

Minutes for HHWNC PLUM Committee meeting on November 4 2019

PLUM Committee members Orrin Feldman, Danielle Mead, Oren Katz, and Jeff Straebler were present. Mary Yarber, HHWNC's Area 6 Chair, was present to participate as a committee member with regard to 3003 N. Runyon Canyon Road. Lincoln Williamson, HHWNC's Area 7 Chair, was present to participate as a committee member with regard to 8150 W. Sunset Boulevard.

The meeting got underway at approximately 6:05 p.m.. A sufficient number of committee members were present to establish a quorum.

In addition, Renee Weitzer, CD4's Senior Advisor, was present.

Approximately 40 people attended the meeting.

The draft minutes of the committee's prior meeting held on October 7, 2019, were discussed. A motion to approve the draft meeting minutes, as revised, was approved by a vote of 4 to 0.

1. 3003 N. Runyon Canyon Road — is located in HHWNC's Area 6 and City Council District 4.

Nicole Kuklok Waldman, who is applicant Manuel Valencia's representative, explained that, while she had requested the opportunity to present more detailed drawings about the proposed new house, the architect was ill, unable to attend, and had the new detailed drawings.

So, instead, Ms. Kuklok-Waldman took questions. She undertook to provide answers following the meeting, and to come back at a later date.

Stacy Sillens, speaking on behalf of the Friends of Runyon Canyon (FORC), said that FORC had not yet taken a position on the proposed project.

2. 8150 W. Sunset Blvd. — is the site of shopping center which will be demolished and replaced with 5 Frank Gehry designed buildings. The site is in HHWNC's Area 7 and City Council District 4.

Danielle Mead announced that she would be recusing herself because she lives within 500 feet of the site, and would be leaving the room.

Townscape Partners, the property owners/developers, were represented by Gabe Kramer and Richard Lichtenstein of Marathon Communications, Edgar Khalatian from Mayer Brown, and Ron Hirsch of Hirsch/Green Traffic Consulting.

They presented Townscape's site plan, and explained that Townscape still wanted the City of Los Angeles to vacate the turning lane on Sunset Blvd. for eastbound traffic turning South on to Crescent Heights Blvd. They explained that the vacated turning lane would be replaced by a new dedicated right turning lane on Sunset with an arrow at the intersection's light. They argued that this would be safer and better for both traffic and pedestrians.

Renee Weitzer said that Council District 4 was supporting the proposed turning lane vacation, and would do so at a City Council Public Works and Gang Reduction Committee meeting on Wednesday, November 6th.

Mr. Khalatian and Mrs. Weitzer thought that the full City Council might take up the matter as early as December 3, 2019.

Many committee members and stakeholders questioned, and even challenged, the assertions that the intersection's redesign would make it safer or better for traffic or pedestrians. A few stakeholders asked whether CD4 would have the right to use \$2,000,000 of money Townscape would deposit in an escrow account to rebuild the existing traffic island and turning lane if the City decided that the existing scheme were better, and both Mr. Khalatian and Mrs. Weitzer said that the funds, if not used in that way would go back to Townscape.

When Mr. Hirsch mentioned that the bus stop adjacent to the site would be moved as a result of a METRO decision two blocks to the East of 8000 W. Sunset Boulevard's CB2 store, which is owned and operated as a sister brand by Crate and Barrel, which in turn is owned by Euromarket Designs Inc. and Otto GmbH, a German retailer. Several committee members and stakeholders disputed the wisdom of the decision and asked whether that would be permissible under the proposed project's EIR.

Following a discussion which was in excess of an hour, the Committee voted (4 to 0) to recommend to the Board that it should adopt the following motion:

"HHWNC opposes (i) the proposed vacation of the turning lane, and (ii) moving the bus stop, which currently is adjacent to the site, to two blocks to the East in front of 8000 W. Sunset Boulevard's CB 2 store."

3. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:50 p.m.