

**Novelo, Lilia**

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**Subject:**

FW: YWCA Building

**From:** Gloria Henderson <[gghenderson@att.net](mailto:gghenderson@att.net)>

**Date:** August 12, 2016 at 7:43:45 PM PDT

**To:** <[mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net)>

**Subject:** YWCA Building

I strongly support the Pasadena Heritage position on the proposed hotel plans.

Gloria Henderson

440 Elmwood Dr.

Pasadena, CA 91105

08/15/2016

Item 10

**Novelo, Lilia**

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**Subject:**

FW: Public Comment - Proposed YWCA Development - Support for Design Alternative 2E

**From:** Wesley Reutimann <[wesleyreutimann@gmail.com](mailto:wesleyreutimann@gmail.com)>

**Date:** August 13, 2016 at 6:44:31 AM PDT

**To:** "Madison, Steve" <[smadison@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:smadison@cityofpasadena.net)>, Terry Tornek <[ttornek@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:ttornek@cityofpasadena.net)>

**Cc:** "Jomsky, Mark" <[mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net)>, Kristin Reutimann <[kristin.reutimann@gmail.com](mailto:kristin.reutimann@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** Public Comment - Proposed YWCA Development - Support for Design Alternative 2E

Good morning Council Member Madison and Mayor Tornek,

As constituents of your district who will not be able to attend Monday's meeting in person, the Reutimann family strongly urges you to reject the staff recommendation and support either alternative 2E or other uses that will better rehabilitate the YWCA building. Here are a few of the reasons why we feel you should do so:

- **The removal of the Sister City garden, mature trees, and clear sight lines of the iconic City Hall would be a tremendous loss for the community.** Pasadena's growing downtown district has a shortage of green space. While the parklet in question may be small in size, such green refuges play an important role in dense urban environments and will be increasingly in demand as more residents move into the central district.
- **Pasadena's Civic Center is one of SoCal's most beautiful and architecturally significant.** As such it demands nothing short of the highest standards for new construction, a bar the faux-boutique hotel does not meet insofar as design, massing, and articulation.
- **The future of the YWCA Julia Morgan is a legacy project.** 50 years from now when most of us will have passed any new structure on this property will likely still be standing. Given the importance of this space to the community, the Council should not allow short-term financial considerations based on staff speculation and developer preferences to force a long-term commitment, especially following a decision-making process that lacked meaningful opportunities for Pasadena residents to weigh in on how they would like to see a public-owned, historic property be repurposed.

Best regards,

Wesley and Kristin Reutimann  
626-529-4615

08/15/2016  
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**Novelo, Lilia**

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**Subject:** FW: YWCA Building - Pasadena Heritage Support

**From:** silvia mancini <[silvirgirl@earthlink.net](mailto:silvirgirl@earthlink.net)>

**Date:** August 13, 2016 at 12:59:46 AM PDT

**To:** <[mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net)>

**Subject:** YWCA Building - Pasadena Heritage Support

Sending a letter to let you know that I stand with Pasadena Heritage to support their stance on the YWCA building. Thank you for your consideration!

**After four years of study and discussion, the proposed hotel project in the Civic Center that includes the historic YWCA building will come before City Council on Monday, August 15.**

The YWCA building, designed by Julia Morgan, has sat vacant for nearly two decades, suffered from neglect by its previous owner, and is a valuable resource that urgently needs restoration and a new use! Pasadena Heritage has worked hard to understand and influence a potential project that will save the former YWCA and return it to productive use, respect the 1920s Bennett Plan for the Civic Center, require new construction to be compatible with both the YWCA building AND City Hall across the street, and bring new vitality to the Civic Center.

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**Novelo, Lilia**

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**Subject:** FW: YMCA -Kimpton project

**From:** Maria Teruya <[meteruya@gmail.com](mailto:meteruya@gmail.com)>

**Date:** August 13, 2016 at 12:57:47 PM PDT

**To:** <[mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net)>

**Subject:** YMCA -Kimpton project

I am excited regarding the revitalization of this historic site and support Alternative 2A, which has been recommended by Pasadena Historical Society.

Sincerely,

Maria Ossa  
2640 E Villa Street

Sent from my iPhone

08/15/2016  
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**Novelo, Lilia**

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**Subject:** FW: WWW COMMENT

**From:** <CityWeb-Server@cityofpasadena.net>  
**Date:** August 14, 2016 at 1:42:10 PM PDT  
**To:** <OfficialRecords-CityClerk@cityofpasadena.net>  
**Subject:** WWW COMMENT

Data from form "Contact City Clerk Mark Jomsky" was received on 8/14/2016 1:42:10 PM.

Send Comments

Field	Value
Your Name	Quincy Hocutt
Phone	6267951644
Email	<a href="mailto:qih001@earthlink.net">qih001@earthlink.net</a>
Comments	I have written the City Council with the following message: Please do not give your support to alternative 2A for the hotel project associated with the renovation of the YWCA. To remove open land from the front of the City Hall would not be in the best interests of the citizenry of Pasadena. That area is one of our crown jewels and to sacrifice it in order that a developer can maximize his profits is unthinkable.

Email "WWW COMMENT" originally sent to [OfficialRecords-CityClerk@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:OfficialRecords-CityClerk@cityofpasadena.net) from [CityWeb-Server@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:CityWeb-Server@cityofpasadena.net) on 8/14/2016 1:42:10 PM.

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**Novelo, Lilia**

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**Subject:** FW: YWCA / Kimpton

**From:** Thomas Seifert <[tdseifert@aol.com](mailto:tdseifert@aol.com)>  
**Date:** August 14, 2016 at 3:07:41 PM PDT  
**To:** Mark Jomsky <[mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net)>  
**Subject:** YWCA / Kimpton

Mark:

Sorry to send this so late but we are in Iceland with sporadic wi-fi. Thank you in advance for distributing. Tom

To: Mayor of Pasadena and City Council

Dear Mayor Tornek and Members of the Council:

I regret that I am away and unable to stand before you Monday evening and express my views on this critical issue. I have been involved with this project from the early stages and have consistently been adamantly opposed to handing over any City owned public open space for this project. For that reason, coupled with the fact that the proposed project would significantly overwhelm City Hall, I urge rejection of the staff recommendation and the acceptance of Alternative 2E.

I agree with the positions advanced by the Civic Center Coalition, the DPNA, the WPRA and do not agree, identify or associate with the positions expressed by Pasadena Heritage.

Thank you for your consideration,

Thomas Seifert  
626-440-0585

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## **Novelo, Lilia**

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**Subject:** FW: Please distribute to all council members

**From:** ellen La Scola <lascola56e@gmail.com>

**Date:** August 14, 2016 at 7:52:31 PM PDT

**To:** <mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net>

**Subject:** Please distribute to all council members

Esteemed Council members;

Although my wife and I typically support the views of PASADENA HERITAGE in matters of historic preservation and stewardship of the city's unique character, we are in strong opposition to their support for "Alternative 2A" as described in the EIR (with modifications).

The Civic Center campus is defined as public space, not commercial space. Using the 1922 Julia Morgan Designed YWCA building as a thematic anchor for a six story hotel with 180 rooms does not respect the Bennett plan. It will in fact skew the spacious, open symmetry of our civic center.

By leasing (not selling or giving) public park land to the developers PH and the Planning Commission attempt to remove one objection, but for all practical purposes the land is being ceded to KHP in an apparent attempt to sweeten this deal.

The great Chicago landscape architect, Daniel Burnham founded the "City Beautiful" movement toward the end of the 19th century. Believing that a beautiful city would be a successful city, the people of PASADENA hired his protégé Edward Bennett to design a master plan for Civic Center on the Beaux-Arts model with wide avenues and amply spaced public buildings in a verdant park

at the foot of the San Gabriel Mountains. Citizens could attend court proceedings, pay their utility bills, take part in city planning meetings. In this setting, the human interface with government could be conducted in a collegial atmosphere.

The city of Pasadena purchased the YWCA building four \$8.3 million in public funds. The property has suffered from years of neglect and sorely needs rehabilitation to return it to public usefulness. Currently the city rents office space all over town. Why not convert at least part of the existing structure to fill some of those needs? Alternately/additionally, it could include a scaled-down commercial component. The adaptive reuse of the YWCA structure requires that it's profile be not necessarily the same as, but harmonious with, Julia Morgan's dimensions.

There were six different proposals made for the adaptive reuse of the YWCA building, none of which were actually disclosed to the public.

We support the approach being articulated by the Civic Center Coalition. We would like to see the city Council step back a bit and open a discussion that takes their points into consideration.

We will be attending meeting tomorrow evening along with others.

Very truly yours; Jay Kavoian and Ellen LaScola

08/15/2016

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**Novelo, Lilia**

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**Subject:** FW: YWCA / Kimpton Hotel Project  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg

**From:** John Williams <[john\\_williams@capgroup.com](mailto:john_williams@capgroup.com)>  
**Date:** August 15, 2016 at 7:00:04 AM PDT  
**To:** "[mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net)" <[mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net)>  
**Subject:** YWCA / Kimpton Hotel Project

To the Pasadena City Council:

I am writing in support of saving the YWCA and support of Alternative 2A.

John P. Williams  
Pasadena Heritage Board Member  
Treasurer

**John P. Williams, CFA**  
Senior Vice President



(213) 486-9476 x99476 Direct  
(213) 615-0703 Fax  
333 S. Hope Street, 52<sup>nd</sup> Floor | Los Angeles, CA 90071-1406  
[jppw@capgroup.com](mailto:jppw@capgroup.com) | [thecapitalgroup.com/pcs](http://thecapitalgroup.com/pcs)

*Please note: Any transaction and/or account instructions sent via email will not be acted upon until you receive a written confirmation from us.*



## **Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** veronica mosqueda <vergm18@me.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 12, 2016 11:01 AM  
**To:** mcaustin@cityofpasadena.net  
**Cc:** cityclerk  
**Subject:** YMCA/ Hotel

As a resident of Pasadena I am in favor of the alternative 2E. The smaller development projects preserves the open space, trees and the beauty of Pasadena. Please vote for the smaller hotel project and leave the open space for residents to enjoy.

Thank you  
Veronica and Art Mosqueda  
1850 E. Woodlyn Road  
Pasadena, ca 91104

Veronica

## **Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** Karla Berglund Hughes <musability@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 13, 2016 1:17 AM  
**To:** Kennedy, John  
**Cc:** cityclerk  
**Subject:** Civic Center

Dear Rep. John Kennedy and the Pasadena City Council,

As a Pasadena resident, I highly encourage you to make our Civic Center a priority.

I am strongly opposed to a project that sells off the public parkland. The YWCA is an important historic resource but is secondary to the the Civic Center as a whole, and that we should not sacrifice the integrity of the Civic Center (as "2A" does) to rehabilitate the YWCA.

The integrity of the Civic Center depends on the garden setting that the parkland provides, and it depends on not placing the REAR END of a 5 or 6-story hotel directly facing City Hall!

Please preserve both the YWCA and the integrity of the Civic Center!

Karla Berglund Hughes  
638 N. Madison Ave  
Pasadena, CA 91101  
909)374-8177  
[musability@sbcglobal.net](mailto:musability@sbcglobal.net)

## Martinez, Ruben

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**From:** cityclerk  
**Subject:** FW: District 2 resident: please protect the parkland around City Hall from developers!

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**From:** Loren Roberts  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 10, 2016 5:12 PM  
**To:** McAustin, Margaret  
**Cc:** Morales, Margo  
**Subject:** District 2 resident: please protect the parkland around City Hall from developers!

Ms. McAustin:

**I am writing to you today to ask you to help preserve the parkland space around the City Hall, especially with regards to the proposed hotel on the corner of Marengo and Holly in the old "Y" building. The "2E" proposal preserves Pasadena parkland, whereas the plan pushed by the developer ("2A") does not.**

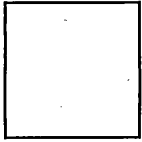
I have many reasons for advocating that the parkland be saved from development:

- This section of Pasadena (my company has resided several hundred feet from the proposed hotel for many years) has a dearth of public parkland. We need more public parkland space, not less.
- The 1925 Bennett Plan for the district surrounding the City Hall specifically calls for parkland space directly across the street and to the West of City Hall. Destroying that would end a century of historical preservation, directly on your doorstep.
- I can't help but think that the construction of a gigantic hotel almost on top of the Robinson Memorial would be a massive slight to the Robinson family and Jackie and Mack. The Robinsons have a complicated relationship to Pasadena, and demolishing the parkland around the Memorial would be a slap in the face. How could we, instead, honor the Robinson family? Could we make that parkland more of a destination, rather than making it a tiny afterthought?
- The original proposal floated to residents was that of a "boutique" hotel; the word "boutique" usually means "small". The hotel as it is being presented now is *not* boutique.
- The "sister city gardens" are symmetrical, and aligned across from City Hall. Destroying one garden to add another 40 hotel rooms seems short-sighted, and instantly destroys the aesthetic of the City Hall courtyard area. (This parkland space actually *does* get used, both for personal space as well as for public events.)
- The "City Beautiful" movement was one that called for grand, open spaces, in the hopes that large civic spaces would bring people together and negate the effects of urbanization and increased density. Allowing this hotel to be built as proposed goes against the spirit of the "City Beautiful" ethos on which the Civic Center was originally developed.

I understand the benefit of working with developers, but I think that the current proposal is simply bad for Pasadena. I also understand that things must change; however, the benefits of keeping parkland in an area where there is almost none outweighs the benefit of a hotel across the street from City Hall. I urge you to vote against the plan that the developer is currently floating, and instead back the "2E" plan that maintains the parkland and trees on the Garfield/Union corner.

Thank you for your time! Feel free to call me (or meet -- my office is around the corner from City Hall) anytime to discuss.

Respectfully,  
Loren A. Roberts  
resident of Pasadena Highlands district  
business owner in the Civic Center District



**Loren A. Roberts**  
brand consulting | art direction | film  
Hearken Creative

t. 626-396-1500  
e. [loren@hearkencreative.com](mailto:loren@hearkencreative.com)  
w. <http://www.hearkencreative.com>  
a. 261 E. Colorado Blvd. #208, Pasadena, CA 91101



The latest: [What are you doing in Jakarta?](#)

## **Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** Paul1tenor@aol.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 13, 2016 7:41 PM  
**To:** Gordo, Victor; Hampton, Tyron; Madison, Steve; Masuda, Gene; McAustin, Margaret; Tornek, Terry; awilson@rextor.com; Kennedy, John; cityclerk; action@savepasadenaciviccenter.org; dpnalist@gmail.com  
**Subject:** YWCA / Kimpton Hotel

The proposed project to build yet another hotel is not what Pasadena residents want or need. Yes, we need to rehabilitate the historic YWCA building, but not at the expense of losing parkland, which is woefully inadequate in downtown Pasadena.

I have lived in the downtown district of Pasadena since 1990, and many really wonderful things have been done to reclaim the area. However, losing more parkland would be a tragic mistake in my opinion. The beauty of the City Hall and Civic Center depends on the garden setting that the parkland provides. Building a 5 or 6 story hotel will destroy that. I strongly urge you to not vote for 2A option and to vote for option 2E instead. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Paul Bandy  
281 S. Madison Avenue #101  
Pasadena, CA 91101-2808

Our First Priority is the Civic Center. We will not settle for a project that sells off the public parkland. The YWCA is an important historic resource but it is secondary to the the Civic Center as a whole. We should not sacrifice the integrity of the Civic Center (as "2A" does) to rehabilitate the YWCA. The integrity of the Civic Center depends on the garden setting that the parkland provides, and it depends on not placing the REAR END of a 5 or 6-story hotel directly facing City Hall! Let's preserve both the YWCA and the integrity of the Civic Center! "2E" is a better alternative.

## Martinez, Ruben

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**From:** Lori Korngiebel <akaroja@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 13, 2016 8:37 PM  
**To:** Gordo, Victor; Hampton, Tyron; Madison, Steve; Masuda, Gene; McAustin, Margaret; Tornek, Terry; awilson@rexter.com; Kennedy, John; cityclerk; action@savepasadenaciviccenter.org; dpnalist@gmail.com  
**Subject:** YWCA / Kimpton Hotel

Our First Priority is the Civic Center.

We will not settle for a project that sells off the public parkland.

The YWCA is an important historic resource but it is secondary to the the Civic Center as a whole.

We should not sacrifice the integrity of the Civic Center (as "2A" does) to rehabilitate the YWCA.

The integrity of the Civic Center depends on the garden setting that the parkland provides, and it depends on not placing the REAR END of a 5 or 6-story hotel directly facing City Hall!

Let's preserve both the YWCA and the integrity of the Civic Center!

"2E" is a better alternative.

Sent from my iPhone

## Martinez, Ruben

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**From:** RAY RODRIGUEZ <ray@spotmill.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 13, 2016 9:11 PM  
**To:** Gordo, Victor; Hampton, Tyron; Madison, Steve; Masuda, Gene; McAustin, Margaret; Tornek, Terry; awilson@rext.com; Kennedy, John; cityclerk; action@savepasadenaciviccenter.org; dpnalist@gmail.com  
**Subject:** YWCA / Kimpton Hotel

Our First Priority is the Kimpton .

R

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**Ray Rodriguez**

[ c. 626-224-6526 ] [ e.ray@spotmill.com ]  
{about.me/RayRodriguez}

This message was typed by thumbs and may have had little or no cooperation from fingers. In their constant battle for supremacy there may have occurred some spelling errors. Thanks in advance for understanding.

## **Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** Marjorie Lindbeck <margiel@pacbell.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 13, 2016 9:33 PM  
**To:** Gordo, Victor; Hampton, Tyron; Madison, Steve; Masuda, Gene; McAustin, Margaret; Tornek, Terry; awilson@rextor.com; Kennedy, John; cityclerk; action@savepasadenaciviccenter.org; dpnalist@gmail.com  
**Subject:** YWCA / Kimpton Hotel

I am convinced that Our First Priority is the Civic Center -- not the Kimpton Hotel.

We will not settle for a project that sells off the public parkland.

The YWCA is an important historic resource but it is secondary to the the Civic Center as a whole.

We should not sacrifice the integrity of the Civic Center (as "2A" does) to rehabilitate the YWCA.

The integrity of the Civic Center depends on the garden setting that the parkland provides, and it depends on not placing the REAR END of a 5 or 6-story hotel directly facing City Hall!

Let's preserve both the YWCA and the integrity of the Civic Center!

"2E" is a better alternative.

Thank you,

Margie Lindbeck  
Resident City of Pasadena



## Martinez, Ruben

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**From:** patoney.mlis@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 13, 2016 10:05 PM  
**To:** Gordo, Victor; Hampton, Tyron; Madison, Steve; Masuda, Gene; McAustin, Margaret; Tornek, Terry; awilson@rexter.com; Kennedy, John; cityclerk; action@savepasadenaciviccenter.org; dpnalist@gmail.com  
**Subject:** YWCA / Kimpton Hotel -

Our First Priority is the Civic Center.

We will not settle for a project that sells off the public parkland.

The YWCA is an important historic resource but it is secondary to the the Civic Center as a whole.

We should not sacrifice the integrity of the Civic Center (as "2A" does) to rehabilitate the YWCA.

The integrity of the Civic Center depends on the garden setting that the parkland provides, and it depends on not placing the REAR END of a 5 or 6-story hotel directly facing City Hall!

Let's preserve both the YWCA and the integrity of the Civic Center!

"2E" is a better alternative.

## **Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** Annie Harrer <aharrer@illinoisalumni.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 13, 2016 10:25 PM  
**To:** Gordo, Victor; Hampton, Tyron; Madison, Steve; Masuda, Gene; McAustin, Margaret; Tornek, Terry; awilson@rextor.com; Kennedy, John; cityclerk; action@savepasadenaciviccenter.org; dpnialist@gmail.com  
**Subject:** YWCA / Kimpton Hotel

Our First Priority is the Civic Center.

We will not settle for a project that sells off the public parkland.

The YWCA is an important historic resource but it is secondary to the the Civic Center as a whole.

We should not sacrifice the integrity of the Civic Center (as "2A" does) to rehabilitate the YWCA.

The integrity of the Civic Center depends on the garden setting that the parkland provides, and it depends on not placing the REAR END of a 5 or 6-story hotel directly facing City Hall!

Let's preserve both the YWCA and the integrity of the Civic Center!

"2E" is a better alternative.

Sent from my iPhone

## Martinez, Ruben

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**From:** Annemarie Pazmino <akaflaca1999@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 13, 2016 10:27 PM  
**To:** Tornek, Terry  
**Cc:** cityclerk; Gordo, Victor  
**Subject:** 2E, please don't block our beautiful city hall

Our *First Priority* is the *Civic Center*. We will not settle for a project that sells off the public parkland. We believe that the YWCA is an important historic resource but is *secondary* to the the Civic Center as a whole, and that we should not sacrifice the integrity of the Civic Center (as "2A" does) to rehabilitate the YWCA. The integrity of the Civic Center depends on the garden setting that the parkland provides, and it depends on not placing the *REAR END* of a 5 or 6-story hotel directly facing City Hall! Let's preserve *both* the YWCA *and* the integrity of the Civic Center! "2E" is a better alternative.

Annemarie

## **Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** Marion White <mkwhite2002@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 13, 2016 11:59 PM  
**To:** Gordo, Victor; Hampton, Tyron; Madison, Steve; Masuda, Gene; McAustin, Margaret; Tornek, Terry; awilson@rextex.com; Kennedy, John; cityclerk; action@savepasadenaciviccenter.org; dpnalist@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Hotel Project

Our First Priority is the Civic Center. We will not settle for a project that sells off the public parkland.

The YWCA is an important historic resource but it is secondary to the the Civic Center as a whole.

We should not sacrifice the integrity of the Civic Center (as "2A" does) to rehabilitate the YWCA.

The integrity of the Civic Center depends on the garden setting that the parkland provides, and it depends on not placing the REAR END of a 5 or 6-story hotel directly facing City Hall!

Let's preserve both the YWCA and the integrity of the Civic Center!

"2E" is a better alternative.

Sincerely,  
Marion White, concerned Pasadena citizen  
1000 Cordova St., #107  
Pasadena, 91106

Sent from Marion's iPad!

**Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** ATX <theatreatment@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 14, 2016 6:22 AM  
**To:** Gordo, Victor; Hampton, Tyron; Madison, Steve; Masuda, Gene; McAustin, Margaret; Tornek, Terry; Andy Wilson; Kennedy, John; cityclerk; Downtown Pasadena Neighborhood Association  
**Subject:** Vote 2E please save our land

Our First Priority is the Civic Center.

We will not settle for a project that sells off the public parkland.

The YWCA is an important historic resource but it is secondary to the the Civic Center as a whole.

We should not sacrifice the integrity of the Civic Center (as "2A" does) to rehabilitate the YWCA.

The integrity of the Civic Center depends on the garden setting that the parkland provides, and it depends on not placing the REAR END of a 5 or 6-story hotel directly facing City Hall!

Let's preserve both the YWCA and the integrity of the Civic Center!

"2E" is a better alternative.

Warmly,  
Arolyn Burns LPCC, LMFT  
The A Treatment Center  
[TheATreatment.com](http://TheATreatment.com)  
Call for a free 15 minute phone consultation now!  
626-304-4690  
Check out our YELP reviews:  
<http://www.yelp.com/biz/the-a-treatment-center-pasadena>

**Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** Diedra Roesijadi <diedra@live.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 14, 2016 8:53 AM  
**To:** Annemarie Pazmino  
**Cc:** Tornek, Terry; cityclerk; Gordo, Victor  
**Subject:** 2E, please don't block our beautiful city hall

To Whom it May Concern:

Our *First Priority* is the *Civic Center*. We will not settle for a project that sells off the public parkland.

We believe that the YWCA is an important historic resource but is *secondary* to the the Civic Center as a whole, and that we should not sacrifice the integrity of the Civic Center (as "2A" does) to rehabilitate the YWCA. The integrity of the Civic Center depends on the garden setting that the parkland provides, and it depends on not placing the *REAR END* of a 5 or 6-story hotel directly facing City Hall!

Let's preserve *both* the YWCA *and* the integrity of the Civic Center!  
"2E" is a better alternative.

Thanks,

Diedra

## **Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** mehran afshan <afshanmehran@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 14, 2016 11:32 AM  
**To:** Gordo, Victor; Hampton, Tyron; Madison, Steve; Masuda, Gene; McAustin, Margaret; Tornek, Terry; awilson@rextor.com; Kennedy, John; cityclerk; action@savepasadenaciviccenter.org; dpnalist@gmail.com

Our First Priority is the Civic Center. We will not settle for a project that sells off the public parkland. The YWCA is an important historic resource but it is secondary to the the Civic Center as a whole. We should not sacrifice the integrity of the Civic Center (as "2A" does) to rehabilitate the YWCA. The integrity of the Civic Center depends on the garden setting that the parkland provides, and it depends on not placing the REAR END of a 5 or 6-story hotel directly facing City Hall! Let's preserve both the YWCA and the integrity of the Civic Center! "2E" is a better alternative.

## Martinez, Ruben

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**From:** Suz B <suzb@ymail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 14, 2016 11:58 AM  
**To:** Gordo, Victor; Hampton, Tyron; Madison, Steve; Masuda, Gene; McAustin, Margaret; Tornek, Terry; awilson@rextex.com; Kennedy, John; cityclerk; action@savepasadenaciviccenter.org; dpnalist@gmail.com  
**Subject:** YWCA / Kimpton Hotel

Please consider alternative 2E which satisfies both aesthetic and commercial needs.

Our First Priority is the world renowned Civic Center.

The YWCA is an important historic resource but it is secondary to the the Civic Center as a whole.

We should not sacrifice the integrity of the Civic Center (as "2A" does) to rehabilitate the YWCA.

The integrity of the Civic Center depends on the garden setting that the parkland provides, and it depends on not placing the REAR END of a 5 or 6-story hotel directly facing City Hall!

Let's preserve both the YWCA and the integrity of the Civic Center!

"2E" is a better alternative.

*Suzanne Barber  
Pasadena, CA*



**Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** Julie M <juliemorez@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 14, 2016 1:04 PM  
**To:** Gordo, Victor; Hampton, Tyron; Madison, Steve; Masuda, Gene; McAustin, Margaret; Tornek, Terry; awilson@rexter.com; Kennedy, John; cityclerk; action@savepasadenaciviccenter.org; dpnalist@gmail.com  
**Subject:** YWCA/Kimpton Hotel roposal

As a former Pasadena resident and frequent visitor, I strongly object to the proposed project.

Our First Priority is the Civic Center.

We will not settle for a project that sells off the public parkland.

The YWCA is an important historic resource but it is secondary to the the Civic Center as a whole.

We should not sacrifice the integrity of the Civic Center (as "2A" does) to rehabilitate the YWCA.

The integrity of the Civic Center depends on the garden setting that the parkland provides, and it depends on not placing the REAR END of a 5 or 6-story hotel directly facing City Hall!

Let's preserve both the YWCA and the integrity of the Civic Center!

"2E" is a better alternative.

Julia Morez

## Martinez, Ruben

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**From:** Kevin Pazmino <arcpazmino@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 14, 2016 4:29 PM  
**Cc:** Tornek, Terry; cityclerk; Gordo, Victor  
**Subject:** 2E, please don't block our beautiful city hall

Our *First Priority* is the *Civic Center*. We will not settle for a project that sells off the public parkland.

We believe that the YWCA is an important historic resource but is *secondary* to the the Civic Center as a whole, and that we should not sacrifice the integrity of the Civic Center (as "2A" does) to rehabilitate the YWCA. The integrity of the Civic Center depends on the garden setting that the parkland provides, and it depends on not placing the *REAR END* of a 5 or 6-story hotel directly facing City Hall!

Let's preserve *both* the YWCA *and* the integrity of the Civic Center!

"2E" is a better alternative.

Kevin

**Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** Caprice Harper <capriceharper@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 14, 2016 5:48 PM  
**To:** Gordo, Victor; Hampton, Tyron; Madison, Steve; Masuda, Gene; McAustin, Margaret; Tornek, Terry; awilson@rexter.com; Kennedy, John; cityclerk; action@savepasadenaciviccenter.org; dpnalist@gmail.com  
**Subject:** YWCA / Kimpton Hotel

Our First Priority is the Civic Center. We will not settle for a project that sells off the public parkland. The YWCA is an important historic resource but it is secondary to the the Civic Center as a whole. We should not sacrifice the integrity of the Civic Center (as "2A" does) to rehabilitate the YWCA. The integrity of the Civic Center depends on the garden setting that the parkland provides, and it depends on not placing the REAR END of a 5 or 6-story hotel directly facing City Hall! Let's preserve both the YWCA and the integrity of the Civic Center! "2E" is a better alternative.

Regards,

Caprice Harper

## **Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** Mary Freese <m-freese@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 14, 2016 7:06 PM  
**To:** Gordo, Victor; Hampton, Tyron; Madison, Steve; Masuda, Gene; McAustin, Margaret; Tornek, Terry; Andy Wilson; Kennedy, John; cityclerk; Downtown Pasadena Neighborhood Association  
**Subject:** 2 e

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The YWCA is an important historic resource but it is secondary to the the Civic Center as a whole.

We should not sacrifice the integrity of the Civic Center (as "2A" does) to rehabilitate the YWCA.

The integrity of the Civic Center depends on the garden setting that the parkland provides, and it depends on not placing the REAR END of a 5 or 6-story hotel directly facing City Hall!

Let's preserve both the YWCA and the integrity of the Civic Center!

"2E" is a better alternative. I AGREE, PASADENA RESIDENT OWNER  
MARY FREESE

## Martinez, Ruben

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**From:** Candace Seu <cswmseu@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 14, 2016 11:18 PM  
**To:** Tornek, Terry; Hampton, Tyron; McAustin, Margaret; Kennedy, John; Masuda, Gene; Gordo, Victor; Madison, Steve; Wilson, Andy; cityclerk  
**Subject:** Please vote no on Proposal 2A for the Civic Center/YMCA! (City Council Meeting 8/15/16, Item 10)

Dear Mayor Tornek, Councilmember Hampton, Councilmember McAustin, Councilmember Kennedy, Councilmember Masuda, Councilmember Gordo, Councilmember Madison, Councilmember Wilson, and City Clerk Jomsky,

I'm a Pasadena resident of District 6, and I'm writing because I have some concerns about the proposed development project of the YWCA building in the Civic Center.

I walk or bike through the Civic Center at least once a week on my way to and from the library, offices on Walnut, the north end of Old Pasadena, and events at Day One or All Saints Church. I really like the garden-like green space in the Civic Center. I think it's important to preserve the peacefulness and the sense of heritage in that area. I also think it's important to honor the sister city trees and the Jackie Robinson memorial by not tearing out the former and making sure that the latter isn't eclipsed by the hotel. In my opinion, the loss of green space seems to run counter to the words in Pasadena's 1st guiding principle, which states "**New development will build upon Pasadena's tradition of strong sense of place, great neighborhoods, gardens, plazas, parks, and trees.**"

I understand that you have many considerations in running and planning for the city, including financial concerns, but I think it is important to balance these considerations. I understand that several options have been studied, and that option 2E enables the hotel while preserving the parkland, the trees, and the plaza-like setting around City Hall.

In addition, I'm surprised that despite the "15+ public meetings", I've only heard about this project in the past two weeks. I understand that outreach was conducted, but I question whether it was been done as thoroughly as necessary to achieve Pasadena's 7th guiding principle, which states that "citizens will directly participate in shaping plans and policies for Pasadena's future." Given this situation, I urge you to pause and reconsider the process and alternate options, instead of letting the development go ahead as-is.

Please vote no on option 2A.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Candace Seu

## **Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** Paul Felix <pasadenapaul@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 14, 2016 11:33 PM  
**To:** Wilson, Andy  
**Cc:** cityclerk  
**Subject:** Regarding the Kimpton Hotel YWCA Rehabilitation

Dear Councilman Wilson,

I'm writing to strongly urge you and the City Council to not adopt Alternative 2A at tomorrow's City Council meeting. It would diminish already scarce parkland in the area, and the added bulk of the proposed hotel is simply too large for that site right in front of our magnificent City Hall. It would reduce the green space Pasadena is famous for to an unattractive sliver. It would also make the Pasadena Robinson Memorial statues less pleasantly sited.

The land that Alternative 2A wants to give over to the developer is clearly *not* surplus land. It is part of what makes the City Hall area so beautiful, and it is well used by the public. Every time we're there we talk to other residents and visitors who enjoy the area.

The City Beautiful movement encouraged siting civic structures within a parkland setting. Pasadena is nationally famous for having such an intact City Beautiful Civic Center. We should not be working against that ideal. Please remember the Edward Bennett Civic Center plan is an invaluable historic resource for the City. We should give great pause when we decide we can reinterpret the intent behind the plan to reflect current planning norms. As demonstrated with the old Plaza Pasadena, reinterpretation can lead to regret.

I would support Alternative 2E, which does not encroach into the park and allows for better massing of the hotel. As I see it, the Council's mission is to serve the city's interests and ideals, not a developer's.

Sincerely,  
Paul Felix

757 S. Euclid Ave.  
Pasadena, CA 91106

## Martinez, Ruben

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**From:** MartynBelmont@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2016 9:08 AM  
**To:** Suzuki, Takako  
**Cc:** cityclerk  
**Subject:** Fwd: Save Pasadena Civic Center: Council Meeting

Hi Taka,

Of course, I am in opposition to the overly large hotel, lot-line to lot-line proposal for the old YMCA building. It is too big and it's "rear" faces City Hall and, more importantly, removes the trees that are so much a part of the landscape in the City Hall area. Has anyone bothered to "take a count" of the hotel rooms in Pasadena? So, lets add 187 rooms to the rooms at the Langham, Hilton, Holiday Inn, Westin, Courtyard Marriott, to name just a few. We already have a new hotel going in on Los Robles near Walnut. How many rooms does this one have? Yet, we continue to ignore the lake Avenue Corridor and Colorado east of Lake. Well, it's just too depressing to think anymore about this. I am in opposition to this plan.

Martyn Belmont  
727 S. Orange Grove, #5  
Pasadena, CA 91105

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From: MartynBelmont@aol.com  
To: mbrumder@earthlink.net  
Sent: 8/15/2016 8:54:57 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time  
Subj: Re: Save Pasadena Civic Center: Council Meeting

Hi Marilyn,

I have given up going to these meetings as they make my blood pressure rise to unhealthy levels. This is such a controversial project and I am afraid it is too late to change it. There is a "build, build, build" mentality in our City government now that I believe is not good for Pasadena in the long run. But, no one is thinking "long run" these days.

We see it EVERYWHERE! From street to street hotels, with no green spaces at all ( Los Robles near Walnut) to inappropriate houses being built ( Glen Summer Road, San Rafael at Nithsdale, Wigmore Drive), and, seemingly, "nothing" can be done. Well, it is because the City wants the permit fees, they want the growth and we have a very pro-development Mayor. Instead of concentrating on areas east of Lake on Colorado or the north Lake corridor, they continue to over develop the west side of Pasadena. It is as though we cannot tell a developer to go elsewhere for fear they might not come at all.

Good luck tonight. I will send a message to Steve Madison through Taka. I will not bother with Mayor Tornek.

Martyn

In a message dated 8/14/2016 11:44:47 P.M. Pacific Daylight Time, mbrumder@earthlink.net writes:

Hi Ladies,

Please come to the city council Monday evening to show your opposition to the current plan for the YWCA building being developed into a hotel. The current plan includes adding public park space on the civic center side to the hotel foot print thereby eliminating more green space from Pasadena land. The land currently has trees from Pasadena sister cities. This park space is included in the early designs for the civic center. George and I, Ann Scheid and many other people plan to be there to object.

If you can't be there please send a message to Terry Tornack and your council representative with a copy to the city clerk. More information below. Please forward to others who might be interested. (Peggy Stewart is at the beach)

Thank you and hope to see you tomorrow!

Marilyn

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Ann F. Scheid" <[scheid@usc.edu](mailto:scheid@usc.edu)>  
**Subject:** Save Pasadena Civic Center: Council Meeting  
**Date:** August 14, 2016 at 2:20:51 PM PDT  
**To:** "Ann F. Scheid" <[scheid@usc.edu](mailto:scheid@usc.edu)>

Dear Friends,

Thank you for attending our rally in the park last Saturday. We were overjoyed to see such a good turnout. Over 50 people came and participated.

The next step in the process is the hearing at City Council. The Council is slated to approve the project on Monday evening August 15 (tomorrow!). Their approval will give the developer all the entitlements needed to begin work, beginning with taking out trees on the site.

We have a few allies on the Council but we are not at all sure that we can stop the project or have it modified to avoid the parkland.

Please plan to attend the City Council meeting in Council Chambers, 2nd floor, City Hall Monday evening, August 15 at 7 pm.

Please fill out and hand in a Speaker's Card, which will entitle you to 3 minutes to speak.

It's important to have as many people there as possible who support saving the Civic Center open space/parkland from development. We want to preserve the YWCA building, but we don't have to destroy the character-defining feature of the Civic Center, its parkland, to do it.

If you'd like more information, check the DPNA website. Here's the link:  
<http://us5.campaign-archive2.com/?u=14a4a50f7479ce990d8e25faf&id=84653db962&e=9f52203f9d>

Hope to see you there!  
Ann Scheid  
Civic Center Coalition

=



## Martinez, Ruben

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**From:** Isabelle Youngman <pataha2009@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2016 9:36 AM  
**To:** Tornek, Terry  
**Cc:** cityclerk; Gordo, Victor  
**Subject:** Preserve our Civic Center

Our *First Priority* is the **Civic Center**. We will not settle for a project that sells off the public parkland.

We believe that the YWCA is an important historic resource but is *secondary* to the the Civic Center as a whole, and that we should not sacrifice the integrity of the Civic Center (as "2A" does) to rehabilitate the YWCA. The integrity of the Civic Center depends on the garden setting that the parkland provides, and it depends on not placing the *REAR END* of a 5 or 6-story hotel directly facing City Hall!

Let's preserve *both* the YWCA *and* the integrity of the Civic Center!  
"2E" is a better alternative.

Isabelle Youngman

**Novelo, Lilia**

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**From:** Katherine Gillespie <kwdgill@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2016 9:46 AM  
**To:** Madison, Steve; cityclerk; Tornek, Terry  
**Subject:** Kimpton hotel

I am writing in support of saving the Civic Center open space/parkland from development. It is important to preserve the YWCA building, but we don't have to destroy the character-defining feature of the Civic Center, its parkland, to do it. The integrity of the Civic Center depends on the garden setting that the parkland provides, and it depends on not placing the REAR END (!! ) of a 5 or 6-story hotel directly facing City Hall!

I encourage you to reconsider the option "Alternative 2E."

Katherine Gillespie  
186 Sierra View Rd  
Pasadena, 91105

**Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** Lambert Giessinger <lmgarch@earthlink.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2016 9:54 AM  
**To:** Gordo, Victor; Hampton, Tyron; Madison, Steve; Masuda, Gene; McAustin, Margaret; Tornek, Terry; Andy Wilson; Kennedy, John; cityclerk; Downtown Pasadena Neighborhood Association  
**Subject:** YWCA Kimpton Project

Our First Priority is the Civic Center.

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Let's preserve both the YWCA and the integrity of the Civic Center!

"2E" is a better alternative.

Sent from my iPhone

## **Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** Sharon Higuera <sharonghm@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2016 10:06 AM  
**To:** Gordo, Victor; Hampton, Tyron; Madison, Steve; Masuda, Gene; McAustin, Margaret; Tornek, Terry; Wilson, Andy; Kennedy, John; cityclerk; action@savepasadenaciviccenter.org; dpnalist@gmail.com  
**Cc:** cityclerk  
**Subject:** Parkland across the street from City Hall

Members of the City Council of Pasadena:

The commercially-zoned parkland at Union Street and Garfield across from the Pasadena City Hall IS needed. This land was designated for the public purpose.

There is no parkland in much of the downtown area, and none in the Playhouse District. The public needs that land, has a right to that land, and deserves that land.

I urge you to adopt plan 2E.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon Graham Higuera

## **Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** Clare Sera <claresera@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2016 11:34 AM  
**To:** Gordo, Victor; Hampton, Tyron; Madison, Steve; Masuda, Gene; McAustin, Margaret; Tornek, Terry; awilson@rext.com; Kennedy, John; cityclerk; action@savepasadenaciviccenter.org; dpnalist@gmail.com  
**Subject:** YWCA / Kimpton Hotel

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Let's preserve both the YWCA and the integrity of the Civic Center!

"2E" is a better alternative.

**Jomsky, Mark**

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**From:** Mike Salazar <mikedsalazar@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2016 11:38 AM  
**To:** Jomsky, Mark  
**Subject:** 78 N. Marengo opposition

**Dear Pasadena City Council:**

**I am writing today in opposition to the staff recommendations for 78 N. Marengo (KIMPTON) project** as it is presented to you tonight. Those *in favor* of this project claim that to oppose it is to freeze our Civic Center in time with no chance for change. Nothing could be farther from the truth, and to carelessly lump opposition to this project into an "anti-everything" box is fraught with danger, and ignorant of battles won and lost to retain our Civic Center's integrity.

### **NOT WHAT WAS SOLD TO US**

No one is saying nothing can't be built, but most everyone is saying 'what happened to the 100-room boutique' we were sold on?' In fact, if this was the promised 'boutique' hotel of 100 rooms or so, it would have been in the permit stages by now. Everyone is saying it's about time our Julia Morgan treasure gets rehabilitated. But this larger 6-story hotel is less and less like what was sold to residents back in the Kimpton-ownership days. As the sage Larry Wilson points out, nothing is "boutique" about this project. These are facts for the heartfelt opposition.

I am an architect, and one with deep knowledge of our Civic Center, having served on our Design Commission 3 times, served two terms on the former Community Development Committee (advising the Council on housing and redevelopment matters), and on the Library Commission, of which the Library is an integral institution in our Civic Center. While I now live in nearby Santa Monica, I am a native Pasadenan and still own property here.

I've advised on the new Police building, supporting that project and making it better so that it fit within the original ideals of the Bennett plan. I warned against the original, enclosed and now-bulldozed Plaza Pasadena incursion, and cheered when the wrecking ball took it down to create the more *Bennett-like* Paseo Colorado.

### **TWO PAST INCURSIONS INTO CIVIC CENTER**

This Kimpton project is not the 100-room boutique promised that received initial community support. Is it the worst project? No, but it will join two bad projects that failed to meet the Bennett Plan visions.

Let's look at the historic record: the horribly out-of-scale Mutual Savings building south of City Hall crowds Garfield, blocks historic views to the south and towers over City Hall. This certainly paved the way for the *equally intrusive* County Courthouse to the north. Both contradicted the Bennett Plan, and the former project fed into the latter, only separated by construction dates. These are mistakes of many decades ago – that confirm our need to be *more adherent* to the Bennett Plan than *less*.

We only have to look at this history to see that mistakes with this project will likely be **DOUBLED** across Holly Street to its immediate north. Let's not open the door for another incursion.

### **TWO WRONGS WON'T MAKE CIVIC CENTER RIGHT**

08/15/2016

Item 10

While this project as proposed strives to meet many Bennett Plan ideas, those that it fails to meet (or ignores) can't be dismissed as "change." Don't crowd out our two heroes, Jackie and Mac Robinson, for they deserve *much more* from our City than their current park space. How disrespectful to now claim this memorial is essentially downgraded as "*surplus space?*"

The overmassing and incursions of this project *will be repeated as entitlements* across Holly Street at the YMCA block. If this project moves forward as 'sort-of' meeting the Bennett ideals, you will ultimately be responsible for TWO deficient projects.

Mark my words: developers will essentially DUPLICATE the over-massed and intrusive building forms *across Holly Street to the north* if you approve this project as is. **If you have any reservations whatsoever, return this project to the drawing board. Don't repeat past mistakes, because rest assured they *will* be amplified and doubled on the YMCA parcel to the north.**

While Master Plans are made to evolve and change within reason, basic tenets of planning and civic pride must remain the REASON and BASIS for those changes. This project claims PROFIT as reason and basis for approval, while hiding its oversized ambitions behind the banner of necessary and overdue rehabilitation of Julia Morgan's long-neglected gem – how un-Pasadena-like, and how short-sighted if this Council falls for it. Do we need *these* 180 rooms, or should we pause now to get closer to the 100 or so promised, within the Bennett vision? With 3 or 4 new hotels in process in Pasadena, we should not and must not be beholden to a profit-driven, intrusive project in our historic Civic Center.

### TIME FOR PENCIL SHARPENING

I have and will always wholeheartedly support the rehabilitation of the Julia Morgan building, but I do not believe this iteration of this project is the appropriate way. I hope this City Council will draw the line on 'giving' more perks to developers whom *always* to push for more under the old canard of "penciling out?" I don't think the solution is to send them packing, but to send them *and not us* back to the pencil sharpener.

**I respectfully request the City Council send this project back to the community and back to the drawing board by withholding any project approval at this time.** With eyes wide open, let's not repeat past mistakes under the false claim of "change."

Respectfully,

Mike Salazar, Architect

Pasadena Native

Santa Monica Resident

--

Mike Salazar

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**Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** Teresa Salerno <tsalerno@emcsd.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2016 1:30 PM  
**To:** Tornek, Terry  
**Cc:** cityclerk  
**Subject:** YWCA

Dear Mayor Tornek,

I moved to Pasadena for it's rich historic heritage and high regard for historic preservation. Please do not sacrifice the integrity of the Civic Center by agreeing to sell off the parkland. Please preserve the Y and the Civic Center. 2E is the *right* choice. Once it's gone, it's gone forever.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely

Teresa Salerno



**Jomsky, Mark**

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**From:** Alex Gaffney <alexngaffney@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2016 1:25 PM  
**To:** Jomsky, Mark  
**Subject:** Downtown

I'm a 45 year resident of this wonderful city and would hate to see more green space taken away. City Hall is so beautiful as it stands alone in its glory. Please don't allow a too tall building to be built there. Thank you, Alex Gaffney

--  
Alex Gaffney  
[alexngaffney@gmail.com](mailto:alexngaffney@gmail.com)

## **Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** J Lindsay <jlindsay130@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2016 3:11 PM  
**To:** Gordo, Victor; Hampton, Tyron; Madison, Steve; Masuda, Gene; McAustin, Margaret; Tornek, Terry; Wilson, Andy; Kennedy, John; cityclerk; action@savepasadenaciviccenter.org; dpnalist@gmail.com  
**Subject:** YWCA / Kimpton Hotel/preserve our green space!

Please preserve our green space!! It is so needed, especially as our city grows. Once it is gone, it's gone. And it is the trees and green space that make Pasadena such a desirable city. I speak for so many when I say this...

Let's create a Civic Center - a green Civic Center - for the citizens of Pasadena...A civic center that reflects our commitment to the environment and to our children's future is a beautiful legacy.

Jeannette Lindsay  
420 s Madison Ave  
Pasadena Ca

We will not settle for a project that sells off the public parkland.

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Let's preserve both the YWCA and the integrity of the Civic Center!

"2E" is a better alternative.

## The Robinson Memorial

Comments prepared by Ann Scheid  
August 7, 2016

**The Robinson Memorial is dismissed in the FEIR as “a commemorative art piece.” The FEIR goes on to assert that “sufficient time has not passed for the development of important associations beyond its commemorative value.”**

The FEIR offers no mention of the artist John Outterbridge, of his significance or his place in the contemporary art world. Outterbridge was **recently honored in 2015-2016 with a show at the Hammer Museum, the most prestigious venue there is for contemporary Los Angeles artists.** He is described as a **seminal figure in the California assemblage movement of the 1960s and 1970s.** Outterbridge has been composing sculpture from found and discarded materials and debris for more than 50 years. Also a committed educator and social activist, he cofounded the **Communicative Arts Academy in Compton**, where he was artistic director from 1969 to 1975 and was director of the **Watts Towers Art Center** from 1975 to 1992.

John Outterbridge was born in Greenville, North Carolina, in 1933. He studied at the American Academy of Art in Chicago in the 1950s and moved to Los Angeles in 1963. In 1994 he received an honorary doctorate of fine arts from Otis College of Art and Design, Los Angeles. Outterbridge's work has been included in several group exhibitions, such as *When Stars Begin to Fall: Imagination and the American Self*, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York (2014); *The Encyclopedic Palace, 55th Venice Biennale (2013)*; *Blues for Smoke, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (2013)*; *Now Dig This! Art and Black Los Angeles 1960-1980, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles (2011)*; *Los Angeles 1955-1985: Birth of an Art Capital, Centre Pompidou, Paris (2006)*; *São Paulo Bienal (1994)*; *INSITE 94*, San Diego and Tijuana (1994); and *Forty Years of California Assemblage*, UCLA Wight Art Gallery (1989). A survey of his work was presented in 1993 at the **African American Museum in Los Angeles**, and he had a **solo exhibition at LA><ART, Los Angeles, in 2011.** In the 1970s and 1980s he showed with Brockman Gallery in Leimert Park, and he is now represented by Tilton Gallery in New York. In 2013 Outterbridge received the **Governors' Award for Outstanding Service to Artists** from the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, and in 2012 he received the **California African American Museum Lifetime Achievement Award.**

As artworks, the Robinson Memorial sculptures are exceptionally finely crafted bronze sculptures. But there is more: Outterbridge's interest in assemblage is expressed in the richly detailed messages and objects depicted in the hair of the two brothers. These aspects of the work clearly relate to Outterbridge's practice of incorporating found objects that inject meaning into his art. Why is such an outstanding artist of no interest to the City and to the preparers of the FEIR?

The Robinson Memorial, a monument to two Pasadena heroes, was placed in this prominent location in the park in front of City Hall to honor these two brothers who grew up in Pasadena and went on to achieve national and international recognition as world-class athletes. According to Stanley Wilson, head of the Pasadena Arts Commission at the time, the setting was specifically chosen for its prominence at the center of our community, and more importantly, for the contemplative aspect of the surrounding park. The proposed project, which will encroach within 15 ft of the Memorial will not only disturb the contemplative nature of the setting, but will also inhibit views of the Memorial from the south and southwest and will delete the green space that now serves as its background when viewed from the east and the north.

In the end, this severe disruption of the setting of the Memorial robs it of the timeless character that should be the right of all memorials to our forbears.

Imagine the reaction to a proposal to block part of the view of the Vietnam Memorial and interfere with its landscaped setting on the Washington Mall. That memorial is less than 50 years old and the artist is still living. Why is Pasadena's Robinson Memorial less significant?

Clearly it deserves to be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places as a contributor to the Civic Center National Register District. It would also thereby become a Historic Monument of the City of Pasadena, an honor which it richly deserves.

Ann Scheid  
Aug 7, 2016

I

**Design Commission Meeting  
March 8, 2016  
Draft Environmental Impact Report  
YWCA/Kimpton Hotel Project**

Comments and Questions  
Ann Scheid  
500 S Arroyo Blvd  
Pasadena, CA 91105

**1. Aesthetics**

To ignore the aesthetic impacts of the project, despite the request of Pasadena Heritage in their letter of March 2015, and despite the fact that the project impacts the Civic Center, a National Register of Historic Places Historic District of national significance, is an unfortunate omission. As Pasadena Heritage stated in their letter, submitted during the EIR Scoping process, "if Aesthetics are removed from this environmental evaluation, what means will the commissions have to guide the project toward a design that responds to its sensitive setting?" The DEIR justification for ignoring Aesthetics is "that the project is on an infill site" incorrectly labels Parcel 3, listed as a park in the National Register document, as though it were a gaping hole in a streetscape that needed filling to create a continuous design. This is clearly not the case. The second justification for ignoring Aesthetics is that the project is an "employment center." However there is no documentation in the DEIR of how many people will be employed with comparative figures for similar properties in the Central Business District. An "employment center" implies a significant number of employees in relation to other establishments in the downtown. How does this employment center rank against other hotels, Parsons, corporate headquarters, etc.? And in the end, as the letter from Pasadena Heritage states, even if the aesthetic impacts are not able to overcome the regulatory inhibitors to consider them, they are still important to the community in making decisions about the project.

**2. Levels of Significance: The YWCA and the Civic Center National Register Historic District**

The DEIR is based on the premise that the YWCA by Julia Morgan is a significant historic building as a contributor to the National Register of Historic Places and has also been designated a Historic Monument of the City of Pasadena. However, the Civic Center National Register District is registered as of national significance and by virtue of its national stature qualifies also as a Historic Monument of the City of Pasadena (Zoning Code, Chapter 17.62). Julia Morgan is only one of the nationally recognized architects who created the Civic Center plan and designed its buildings. It is clear from visual examination, the historical record, and the understanding of Beaux Arts planning principles that Pasadena's Civic Center includes a hierarchy of buildings, with City Hall as the ultimate focal point, flanked by the Library and Auditorium, with other secondary buildings, including the YWCA, playing a lesser role in the overall composition. Why then is the DEIR focused on potential impacts on the YWCA building and not on the

impacts on the far more significant Civic Center National Register District? Why does the DEIR state that the parkland east of the Y is "not critical to understanding the historic significance of the Pasadena YWCA," when it is clearly critical to understanding the Pasadena Civic Center? Why was the Civic Center National Register Nomination not included as a key document in the DEIR?

**3. Symmetry and Subordination:**

Following the principles of Beaux Arts planning, the Civic Center was designed as a symmetrical composition focused on the three principle buildings. The parks facing the Auditorium and the City Hall were intended to create a balanced composition created in a former residential neighborhood, where lot sizes and residential buildings might have disturbed the plan. While not perfectly symmetrical the parks facing City Hall create the illusion of symmetry and therefore demand that any additions to the existing buildings must not destroy the balance. Now the City wants to approve a project that will destroy that balance. Furthermore, the proposed addition to the YWCA is clearly not visually or physically subordinate to the historic building nor is it subordinate to its neighbor, the Post Office, blocking the view of that building from the north and from the central plaza. Its height and massing also challenge City Hall.

**4. Cumulative impacts - Loss of parkland**

The DEIR does not address the cumulative impacts over time of the loss of parkland in the Civic Center. The original Civic Center plan as realized contained two parks across from the Civic Auditorium, spaces that were clearly intended to set off the grand building at the terminus of the Garfield axis, just as the parks at Holly and Garfield play a similar role in relation to City Hall. The Auditorium parks were sacrificed in the 1980s for the shopping mall, the construction of which provided the impetus for Pasadena Heritage's National Register nomination of Pasadena's Civic Center. The NR nomination clearly calls out the parks across from City Hall as well as the park on the County Courts block, recently fenced off and no longer open to the public. Also listed in the NR nomination as part of the Civic Center is Memorial Park, which has lost parkland through the construction and later expansion of the Senior Center (see DEIR 3.1-9). This cumulative loss of parkland has occurred at the same time as the City has pursued a policy of residential development in the Central Business District. Parkland in this area is desperately needed for inner-city residents of all ages and for their pets as well. The NR nomination emphasizes the significance of the parks to the District:

Qualities which make the district distinct from its surroundings:

Upon entering the district one is aware that this is an important place in the city. Far less commercial and much more park-like, the Civic Center area is distinct from its surrounding neighborhoods both in architectural style and feeling. The streets are wider here, and lined with trees, the sidewalks are wider too; some of them paved in tile and brick set in decorative patterns. Small parks abound, planted with trees and flowers. Unlike other areas in the city, this section was planned around the citizen, truly a place for people—to walk, to picnic and sunbathe, and to sit with friends among the trees and enjoy the open vistas.

Fronting City Hall is a large open plaza, an ideal place for street fairs, open air concerts and festivals. Because it is not a major traffic area, it is an easy matter to close off streets without disrupting the traffic flow through Pasadena.

The park-like character of the Civic Center is enhanced by the presence of landscaped setbacks from the sidewalk for almost all of the contributing buildings. Trees, shrubs and greenery characterize entire blocks and streetscapes in the Civic Center. In addition to the loss of the two parks in front of City Hall that will be an inevitable consequence of this project, the YWCA will lose its landscaping and street trees on Marengo to accommodate a driveway for drop-off and valet parking.

#### **5. Loss of trees – Sister City Trees**

The loss of 34 mature public trees is not analyzed for environmental impacts, even in an era of climate change when every tree is precious for shade, oxygenation of air, and other benefits. Moreover, the Sister City Trees, which were planted in this place of honor in a park across from City Hall, were intended to be permanent symbols of Pasadena's friendship and respect for other peoples and cultures. To remove them so callously demonstrates an attitude in City Hall that is disrespectful at the least.

#### **6. The Robinson Memorial –**

This memorial to two famous Pasadena citizens is dismissed as insignificant because it is not 50 years old. However, the National Register does allow for historic designation of newer structures created by living artists/architects/craftsmen if they are of exceptional significance. Apparently the backgrounds and significance of the artists have not been researched, because few details are provided in the DEIR. At least the association with Mack and Jackie Robinson, star athletes and famous for breaking the color barrier in the Olympics and in baseball, would seem to merit historic designation. Since the proposed project will clearly impact views of the Memorial from the south and the southeast, this seems to be an oversight.

Imagine the reaction to a proposal to block part of the view of the Vietnam Memorial on the Washington Mall. That memorial is less than 50 years old and the artist is still living. Why is Pasadena's Robinson Memorial less significant?

#### **6. Additions and adjacency**

The DEIR goes to great lengths to avoid the problem of the gigantic addition that clearly cannot be physically subordinate to the much smaller YWCA. It does this by creating a "hyphen" – a covered walkway/driveway between the historic building and the addition, a concept based on the NPS Guidelines for Rehabilitation in order to avoid the having to meet the subordination requirement for additions outlined in NPS Pres Brief 14. Whatever the rationale, the new building will still read as an addition to the historic building. This is why the DEIR is so concerned with the Union Street elevation, where the hyphen occurs. Views of the project and alternatives are carefully restricted to the Union Street elevation, views to the southwest from Garfield north of City Hall and to the southeast from the west side of Marengo at Holly. There are no views shown looking

directly south from the YMCA block along Garfield or looking directly west across Garfield near Union. The idea of the hyphen seems to be recent, since all of the alternatives are still drawn as straightforward additions.

### 7. Design

The YWCA is an L-shaped building with a return on Union. Here Julia Morgan suggested how to enclose the courtyard, a feature that she certainly meant to complete if and when the Y had the money to do it. The elegantly simple symmetry of the principal façade with its front-facing gable on each end becomes more interesting as it turns the corner, introducing varied massing that reads as a grouping of smaller buildings along Union. Following this design idea introduced by Julia Morgan would be the most appropriate way to enclose the courtyard and complete the building. A six-story addition pushed east into the park does not enclose the courtyard and complete the design.



Furthermore, the six-story addition is no better architecturally than the major intrusions in the Civic Center: the Mutual Savings Building (now Citbank), the County Courts addition along Walnut, and the Plaza Pasadena (now Paseo Colorado). Applying Beaux Arts design principles, the addition should have a central focus (entrance) facing City Hall, with symmetrical flanking elements, a raised first story with a less tall second story and an even lower third story, as in the YWCA above, City Hall, the Auditorium, etc. Proportion is a key element of Beaux Arts design, and an understanding of that is clearly lacking here.

### 8. Financial questions

The DEIR does not provide an accounting of the City's investment role in the project nor does it provide figures proving that the environmentally preferred alternative, 2E, is not feasible. The City's role is important for several reasons:

- 1) the public has a right to know what investment the City has made and how the City proposes to get its return on the investment;
- 2) since the City is the Lead Agency under CEQA and also has a financial interest in the project, this has the appearance of a conflict of interest;



3) since the City is now the owner of the Historic Monument, why has the City not taken steps to protect the building from further damage by securing the building and making the roof water-tight?

4) the City reputedly paid \$8.4 million for the YW building. With an annual budget of over \$600 million and a population of over 140,000, contrast this with the investment in 1923 dollars of \$3.5+ million by a population of 45,000. Clearly the current investment is a very small one factoring in inflation and based on current land values and the City's overall budget. Investing in protecting the Historic Monument should be a priority;

5) the City is providing the parkland free to the developer. What is the market rate land value of Parcel 3?

6) without detailed figures for the development financial plan, how can the public, the Commissions and the Council possibly judge the feasibility of any of the proposed alternatives? An independent analysis of the financial plan by a reputable expert firm should be included in the EIR as was done in the case of the Huntington Hotel project.

#### **9. Rehabilitation questions:**

The YWCA is a Historic Monument of the City of Pasadena. What interior spaces are designated for preservation/restoration? There is mention in the DEIR of remnants of a wall painting/mural on the interior, but no detailed plan showing locations of protected spaces/elements. The DEIR does not provide an adequate plan for monitoring the project to protect any and all significant spaces, surfaces, details, materials, etc.

According to the DEIR this will be left up to a consultant restoration architect, hired by the applicant! This is an inadequate response.

10. Who is the applicant? The DEIR should provide the legal name, address, and other salient information about the applicant and details regarding the City's relationship to the applicant.

11. How was the applicant chosen and why? Who were the other applicants, what were their design solutions and why were they rejected? This may not be a component of the DEIR, but it should be public record.

March 1, 2016

Historic Preservation Commission  
City of Pasadena  
100 North Garfield Avenue  
Pasadena, CA 91109

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to add my comments to the DEIR for the YWCA/Kimpton project, addressed at 78 North Marengo Avenue, but principally impacting the Union Street frontage east of the current YWCA building and the parkland/public civic open space facing City Hall and facing Holly Street.

The Civic Center is Pasadena's most significant public space, recognized nationally as one of the great accomplishments of the City Beautiful movement that flourished in the early twentieth century. Unlike many other cities that made City Beautiful plans, Pasadena actually implemented its plan, with the three principal civic buildings built within less than a decade, and made certain that the plan was supported by the addition of compatible buildings on adjacent blocks. The plan was intended to create impressive views to and from the three principal buildings along the Garfield and Holly Street axes and to enhance the view from City Hall to the Linda Vista hills above the Arroyo.

The many intrusions into the Civic Center as well as the few positive changes that have occurred are detailed in the attached article, "Pasadena's Civic Center: A Grand Vision Realized, Despoiled, and Revived." By a tremendous stroke of luck, the two threats to the plan detailed at the end of the article have been avoided, but now an even more ominous threat looms before us.

The Plaza Pasadena shopping mall thoughtlessly removed the two parks flanking Garfield that provided a grand setting for the Civic Auditorium. Now we are about to sacrifice the remaining parkland in the Civic Center. The proposed project, which virtually obliterates the parkland on the YWCA block, is only the prelude to the destruction of the remaining parkland on the YMCA block.

The National Register listing of the Civic Center contains the following statement:

Qualities which make the district distinct from its surroundings:

Upon entering the district one is aware that this is an important place in the city. Far less commercial and much more park-like, the Civic Center area is distinct from its surrounding neighborhoods both in architectural style and feeling. The streets are wider here, and lined with trees, the sidewalks are wider too; some of them paved in tile and brick set in decorative patterns. Small parks abound, planted with trees and flowers. Unlike other areas in the city, this section was planned around the citizen, truly a place for people---to walk, to picnic and sunbathe, and to sit with friends among the trees and enjoy the open vistas.

Fronting City Hall is a large open plaza, an ideal place for street fairs, open air concerts and festivals. Because it is not a major traffic area, it is an easy matter to close off streets without disrupting the traffic flow through Pasadena.

To the north and south are modest residential neighborhoods. To the west and east are business and industrial areas, and some comfortable, but unremarkable residential neighborhoods. It is clear that this is not just a fortuitous collection of old civic buildings but a carefully planned architectural entity; not a museum piece but a viable and vital civic area. Except for minor changes, the majority of the buildings in the Civic Center District are still intact---a major difference in comparison to other places in the city where nearly every

building of this era has been destroyed through modernization. Although there have been intrusions, it is obviously a unique collection of buildings and sites whose greatest value and impact arise from the fact that they relate to each other and the environment in a special way. This district must be preserved as a unit. The whole here is greater than the parts. (Item number 8, page 2, NR of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form, April 26, 1980)

The map of the National Register District labels the parcels on the Y blocks as "park," clearly indicating that all parties, the authors, the California State Historic Preservation Commission and the Keeper of the National Register agreed that these were essential components of the Civic Center National Register District.

As you can see from the statement above, the Civic Center is a special place in Pasadena and a significant component is its park-like character, created by a number of small parks. City Hall itself encloses a beautifully landscaped park. Two of the parks, across from the Civic Auditorium, were lost when the mall was built in the late 1970s. At the time the NR nomination was prepared, the land on the southeast corner of the County Court block was landscaped with trees and a lawn and was open to the public. The Senior Center in Memorial Park was a much smaller building, leaving more parkland for public use.

Are we to continue this trend of taking parkland by approving this project, which will take by far the largest chunk of remaining parkland, this time for private use alone? This action will not only mean the all-but-certain permanent loss of public open space on the YW block, but will also set a precedent for dealing with the Civic Center's remaining large area of parkland on the YM block.

Most of the Civic Center buildings have setbacks from the sidewalk with landscaped green space. The Kimpton/YWCA project proposes creating a vehicular entry on Marengo that will destroy the green space in the YW setback, an additional loss of parkland that will never return to public use.

The DEIR proposes several alternatives, all of them identified by the number of feet of setback which is never clearly defined in the report. Setback from what? The curblin at Garfield Avenue? The easternmost line behind the pocket car parking spaces on the west side of Garfield? The west line of the sidewalk along Garfield? Or is the setback referring to the County Assessor's Map, which identifies the L-shaped parkland on the YWCA block as "Pasadena Civic Center."

For the sake of clarity, I request that all alternatives be identified by the number of feet in each direction and total number of square feet that they encroach into public park space. This is the only way to draw a true comparison among the alternatives.

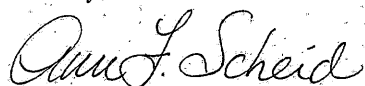
When the Civic Center was conceived the citizens of Pasadena were asked to vote to approve two ballot measures: 1) the \$3.5 million bond issue, and 2) to approve the 1923 plan by Bennett, Parsons, and Frost (the Bennett Plan), including Ordinance 2116, which published the legal description of all land to be acquired for the three principle buildings, including "approaches and appurtenances," (land for streets and parkland included in the plan). The plan was first published on the front page of the Pasadena Star News on March 28, 1923, and was later published again before the election in the Pasadena Evening Post, the Pasadena Star-News, and in the Los Angeles Times on June 5, 1923. In addition, a brochure containing the drawing of the plan and describing the plan and the ballot measures was sent to all customers of the City's Power Department. The bond issue and the plan passed overwhelmingly, and by 1924, all land for the City Hall and Library, Holly Street, widening of Garfield and the parkland on the two Y blocks was on the tax rolls as property of the City.

The 1925 plan was not approved by the voters, and despite the drawing showing a parking lot, the issue came up in 1926 when the City Council wanted to dedicate it to parking for City employees, the idea was rejected out of hand. Since then, no buildings or parking lots have been put on this land, which speaks for the importance of it in the minds of the citizens.

Are we now to lose this public land, paid for by the citizens of Pasadena, to private development, despite the overwhelming vote of the people to acquire it for the use indicated in the 1923 plan and despite the 1980 National Register document which clearly designates it as such and clearly describes its value to the District?

I hope that as guardians of Pasadena's astounding legacy of historic places and historic buildings that the Historic Preservation Commission will seriously consider the points made above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ann Scheid". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Ann Scheid

Former Senior Planner, Cultural Heritage and Design Commissions, City of Pasadena Former  
Architectural Historian, State of California

**78 North Marengo Project  
DEIR Comments  
Historic Preservation Commission Meeting  
March 15, 2016**

Comments by Ann Scheid

Deficiencies in the DEIR

1. No analysis of cumulative impact on parks within the Civic Center based on the National Register nomination and documentation of parkland in Sanborn maps and City records. These parks include the City Hall approaches along Holly and Garfield, the park on the County block (now fenced), the two parks in front of the Civic Auditorium (sacrificed for the mall), and the continuing reduction of open space/parkland in Memorial Park by the Senior Center and its additions and additional memorials. The proposed project will take parkland on the YWCA block and will require a symmetrical taking on the YMCA block to the north.

2. No analysis of cumulative impacts on Civic Center National Register District, which is listed as a district of national significance.

In book by Joan Draper, *Edward H. Bennett: Architect and City Planner, 1874-1954* (Chicago: Art Institute of Chicago, 1982), the Pasadena Civic Center is noted as one of Bennett's municipal commissions for beautification, and one of only two of these executed in the 1920s. Draper notes that the Pasadena plan is unique, because unlike the plans for San Francisco, Chicago and Minneapolis, which cut through new diagonal streets and anticipated dramatic expansion in the central business districts,

" the Pasadena plan accommodates itself to existing conditions. The civic center . . . is located about two intersecting streets . . . which were extended and widened to create appropriate sites for public buildings. Its location and configuration resulted as much from the need to improve traffic circulation as to position the proposed city hall, library, and civic auditorium at the ends of the two axes. To the west of City Hall, along Holly Street, Bennett and French landscape architect Jacques H. Lambert, also designed a Center of Arts in Carmelita Park . . . which became the site of the Norton Simon Museum . . . (Draper, pp 33-34)

3. No analysis of cumulative impacts on City Hall itself, views of which have been compromised by Mutual Savings Building (Citibank) and County Courts 1969 addition. The proposed project (and its expected project on the block to the north) will further block views of City Hall. Eventually City Hall will stand alone, unrelated to its immediate surroundings and hemmed in by the surrounding large buildings which compromise its setting.

4. No analysis of the impacts on the setting of the YWCA, particularly its primary façade on Marengo, due to loss of landscaping and street trees along that frontage.

5. Cultural Landscape Report should be completed as part of EIR.

6. Include the Historic Structures Report in DEIR or make it publically available.

- leave heights of surrounding historic bldgs -

July 13, 2016

Dear Planning Commissioners

Pasadena's Civic Center began as a vision with the 1923 Bennett Plan. This plan, created by the greatest City Planner of the day, Edward H. Bennett, has informed all subsequent planning efforts in Pasadena to this day.

The 1923 Bennett Plan laid out along 2 principal axes, Holly Street and Garfield Avenue, included not only the monumental buildings, City Hall, the Library and the Auditorium, but also took into account existing buildings, the YWCA and YMCA, and the Post Office, but also envisioned the plan extending to the Arroyo with an art museum in Carmelita Park (now the Norton Simon) where Holly meets Orange Grove at Colorado Blvd. The museum was actually achieved, its parkland sacrificed to the freeway and a huge parking lot.

The cumulative effects on the original plan have been many. The question tonight is when do these cumulative effects become so great as to reduce the plan to a collection of meaningless and unrelated objects, devoid of setting.

After World War II, urban renewal became the universal answer to the problems of our cities, and an undistinguished 10-story bank building intruded into the Civic Center, replacing 7 architectural treasures by significant architects. Next came the County Courthouse in 1969, a monumental slab that interrupted the mountain views that were part of setting of the Civic Center. The critical blow came in 1980 with the severing of the Garfield axis by a shopping mall, sold as necessary to the Pasadena's prosperity. The mall has never been successful despite the re-opening of the axis the several years later.

The mall project galvanized preservationists to place the Civic Center on the National Register in 1980, too late to save the axis or the parks on Green Street that formed the setting for the Civic Auditorium.

Now we are faced with an intrusion into the civic space even more damaging than the mall because it compromises the setting of the core of the Civic Center and will dwarf City Hall. The Y rehabilitation project bills itself as the key to Pasadena's future prosperity, just like the mall did before. This is the only solution, its proponents say, this is the way to manage change. Unless we incorporate the public parkland that is specifically called out in the National Register nomination as integral to the Civic Center, and unless the Y addition contains 180 rooms and six stories, the Y will continue to deteriorate and there will be no rehabilitation project. Ironically many of the proponents of this project once vigorously protested the mall.

The public is told that now there is a 1925 Bennett Plan, resurrected from the Bennett archives but with no documentation that it was ever approved by the Planning Commission or the City Council. This plan, labeled the Final 1925 Plan in your packet, was published only once, in 1927, with no indication that it was adopted by the City.

Pasadena is famous as a resort that once boasted many grand hotels. Their life span was about 30 years. Now they are all gone, except for one.

Now we have 5 hotel projects planned. What will their life span be? What becomes of them once the inevitable downturn occurs? Do we really want to give away our public land for such an inconsequential use? Because once it is in private hands, it is gone forever.

The fact is, the Y project has never been subjected to careful analysis, the other projects submitted have never been revealed, we don't even know the names of the members of the committee that selected this project, and the City has not followed rules on disposal of surplus property. Once again we are told, that Pasadena's prosperity depends on approval of this project.

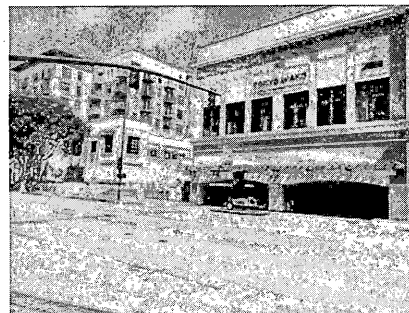
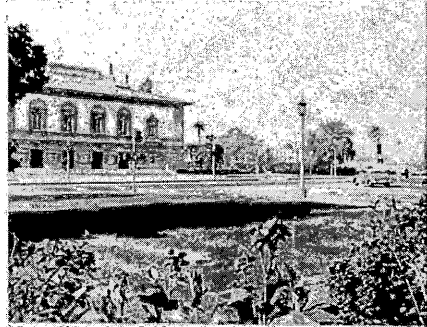
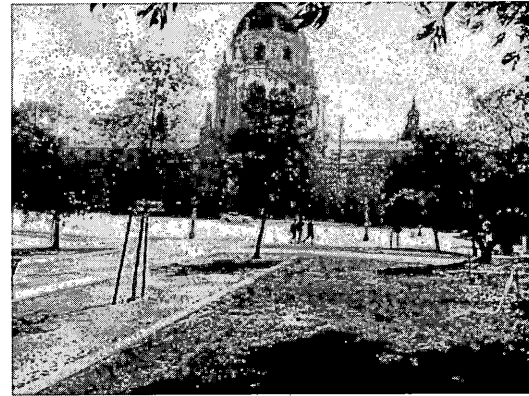
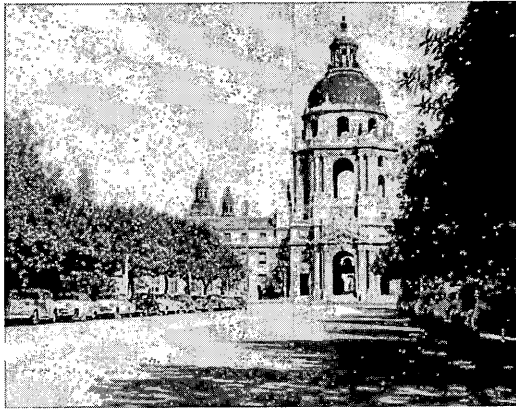
I hope that the Planning Commissioners will subject this project to the thorough review and analysis that it deserves, and make sure that the processes required by City and State law have been followed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ann Scheid".

Ann Scheid  
Former Senior Planner, City of Pasadena

# Pasadena's Civic Center Before and After



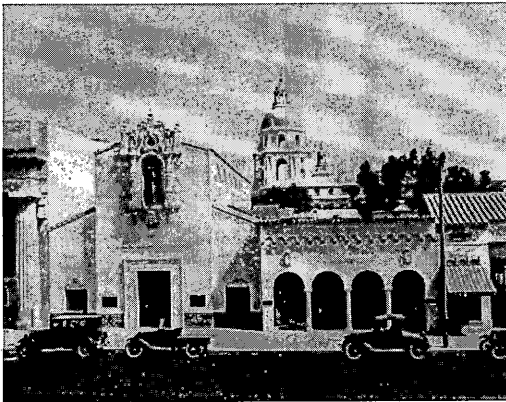
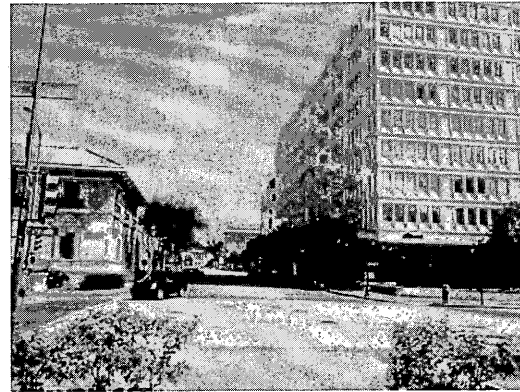
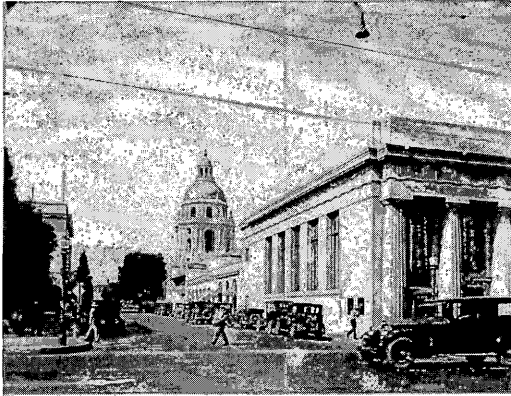
Auditorium Park before the Mall

Mall replaces 2 parks across from Auditorium

Historic Photos Courtesy Pasadena Public Library through Pasadena Digital History  
Collaboration, Pasadena, California.



# Pasadena's Civic Center Before and After



CLAIRE W. BOGAARD  
581 Garden Lane  
Pasadena, California 91105  
TEL. (626) 799-9819  
[cwbogaard@earthlink.net](mailto:cwbogaard@earthlink.net)

75 AUG 15 10:28 AM  
CIVIC CENTER

12 August 2016

Mayor Terry Tornek and  
Members of the Pasadena City Council  
100 North Garfield Avenue  
Pasadena, California 91101

RE: The YWCA/Kimpton Hotel Project

Dear Mayor Tornek and Members of the Council:

I am writing in support of the staff recommendations for approval of the Kimpton Hotel project and rehabilitation and restoration of the Julia Morgan Building. Specifically, I support Alternative 2A with the additional recommendations approved by the Planning Commission on 13 July 2016.

The Council's approvals will be a critically important step forward in protecting the historic YWCA. I believe that the YWCA/Kimpton Hotel Project will be an appropriate addition to the Civic Center, to the surrounding downtown neighborhoods, and for the entire community.

**The Bennett Plan**

The historic 1925 drawing of the Bennett Plan clearly illustrates that the green spaces at the east ends of the two Y buildings were planned to be 'future building sites'.

During the 1980s, 1990s and 2000s, I had the honor and the pleasure of serving on several Task Forces established by the City of Pasadena to study the Civic Center area. Those Task Forces reviewed the Bennett Plan and recognized that buildings would be constructed in the future on the open spaces at the east ends of both Y buildings.

If the Council wishes to regain some of the green space that will be used for the new hotel building, it has been suggested that the 12 parking spaces east of the YWCA be