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Paul Koretz, Councilmember, 5th District
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Daniel Skolnick, Planning Deputy, CD 5
daniel.skolnick@lacity.org

Dear Paul and Daniel,

Yesterday, I understand that the community was notified about additional changes to the Westwood Village Specific Plan. I am outraged (and I have never expressed myself so strongly) that, at this late date in the entire community's discussion over several years, this was never mentioned nor was it any part of your previous motion.

Holmby Westwood Property Owners Association initiated a "Westwood Village Committee," chaired by Jann Williams to study the Village and your original request. Most of the homeowner associations, the Westwood Neighborhood Council, and the Westwood Community Council, each met with Zuriel Espinosa, Susan Wong, and Christine Saponara from the Planning Department to learn, discuss, and understand what changes were being proposed.

The Planning Department received unanimous support for such issues as change of use as it relates to parking and associated parking requirements, removing lot frontage spacing for restaurants, required distance for off-site parking, replacement parking for removal of existing parking lots, and the added definition of "Fast Casual."

Our community gave you unanimous support!!!

Now, as we are about to engage in the approval process for your first motion, you have come out with additional changes, in a piecemeal approach, with no transparency and no planned group presentations, to vastly change additional parts of our plan. You might as well state that your objective is to gut the Westwood Village Specific Plan at the 11th hour.

This is just unacceptable to me and, I would think, every Westwood community leader.

I strongly urge you, in consultation with the Planning Dept., to proceed with your original motion that has very strong community support across the board, and to hold hearings for

immediate approval.

I also, strongly urge you to immediately drop any additional changes to the Plan, including, but not limited to, historic properties, signage (we discussed ways to streamline the approval process with Daniel), and the Design Review Board.

“Slipping this in” has opened up a hornet's nest as we were proceeding in our continued support for your motion. The possible impacts of these new issues might very well erase the good will and support you had moving forward.

Sincerely,

Sandy Brown

cc: hwpoa@aol.com
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Jan Reichmann
Stephen Resnick
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