS multiple courts at the state and federal level, including the Supreme Court, have upheld the rights of municipalities to remove or refuse controversial statues and monuments on public land under the “government speech doctrine,” including the recent decision in *COALITION FOR HISTORICAL INTEGRITY v. CITY OF SAN BUENAVENTURA* from CA.'s 2nd District Court of Appeal; and

WHEREAS cities in California have recently removed problematic monuments, such as San Jose's removal of a statue to former San Jose Mayor Thomas Fallon, San Diego's removal of a statue commemorating Jefferson Davis and the Confederacy in Horton Plaza Park, Palm Springs' removal of a statue of former Mayor Frank Bogert which stood outside its city hall; while the City of Fort Bragg, the largest city on the Mendocino Coast, considered changing the city's name; and

WHEREAS Donald J. Trump is not worthy of recognition on the City of Los Angeles' world-renowned Hollywood Blvd. after his unprecedented, hate-filled, un-American conduct both in and out of office, including but not limited to his role in and repeated support for the insurrection at the Capitol, his attacks on members of our judicial system, and American democracy; and

WHEREAS thousands have signed the petition [Change.org/de-starTrump](https://www.change.org/p/de-star-trump), outlining an extensive list of Donald Trump's dishonorable and reprehensible actions; and

WHEREAS the City of Los Angeles passed numerous resolutions (CF17-0002-S45, CF19-0002-S171, CF15-0002-S119, CF18-0002-S82, and CF21-0002-S24) condemning Donald Trump, in part for “seditious acts”; and

WHEREAS the City of Los Angeles initially dismissed the City of West Hollywood's unanimously-passed resolution from 2018 calling for the removal of Donald Trump's name from the Hollywood Walk of Fame; and

WHEREAS the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce broke City requirements in CF78-3949 by installing Donald Trump's name on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in January of 2007, prior to the City Council's vote in February of 2007; and

WHEREAS the Hollywood Historic Trust and the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce are not allowed to re-install existing stars at new locations not approved by the Los Angeles City Council under CF78-3949; and

WHEREAS Donald Trump's anti-union and anti-labor history of proposing billions in cuts to the U.S. Department of Labor; nominating federal judges who have repeatedly sided against worker protections; and selecting a National Labor Relations Board that fought union efforts and undermined American workers; and

WHEREAS Los Angeles' entertainment industry serves as the backbone of our nation's film and media workforce, comprising approximately 46% of its total workers, who are "outstanding members of the entertainment industry."

This is a submission request for the name, **The Entertainment Workers of L.A.**, to be added to the Hollywood Walk of Fame. It is my understanding that this letter must be sent by the City Council to the Public Works Committee and the Public Works Committee must send this submission to the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce for consideration. There is no other requirement on my part in order for this submission to be reviewed and responded to by the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce under CF78-3949.

Because CF78-3949 ensures "there is no cost to the City [of Los Angeles]" for additional stars on the Walk of Fame, I commit in this letter to raising the funds necessary to pay for the actual cost of installment for the brass and terrazzo plaque honoring **The Entertainment Workers of L.A.** on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

In 2017 after destroying the star honoring Donald Trump, the L.A. Superior Court ordered James Otis to pay \$3,700 to the Hollywood Historic Trust and \$700 to the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce to replace the celebrity star panel.

If the City Council moves to adopt this additional star, it is my expectation that the Council will amend any proposed location for the star, to reflect the location of the star honoring Donald Trump on Hollywood Blvd.; to permanently nullify the action outlined in CF06-3258, and to consult with the City's Bureau of Engineering, the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, the Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Commission, the Hollywood Historic Trust, and the Office of the City Attorney on how best to direct the removal of Donald Trump's name and install **The Entertainment Workers of L.A.** in its place on the Hollywood Walk of Fame; in accordance with any applicable requirements set forth in CF11-0124.

Respectfully,

Andrew Rudick

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Rudick". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Andrew" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Rudick".