

CITY COUNCIL
NEW BUSINESS

Council gave different direction to the City Manager. See ~~minutes~~ minutes. Council approved alternate direction w/ Council member Prong & Mayor Pro Tem D'Amico voting No.

DECEMBER 2, 2013

SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT OF PROPERTY CONDITIONS, INTERIM 2-YEAR BUILDING USE AND REFURBISHMENT PLAN FOR GREAT HALL/LONG HALL AND DEVELOPMENT OF STAKEHOLDER PLAN TO EXPLORE FUTURE OPTIONS FOR PLUMMER PARK

INITIATED BY: MAYOR PRO TEMPORE JOHN D'AMICO
(Michelle Rex, Council Deputy) MK

STATEMENT OF SUBJECT:

The City Council will consider the assessment of existing building and facility conditions at Plummer Park, implement a 2-year interim utilization plan for Great Hall / Long Hall and the development and implementation of a stakeholder plan regarding future plans for the entirety of Plummer Park.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Direct staff to prepare an assessment of the condition of all structures, landscaping and amenities at Plummer Park, including a cost assessment for any necessary repairs, including, but not limited to, any repairs necessary to the roof and structure of the Plummer Park Community Clubhouse (known as Great Hall / Long Hall).
2. Direct staff to make emergency maintenance repairs as needed to stabilize unused park buildings for immediate use.
3. Direct staff, in conjunction with the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission, to allow the use of currently existing space at the Plummer Park Community Clubhouse (known as Great Hall / Long Hall) as rehearsal space for local non-profit theatre and/or performance companies.
4. Direct staff, in conjunction with the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission, to allocate and program for use space at the Plummer Park Community Clubhouse (known as Great Hall / Long Hall) for use of up to 10 individual studio spaces and a small gallery for established and emerging local West Hollywood affiliated artists for periods of up to 24 months.
5. Allow the use of currently existing space at the Plummer Park Community Clubhouse (known as Great Hall / Long Hall) as meeting space for local community groups.
6. Direct the City's Public Safety, Recreation Division and Facilities Division staff, in

AGENDA ITEM **5.A.**

conjunction with the Public Safety Commission, to work jointly to develop a plan for increased safety of park visitors and City staff in Plummer Park, including if necessary an office inside Great Hall / Long Hall.

7. Direct staff to prepare a community and stakeholder engagement plan for the future use and renovation of Plummer Park for review and approval by the City Council.
8. Direct staff to purchase and install a historical designation plaque in association with the placement of Great Hall / Long Hall (Plummer Park Community Clubhouse) on the National Register of Historic Places.
9. Authorize the Director of Finance and Technology Services to allocate \$3,000 from budgeted funds in the Special Council Programs account number 100-1-01-00-531001 for expenditures related to the purchase of a historical designation plaque and any costs associated with the assessment of park property.
10. Authorize the City Manager to sign all required documents relating to this item.

BACKGROUND & ANALYSIS:

In March 1994, a Master Plan for Plummer Park was completed and adopted by the City Council. The adopted Master Plan evaluated environmental impacts, mitigation measures, an estimate of development costs, and suggested methods of implementation. A key goal of the 1994 Plan was flexibility and the ability to adapt to the changing needs and future opportunities afforded by the dynamics of the City of West Hollywood.

In 2004, Council authorized that a revisit to certain aspects of the adopted Plummer Park Master Plan be conducted concurrently with preparation of the West Hollywood Park Master Plan. Prior to undertaking the Master Plan re-visit, the consultant and steering committee felt it was important to establish and abide by an agreed-upon process of re-visiting the 1994 Master Plan. It was important that all involved parties, including stakeholders and user groups, work together in the process and that each group understand the perspective of others.

In 2011, City Council had taken several actions with regard to the Plummer Park Master Plan Implementation including approval of Schematic Design and Design Development. The City was nearing completion of the Construction Plan when objections to the design and intent of the Plan were raised by many local residents and other concerned parties. Based on these concerns from Plummer Park users and local residents, the City Council voted to delay the implementation by tabling an item at the May 21, 2012 City Council meeting.

Subsequent to the City Council's decision, the State of California eliminated redevelopment agencies and diverted development funds away from local governments to the state. This significantly jeopardized the City's previous funding strategy for the implementation of the Plummer Park Master Plan. As a result of both the loss of redevelopment funds and the community objections, the project has remained on hold.

Community meetings and uses were discontinued at the Plummer Park Community Clubhouse (Great Hall / Long Hall) in 2011. The exception being AA and CMA meetings that typically draw upwards of 100 attendees and still occur in the building because the City lacks additional space to host them. Subsequent to the Plummer Park Master Plan being put on hold, the rooms in Great Hall / Long Hall have never been re-instituted for public use and the building has remained largely vacant.



In July 2013, a community member nominated and, though the City Council did not support the nomination, the Plummer Park Community Clubhouse (Great Hall / Long Hall) was granted the distinction of being listed on the National Register of Historic Places. As a result of being placed on the National Register, the property has also been listed in the California Register of Historical Resources, pursuant to Section 4851(a)(2) of the Public Resources Code.



Photo courtesy of Shawn Thompson – West Hollywood resident!

Today, though the building has begun to fall into some disrepair from underutilization, it is perfectly situated to act as a resource for the City of West Hollywood's growing arts and cultural affairs programming. Rehearsal and studio space is at a premium and this benign use will allow for several simultaneous opportunities:

- Local arts organizations will rehearse and practice for cultural events, and
- Artists' studios will allow for the City to help a new generation of art makers to be a regular and recognized part of our community, and
- This can bring new life and new community organizations to a currently unused community building, and
- This is an important way to recognize the distinction of the building being listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and
- The community will be able to see that the City has not abandoned the idea of Plummer Park as community resource, and
- The City Council will be acting responsibly with respect to the care and maintenance of public infrastructure and the public trust.

Additional Background

In 1828, Plummer Park was a part of the original 4,439-acre Rancho La Brea tract. The original land parcel consisted of one hundred and sixty acres and included the hillside where the Hollywood Bowl now resides. Rancho LaBrea was granted by Governor Echandia to Antonio Rocha in 1828 and was paid for in gold. The rancho was sold several times until 1865 when it was sold to Major Hancock for \$2.50 an acre. The ranch became famous for its Tar Pits and skeletons of prehistoric animals. Señora Francisca Perez, a squatter, held the land until the early 1870's when the ranch was re-surveyed by the U.S. Government. As a result, Señora Perez lost her holdings. In 1874, the Plummers acquired the official title to 160 acres from Señora Perez. The Plummer Rancho was bounded by the present day Santa Monica Blvd, Gardner St, Sunset Blvd., and La Brea Ave.

Captain John Cornelius Plummer and his wife, Doña Maria Cecelia Plummer had two sons, Juan and Eugenio. The Plummer house was built about 1874 by sons Juan and Eugenio. Plummer House and Plummer Park were subsequently designated as State Historical Landmark No. 160 in 1935. Plummer House was moved to the Leonis Adobe grounds in Calabasas in 1983.



In the late 1800s, wine and brandy were made on the premises. Vegetables, fruits, flowers, and dairy products were raised and sold to the people of Los Angeles and local hotels. In the lovely garden that surrounded the place, Doña Maria grew roses brought from Castile, Spain. Ox-carts were used to haul in water for the Pepper trees. There were large barbeque pits where meat, chicken, geese and wild game were cooked. It became a meeting place for distant travelers and many famous people visited there, including Helen Hunt Jackson, author of 'Ramona.' Plummer and his property were regarded as the social center of the County during the area's early settlement years. Captain Plummer, a charismatic environmentalist and a pioneer of Los Angeles who had lived on the land since childhood, fueled a romantic and nostalgic imagery of early colonial life in Southern California. (From 'Señor Plummer: The Life and Laughter of an Old Californian,' by Don Juan)



After the death of Doña Maria, the Plummer land was slowly eaten up to pay debts. The 160 acres dwindled down to 3 and, in 1937, Eugenio Plummer was faced with foreclosure. Los Angeles County bought the property, named it Plummer Park, and allowed Eugenio Plummer to live there until his death on May 19, 1943 at the age of 91.

At that time, Plummer house was turned over to the Audubon Society and was used by them to house their library and exhibits until 1980. Even though the Plummer House was in the middle of a county park, vandals set fire to it twice; the second time ruining the Audubon Society's library and exhibits, and almost destroying the house. Despite its historical landmark status, the county allowed the house to stand abandoned for over two years. Large parts of the roof were missing, windows and doors were destroyed, and the inside was filled with trash. The City applied for a permit to tear it down.

The Leonis Adobe Association learned of this from the Los Angeles Conservancy, and arranged with the county to move the front portion (the rear being too heavily damaged) of Plummer House to the Leonis Adobe grounds in 1983.

(<http://www.leonisadobemuseum.org/>)

The Community Clubhouse of Plummer Park, now currently known as Great Hall / Long Hall, is a modest Spanish Colonial Revival recreational facility constructed in 1938 through a partnership between Los Angeles County and the Works Progress Administration (WPA). Centrally located within the small, four-acre Plummer Park, the Clubhouse is a single story-stucco and wood courtyard building with a low-pitched red clay barrel tiled roof. The building is roughly U-shaped and comprised of three distinct, pitched roofed sections surrounding a central courtyard that is oriented to the north. The U-shape is formed by a wide west wing (known as Great Hall) and a small east wing (utilities and restrooms) extending perpendicularly from the south section of the building (known as Long Hall). The main entry, along the south side of the building, joins the west and south wings and provides a covered exterior passage to the interior courtyard.

Throughout the years, the building has had very few alterations to its original use. It has functioned in almost the same capacity as its original intent. The auditorium space of Great Hall has had few minor alterations over the years. The original stage remains intact with simple decorative molding around the opening. The ceiling of the space is an exposed wood framing, following the pitch of the roof, with decorative wood trusses. The space known as Long Hall has also had few minor alterations over the years. Thick decorative beams span the width of the flat ceiling of the space. The completion of Great Hall / Long Hall in 1938 marked the inauguration of Plummer Park as a county park and recreational center within the central Hollywood region of Los Angeles. Under the direction of Recreation Camps and Playgrounds Superintendent, James K. Reid, the park was specifically set up to remain in its original “romantic” state. (National Register of Historic Places nomination document, Jennifer Dunbar)



Based in part on this long history, in July 2013, the Plummer Park Community Clubhouse (Great Hall / Long Hall) was granted the distinction of being listed on the National Register of Historic Places. As a result of being placed on the National Register, the property has also been listed in the California Register of Historical Resources, pursuant to Section 4851(a)(2) of the Public Resources Code.

To be considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, a property must meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. This involves examining the property’s age, integrity, and significance. Significance is measured by whether the property is associated with events, activities, or developments that were important in the past or with the lives of people who were important in the past.

National Historic Landmarks are buildings, sites, districts, structures, and objects that have been determined by the Secretary of the Interior to be nationally significant in American history and culture. Many of the most renowned historic properties in the Nation are Landmarks. Mount Vernon, Pearl Harbor, the Apollo Mission Control Center, Alcatraz, and the Martin Luther King Birthplace in Atlanta, Georgia are Landmarks that illustrate important contributions to the Nation's historical development.

Listing in the National Register of Historic Places is an honor that provides formal recognition of a property's historical, architectural, or archeological significance based on national standards used by every state. A property listed on the National Register becomes part of the National Register Archives, a public, searchable database that provides a wealth of research information. The process of nominating a property for the National Register encourages the preservation of our local historic resources by documenting a property's historic significance.

The Plummer Park Community Clubhouse's listing as a National Historic Resource also potentially provides opportunities for specific preservation incentives, such as: Federal preservation grants for planning and rehabilitation, Federal investment tax credits, International Building Code fire and life safety code alternatives, and possible State tax benefit and grant opportunities all of which the City may take advantage of during a future renovation.

Additional Analysis

The City Council, as the elected representatives of the residents of West Hollywood, must make every effort to maintain public infrastructure, preserve and protect local cultural and historic resources and provide access to such buildings whenever possible. Properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places are deemed to be cultural treasures. The City must ensure that the history of West Hollywood and its cultural treasures are not allowed to deteriorate from purposeful neglect and deferred maintenance.

Approving this 2-year interim use of Great Hall / Long Hall does not mean that the building will be a part of a final configuration of Plummer Park. It does, however, mean that the City Council will not "run out the clock" on this building by allowing the building to deteriorate under its watch. The City would not allow a private property owner let their historic building, particularly one listed on the National Register of Historic Places, fall into disrepair. Likewise, Council must act to maintain and maximize the use of this public facility.

Nearby, the historic property at 1343 North Laurel Avenue, is currently undergoing a \$1.5 million "moth-balling" process as the City works with community members and stakeholders to determine the future use of the building. The roof of 1343 North Laurel required replacement after years of deferred maintenance. The leaking roof also caused extensive damage inside which will require additional, unnecessary costly

repairs. For more than ten years, our residents have had no access to this public facility.

For many years just prior to Cityhood, the historic Plummer House, unattended to by the County, was permitted to deteriorate. Eventually saved by a preservation organization outside of West Hollywood, the Plummer's house was relocated it to Calabasas. The West Hollywood City Council is entrusted with protecting the history of and the historic resources within the City. The elected Council must not allow the historic Plummer Park Community Clubhouse (Great Hall / Long Hall) to sit vacant for a decade or fall to ruin in the manner of 1343 North Laurel Avenue and historic Plummer House.

In order to prevent further, and potentially irreversible, deterioration of the National Historic Landmark Plummer Park Community Clubhouse (Great Hall / Long Hall), Council shall direct staff to immediately repair the roof of the Plummer Park Community Clubhouse (Great Hall / Long Hall) to allow for immediate use. In addition, staff shall prepare an assessment of the condition of all other structures, landscaping and amenities at Plummer Park, including a cost assessment for any necessary repairs and upgrades. The portion of the assessment pertaining to the use and renovation of Plummer Park Community Clubhouse (Great Hall / Long Hall) should be presented to the Historic Preservation Commission in order to keep the Commission informed of current plans and to prepare the Commission to participate in future plans for upgrades and maintenance to this historic structure.

Temporary roof repairs to the Plummer Park Community Clubhouse (Great Hall / Long Hall) shall be completed by January 15, 2014. Permanent repairs to the Plummer Park Community Clubhouse (Great Hall / Long Hall) shall be completed by December 31, 2014.

Public Facilities such as Plummer Park are designed and built for use by the community. The Plummer Park Community Clubhouse (Great Hall / Long Hall) is currently not available for use by the community at large. Council shall direct staff, in conjunction with the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission, to organize the use of currently existing space at the Plummer Park Community Clubhouse (Great Hall / Long Hall) as rehearsal space for local non-profit theatre companies, for use as individual studio spaces for up to 10 established or emerging local West Hollywood affiliated artists for periods of up to 24 months along with a small gallery space and, independently of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission, for use as a meeting space for local community groups. AA and CMA meetings that are currently being held in Great Hall / Long Hall should continue uninterrupted.

The Plummer Park Community Clubhouse (Great Hall / Long Hall) shall be re-opened for use by local organizations and artists approved by the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission by February 15, 2014. The building shall also be available for use by local community groups by February 15, 2014.

Because the safety of the community is of the utmost importance, Council shall further

direct the City's Public Safety, Recreation Division and Facilities Division staff to work jointly to develop a plan for increased safety of park visitors and City staff in Plummer Park and, if necessary, open an office for use by Recreation staff in Great Hall / Long Hall.

Staff shall prepare for the Public Safety Commission's review by February 2014 a draft of the Plummer Park safety plan with recommendations to Council to follow.

With the loss and future uncertainty of redevelopment funds and community objections to the proposed Plummer Park Master Plan, Council shall begin the process of seeking a new long-term plan by directing staff to prepare a community and stakeholder engagement plan for the future use, renovation and potential restoration of Plummer Park buildings.

Staff shall report back to Council by March 2014 with a draft of how to proceed with the Plummer Park Community Outreach Plan.

To commemorate the designation of the National Historic Landmark Plummer Park Community Clubhouse (Great Hall / Long Hall), Council shall direct staff to purchase and prominently install a historical designation plaque on Great Hall / Long Hall (Plummer Park Community Clubhouse) to mark the occasion of its being listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Historical Designation plaque shall be installed on the Plummer Park Community Clubhouse (Great Hall / Long Hall) by March 2014.

CONFORMANCE WITH VISION 2020 AND THE GOALS OF THE WEST HOLLYWOOD GENERAL PLAN:

This item is consistent with the City's primary strategic goals of moving forward on City parks and library and expand and enhance the City's green and public spaces and maintaining the City's unique urban balance with emphasis on residential neighborhood livability; and the City's on-going strategic programs of adaptability to future change, enhancing the cultural and creative life of the community, upgrade existing buildings and infrastructure, Eastside Revitalization, and collaborative public safety.

Additionally, this item is consistent with our General Plan goals of: ensure that the community is active and engaged in the decision-making process (G-1); maintain transparency and integrity in West Hollywood's decision-making process(G-2); maintain an urban form and land use pattern that enhances quality of life and meets the community's vision for its future (LU-1); expand the base of information on the City's history (HP-1); continue to identify and evaluate cultural resources (HP-2); increase the public's awareness of the City's history and cultural resources (HP-4); promote the preservation of cultural resources through maintenance and rehabilitation incentives and technical assistance (HP-5); continue the revitalization of the Eastside Redevelopment Area (ED-9); support and encourage arts and culture in West

Hollywood (HS-2); and improve, enhance, expand parks throughout the City (PR-1); provide diverse recreational programs and facilities (PR-2); provide high quality, functional, safe and well-maintained parks, open space and recreational facilities (PR-3); and provide high quality, safe, well-maintained and sustainable facilities for City operations (IRC-11).

EVALUATION:

Staff will report back to City Council as directed herein.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY & HEALTH ANALYSIS:

N/A

OFFICE OF PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY:

Department of Public Works, Recreation Division, Public Safety Division, Economic Development and Special Projects Division, and the City Manager's Department

FISCAL IMPACT:

This item authorizes the Director of Finance and Technology Services to allocate \$3,000 from budgeted funds in the Special Council Programs account number 100-1-01-00-531001 for expenditures related to the purchase of a historical designation plaque and any costs associated with the assessment of park property.

**SPECIAL COUNCIL PROGRAMS
FISCAL YEAR 2013-14**

Date	Description	Amount
06/03/2012	BUDGET APPROPRIATION FOR SPECIAL COUNCIL PROGRAMS	\$ 100,000
Total Budgeted Amount Available		\$ 100,000
Prior Approved Allocations		
06/24/2012	SPONSORSHIP OF THE 'STOLEN & FORBIDDEN' LESBIAN LITERARY EVENT	\$ 500
10/07/2013	CO-SPONSORSHIP OF THE BIENNIAL LATINO QUEER FILM FESTIVAL	\$ 900
10/21/2013	CO-SPONSORSHIP OF THE LONGTIME SURVIVORS WRITING WORKSHOP	\$ 750
10/21/2013	CO-SPONSORSHIP OF SOBER NEW YEAR'S EVE EVENT	\$ 5,000
10/22/2013	CANCELLED EVENT - BIENNIAL LATINO QUEER FILM FESTIVAL	\$ (750)
11/4/2013	CITY HALL - LIGHTS FOR TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE	\$ 250
11/4/2013	CITY HALL - HOLIDAY LIGHTS	\$ 250
11/4/2013	CO-SPONSORSHIP OF THE LACADA LECTURE SEMINAR	\$ 1,000
11/4/2013	CO-SPONSORSHIP OF THE BOB MIZER/TOM OF FINLAND EXHIBIT AT MOCA	\$ 5,000
11/4/2013	INTERNATIONAL DAY OF CITIES FOR LIFE	\$ 250
Total Prior Approved Allocations		\$ 13,150
Proposed Allocations		
12/2/2013	PLUMMER PARK - HISTORICAL DISIGNATION PLAQUE & ASSESSMENT	\$ 3,000
Total Proposed Allocation		\$ 3,000
Proposed Budgeted Amount Remaining		\$ 83,850

Memo

To: Mayor, City Councilmembers, City Manager, City Attorney
From: Guy Vespoint *GV*
CC:
Date: December 2, 2013
Re: Correspondence related to Item 5.A. on the December 2, 2013 agenda

Attached is correspondence related to Item 5.A. on the December 2, 2013 City Council Agenda.

5.A. ASSESSMENT OF PROPERTY CONDITIONS, INTERIM 2-YEAR BUILDING USE AND REFURBISHMENT PLAN FOR GREAT HALL/LONG HALL AND DEVELOPMENT OF STAKEHOLDER PLAN TO EXPLORE FUTURE OPTIONS FOR PLUMMER PARK

Corey Schaffer

From: Sal Gomez <savethepickfairstudios@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 9:43 AM
To: John D'Amico; City Council Web Email Address; Corey Schaffer; Michelle Rex
Subject: SUPPORT OF JOHN D'AMICO'S PROPOSAL (Item 5A-Plummer Park)

To the members of the West Hollywood City Council,

****Please place this email into the public record****

I am writing to you in support of Mayor Pro Tem John D'Amico's proposal (Item 5A) to immediately renovate the Historic Great Hall/ Long Hall, the WPA building located at Plummer Park and to order a plaque from the US Department of the Interior stating the buildings were placed on the National Register of Historic Places in our nation's capitol. (Article. <http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-weho-plummer-park-20131125,0,4486382.story#axzz2ljYRumSN>) It would be a travesty to the historic fabric and legacy of West Hollywood if these buildings were left unprotected or worse demolished in an attempt to serve a private agenda. As a "friend" of WeHo I have spoken on behalf of preservation of the former Pickford Fairbanks Studio Lot and I stand in unison with the large constituency of West Hollywood that have fought to see Great Hall/Long Hall saved and preserved and reopened to serve the the future generations of West Hollywood.

Please vote in favor of Mr. D'Amico's proposal

Sincerely,
Sal Gomez
Save The Pickford Fairbanks Studios

Corey Schaffer

From: voweho@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 8:59 AM
To: Abbe Land; John D'Amico; John Dúran; John Heilman; Jeffrey Prang
Cc: Corey Schaffer
Subject: WHPA Supports Item 5.A.

The West Hollywood Preservation Alliance (WHPA), a non-profit community-based organization, has reviewed and supports the proposal identified as Agenda Item 5.A. that the City Council plans to discuss as new business at its meeting on Monday, December 2, 2013.

Thank you, Mayor Pro Tempore John D'Amico, for bringing forward this proposal as its recommendations for action address many concerns raised by the community about the future of our beloved and historic Plummer Park.

WHPA encourages the entire City Council to support this forward-looking proposal, and eagerly awaits its implementation. Thank you all for your consideration.

Victor Omelczenko
Board Treasurer
West Hollywood Preservation Alliance

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*Victor Omelczenko
1246 N. Laurel Ave.--Apt. G
West Hollywood, CA 90046*

Corey Schaffer

From: brechtje beuker <bbeuker@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2013 11:24 AM
To: City Council Web Email Address; Corey Schaffer
Subject: WeHo Plummer Park

Dear Madame/Sir,

I would like to express my support for Mr D'Amico's proposal to renovate Historic Great Hall/ Long Hall in Plummer Park and to request that the buildings be placed on the National Register of Historic Places in our nation's capitol I appreciate any efforts to preserve the park in its current state Thank you

Please record this correspondence in the city's records

Sincerely,
Brechtje Beuker
(WeHo resident)

Corey Schaffer

From: MARIE DROUIN <mariefranced10@me.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2013 4:48 PM
To: John D'Amico; City Council Web Email Address; Corey Schaffer
Subject: Plummer Park

I agree with Mayor Pro Term proposal to immediately renovate Plummer Park Historic Great Hall/ Long Hall and to order a plaque from the US Department of the interior stating the buildings were placed on the National Register of Historic places in our nation's Capitol.

I request that my email be put in the city record.

Thank you,
Marie-France Drouin

Sent from my iPad

Corey Schaffer

From: Arthur Scotti <arthur.scotti@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2013 1:24 PM
To: Corey Schaffer
Subject: Long Hall/Great all

YES! Please renovate, preserve, and designate these historic spots.
Thank you.

Art Scotti
8130 Norton Ave.

Corey Schaffer

From: sjh1212@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2013 5:04 PM
To: John D'Amico
Cc: City Council Web Email Address; Corey Schaffer; Michelle Rex; Corey Schaffer
Subject: Renovation of Great Hall/Long Hall and Maintenance at Plummer Park

Dear Mayor Pro Tempore D'Amico

I want to add my voice in support of your proposal to immediately renovate our historic Great Hall/Long Hall in Plummer Park. The listing on the National Register of Historic Places by the U.S. Department of the Interior is something of which we can all be proud. The current state of deterioration of the WPA structure is a detriment to our neighborhood. The structure is an historic gem that many cities would be thrilled to have. I look forward to the dedication and the Plaque Installation Ceremony. I hope that this item passes with flying colors.

Your thought to have the facility utilized by local artists is an exciting prospect and many in the community welcome your ideas.

Thank you, again for your proposal.

Sincerely,

Stephanie

Stephanie J. Harker
Co-Founder, Protect Plummer Park
Founding Member, West Hollywood Preservation Alliance
West Hollywood Resident

cc: City Clerk's Office, to be placed in the Public Record

Corey Schaffer

From: Taisiya Smith <taisiya03@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 28, 2013 6:44 PM
To: City Council Web Email Address; John D'Amico; Corey Schaffer
Subject: Dec 2nd Plummer Park Proposal

Dear WeHo Council,

I am writing in support of the proposal being put forth by Mayor Pro Tem John D'Amico, to immediately renovate Historic Great Hall/Long Hall and to get a plaque from the US Dept of the Interior stating that this wonderful and historic building is to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places in our nation's capital

Please help this to pass and know that I have many, many fond memories there and would like my emailed support to be placed on the city record!

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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Thank you.
Taisiya Smith
818-618-6876

Corey Schaffer

From: Suzan Lowitz <belleaurore@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, November 29, 2013 9:09 AM
To: John D'Amico; City Council Web Email Address; Corey Schaffer
Subject: Plummer Park

I support Mayor D'Amico's proposal to renovate the Historic Great Hall at Plummer Park. I have many happy memories from my childhood of this building and wish to preserve it for generations to come.

I also support his desire to have a plaque from the National Register of Historic Places. I'm staying in another historic city right now, Charleston SC, and wish that some of the history of my birthplace, Los Angeles, were as appreciated.

Please place my email on the city record.

Thank you.

Suzan Lowitz
1526 N. Stanley Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90046

Corey Schaffer

From: S.J.H <sjh1212@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, November 29, 2013 1:29 PM
To: Corey Schaffer
Subject: Fwd: Plummer Park Historical Land Mark Designation,Etc.

Dear Corey,

I have been asked to forward this to you for the record, by Maxine Filippin, Great Granddaughter of Eugene Plummer

Thanks.

Stephanie J Harker

PROJECT HISTORIC PLUMMER PARK

Begin forwarded message:

From: maxine filippin <maxinefilippin3@hotmail.com>
Date: November 29, 2013 12:01:50 PM PST
To: "jdamico@weho.org" <jdamico@weho.org>, "council@weho.org" <council@weho.org>, stephanie Harker <sjh1212@aol.com>
Subject: **Plummer Park Historical Land Mark Designation,Etc.**

His Honor the Mayor Pro Tem, Council, and City Clerk.

Thank you for all efforts regarding Great Hall (Plummer Park Community Clubhouse) & Installing plaque designating Bldgs listed on National Register of Historic Places:

In the absense of e-mail address for City Clerk, appreciate this being forwarded to Clerk's Office.

Thank you again,

Maxine Ontiveros Filippin , Great Granddaughter of Eugene Plummer

Corey Schaffer

From: Georgette Korsen <gkorsen@cox.net>
Sent: Friday, November 29, 2013 6:44 PM
To: Corey Schaffer
Subject: Plummer Park and the Community Center restoration
Attachments: Letter to the City Council of West Hollywood.docx

Dear Corey Schaffer,
Please file my letter with the city of West Hollywood regarding the upcoming City Council meeting about the proposed restoration of Plummer Park and its Community Center
Appreciatively,
Georgette Korsen

Georgette Korsen
245 Calle Familia
San Clemente, CA. 92672

November 29, 2013

Dear City Representatives,

“The most successful communities are those that have not erased their memories”. Henry Lenny, Santa Barbara Architect

As a current director and the past president of the San Clemente Historical Society, I have become acutely aware of the importance of historic preservation and its role in the well-being of a community

Numerous studies have demonstrated that a city rich in history enjoys heritage tourism, a sense of connectivity and appreciation for the past, and provides residents with a source of great pride. It is something uniquely yours. However, historic resources cannot be built, or created, they must be *preserved*. Once they are gone, they are gone forever

When you think of those Southern California cities steeped in charm, cities you can't wait to visit – like Carmel, Santa Barbara, or Laguna Beach, they always have a wonderful story to share and are rich in historical significance.

Plummer Park holds a special place in my heart. I played there as a child. My grandmother lived in a wonderful American California Bungalow on Lexington Avenue, then a lovely tree lined street resident to homes with large yards and beautiful gardens. Sometimes, in the early evening, she'd walk me to the Community Sing at the Plummer Park Community Center. These are precious memories for me, and no doubt countless others.

Those homes, majestic trees and wonderful gardens are now long gone, mostly or entirely replaced by large apartment and condominium complexes. But the park, with its own unique vitality and Community Center, is still there. It's a resource that has long been a gathering place for people to watch their children and grandchildren get a healthy joy out of life, a place to stroll and connect with others. And, it is still yours.

People require more than just dwellings and places to shop. They need increasingly rare moments of tranquility, amid trees and nature with blue skies, fresh air and a sense of community. These have an intrinsic worth that surpasses that of just one more large business complex.

It is for these reasons that I add my voice to the residents and neighbors who heartily applaud Councilman D'Amico's efforts to protect and restore Plummer Park with its historic Community Center. This would be a restoration that holds great promise for West Hollywood.

Sincerely Yours,

Georgette Korsen

Corey Schaffer

From: Laura Boccaletti <lboccaletti@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 01, 2013 11:54 PM
To: Corey Schaffer
Subject: Fw: Item 5A December 2, 2013

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Laura Boccaletti <lboccaletti@yahoo.com>
To: John D'Amico <jdamico@weho.org>, Michelle Rex <mrex@weho.org>
Cc: "cschaffer@weho.org"
Sent: Sunday, December 1, 2013 11 51 PM
Subject: Item 5A December 2, 2013

Dear Mayor Pro Tem and Ms. Rex,

I am writing to thank you very much for proposing the refurbishing of Great Hall/Long Hall so that it may be used by the community and stakeholders, and the placement of a plaque honoring its addition to the National Register of Historic Places.

I am in full support of this proposal as listed under Item 5A on the City Council agenda of December 2, 2013

Sincerely,
Laura Boccaletti
1145 N Ogden Drive, #202
West Hollywood, CA 90046

Corey Schaffer

From: Laura Boccaletti <lboccaletti@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 12:00 AM
To: City Council Web Email Address
Cc: Corey Schaffer
Subject: Item 5A December 2, 2013

Dear Councilmembers,

I am in full support of the refurbishing of Great Hall/Long Hall so that it may be used by the community and stakeholders, and the placement of a plaque honoring its addition to the National Register of Historic Places, both listed under Item 5A on the City Council agenda of December 2, 2013

I request that this communication be entered into the Public Record.
Thank you.

Sincerely,
Laura Boccaletti
1145 N. Ogden Drive, #202
West Hollywood, CA 90046

Corey Schaffer

From: Lindse Fletcher <lindsefletcher@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2013 9:35 AM
To: City Council Web Email Address; Corey Schaffer
Subject: IN SUPPORT OF JOHN D'AMICO'S PROPOSAL

> To Whom it May Concern,

> I am writing in support of John D'Amico's proposal to renovate Plummer Parks Great Hall and add it to the National Register of Historic Places.

>

> I live one block from the park and I go there with my family everyday We are thrilled to hear that you no longer wish to turn our park into a parking structure.

>

> Please continue to help keep our city special and historically relevant. It's so sad to see long standing structures and business, like Irv's, leaving our city Its places like these that make West Hollywood special.

>

> Thanks for your efforts in preserving our park and our city. Happy thanksgiving!!

>

> -Lindse Fletcher

>

> Please add my email to city record

Corey Schaffer

From: Victoria Levitan <vickyil@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2013 8:59 AM
To: John D'Amico; City Council Web Email Address; Corey Schaffer
Subject: IN SUPPORT OF JOHN D'AMICO'S PROPOSAL

Corey Schaffer

From: M.LaCorte <lamichael64@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2013 8:40 AM
To: John D'Amico; City Council Web Email Address; Corey Schaffer
Subject: IN SUPPORT OF JOHN D'AMICO'S PROPOSAL

I request that my email be placed in the city record for supporting Mayor Pro Tem John D'Amico proposal to have Plummer Park's Historic Great Hall/ Long Hall be placed on the National Register of Historic Places in our nation's capitol

Thank U

Michael LaCorte

Corey Schaffer

From: Alison Yerxa <alisonyerxa1@mac.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2013 7:46 AM
To: John D'Amico; City Council Web Email Address; Corey Schaffer;
ProrectPlummerPark@gmail.com
Subject: Building Restored!

Dear Interested Friends,

I definitely applaud loudly, the proposal to renovate the Long Hall Building at Plummers Park. The park is an historic and most pleasurable park, as it is designed now, and to keep it with its mix of historic style, and mature trees, will be a treasure in the years to come.

I have been using the park for 30 years, and it is a different space than any other park in the city of Los Angeles. Let us respect it, as it will only become more of a grand dame in the future, if we keep it as it is, now

Alison Yerxa
tennis player, and park user

Corey Schaffer

From: julie glass <glass.julie@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2013 7:17 AM
To: John D'Amico; City Council Web Email Address; Corey Schaffer;
ProrectPlummerPark@gmail.com
Subject: IN SUPPORT OF JOHN D'AMICO'S PROPOSAL

Requesting that my email be placed in the city record.

Thank you

Corey Schaffer

From: Kathy Small <kathysmall@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2013 10:52 PM
To: Corey Schaffer
Subject: Plummer Park Project

I totally support the proposal Mayor Pro Tem John D'Amico is making at the Council Meeting on December 2, 2013, regarding the Plummer Park renovation and the plaque to be ordered from the U.S. Dept. of Interior stating the buildings were placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Please place my email in the city record.

Thank you,

Kathleen Small

1416 Havenhurst Dr

West Hollywood, Ca. 90046

Corey Schaffer

From: Curt Klebaum <curtklebaum@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2013 10:41 PM
To: John D'Amico
Cc: City Council Web Email Address; Corey Schaffer
Subject: thank you

Dear Mr D'Amico

I read with pleasure that you have taken a stand to have the Great Hall and Long Hall in Plummer Park placed on the National Register. It is overdue recognition of the architectural and social significance of this fine structure. As a former West Hollywood resident and worker, and as a current weekly user of the Great Hall facility, I have watched with chagrin the forces which have been arrayed in the effort to have this fine old building destroyed.

Thank you for continuing the defense of West Hollywood's architectural legacy

Sincerely,

Curt Klebaum
Los Angeles

Corey Schaffer

From: JAMES ROSEN <james@jamesrosendesign.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2013 10:33 PM
To: John D'Amico; City Council Web Email Address; Corey Schaffer
Subject: Save the great hall,WPA building

Please SUPPORT OF JOHN D'AMICO'S PROPOSAL and save the historic WPA building at Plummer park

I Request that my email be placed in the city record.

Sincerely,

James Rosen

James Rosen Design LLC

323.314 4588 C

James@jamesrosendesign.com

<http://www.jamesrosendesign.com>

Confidentiality Note: This e-mail is intended only for the use of addressee(s) named herein and may contain legally privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient of this e-mail, you are hereby notified that any dissemination or copying of this e-mail is strictly prohibited

print only if necessary

Corey Schaffer

From: S.J.H <sjh1212@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2013 10:32 PM
To: photoop13@aol.com
Cc: City Council Web Email Address; John D'Amico; Jeffrey Prang; John Duran; John Heilman; Abbe Land; Michelle Rex; Michael Haibach; Ian Owens; Fran Solomon; Kiran Hashmi; Corey Schaffer; Steve Campbell; Helen Collins
Subject: Re: December 2, 2013 Council meeting - initiative regarding Great Hall/Long Hall.

PROTECT HISTORIC PLUMMER PARK

On Nov 26, 2013, at 10:27 PM, photoop13@aol.com wrote

> I am writing to you in lieu of attending the Monday, December 2, 2013 City Council meeting. I would much prefer to speak in support of Mayor Pro Tempore D'Amico's initiative regarding the Plummer Park Community Clubhouse, (Great Hall/Long Hall) in person but I will be flying back from my Thanksgiving holiday late that night and will not be able to get there in time.

>

> I am deeply appreciative to Mayor Pro Tempore D'Amico for bringing this proposal before our council. I am in full support.

>

> Respectfully,
> Cathy Blaivas

>

> PS Please enter this letter into the public record

>

>

> Protect Historic Plummer Park

>

Corey Schaffer

From: photoop13@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2013 10:27 PM
To: City Council Web Email Address
Cc: John D'Amico; Jeffrey Prang; John Duran; John Heilman; Abbe Land; Michelle Rex; Michael Haibach; Ian Owens; Fran Solomon; Kiran Hashmi; Corey Schaffer; Steve Campbell; Helen Collins
Subject: December 2, 2013 Council meeting - initiative regarding Great Hall/Long Hall.

I am writing to you in lieu of attending the Monday, December 2, 2013 City Council meeting. I would much prefer to speak in support of Mayor Pro Tempore D'Amico's initiative regarding the Plummer Park Community Clubhouse, (Great Hall/Long Hall) in person but I will be flying back from my Thanksgiving holiday late that night and will not be able to get there in time

I am deeply appreciative to Mayor Pro Tempore D'Amico for bringing this proposal before our council. I am in full support.

Respectfully,
Cathy Blaivas

PS Please enter this letter into the public record

Protect Historic Plummer Park

Corey Schaffer

From: Jack Neff <jackneff01@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2013 12:26 PM
To: John D'Amico
Cc: Corey Schaffer
Subject: Plummer Park - Renovate Great Hall/Long Hall

Mayor Pro Tem John D'Amico - I am in strong support of your proposal to renovate Great Hall/Long Hall, West Hollywood's only WPA building and a National Treasure. Thank you.

Jack Neff
Los Angeles

Corey Schaffer

From: tiktin@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2013 10:50 AM
To: Corey Schaffer
Subject: A note of support and thanks for your proposal to repair and re-open Great Hall and Long Hall in Plummer Park

Dear Mr Schaffer,

Please file the letter below with city

Thank you kindly,

David Tiktin

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

From: tiktin <tiktin@aol.com>
To: jdamico <jdamico@weho.org>
Cc: aland <aland@weho.org>; jheilman <jheilman@weho.org>; jduran <jduran@weho.org>; jprang <jprang@weho.org>
Sent: Tue, Nov 26, 2013 10:47 am
Subject: A note of support and thanks for your proposal to repair and re-open Great Hall and Long Hall in Plummer Park

Dear Mayor Pro Tem D'Amico,

Thank you so much for your proposal to repair and re-open Great Hall and Long Hall in Plummer Park. These buildings are such an important part of West Hollywood's history (indeed, even our federal history in terms of WPA-era structures), and it is very heartening to see that their importance is recognized and that we are able to re-imagine their use rather than destroy them. In the current era here in Weho where there is so much new construction replacing the old, it is nice to see a bit of counterbalance here in preserving something that really is such a valuable resource to our city. As a resident of Weho's east side, I fully support this proposal 100%!


Thank you again, and very happy holidays to you and your loved ones!

Best,

David Tiktin

5
11
12
13
14

Memo

To: Mayor, City Councilmembers, City Manager, City Attorney
From: Guy Vespoint 
CC:
Date: December 2, 2013, Second issue this date
Re: Correspondence related to Item 5 A on the December 2, 2013 agenda

Attached is correspondence related to Item 5.A. on the December 2, 2013 City Council Agenda.

5.A. ASSESSMENT OF PROPERTY CONDITIONS, INTERIM 2-YEAR BUILDING USE AND REFURBISHMENT PLAN FOR GREAT HALL/LONG HALL AND DEVELOPMENT OF STAKEHOLDER PLAN TO EXPLORE FUTURE OPTIONS FOR PLUMMER PARK

Corey Schaffer

From: John D'Amico
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 2:48 PM
To: Corey Schaffer
Subject: FW: support of Item 5A - Plummer Park.

John D'Amico
Mayor Pro Tempore
City of West Hollywood
8300 Santa Monica Blvd
West Hollywood, CA 90069
(323) 848-6460
www.weho.org

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

From: Jorge Ratcovich [<mailto:jratco1@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 2:11 PM
To: John D'Amico
Subject: support of Item 5A - Plummer Park.

Dear council member John D'amico.

I'm in support to preserve plummer park and in favor to proceed with the necessary renovation to great and long hall.

Thank you and please continue to support Plummer park.

regards

Jorge and Carmen Ratcovich
1217 N Vista St
West hollywood Ca. 90046

Corey Schaffer

From: RUDOLF MARTIN <martincomet@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 1:19 PM
To: Corey Schaffer; City Council Web Email Address; John D'Amico
Cc: Michelle Rex; Katherine Laplant
Subject: Item 5A

Hello,

We are writing in strong support of agenda item 5A to immediately repair and utilize Great Hall/Long Hall in Plummer Park. We request that our comments be included in the public record.

As residents of Vista Street and frequent users of the park we have long felt that the neglect in maintenance and the mismanagement of these buildings (especially its current state) has been to the detriment of the community. This "dead spot" in the middle of Plummer Park should end now. The proposal 5A as written is very reasonable and "common sense". Even those who would like to redesign the park and demolish the building should agree that until that is decided we have to keep our options open and take advantage of this resource.

We are strongly in favor of historical renovation and creative repurposing of the building but until that is decided as part of a more comprehensive plan for the park these buildings should be used and treated as the National Historic Landmarks that they are.

Respectfully,

Rudolf Martin & Katherine Laplant
1110 North Vista St
West Hollywood, CA 90046

Corey Schaffer

From: John D'Amico
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 2:17 PM
To: Corey Schaffer
Subject: FW: My 100% support

FYI

John D'Amico
Mayor Pro Tempore
City of West Hollywood
8300 Santa Monica Blvd
West Hollywood, CA 90069
(323) 848-6460
www.weho.org

From: Chloe Ross [<mailto:trstrap@aol.com>]
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 12:06 PM
To: John D'Amico; Michelle Rex
Subject: My 100% support

Thank you for stepping up for PP and for its inclusion in the meeting tonight to fight for its important place on this side of town. And I should also say for the entire City.

I am not feeling well and may not be there tonight.

You have my unbridled thanks and 100% support for this as you probably realize.

Those who will be running for *other* positions in the forthcoming elections or going on to other places should take careful consideration of this fact when this comes up for a vote tonight. In my own opinion - those with no stake in Plummer Park should support us because when they have moved on they will no longer be other than we are now. The residents who cherish this park should be the benefactors of its continuing existence and maintenance.

National Treasures are gifts to us. We should be honored as a city and delight in the existence of one right in our midst.

Thank you
Chloe Ross
Resident

City of West Hollywood
Protect Plummer Park Member

Corey Schaffer

From: John D'Amico
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 2:17 PM
To: Corey Schaffer
Subject: FW: Plummer Park restoration!

FYI

John D'Amico
Mayor Pro Tempore
City of West Hollywood
8300 Santa Monica Blvd
West Hollywood, CA 90069
(323) 848-6460
www.weho.org

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

From: Mickey Cottrell [<mailto:mickey.c@att.net>]
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 10:26 AM
To: John D'Amico
Subject: Plummer Park restoration!

Dear John Damico,

Thanks for seeing the great value in restoring LA historical landmark Great Hall and its surrounding Plummer Park in WeHo!

The neighbors using the park daily appreciate your determined support!

Tally-Ho!
Mickey Cottrell
1132 N Gardner
WeHo 90046
(Resident since 1985)

Sent from my iPhone

Corey Schaffer

From: John D'Amico
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 2:18 PM
To: Corey Schaffer
Subject: FW: Item 5A - 12-2-13 Council Meeting Agenda

John D'Amico
Mayor Pro Tempore
City of West Hollywood
8300 Santa Monica Blvd
West Hollywood, CA 90069
(323) 848-6460
www.weho.org

From: F Carleton Cronin [<mailto:f.cronin@sbcglobal.net>]
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 9:45 AM
To: Paul Arevalo; Abbe Land; John Heilman; John D'Amico; John Duran; mary hall jeffries
Subject: Item 5A - 12-2-13 Council Meeting Agenda

Greetings - This note to urge your consideration and support for Item 5A, Council meeting agenda for 12-2-13. By this time, it must be clear that the community is in favor of preserving the Great Hall and Long Hall at Plummer Park. In order to do so, the proposal detailed in the above mentioned Item 5A would provide funds for the barest repair and maintenance of these historic buildings, now on the Register of Historic Places. The community needs these structures to fulfill its needs for spaces in which to meet, perform and display its interests in the arts and in maintaining community. Sincerely, Carleton Cronin - 8748 Dorrington Avenue, West Hollywood, CA 90069

Corey Schaffer

From: John D'Amico
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 2:21 PM
To: Corey Schaffer
Subject: FW: Item 5A

John D'Amico
Mayor Pro Tempore
City of West Hollywood
8300 Santa Monica Blvd
West Hollywood, CA 90069
(323) 848-6460
www.weho.org

From: Alison Laurie [<mailto:feistycawoman@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 12:11 AM
To: John D'Amico
Subject: Item 5A



I would like to add my support for Item 5A. I can't be at the Council meeting tonite, but I totally support Item 5A, calling for the renovation of Great Hall/Long Hall and getting a Bronze plaque designating the historic building, honoring its addition to the National Register of Historic Places.

Great Hall/Long Hall is a building we should be proud of, not want to tear down like Councilman Heilman wants. It needs renovation so let's get it done sooner rather than later and put the building to use as public space.

Corey Schaffer

From: John D'Amico
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 2:24 PM
To: Corey Schaffer
Subject: FW: WeHo Plummer Park

John D'Amico
Mayor Pro Tempore
City of West Hollywood
8300 Santa Monica Blvd
West Hollywood, CA 90069
(323) 848-6460
www.weho.org

From: brechtje beuker [<mailto:bbeuker@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2013 11:21 AM
To: John D'Amico
Subject: WeHo Plummer Park

Dear Sir,

I would like to express my support for your proposal to renovate Historic Great Hall/ Long Hall in Plummer Park and to request that the buildings be placed on the National Register of Historic Places in our nation's capitol. I appreciate your efforts to preserve the park in its current state. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Brechtje Beuker
(WeHo resident)

Corey Schaffer

From: Adrian Fine <afine@laconservancy.org>
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 2:28 PM
To: City Council Web Email Address; John D'Amico; Michelle Rex
Cc: Corey Schaffer; Ian Owens; Fran Solomon; Jeffrey Prang
Subject: Plummer Park Community Clubhouse (Great Hall/Long Hall)
Attachments: LAC Letter, Plummer Park, 12.2.2013.pdf

Please file this letter with the City

Submitted electronically

Mayor Abbe Land and City Council Members
City of West Hollywood
8300 Santa Monica Boulevard
West Hollywood, CA 90069

RE: Great Hall/Long Hall, Plummer Park

Please see the attached letter from the Los Angeles Conservancy regarding the Plummer Park Community Clubhouse (Great Hall/Long Hall) and the plan before City Council to assess property conditions and reopen the historic building on an interim basis. The Conservancy supports this plan, as it will maintain and reactive a significant historic building for public and community uses. Please let me know if we can be of any assistance with this effort.

Best, Adrian

Adrian Scott Fine | Director of Advocacy | Los Angeles Conservancy
T 213 430 4203 | F 213 623 3909 | afine@laconservancy.org
523 W 6th Street, Suite 826, Los Angeles, CA 90014 | www.laconservancy.org

Get connected: Follow the Conservancy on [Twitter](#) and become a [Facebook](#) fan today!
[Join the Conservancy](#) and become an advocate for preservation in L.A. County



**LOS ANGELES
CONSERVANCY**

523 West Sixth Street, Suite 825
Los Angeles, CA 90014

213 623 2499 OFFICE

213 623 2909 FAX

213 421 4219 EVENT HOSTING

laconservancy.org

Submitted electronically

Mayor Abbe Land and City Council Members
City of West Hollywood
8300 Santa Monica Boulevard
West Hollywood, CA 90069

Email: council@weho.org; cschaffer@weho.org; jdamico@weho.org;
mrex@weho.org

December 2, 2013

RE: Great Hall/Long Hall, Plummer Park

Dear Mayor Land and members of the City Council.

I am writing on behalf of the Los Angeles Conservancy regarding the Plummer Park Community Clubhouse (Great Hall/Long Hall) and the plan before City Council to assess property conditions and reopen the historic building on an interim basis. The Conservancy supports this plan, as it will maintain and reactive a significant historic building for public and community uses.

The 1938 Community Clubhouse, which was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in July 2013, is a notable example of a local recreational facility constructed through a partnership between the County of Los Angeles and the Works Progress Administration.

In our experience an empty and vacant building will always be subjected to more costly and accelerated deterioration than one that is being used. The City's proposed 2-year interim use would establish a process for West Hollywood to effectively steward this City-owned structure in the near-term, and contains provisions for both temporary and permanent repairs in addition to a condition assessment. Such provisions will prevent further and potentially irreversible deterioration to the Clubhouse. We believe this will result in a significant cost savings should the City identify a long-term use for the building in the future.

Thank you and please let me know if the Conservancy can be of any assistance to the City in this effort.

Sincerely,

Adrian Scott Fine
Director of Advocacy



Corey Schaffer

From: John D'Amico
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 2:25 PM
To: Corey Schaffer
Subject: FW: Plummer Park

John D'Amico
Mayor Pro Tempore
City of West Hollywood
8300 Santa Monica Blvd
West Hollywood, CA 90069
(323) 848-6460
www.weho.org

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

From: Kathy Small [<mailto:kathysmall@me.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2013 10:49 PM
To: John D'Amico
Subject: Plummer Park

I totally support the proposal your are making at the Council Meeting on December 2, 2013, regarding the Plummer Park renovation and the plaque to be ordered from the U.S. Dept. of Interior stating the buildings were placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Thank you for your effort in preserving our landmark.

Please place my email in the city record.

Thank you,

Kathleen Small

1416 Havenhurst Dr.

West Hollywood, Ca. 90046

Corey Schaffer

From: John D'Amico
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 2:24 PM
To: Corey Schaffer
Subject: FW: IN SUPPORT OF JOHN D'AMICO'S PROPOSAL

John D'Amico
Mayor Pro Tempore
City of West Hollywood
8300 Santa Monica Blvd
West Hollywood, CA 90069
(323) 848-6460
www.weho.org

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

From: Lindse Fletcher [<mailto:lindsefletcher@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2013 9:28 AM
To: John D'Amico
Subject: IN SUPPORT OF JOHN D'AMICO'S PROPOSAL

Mr. D'Amico,

I am writing in support of your proposal to renovate Plummer Parks Great Hall and add it to the National Register of Historic Places.

I live one block from the park and I go there with my family everyday. We are thrilled to hear that you no longer wish to turn our park into a parking structure.

Please help keep our city special and historically relevant. It's so sad to see long standing structures and business, like Irv's, leaving our city. Its places like these that make West Hollywood special.

Thanks for your efforts in preserving our park and our city. Happy thanksgiving!!

-Lindse Fletcher

Please add my email to city record.

Corey Schaffer

From: John D'Amico
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 2:24 PM
To: Corey Schaffer
Subject: FW: Plummer Park

John D'Amico
Mayor Pro Tempore
City of West Hollywood
8300 Santa Monica Blvd
West Hollywood, CA 90069
(323) 848-6460
www.weho.org

From: Louis Mandrapilias [<mailto:louiegreek@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2013 10:44 AM
To: John D'Amico
Subject: Plummer Park

I strongly support John D'Amico's proposal to save and renovate the Great Hall/Long Hall in Plummer Park.
Please place my email in the city record.

Louie Mandrapilias
323-383-3173
www.louiegreek.com

Corey Schaffer

From: Jeff Hiner <jeffhiner@mac.com>
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 12:09 PM
To: John D'Amico; City Council Web Email Address; Corey Schaffer
Subject: Historic Great Hall / Long Hall

Dear City Council of West Hollywood,

As a resident of West Hollywood and a frequent user of Plumber Park, I am excited to hear of it's historic designation by the US Department of the Interior and i would like to let you know that i stand behind Councilmember D'Amico's proposal to finally restore Great Hall / Long Hall! I urge to you please vote to do so.

Thank you very much!
Jeff Hiner
1400 N Hayworth Avenue
W Hollywood, CA 90046

Corey Schaffer

From: TMournian <iamthos1@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 12:15 PM
To: Corey Schaffer
Subject: Fwd: Great Hall / Long Hall Renovation

Dear Mr. Shaffer:

Please enter the following statement written by me in support of Council Person John D'Amico & Michelle Rex's Item 5A (restoration of Plummer Park's Great Hall / Long Hall with bronze plaque) into the official record.

Sincerely,

Tomas Mournian

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

From: TMournian <iamthos1@aol.com>
To: jdamico <jdamico@weho.org>, mrex <mrex@weho.org>, council <council@weho.org>
Sent: Mon, Dec 2, 2013 12:13 pm
Subject: Great Hall / Long Hall Renovation

To Whom It May Concern.

I'm writing in support of Item 5A, the proposed renovation of West Hollywood's Plummer Park's Great Hall / Long Hall.

As a 20+ year resident of Los Angeles - all but one of those years living in West Hollywood - I have witnessed a great many changes to the landscape of the City.

Before writing this email in support of the proposal authored by Councilperson John D'Amico & Michelle Rex, I walked from my apartment on Crescent Heights to the Park and sat for an hour listening, and watching.

What I always find incredible & moving about Plummer Park is the radiant sense of community that gives the area to life, and how its function as a vital part of the community's lives is evident in both its usage and popularity.

Much like Laurel Avenue's Tara, Plummer Park - and Great Hall / Long Hall specifically - both stand (literally) as landmarks of my past, but also the past of others, vessels of what the City was, and can be -- human sized, egalitarian, and democratic in a way that harkens back to Cicero. Both sites are places that I can walk through or by, and remember specific events of my life, while enjoying in a present tense moment.

Much has been said about the "smell" of Great Hall / Long Hall - implying that transients have somehow defaced it beyond repair. Again, I would refer to Tara as another place that exemplifies the City's (puzzling) policy of allowing proud structures to fall into disrepair through a stubborn lack of attention (and attention to basic safety and upkeep.) It seems worth mentioning that urban areas serve as gathering spots for many types of people, and I believe we would be remiss as a community to dismiss these structures because of their function as momentary spots where many activities occur - play, sport, rest and relief.

In comparison to these more modest structures, the PDC's Red Building structure imposes its will and presence upon the community. Guarded, the red building's glass exterior doesn't so much invite one to come inside and explore so much as defy one to look. Visually aggressive, the red building announces its disinterested relationship with the community. I doubt very much that I will ever actually go inside (or, that given the market, it will ever be occupied.) This refusal stands in stark contrast with Great Hall / Long Hall & Tara, two structures that exhibit a graciousness that may seem "old fashioned" but is much more in keeping with what humans, especially humans in this detached, digital era crave and need: contact and context, places to relate to one another as citizens and neighbors, to brush up against or observe the different or weird.

Given the City's immense resources -- one hundred million dollars in the bank -- certainly it can afford to apply some of that money to investing in structures that may, in fact, return more in human capital - joy, laughter, maybe even love - than another asphalt parking lot.

Please do the right thing and listen to the citizens who have worked so hard to bring this singular resource into the twenty-first century

Very truly yours,

Tomas Mournian

Corey Schaffer

From: Mickey Cottrell <mickey.c@att.net>
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 10:34 AM
To: Corey Schaffer
Subject: Support Item 5A

Dear City Clerk,

Plz note my support of item 5A, honoring LA n National Historic Monument Great Hall in WeHo's Plummer Park with a building restoration and protection.

ThankYou for confirming this longtime Plummer Park resident's enthusiastic support of John Damico's Item 5A!

Thank-You,
Mickey Cottrell
1132 N Gardner St
(Since 1985)

Sent from my iPhone

Corey Schaffer

From: Lyndia Lowy <lyndia@wans.net>
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2013 10:20 AM
To: City Council Web Email Address
Cc: Corey Schaffer
Subject: Support of proposal to renovate Long Hall/Great Hall

I am writing to applaud the proposal of Council Member John D'Amico to renovate Plummer Park's Long Hall/Great Hall as space appropriate for performing arts groups to rehearse. I regret that due to a rehearsal tonight for the *Hollywood Master Chorale* to perform in the *Holiday Brass LA* concert tomorrow, I am unable to attend this evening's Council meeting.

I am Secretary of the *Hollywood Master Chorale*, and have previously served as President of this 19-year-old organization. We were formed in West Hollywood as the *West Hollywood Chorale*, and were proud to count Council Member John Duran as member at one time. We have been supported by West Hollywood throughout our existence, and previously rehearsed and performed at Fiesta Hall in Plummer Park. We also occasionally rehearsed in Long Hall/Great Hall, and enjoyed the excellent acoustics that building provided.

From time to time, we also rehearsed in the newer Activities building. That structure is not soundproofed, so nearby residents sometimes complained when our large group rehearsed on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 PM – 9:45 PM.

When the redevelopment proposal for Plummer Park became imminent, the City revoked our appointed rehearsal time at Plummer Park. We were forced to rehearse outside of West Hollywood, and have found it difficult to locate appropriate performance space for our 30-member group within the city.

Our current grant from the City of West Hollywood requires us to perform here, so we will be performing in the Council Chambers next year. While the acoustics of the Council Chambers are excellent, this is not a space designed for a large group and a piano.

I hope that we can return to Plummer Park soon to rehearse and perform in Long Hall/Great Hall. We have great support from the Russian-speaking community here, and they will appreciate being able to walk to hear us.

I urge all Council Members to foster support of our group by approving the immediate renovation of this historic performance space.

Lyndia Lowy, Secretary
Hollywood Master Chorale
www.hollywoodmasterchorale.org