

Martinez, Ruben

Subject: FW: Adena Street Project comments

From: blackphoot@yahoo.com <blackphoot@yahoo.com>

Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 11:55 AM

To: Gordo, Victor <vgordo@cityofpasadena.net>; De La Cuba, Vannia <VDeLaCuba@cityofpasadena.net>

Subject: Adena Street Project comments

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We have been playing catch up on this project since finding out last month that it was in the works and well on it's way. I had no idea that plans were already nearing completion until last month when a sign was posted in front of the property at 351/361 Adena stating that there was to be a meeting with the Hearing Officer on June 17th. It seems as though something discussions and reviews had been taking place since March. Unfortunately, from speaking with a number of neighbors on Adena, none had a clue of the pending developments, except perhaps the folks living in the Adena Mansion at 341.

This matter went before the Hearing Officer on Thursday the 17th. Comments expressing concerns had been submitted but were quickly dismissed. Mr. Alex Garcia stated that he was ready to move forward and gave us until Monday, 6/29/2020 to submit an appeal. Since we were on Zoom, we were not afforded the opportunity to speak, and no instructions were given as to how best to proceed.

We were not given any instructions as to how to proceed with an appeal. For this reason I contacted the planner on June 24, 2020 requesting further directions. I discovered that in order to submit an appeal for this project, I had to submit an application by June 29th and submit a fee of \$3, 571.53 or \$1,785 if we were a non-profit community based organization. We are only neighbors seeking to postpone a project only for the sake of review in order to bring the matter back to the table for further discussion. This would involve all of the players, including those living here on this street.

A Call to review" is especially warranted upon reading the plea of one family faced with unemployment during the current upheavals. They did not qualify for governmental assistance connected to the Covid-19 outbreak. The matter of displacement was scarcely touched upon during the Hearing, with references being made to the city's Tenant Protection ordinance. "Households in good standing". What on earth does this mean to disenfranchised or possible undocumented people? These nine units are not meant to afford them an opportunity to upgrade. They won't be able to afford it in the first place. I wouldn't be able to afford them

My neighbors are faced with having to find a new place to live. If these families don't qualify for relocation assistance from the present owners, then what? Is it all simply a matter of sticking with what the "law" says? What is the rush? In fact, why was this meeting called a "special" meeting in the first place?

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Then there is the matter of the old house which will be demolished. Time does not afford me the opportunity to discuss this in detail. In advocating for the preservation of the "old structure" I have challenged the official city report from the Planning Commission which states that this house was built in 1904. There is ample documentation dating back to 2005-2006 when an effort was under foot to save the future of this structure. It is curious that the Decker house was saved, as it should have been, but what made it more historically significant than the "Lewis cottage" reportedly built by Mr. Fredrick Lewis who also is credited for building the 341 Adena Mansion? A concerted effort was made in 2005 and 2006 to have this property designated as a historic landmark. The request was ultimately denied, yet the structure still holds merit.

Please afford us, the neighbors, the opportunity to be heard.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Renee Pierson