

CORRESPONDENCE

Jomsky, Mark

From: Barbara Ciolino [barbara_ciolino@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, November 19, 2008 5:06 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: Fw: RE: Rezoning on Los Robles

Dear Mr. Jomsky: I was instructed by Rhonda Stone to forward my email to your letter. My email is at the bottom of the email chain. Thank you. Barbara Ciolino

--- On **Wed, 11/19/08, Stone, Rhonda** <rstone@cityofpasadena.net> wrote:

From: Stone, Rhonda <rstone@cityofpasadena.net>
Subject: RE: Rezoning on Los Robles
To: barbara_ciolino@yahoo.com, "Bogaard, Bill" <bbogaard@cityofpasadena.net>, haderlein@earthlink.net
Cc: amsbry@charter.net, dmann@tft.ucla.edu, grmlady2@gmail.com, cybelegarcia@me.com, brenzullo@sbcglobal.net, Gmelich@whopper.com, altesa@aol.com, spjmf80@yahoo.com, gomezjuanca@yahoo.com, "Deidre Washington" <piphee@sbcglobal.net>, "Ron Ortiz" <aurorabella@mac.com>
Date: Wednesday, November 19, 2008, 4:46 PM

Dear Barbara,

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your e-mail to our Vice Mayor; which will be immediately forwarded to Vice Mayor Haderlein.

As you know, at Monday's Council Meeting it was moved and passed to reopen and continue this item until the 24th of November.

This means there is still time for you and your neighbors to communicate with the entire Council. Any communication you would like Council to use to deliberate this item on Monday, November 25th can be sent to cityclerk@cityofpasadena.net or faxed to the City Clerk, Mr. Mark Jomsky @ 626.744.3921.

If letters or e-mails are received tonight or tomorrow before noon they will be copied and placed in the packets that are delivered to each Council member tomorrow after 3 P.M. Any correspondence received subsequent to the delivery of the packets to Council members will be compiled in a supplemental packet for each Council member and placed on the dais for Monday's meeting.

It is not unusual for a Council member to recuse him or herself and as you said it is proper and legally required. My experience is you are always your best advocate. I would encourage you to continue the communication by sending or

resending any information you want to share or advise Council and come before Council. I am also certain any of us that serve as Field Representative for any of the Districts would be eager to facilitate communication.

Please don't hesitate to keep in touch.

Rhonda Stone

District 4 Field Representative

Office of Vice Mayor Steve Haderlein

626.744.4740

fax: 626.744.3814

From: Barbara Ciolino [mailto:barbara_ciolino@yahoo.com]

Sent: Wednesday, November 19, 2008 2:34 PM

To: Bogaard, Bill ; Stone, Rhonda

Cc: amsbry@charter.net; dmann@tft.ucla.edu; grnlady2@gmail.com; cybelegarcia@me.com; brenzullo@sbcglobal.net; Gmelich@whopper.com; altesa@aol.com; spjmf80@yahoo.com; gomezjuanca@yahoo.com; 'Deidre Washington'; Ron Ortiz

Subject: Rezoning on Los Robles

Dear Mayor and Vice-Mayor:

I understand my Orange Heights neighbor Kate Amsbry recently wrote your office regarding Scott Reimers' misrepresentations about the number of letter complaints received regarding the proposed zoning change. I would like to add my voice to the general concern expressed by my neighbors.

During the very first neighborhood meeting held in September, we were told by Mr. Reimers that he would incorporate our written comments in his presentation if they were received by, I recall, October 18, 2008. I relayed this message to my neighbors and many of them responded by email. The Orange Heights Neighborhood Association responded by letter sent regular mail. Despite his receipt of these written comments, he did not incorporate any of our concerns in either his presentation to the Planning Commission or to City Council. Our letters and emails simply went into a bureaucratic black hole. I find this worrisome.

Equally as worrisome is our lack of due process. The City Council is going to vote on a matter that affects our neighborhood but the council member who should be our voice has recused himself because of his colossal conflict of interest. While Council Member Gordo's recusal was proper, the fact remains that many of us in Orange Heights and Garfield Heights are left without representation. Moreover, as long as Council Member Gordo remains in office, we will likely be without representation as to any and all matters pertaining to the development of North Los Robles from this time forward. He will either recuse himself or weigh his interests in avoiding future suits with our own interest.

11/20/2008

I bring these matters up, because I believe they need to be addressed in Monday's meeting. There has been a lack of transparency with regard to this process. Questions are repeatedly asked and left unanswered. The process has left a number of us very disappointed with our local government.

Jomsky, Mark

From: Cybele Garcia Kohel [cybelegarcia@me.com]
Sent: Wednesday, November 19, 2008 5:34 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: Los Robles Re-Zoning Issue

Mr. Jomsky,

Please submit this as my public comment on the Los Robles Re-Zoning Issue.

Thank you,
Cybele Garcia Kohel
1240 N. Los Robles Ave.
Pasadena, CA 91104
District 5
Inform*Inspire*Activate
cybelegarcia@me.com

Vice Mayor, City Council Members:

As a volunteer for the Friends of Washington Park, and resident living on Los Robles, I wish to state my opposition to the re-zoning presently under consideration on Los Robles. There are many anecdotal stories I can tell about why I oppose this re-zoning. But in the essence of time, here is my list of reasons:

1. We shouldn't be deciding zoning because of lawsuits or out of fear of lawsuits.
2. We shouldn't be giving extra incentives to developers above what is already legal.
3. We don't know what type of housing is there already- it could be low income and tearing it down might actually result in less (studies in other cities, such as San Francisco reveal that keeping a low density of people makes it easier to preserve low-income housing).
4. Traffic on this 'Major Transportation Corridor' for cars and buses would increase, creating traffic jams and making it more hazardous for pedestrians and cyclists.
5. Pollution, noise and trash would increase.
7. The resulting development, because of low-income housing waivers, would not match the historic nature of the area.
8. Last, but not least, this would impact the surrounding historic districts negatively through all the named reasons above.

I wish to state, for the record, that this process has not been democratic or transparent. I hope you understand the frustration of the residents who feel they aren't having their concerns taken seriously because of this lawsuit. It appears to them that the opinions by the council are already formed and swayed by information in the suit that they know nothing about. This is not democracy. You should think on how history will judge this matter- if a wealthy developer wins over the concerns of the average citizens.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.
Sincerely,
Cybele Garcia Kohel
1240 N. Los Robles Ave.
Pasadena, CA 91104
District 5

Jomsky, Mark

From: allen kirkland [allen_kirkland@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, November 19, 2008 8:00 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: allen kirkland 623 douglas st pasadena ca 91104 e-mail allen_kirkland@yahoo.com

Notice to city council

To whom it may concern, on Tuesday November 18th we the property owners on Douglas st between Los Robles and El Molino had a neighborhood watch meeting at 501 Douglas st .In this meeting tax paying property owners in single family dwellings voiced there concerns on garbage tapering by curbside and other minor issues. Then out of nowhere the resident at 501 Douglas brought up a topic that took over the discussion and peaked all of the property owners interest, the zoning issue on Los Robles north of mountain in very close proximity to our homes and something that we all were deeply concerned about. The vast majority of property in district # 3 are single family dwellings and changing the zoning is to make the future acreage more densely populated has many possible potentially negative considerations.

there is a law suit filled by a group for affordable housing against our beloved city, backed by developers eager to attain big profits in this unsure economic climate, if not now than surely in the future. Once again there were multiple owners at this meeting so it is safe to assume that land owners in this area are concerned about traffic crime environmental impact and eventual property value decline as a result of pure density issues. We contacted neighbors city such as Arcadia, Hastings Ranch , San Morino and they have no pending law suits on or for affordable housing issues, even so we have a knowledgeable and competent city attorney well aware of the appellate process and a possible injunction of necessary litigation in this matter could go on for years and perhaps the developer's would loose interest as the property values would increase and go to areas that would embrace a more condense acreage population such as Highland Park Lancaster, Palmdale Oxnard San Dimas and so on, let the little old lady in Pasadena maintain her anonymity and peacefulness.

Jomsky, Mark

From: allen kirkland [allen_kirkland@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, November 20, 2008 7:11 AM
To: cityclerk
Subject: suggestions for council members on issues in district 3

code enforcement and upgrades are necessary in district 3 hold the landlords responsible for paint irrigation electrical and total facade improvements not on in the multi family units but store fronts on orange grove and other areas near by here in the north.contact the under resourced Pasadena police dept and find out what locations exhaust most of there patrols and resources and hold landlords responsible by mandating security during hours of concern based on previous police reports lets clean up our house before we try expansion affordable housing in necessary but not at the expence of beautiful historical homes .the areas of concern are clear to those with sight upgrade then expand .look at the apartments on Allen and California and Delmar and south El molino then check north Moreno north Garfield north fair oaks Raymond and so on.this is a fore ward thinking town , the resources used to mandate these building upgrades could by fines issued by the city for non compliance,something reasonable to consider in this ascetically challenged area.

please send to counsil members

Jomsky, Mark

From: altesa@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, November 20, 2008 8:58 AM
To: cityclerk; Bogaard, Bill
Cc: aurorabella@mac.com; Stone, Rhonda; amsbry@charter.net; Gmelich@whopper.com
Subject: Re: Rezoning on Los Robles

Dear Mayor and Vice-Mayor:

I am a resident of the Orange Heights Historic District and I want to add my name to those of my fellow community members whose e-mail correspondence regarding the proposed zoning hearing was neglectfully omitted, even after having received a reply from Scott Reimers' assuring that it had been received on time.

It is shocking that a response at the November 17, 2008 hearing established that there was a projection for development based on parcels and not on actual usage and residency. Not one individual representing City Council had any knowledge about the current status of the single family and multi-family homes along Los Robles. Further, there was relatively little discussion regarding the fact that a National Landmark District has been established since 1995, greatly impacting development considerations. If Pasadena deems itself a national leader in the conservation and preservation of our national architectural heritage, it must keep in mind, without prejudice, those communities that are already on the roster of the National Register of Historic Places. Additionally, our research has revealed a pending civil litigation, the settlement of which greatly compromises our community in order to protect the councilman and the city. This public information will be disturbing to other landmark districts, Pasadena residents and to all across the country who have been working tirelessly to preserve our national heritage.

I am proud of being part of a community whose longstanding interest and advocacy continues to create and maintain what has been Pasadena's pride. Those of us who are residents of Orange Heights and Garfield Heights have contributed actively in preserving the integrity of the neighborhoods and homes in what are historically two of Pasadena's oldest tracts.

I submit for your perusal a copy of the listing of the Orange Heights-Barnhart Tract as a Landmark District on the National Register of Historic Places, under the guardianship of the Department of the Interior, National Park Service. The listing date of 1995, as well as our case number is part of the information. The web link for this information follows.

Dr. Alicia M. González,
Anthropologist
949 N. Oakland Avenue
Pasadena, California 91104

Orange Heights--Barnhart Tracts Historic District **
(added 1995 - Los Angeles County - # 95001128)

11/20/2008

Roughly bounded by N. Los Robles Ave. W, N. El Molino Ave. E., Jackson St. N., and E. Mountain St. S., Pasadena
(183 acres, 61 buildings)

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Historic Significance: Architecture/Engineering
Architect, builder, or engineer: Multiple, Peters, D.A., et al.
Architectural Style: Bungalow/Craftsman
Area of Significance: Architecture
Period of Significance: 1900-1924, 1925-1949
Owner: **Private**
Historic Function: Domestic
Historic Sub-function: Single Dwelling
Current Function: Domestic
Current Sub-function: Single Dwelling

<http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/ca/Los+Angeles/districts.html>

Traveling over the river or through the woods this holiday season? [Get the MapQuest Toolbar](#). Directions, Traffic, Gas Prices & More!

**TO CITY OF PASADENA ZONING and PLANNING
COMMISSION, THE PASADENA CITY COUNCIL,
COUNCIL DISTRICT 3 MEMBER CHRIS HOLDEN,
and THE NORTHWEST COMMISSION
REGARDING:**

**INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION
and PROPOSED AMENDMENT to the ZONING
CODE and the ZONING MAP along NORTH LOS
ROBLES AVENUE between DOUGLAS STREET and
MOUNTAIN STREET.**

ORIGINAL HEARING DATE: OCTOBER 22, 2008

Time: 6:15p.m.

Place: CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS

(Room S249)

100 North Garfield Avenue, Pasadena, CA

**WE, the undersigned Property Owners and Residents,
call upon the City of Pasadena Zoning and Planning
Commission, The Pasadena City Council, Council
District 3 Member Chris Holden and The Northwest
Commission not to adopt the Proposed Amendment
to the Zoning Code and The Zoning Map along North
Los Robles Avenue between Douglas Street and
Mountain Street.**

**The proposed amendments would allow an increase
residential density up to 24 units per acre for low or
moderate income levels without consideration of the
HISTORICAL NATURE OF THE ORANGE
HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD and HOMEOWNERS.**

The positive finding of the Environmental Impact Study should be disregarded in its entirety as it is based solely on a “best case” scenario. Nonetheless, even under a “best case” scenario the Negative Impacts Include but are not limited to:

- 1. An invasion of Privacy, failure to consider the impact multi-level buildings will have on existing residents and use of their backyards. (The proposed buildings would be eligible for variances in height, width, setbacks and parking which will result in the infringement on surrounding properties.)**
- 2. Increase Traffic and limiting Access to main roads**
- 3. Increased Noise Levels impacting all single family homes**
- 4. Inadequate Street and Residential Parking for proposed new housing impacting existing residents**
- 5. Increased potential for Crime**
- 6. Negative Impact on Neighborhood Schools**
- 7. Negative Impact on Property Values**
- 8. Proposed Building’s Not Suited for a Neighborhood of Historic Homes**
- 9. A displacement of low income families who currently occupy the properties**
- 10. A decrease in the potential for residents to safely walk and/or bike in the area**
- 11. A setback in Pasadena’s energy conservation and environmental protection efforts (i.e. removal of trees, increase smog, increase energy use by densely populated development.)**

12. The potential destruction of historically significant architecture.

NAME: Ron and Stacey Ortiz

ADDRESS: 1009 N. Oakland Ave. Pasadena, CA 91104

PHONE: 626-398-0551