



Jeanne Min <jeanne.min@lacity.org>

FWD: RE: Request for Meeting re: Greater West Hollywood Food Coalition

1 message

mitch@mitchforcitycouncil.org <mitch@mitchforcitycouncil.org>

Fri, Jul 12, 2013 at 6:11 PM

To: marisol.salgueiro@lacity.org

Cc: steven.whiddon@lacity.org, Jeanne Min <jeanne.min@lacity.org>, Tony Arranaga <tonyarranaga@gmail.com>, tony.arranaga@lacity.org

Marisol, Steven, maybe you can catch everyone up on all that we have been focusing on since BEFORE even taking office. Also, please participate in this as necessary and make an impact as to our lines of communication, etc.

Tony, might there be an opportunity to communicate via press or social media that we have been more than proactive here? I am very proud of the work we have done and maybe we need to get out front that I have been leading the response on this.

M.

----- Original Message -----

Subject: RE: Request for Meeting re: Greater West Hollywood Food Coalition

From: "Tony Carmona" <tony@sirenstudios.com>

Date: 7/12/13 6:03 pm

To: "Howard, Rick" <rhoward@occidentalentertainment.com>, "Sharon Shapiro" <sharon.shapiro@lacity.org>

Cc: "Darian, Craig" <darian@occidentalentertainment.com>, "Sweet, Albert" <albert@albertsweetent.com>, councilmember.labonge@lacity.org, mayor.garcetti@lacity.org, eric.garcetti@lacity.org, "Angela Motta" <angela.motta@lacity.org>, mitch.ofarrell@lacity.org, "Mitch O'Farrell" <mitch@mitchforcitycouncil.org>, istim.harter@asm.ca.gov, isrichard2012@richardbloom.com, beatrice.girmala@lapd.lacity.org, "Susan Levi" <susanlevi@labids.org>, "Malick, Mike" <Mike.Malick@marcusmillichap.com>, jirigoyen@universalpro.com, "JOHN WASHINGTON" <24902@lapd.lacity.org>, "Wong, Gail" <gail@occidentalentertainment.com>, "Davis, Marcus" <Marcus@occidentalentertainment.com>, "Gubler, Leron" <Leron@hollywoodchamber.net>, "Kerry Morrison" <kerry@hollywoodbid.org>, "Thomasian, Baydsar" <Baydsar.Thomasian@sen.ca.gov>, tamar.galatzan@lacity.org, "Sheryl Fox" <sheryl.fox@lacity.org>, "Rose Mann" <rosemann@recordplant.com>, "Jason Carson" <jasoncarson@recordplant.com>, JEFF@RECORDPLANT.COM, "Bill DeRonde" <Bill@chainsawedit.com>, "Stan Hathaway" <shathaway@5plusdesign.com>, "John Long" <johnl@buddhajonestrailer.com>, "mkeenana@fkinls.com" <LMCEAMAILTO-mkeenana+40fkinls+2Ecom@albertsweetent.com>, "Brown, Cassandra" <Cassandra@occidentalentertainment.com>, garson@yuco.com, carol@yuco.com, mario.lejtman@chromehearts.com, "Jim Omahen" <jim@mediadistrict.org>, Kaylee@hollywoodchamber.net, "Andre Quintero" <andre.quintero@lacity.org>

Dear All,

Siren Studios will be present at any and all meetings concerning our business neighborhood and the safety of our employees and clients.

From: Howard, Rick [mailto:rhoward@occidentalentertainment.com]**Sent:** Friday, July 12, 2013 5:02 PM

To: Sharon Shapiro (sharon.shapiro@lacity.org)

Cc: Darian, Craig; Sweet, Albert; councilmember.labonge@lacity.org; mayor.garcetti@lacity.org; eric.garcetti@lacity.org; Angela Motta (angela.motta@lacity.org); mitch.ofarrell@lacity.org; Mitch O'Farrell; istim.harter@asm.ca.gov; isrichard2012@richardbloom.com; BEATRICE GIRMALA <beatrice.girmala@lapd.lacity.org> (beatrice.girmala@lapd.lacity.org); Susan Levi (susanlevi@labids.org); Malick, Mike (Mike.Malick@marcusmillichap.com); jirigoyen@universalpro.com; JOHN WASHINGTON (24902@lapd.lacity.org); Wong, Gail; Davis, Marcus; Gubler, Leron (Leron@hollywoodchamber.net); Kerry Morrison (kerry@hollywoodbid.org); Thomasian, Baydsar (Baydsar.Thomasian@sen.ca.gov); tamar.galatzan@lacity.org; Sheryl Fox (sheryl.fox@lacity.org); 'Rose Mann'; 'Jason Carson'; 'JEFF@RECORDPLANT.COM'; 'Bill DeRonde'; 'Stan Hathaway'; 'John Long'; 'Tony Carmona'; 'mkeen@fkinls.com'; Brown, Cassandra; garson@yuco.com; carol@yuco.com; mario.lejtman@chromehearts.com; Jim Omahen (jim@mediadistrict.org); Kaylee@hollywoodchamber.net; Andre Quintero

Subject: Request for Meeting re: Greater West Hollywood Food Coalition

Dear Sharon:

Another toothless deadline has come and gone with the passage of the April 30th date for the Greater West Hollywood Food Coalition to move off the streets of our neighborhood. We continue to have an unregulated, and arguably unlawful, feeding program that is creating intolerable disturbances and safety issues in our neighborhood and is adversely affecting the commercial interests of our company and our many entertainment clients.

Notably, not even the recent murder of a young woman on the Walk of Fame was sufficient to shake our local Council representatives into action, which is all the more disturbing since it is now known that the assailant formerly worked at the feeding program. We know from the recent census taken by PATH of the feeding program's clients that 90% report mental health issues, and 80% report substance abuse problems. Was it not a matter of time before a tragic event such as this took place? Must it happen again before someone acts? Is our local Council office abrogating a material obligation to protect public safety and the commercial interests of its tax paying citizens by permitting this unregulated program to continue every day on our city pathways when destruction of private property and harassment are clear and ongoing extensions of this program? It appears so.

Although Council member Labonge has done a magnificent job talking about business development, public safety, and the importance of our precious and diminishing entertainment industry, he's been sitting as quiet as a church mouse while the best interests of Hollywood are being compromised by a program that must be relocated to a more appropriate location. This is not our job. It's the job of those who represent our district and are elected to protect the personal and professional interests of the taxpayers they serve.

By copy to Council members Labonge and O'Farrell, we are asking for a meeting to include the two of you, myself, and our Company's two Co-Chairmen, Albert Sweet and Craig Darian. I am additionally copying Mayor Garcetti since he is very well acquainted with this now stale and unresolved issue; and as our new Mayor, we hope he will bring the necessary leadership to get this matter resolved without further delay.

Finally, and without unnecessary elaboration, it should be clear from our longstanding and multiple correspondence on this matter that we are not anti-homeless; but we most certainly are pro-business. And when business and jobs die, homelessness multiplies. Please read this letter in harmony with my

many other letters on this topic, as well as, the comments made by our company's Co-Chairman & CEO, Craig Darian, when this matter was discussed in an all-hands meeting hosted at the LAPD's Hollywood Station nearly a year ago. Still, no action by your office as your many business and entertainment constituents suffer.

Bottom line: This is a matter that demands your urgent attention and a resolution – and we and others see this as both a legal and ethical obligation that attends to the City. To ignore what is easily recognized as an outdoor, unregulated feeding program, which by its very nature attracts the mentally ill and substance abusing transients (who refuse help from worthy organizations such as PATH), is a formula for disaster. It enables them to live on our streets, and bring with them a long litany of offences that we have consistently brought to your attention for years now, including public intoxication, drug use, urination and defecation, discarded used hypodermic needles and condoms, arson, theft, violence, and now murder. We are demanding that our Council members do something about it before more property is damaged, more entertainment clients leave our neighborhood, and another person is murdered by a transient over a dollar. We do sincerely hope that this matter does not require judicial scrutiny – we will know better after we meet and understand more fully why our City representatives has been unresponsive to the long and loud cries of their constituents.

Yours truly,

Rick Howard

P.S. Please note that I've copied several of our tenants who have urged us to speak on their collective behalf, along with other interested parties.

Richard Howard

Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer

Occidental Entertainment Group Holdings, Inc.

1149 N. McCadden Place

Hollywood, CA 90038

Voice: (323) 464-0055

Fax: (323) 464-0099

www.OccidentalEntertainment.com



Marisol Rodriguez <marisol.rodriguez@lacity.org>

Fwd: The Greater West Hollywood Food Line is a community hazard that devalues our homes and neighborhood.

1 message

Steven Whiddon <steven.whiddon@lacity.org>
To: Sharon Shapiro <Sharon.Shapiro@lacity.org>
Cc: Marisol Salguero <marisol.salguero@lacity.org>

Mon, Aug 19, 2013 at 12:46 PM

Please let us know how we can help?

Steven Whiddon
Hollywood Field Deputy
Office of Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell
5500 Hollywood Blvd., 4th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90028

Phone: 323-957-4500

steven.whiddon@lacity.org

Conveniently located adjacent to the Metro Red Line.

Find the Councilmember on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube!

—— Forwarded message ——

From: **David Ambroz** <

Date: Sat, Aug 17, 2013 at 9:35 AM

Subject: Fwd: The Greater West Hollywood Food Line is a community hazard that devalues our homes and neighborhood.

To: Sharon Shapiro <sharon.shapiro@lacity.org>, John Damell <john.damell@lacity.org>, Steve Whiddon <steven.whiddon@lacity.org>

Wanted to share a recent letter with you.

I wanted to double check my earlier email came through - and those September dates work for you? Each of you is key.

David Ambroz

Begin forwarded message:

From: DR LOVE <

Subject: FW: The Greater West Hollywood Food Line is a community hazard that devalues our homes and neighborhood.

Date: August 15, 2013 2:28:13 PM PDT

To:

—Forwarded Message—

From:

To: tom.labonge@lacity.org

Sent: Thu, Aug 15, 2013 12:11 PM PDT

Subject: The Greater West Hollywood Food Line is a community hazard that devalues our homes and neighborhood.

Dear Mr. Labonge,

My name is Alexander Polinsky. My mother is Paula, the one who made the George Harrison Memorial happen for this city and we have your certificate of appreciation on the wall of our home to prove it!

I am a resident of the 700 block of Sycamore Ave. in Hollywood.
I am writing to tell you about a huge problem in our neighborhood.

We have a serious concentration of vagrants and homeless psychotics here, they make living in this section of Melrose a nightmare.

The GWHFC is an illegal food line with no bathrooms or sanitary services has been operating without the consent of the neighborhood it affects for 26 years.

We have had it with this group, their attitude towards us, and the filth and depravity it brings to our doorstep.

The two block radius around the Great West Hollywood Food Coalition is awash with drug users, criminals, and scary psychotic homeless that terrorize us, steal from us, and ruin a beautiful and classic Hollywood neighborhood.

I know that politicians don't want to touch this issue because it makes you look like you don't care but.....We vote for you, we support you, we pay you. These people on the fringes of society need help and a path to recovery and stability, not a summer camp style free meal on the street where they leave their trash and human waste all over our streets. This food line keeps people alive but robs them of their dignity. The Man who runs the operation Ted Landreth has threatened us, told us it's our fault, and refused to hear the cries from the community. Ted Landreth likes to tell people he was a Marine, implying that he is able to kill and be tough instead of actually being compassionate to the neighbors that he imposes on. This makes negotiation impossible. Ted knows that he is in the wrong place, but he will stay till he is thrown out.

I want relocation now. This is not a social issue nor is it an issue of the homeless. It's the fault of an ill planned, ill executed humanitarian effort, that needs to be stopped before someone else gets stabbed, or worse.

I have talked to the representatives of the GWHFC and they are combative, stubborn, and as their PR material states, they are willing to fight the neighbors and neighborhoods they inhabit. We don't want their line near us anymore.

Please understand that to negotiate will do nothing for the Melrose neighborhood. We need to relocate them to a building with bathrooms and treatment facilities. They attract the worst kind of people, people we worked hard to avoid by buying nice homes and paying taxes. The GWHFC as it is will continue to swamp us with transients until they are relocated.

I want a neighborhood where homeless do not use our yards as toilets. I have chased people out of my bushes who were shooting up, leaving blood soaked rags behind and human excrement as well. These people come back again and again. They are living in a holding pattern between the food line and our neighborhood.

Please help.

We deserve some assistance.

3/20/2015

City of Los Angeles Mail - Fwd: The Greater West Hollywood Food Line is a community hazard that devalues our homes and neighborhood.

We deserve to be heard.
We demand relocation.

I will be organizing a community action for you. This neighborhood will be picketing the GWHFC soon. Your name will appear on some of the signs as well as other responsible decision makers in Hollywood. It's time for us to take back our neighborhood streets, by force if necessary. As you know, when a community gets angry, things happen fast.

Peter from the Melrose Neighborhood Assoc and I know multiple journalists and photographers from the LA Weekly. We are hoping to get a story published soon about the lack of response from local officials to help this community. If you want to be involved in this, please get in touch. My Mom likes you, I like you, we need you now sir.

Alexander Polinsky



Marisol Rodriguez <marisol.rodriguez@lacity.org>

Fwd: Greater West Hollywood Food Coalition

3 messages

Mitch O'Farrell <mitch.ofarrell@lacity.org>

Thu, Aug 22, 2013 at 7:49 PM

To: Marisol Salguero <marisol.salguero@lacity.org>, Jeanne Min <jeanne.min@lacity.org>

The food line really has to go.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Howard, Rick" <rhoward@occidentalentertainment.com>
Date: August 22, 2013, 5:14:38 PM PDT
To: "councilmember.labonge@lacity.org" <councilmember.labonge@lacity.org>, "tom.labonge@lacity.org" <tom.labonge@lacity.org>
Cc: "Darian, Craig" <darian@occidentalentertainment.com>, "Sweet, Albert" <albert@albertsweetent.com>, "mayor.garcetti@lacity.org" <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>, "eric.garcetti@lacity.org" <eric.garcetti@lacity.org>, "Angela Motta (angela.motta@lacity.org)" <angela.motta@lacity.org>, "mitch.ofarrell@lacity.org" <mitch.ofarrell@lacity.org>, Mitch O'Farrell <mitch@mitchforcitycouncil.org>, "istim.harter@asm.ca.gov" <istim.harter@asm.ca.gov>, "isrichard2012@richardbloom.com" <isrichard2012@richardbloom.com>, "BEATRICE GIRMALA" <beatrice.girmala@lapd.lacity.org> (beatrice.girmala@lapd.lacity.org)" <beatrice.girmala@lapd.lacity.org>, "Susan Levi (susanlevi@labids.org)" <susanlevi@labids.org>, "Malick, Mike (Mike.Malick@marcusmillichap.com)" <Mike.Malick@marcusmillichap.com>, "jirigoyen@universalpro.com" <jirigoyen@universalpro.com>, "JOHN WASHINGTON (24902@lapd.lacity.org)" <24902@lapd.lacity.org>, "Wong, Gail" <gail@occidentalentertainment.com>, "Davis, Marcus" <Marcus@occidentalentertainment.com>, "Gubler, Leron (Leron@hollywoodchamber.net)" <Leron@hollywoodchamber.net>, "Kerry Morrison (kerry@hollywoodbid.org)" <kerry@hollywoodbid.org>, "Thomasian, Baydsar (Baydsar.Thomasian@sen.ca.gov)" <Baydsar.Thomasian@sen.ca.gov>, "tamar.galatzan@lacity.org" <tamar.galatzan@lacity.org>, "Sheryl Fox (sheryl.fox@lacity.org)" <sheryl.fox@lacity.org>, "Rose Mann" <rosemann@recordplant.com>, "Jason Carson" <jasoncarson@recordplant.com>, "JEFF@RECORDPLANT.COM" <JEFF@RECORDPLANT.COM>, "Bill DeRonde" <Bill@chainsawedit.com>, "Stan Hathaway" <shathaway@5plusdesign.com>, "John Long" <johnl@buddhajonestrailers.com>, "Tony Carmona" <tony@sirenstudios.com>, Diane Demetras <diane.demetras@gmail.com>, "Alexander Polinsky" <alexander.polinsky@yuco.com>, "garson@yuco.com" <garson@yuco.com>, "carol@yuco.com" <carol@yuco.com>, "mario.lejtman@chromehearts.com" <mario.lejtman@chromehearts.com>, "Jim Omahen (jim@mediadistrict.org)" <jim@mediadistrict.org>, "Kaylee@hollywoodchamber.net" <Kaylee@hollywoodchamber.net>, Andre Quintero <andre.quintero@lacity.org>, Angelo Yenke <angelo.yenko@lacity.org>, "robert.dell@lw.com" <robert.dell@lw.com>, "Brown, Cassandra" <Cassandra@occidentalentertainment.com>, "Siraki, Anita" <Anita@occidentalentertainment.com>, Michael Keenan <mkeen@fkinls.com>
Subject: Greater West Hollywood Food Coalition

Dear Councilmember Labonge:

We have recently been forwarded several e-mails addressed to you from Hollywood residents and business people alike, who have vehemently complained about the many

egregious problems the Greater West Hollywood Food Coalition brings into our neighborhood each and every day. These letters are notable in two meaningful respects: (1) they echo the complaints our company and many others have repeatedly brought to you over the past year; and (2) they describe what, in our opinion, are the outrageous bullying tactics employed by Ted Landreth, the "Volunteer Secretary" of the food line, whose tactics appear to be intended to silence property owners with the threat of litigation. These residential neighbors, like us and countless other business people in the area, have credibly objected to Mr. Landreth's feeding program. We particularly object to Mr. Landreth invoking the name of Latham & Watkins into this matter for the apparent purposes of intimidation, as though he speaks on behalf of this prestigious law firm.

To be perfectly clear, it is unknown (i) whether Latham & Watkins has opined on the lawful standing of this unwieldy program given the well-documented havoc it has created in our neighborhood; (ii) whether the firm is prepared to get involved on Mr. Landreth's behalf as plaintiff's or defendant's counsel; or (iii) whether the firm is conflicted given its presumed representation of countless others whose interests are in conflict with Mr. Landreth and this program.

On this later point, and without unnecessary elaboration, our tenants and clients who have been adversely effected by this program includes several major studios, networks, production companies, record companies...; all of whom have had staff and talent complain about mentally ill, substance abusing vagrants who are attracted to our neighborhood by the food line, and who thereafter loiter in our streets causing havoc, harassment, and destruction. They wander our streets and defecate, urinate, vomit, discard used hypodermic needles and condoms, set fire to trash bins, break into cars, harass and assault people – and now, as you know, one of the food line's volunteers recently murdered a young woman over a dollar. Your office can no longer overlook this egregious matter, or allow a multitude of complaints to wallow in bureaucratic purgatory.

As stated before, our company owns a portfolio of real property assets with a net valuation in the 9-figures, which includes a dozen sound stages and more than three dozen commercial properties in and around the Hollywood area. We have countless high-profile entertainment tenants and clients who have strongly complained about blight and safety concerns precipitated by this poorly managed program, and we have lost business because of it. **Believe me when I tell you that they are not singing "Hooray For Hollywood."**

In our opinion, Mr. Landreth's program should not be permitted to hijack our neighborhood, and he should not be able to bully our neighbors or the City with the kind of bluster that has been described in the many letters to you from law-abiding citizens. These are people who live and work in your District, and they are in fear for their safety and the destruction of their property. And yet you do nothing.

We reiterate our many demands that the City take all action necessary to relocate this program to a setting that does not adversely affect public well-being, and which competes with the legitimate commercial interests of those who have invested heavily in our neighborhood. This includes those homeowners who seek, and who are entitled to, the quiet enjoyment of their homes and the safety of public walkways. Our complaints merit your support and the support of Councilmember O'Farrell, and action by the City that is now long overdue. This additionally includes Mayor Garcetti, whose silence is likewise troubling.

Finally, it's notable that the food line's name is the Greater West Hollywood Food Coalition, and although the food line got its start in West Hollywood, the City leaders of West Hollywood had the good sense and good stewardship to outlaw these types of outdoor, unlicensed food lines in the best interests of their constituents. We are asking, read demanding, that you show the same respect, concern, and legislative representation for your constituents who are suffering from inaction attributable to you and your office. Although we surely have rights and remedies available at law, we are looking to the City to stop with its clear abrogation of duty to act on behalf of the greater public interest.

To reiterate, our company, along with others, will financially support an alternative and more humane setting for the homeless; but we will no longer stand still while this unruly program runs unabated on our streets. On point, our company already donated \$1,600 to PATH so they could interview the attendees of the food line. In notable part, PATH found that nearly 1/3 of these people were NOT homeless, while 80% reported substance abuse issues and 90% reported mental health issues. If we were a school, the Dolby Theater during the Academy Awards, or any other high-profile tourist site, this program would have been shut down long ago. It is not our duty to find another location, or a plausible excuse for the City to do nothing while this program continues to wreak with apparent impunity. Enough said.

Please read this letter in harmony with my several other letters in this regard, the substance of which is reiterated hereby and made a part hereof.

Mr. Landreth is copied above, as well as John Eckman, President of the Board of Directors of Special Services for Groups, the non-profit organization under which the food line operates (via fax), and Bob Dell, Managing Partner of Latham & Watkins.

Yours truly,

Rick Howard

Richard Howard

Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer

Occidental Entertainment Group Holdings, Inc.

1149 N. McCadden Place

Hollywood, CA 90038

Voice: (323) 464-0055

Fax: (323) 464-0099

www.OccidentalEntertainment.com

Thu, Aug 22, 2013 at 8:18 PM

Jeanne Min <jeanne.min@lacity.org>

To: Mitch O'Farrell <mitch.ofarrell@lacity.org>

Cc: Marisol Salguero <marisol.salguero@lacity.org>

Agreed. We need to make sure it does not relocate to CD13.

Jeanne Min

Chief of Staff

Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell

13th District

Sent from my iPhone

[Quoted text hidden]

Fri, Aug 23, 2013 at 11:43 AM

Angelo Yenke <angelo.yenke@lacity.org>

To: Steven Whiddon <steven.whiddon@lacity.org>, marisol.salguero@lacity.org

See below forwarded messages. I don't know why I'm included in this e-mail chain...

THANKS!

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Thomasian, Baydsar** <Baydsar.Thomasian@sen.ca.gov>

Date: Fri, Aug 23, 2013 at 11:41 AM

Subject: RE: Greater West Hollywood Food Coalition

To: "Howard, Rick" <rhoward@occidentalentertainment.com>, sharon.shapiro@lacity.org, sveres@me.com
 Cc: "Darian, Craig" <darian@occidentalentertainment.com>, "Sweet, Albert" <albert@albertsweetent.com>, mayor.garcetti@lacity.org, eric.garcetti@lacity.org, angela.motta@lacity.org, mitch.ofarrell@lacity.org, Mitch O'Farrell <mitch@mitchforcitycouncil.org>, istim.harter@asm.ca.gov, isrichard2012@richardbloom.com, beatrice.girmala@lapd.lacity.org, susanlevi@labids.org, Mike.Malick@marcusmillichap.com, jirigoyen@universalpro.com, 24902@lapd.lacity.org, "Wong, Gail" <gail@occidentalentertainment.com>, "Davis, Marcus" <Marcus@occidentalentertainment.com>, Leron@hollywoodchamber.net, kerry@hollywoodbid.org, tamar.galatzan@lacity.org, sheryl.fox@lacity.org, Rose Mann <rosemann@recordplant.com>, Jason Carson <jasoncarson@recordplant.com>, JEFF@recordplant.com, Bill DeRonde <Bill@chainsawedit.com>, Stan Hathaway <shathaway@5plusdesign.com>, John Long <johnl@buddhajonestailers.com>, Tony Carmona <tony@sirenstudios.com>, Diane Demetras, Alexander Polinsky