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## HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Monday, November 25, 2013

7:00 p.m.

Plummer Park Community Center

Rooms 5 &6

7377 Santa Monica Boulevard

West Hollywood, California 90046

COMMISSIONER CASTRO: I move to approve the minutes.

1	COMMISSIONER TORGAN: I'll second.
2	CHAIR CHARLES: All those in favor?
3	(All members present state, "Aye".)
4	CHAIR CHARLES: Item Number 5 is public comment. And, Brendan, do v
5	have speaker slips?
6	MR. BRENDAN ROME: There's no speaker slips for public comment.
7	UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: We have two.
8	COMMISSIONER LEVIN: Really?
9	UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: At least two. Stephanie and me.
10	Number Item Number 5?
11	UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: That would be under Item Number 5,
12	general public comments. It can be any item that's not on the agenda.
13	UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Public comment is Number 5, which
14	is where we put five down there.
15	UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: Oh, I'm sorry.
16	UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: That's okay.
17	CHAIR CHARLES: So it looks like we have a couple people
18	UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: [You're] new around here.
19	(Laughter)
20	CHAIR CHARLES: This period of time has been set aside for the public to
21	address the Historic Preservation Commission on any item not set for public hearing
22	or any item not on tonight's agenda. In accordance with the Brown Act, public
23	comment relating to business that's not on the agenda can't be commented on by this
24	Commission.

So I request that all people wishing to address the commission fill out a

speaker slip and give it to the Commission secretary. And the Commission requests that when you begin speaking; state your name and your city of residence, looks like we have three. The first speaker is Allegra Allison, to be followed by Stephanie Harker, to be followed by Laura Boccaletti.

ALLEGRA ALLISON: Could we have Stephanie kick it off?

CHAIR CHARLES: Sure. Stephanie Harker.

STEPHANIE HARKER: Good evening, Commissioners, Staff, and members of the public. Stephanie Harker, City of West Hollywood. I suspect that some of you saw the news today online, Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles Times Local, and the press release from John D'Amico's office regarding Great Hall/Long Hall, also known as the Community Clubhouse, Plummer Park Community Clubhouse. And I hope that all of you will support Mayor Pro Tem D'Amico's proposal calling for immediate renovation of Great Hall/Long Hall to, in effect, prevent what had happened to Tara at Laurel Park, causing more expense there. I believe the roof is, having been (inaudible), at least in the neighborhood of \$130,000 now, and damage to the inside.

So we're hoping that all of you, as Historic Preservation Commissioners, will support that, and perhaps some of you could come to a council meeting and support the Mayor Pro Tem's proposal to protect our historic property and this park. Thank you very much.

CHAIR CHARLES: Allegra Allison, and then Laura Boccaletti.

ALLEGRA ALLISON: Allegra Allison, West Hollywood. And I just can't say enough about Stephanie and Kathy and all the work they've done to make this happen with the John D'Amico presentation and how far the Historic Commission's come since I got involved 10 years ago; it's amazing. And things are happening and Tara is being rebuilt, and everything has sort of finally reached its blossoming point.

And I'm actually working on a project on Harper, El Pasadero, and it's going to be up in front of you in January. And so I just want to make sure that you all have my contact information. So I'd love to take you and get you a site visit. It's a beautiful piece of property and it's exciting. So I'll pass out my card after the meeting.

CHAIR CHARLES: Thank you.

ALLEGRA ALLISON: And I support these guys.

LAURA BOCCALETTI: Good evening. Laura Boccaletti, West Hollywood. I come to these meetings because I think they're important, especially as a board member of the West Hollywood Preservation Alliance. So the least I would expect is that the agenda online would be for this meeting. And for the past week, every time I've gone online, whether it's through the West Hollywood weekly calendar or directly on the website, it's always taken me to the October 28th agenda.

And so I come to this meeting completely unprepared and a little annoyed.

CHAIR CHARLES: Sorry.

LAURA BOCCALETTI: I would hope that this would be fixed for the next meeting.

Also, and I've said this before, please, please, please, every word that all of you say is very important to us who have taken the time to come here, please speak into the microphones. Thank you.

CHAIR CHARLES: Item Number 6 --

COMMISSIONER TORGAN: Yes. I have a question for Staff.

CHAIR CHARLES: Yes.

COMMISSIONER TORGAN: Was the agenda physically posted?

EMILY STADNICKI: It was, and the link was corrected this morning. Was it this morning?

1	UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: It was this morning.
2	EMILY STADNICKI: Yes, we apologize for that.
3	LAURA BOCCALETTI: I looked an hour ago, and it was still October
4	meeting.
5	COMMISSIONER CHARLIE: Actually, I printed my agenda out late in the
6	afternoon and it was fine.
7	EMILY STADNICKI: Now, my understanding is it was corrected today.
8	Which website or which link were you what page are you starting from?
9	LAURA BOCCALETTI: I went both directly to weho.org to the calendar to
10	the meetings this month calendar and also through an e-mail of last of meetings this
11	week. And every single one took me to October 28th.
12	UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: It's happened in other commissions, just
13	so you know. There's a glitch somehow, but it's hard to find it.
14	EMILY STADNICKI: Yes, we're trying to get to the bottom of it, but we're
15	unsure, at this point what the problem is, but we're aware it occurs.
16	COMMISSIONER TORGAN: (Inaudible)
17	EMILY STADNICKI: Yes, we (inaudible).
18	CHAIR CHARLES: All right. Item Number 6 is consent calendar, and we
19	have none tonight.
20	Item Number 7 is Excluded Consent Calendar, and there's none.
21	Item Number 8, Commission Consideration, there is none.
22	And that leads us into Item Number 9, Public Hearings. Item A is 1228 North
23	Flores, and it looks like there are two different issues both related to 1228 Flores. One
24	is a recommendation, potential recommendation to the Planning Commission to issue
25	a certificate of appropriateness, and the other issue is incentives, including a Mills Act

Contract.

With that, do we have any presentation?

ANTONIO CASTILLO: Yes. Good evening, Commissioners. The item before you this evening is a request to rehab the existing single-family dwelling designated as a cultural resource and a request for rehab incentives in conjunction with the construction of a two-story, detached, single-family dwelling behind the existing dwelling.

As rehab incentives, the applicant is requesting a partial waiver of parking requirements for the new building unit, a waiver of the minimum density requirement for properties within the R4 Zoning District, and a Mills Act Contract in exchange for the rehab, rehab and ongoing maintenance of the cultural resource.

The project includes a request for [the parcel map] as well. This is to allow for the creation of a Common Interest Development (CID). However, the consideration of the parcel map is within the purview of the Planning Commission, and HPC is not required to take any action on this part of the request.

Because of the development permits and the parcel map request, HPC's role in this instance would be advisory, and it's recommendation on the rehab of the cultural resource, the request for the rehab incentives and the new development as it pertains to the cultural resource, will be forwarded to the Planning Commission.

Additionally, as the Chair mentioned, HPC is requested to make a separate recommendation directly to the City Council on the Mills Act Contract. The Mills Act Contract is not reviewed by the Planning Commission.

The property consists of a single-story dwelling with a generally rectangular plan on a 7,500 square-foot lot. The approximate 1,200 square-foot structure was constructed in 1918, and designed in the craftsman style. The property is located on a

block primarily of multifamily residences, surrounded by designated properties or properties identified as having potential for future designation.

The rehab work being proposed for the cultural resource, both the dwelling as well as the single-car garage detached at the rear, includes electrical and plumbing work as well as insulation. Now, this is for the dwelling not for the garage. Both of them would include repair or replacement of exterior wood siding and repainting, as well as reroofing for both structures.

The proposed rear unit includes a approximately 2,200 square-foot single-family dwelling, two stories with two bedrooms and two and a half baths, walk-in closets and an attached one-car garage within the envelope of the structure, two separate balconies, one facing Flores Street and one facing north, as well as a fireplace.

This is a layout of the existing, with a proposed rear unit in the back. The structure meets the setback requirements, which includes a 15-foot rear setback, 5-foot site setbacks, 10-foot separation between the proposed unit and the existing unit, as well as a 6-foot separation between the proposed unit and the garage.

These are the side views both on the north and the south, smaller unit or the smaller structure being the existing, the second story at the rear, which has approximately an eight-foot height difference.

And this is an elevation from the street. Now, this is a two-dimensional drawing, so this is not a true representation of what you would see if you're at the street, across the street, or at the sidewalk level. There's also mature landscaping that would also be obscuring some of the rear elevation.

Staff supports the project, given that the proposed work would help preserve the building's significant architectural features. The savings provided by a Mills Act

Contract would provide resources necessary for the preservation, rehabilitation, and maintenance of the property and site. The proposed work to the cultural resource and the construction of the new development would not adversely impact the property's historic character. And the proposed work would be subject to conformance to the Secretary of Interior Standards for rehabilitation.

And therefore, Staff recommends that the Commission adopt a resolution recommending to the Planning Commission approval of the proposed project and recommending to the City Council approval of the Mills Act Contract. And with that, this concludes my presentation. I'm available for questions. And I also want to mention the architect, the project architect, and the property owner are here to answer any questions that the Commission might have.

CHAIR CHARLES: Any questions for Staff before we move into public comments?

COMMISSIONER TORGAN: Yes, one quick question. So the city's tandem requirements allow two cars in the driveway?

ANTONIO CASTILLO: That's correct.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: How does that happen? How does that happen? How could you put two cars in that driveway?

CHAIR CHARLES: Ma'am, if you'd like to speak to the Commission, you're welcome to fill out a speaker slip.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Yes, I'm going to, but just that one question right there stops everything, as far as I'm concerned.

CHAIR CHARLES: Just procedurally, just to keep things organized here, we ask you to fill out a slip and speak from the podium.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Okay. Sure.

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CHAIR CHARLES: So we're going to move into comments. Who would like to go first, the applicant or the architect?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: It's written on here.

DAVID DOUCETTE: I'll go ahead, the architect.

CHAIR CHARLES: David Doucette?

DAVID DOUCETTE: Yes.

CHAIR CHARLES: Okay. To be followed then by Paul Habibi.

DAVID DOUCETTE: All right. Good evening. Thank you, Antonio for the introduction to the project. So my name's David Doucette. I'm the architect for the project. Antonio gave a good overall description of what the project is about. I would just like to reiterate a couple of things.

With the existing cultural resource on the exterior, we're not changing anything. And the new structure is going to really use materials and the language from the existing cultural resource for the new structure. So we want to make sure -- one of the goals, both mine and the applicant's, is to make sure that the new structure blends in and lends itself to the cultural resource.

Also, we are allowed by the zoning code four stories in height. Of course, we didn't do that; we went two stories here. And I'll call your attention just to the last page of the guide, A-10 It shows some studies that we did there and some parking studies, which if we did parking below the structure, we would have had a taller structure. And you can see from some of the studies there that it would have really been out of scale.

#### RECORDING SYSTEM FAILURE AT 16:09 MINUTES....

### SYSTEM RESUMES WITH COMMISSIONER TORGAN SPEAKING:

With the existing culture behind this building, especially done in craftsman style, creates any problems for the character defining features of the structure or the esthetics above of the home.

And with that, I have no problems with recommending approval to the Planning Commission of the waiver of parking requirements and the waiver of density requirements, as well as recommending the Mills Act Contract to City Council.

And I noted, too, in the Mills Act Contract, this is strictly -- we've had discussions in the past about whether or not landscaping and the arch would be included. And this is, I think the first one I've seen this year where it's only the structure, which I'm even more happy to see that's just the structure.

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: I'll go next once you're done. You're done? COMMISSIONER TORGAN: I'm done, yes.

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: So I see there are three things that we're looking at: the Certificate Of Appropriateness, and that's for rehabilitating the historic resource; I see a Mills Act Contract that we're considering that would go to the City Council, and that's for basically a contract to offset the property tax break back into the historic resource; and the third thing I see is the proposed new construction.

What we have the ability to do is provide recommendations to the Planning Commission and their review of the development permit. I have strong concerns about the proposed new construction. I looked at the rehabilitation incentives. I understand what the purpose is, and basically, and I'll read it, it's to recognize and maintain and rehabilitate a cultural resource. Because of increased burdens on the property, the property is able to take these rehab incentives.

What I do not understand is that I strongly believe the rehab incentives, and I think the intent and purpose of the rehab incentives is to apply to the historic resource. What's being done here is applying to new construction. Yes, it's on the same site. But I don't believe it's the purpose and intent of the rehab incentives. And what's going on is the ability to waive parking standard on new construction, which I think has -- it's a separate building, apart from the historic resource, I don't see any precedent, unless I'm wrong, but I don't think it should apply to new construction. Why would new construction be given to dismiss zoning code standards?

I think that it doesn't meet findings, even if it were to apply. I think that reduction or development standards, especially for parking, would be a detriment to the property. I think that it wouldn't meet the finding of; that it would not be detrimental to the public health, safety, and welfare. I think that the parking impacts would be, it would impact the parking. It is a very tight space back there. I don't even see how you would have enough clearance to back up. It's very tightly placed, the new parking lot, the one new parking space. It's very inconvenient for tenant parking. I don't think people will like it and I think that anyone were to live there, they're just going to spill out onto the street and that's just not good. That's a detriment to the public safety.

Flores, I've seen Flores; it's already very, very busy in terms of parking, and I think it just further impacts the parking.

Again, I have a big problem with the way the rehab incentive provision is being used in this case. I don't think it meets that intended purpose to apply to new construction. I think the intent is for it to apply to the historic resource itself, not separate and apart from the historic resource.

And I do think that the certificate appropriateness is, to some extent, impacted

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because the new construction in a way, its jam packing this building behind this historic resource. I think it impacts the esthetic integrity. The profile, as viewed from the street is impacted. And it's, to me, very obvious it's just jam packing a building behind it. I think the building footprint is -- there's very little open space on this property. Perhaps a smaller building, but I don't know if that's even in the midst of this. But it's just its too large and it swallows the site.

So I'm okay with the certificate of appropriateness and I'm okay with the Mills Act. I am not okay with the rehab incentive.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: Thank you, Chair. I'm going to respectfully disagree with Commissioner Castro. I'll do the easy stuff first. The Mills Act, I think is absolutely a no-brainer. I think it's entirely appropriate, and I'm going to strongly support that that goes to City Council for approval.

The certificate of appropriateness is to build -- is not for the existing house, it is actually for the addition. And the threshold question for certificate of appropriateness for new construction or additional construction on the site is would this construction cause the resource to not be designated. That's really the threshold condition for -- (**RECORDING SYSTEM FAILURE**) there's the existing garage.

The rehabilitation credit, I think properly rehabilitation credits and incentives apply to the property, not simply to the house itself or not simply to the garage itself. And I think that in this case we're being asked to do two things. One is, we're being asked to waive minimum density. And I think that applying minimum density standards to a historic property is absurd.

Commission Torgan quite correctly stated the intent of the minimum density ordinance, but the intent doesn't even matter at this point. This is a historic property and there is no way that minimum density standard should be applied to it.

The other rehabilitation credit we're being asked to consider is the waiver of one car. The new construction would ordinarily require two cars. The existing building has a one-car garage and is grandfathered as such. We're being asked to, in effect, waive one car. I don't believe that's in any way inappropriate. Is parking tight on Flores? Yes, parking is tight on all the streets. I live two blocks away from here Parking is tight on the streets; there is no question about that.

Do I imagine for a minute that two cars are going to be parked in this driveway, thereby creating triple tandem situation? No, I don't. I don't believe -- I don't believe that anyone's going to park two cars in the driveway on the site. It's entirely possible that in many cases they won't even park one on the site. But we're only being asked to waive the one car, and, to me, it's within the context of a historic structure on historic property, I think that's a de minimis waiver. To do otherwise is to, in effect, say that nothing can be built here, because anything that's going to be built here is going to require two parking spaces.

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: I say put two parking spaces there.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: Well, there is no --

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: (Inaudible) two parking spaces.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: Well, that's wonderful. There's no way to physically put two parking spaces and allow the existing garage to remain in its existing location, cannot --

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: It's a 2,200 square-foot house with two bedrooms.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: With all due respect, Commissioner Castro, there is no way that you can maintain the minimum separation between the two buildings on the site; it's required to be 10 feet, and to accommodate two parking spaces, short of razing the building.

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: I think it's an abuse of the rehab incentive.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: Well, that's --

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: That's me.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: The only misgivings I have about this is that the design of the structure, frankly, is closer to mimicry of the existing building than I like and that's encouraged by the Secretary of Interior Standards. And quite frankly, there's going to be no way on God's green earth that they're going to be able to detail this and build this in a way that it won't be distinguishable, the details will be distinguishable. But the design is that it -- I don't have any fundamental -- I don't think that's a fundamental enough problem to tear this project down. But that's my only misgivings about it; otherwise, I think that it's completely appropriate.

COMMISSIONER OSTERGREN: Commissioner Levin, can I ask for clarification? In terms of if we were reviewing the house today for listing --

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: Yes.

COMMISSIONER OSTERGREN: -- just want clarification on the way you worded -- I see there's a difference between delisting something that's already listed and --

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: Sure. No, no. In other words, the threshold is, were this coming to us now, would it -- I believe it's actually would it be cause to be removed from listing. I believe that is the threshold.

But even if you can turn that around and say, would the existing building be designable now --

COMMISSIONER OSTERGREN: Personally, I can't imagine if this twostory structure was looming behind it that it would be designated.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: Yes, I don't know the answer to that. But the

question is, the threshold condition is would it cause it to be delisted?

COMMISSIONER OSTERGREN: To be delisted.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: Yes. And that is the threshold as we've been informed on more than one occasion, and I can't see that that's a remote possibility.

Yes, I think the question of would we list it if it weren't already? And I don't know the answer to that. I don't think we need -- that's not a question I need a reach.

COMMISSIONER OSTERGREN: Okay. I was not clear from the way you worded it whether that was the threshold.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: No, it's would it cause it to be delisted is the threshold question.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: So what is the answer to that?

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: My answer's no. But, please, this is not a colloquy.

COMMISSIONER OSTERGREN: Well, I will say that in looking at the designs as they're presented, I had the same concern as Commissioner Levin mentioned, that -- and this is a flat, two-dimensional, very preliminary design. But in terms of meeting the secretary's standards for rehabilitation, I think there is a strong attempt here to use similar materials and construction -- well, similar materials in a way that, in fact, does approach mimicry. And again, it's not detailed in terms of how this would actually appear in construction. But I would say that it would be difficult here, looking at the way it's presented, to differentiate between the old and the new. These materials go beyond being compatible.

I am concerned in terms of looking at the standards, rehab standard, standard nine there particularly, in terms of the new construction not destroying spacial relationships that characterize the property. It is this structure looming over the back.

I certainly commend the property owners for not trying to push it to an even higher structure, as shown in the alternate drawings. Those certainly have an even greater impact. But I find myself struggling with this one. I certainly, in theory, support the property owner's right to expand on this property. I'm not convinced this is the way to do it.

CHAIR CHARLES: I have a question for Staff, or maybe Commission Levin or someone can answer this. I know that previously we have looked at new construction and its effect on historic properties surrounding the construction. I know we did one on, I believe it was Laurel maybe.

COMMISSIONER OSTERGREN: Sweetzer maybe.

CHAIR CHARLES: Okay.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: We've done a number.

CHAIR CHARLES: And how close are -- I'm unclear. Is 1230 a historic property? Is it historically designated?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Yes.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: The properties on both sides of this and behind it are all designated.

CHAIR CHARLES: So I have the question, do we also need to do an analysis regarding its impact on the surrounding historic properties?

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: We've applied in previous certificate of appropriateness, new construction and its relationship to a historic resource. We have applied that.

CHAIR CHARLES: And we've even had specific hearings just to determine that.

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: We have.

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24 25 COMMISSIONER LEVIN: That's right.

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: It could be clearly as across the street.

CHAIR CHARLES: So I guess maybe, I mean, I deferred it to the experts here. What's your analysis on its impact on surrounding historic properties?

COMMISSIONER TORGAN: I, given the size and scale and construction style of this house, I don't see it as creating being problematic for the multifamily buildings that surround it. That's the long and the short of it for me. I don't see it as it somehow altering the integrity or the character-defining properties of those multifamily buildings.

CHAIR CHARLES: Both of the properties are multifamily, all sides?

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: All the surrounding properties on everything side are multifamily, sides north, south, and the properties to the --

CHAIR CHARLES: -- east.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: -- rear, to the east.

COMMISSIONER OSTERGREN: Yes, in fact, I think this is the only singlestory, single-family house on the entire street. There's a couple of two-story houses to the north that may still be single-family; I don't know.

COMMISSIONER TORGAN: I guess I think two-dimensionally, so I have a question for the architect on the commission. It looks like the grade change from the street, from the sidewalk to the rear of the property; it's about four feet, three or four feet.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: It's something like that, yes.

COMMISSIONER TORGAN: This kind of issue of looming, of seeing -being able to see the structure behind it, to what extent does that kind of change in grade impact your view if you're looking at the (inaudible)?

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: Yes, there is --

COMMISSIONER TORGAN: And the reason I say that, because I'm thinking of the one we rejected on [Hahn], that had -- not 927, but the one directly to the south that had the four-unit structure in the back where it was really easy to see that structure from the right-of-way. I mean, you couldn't miss it. So, I'm thinking, aside from the compatibility issues, did that change in grade mean it's not as looming or you just don't notice it as much because of that three- or four-foot grade change?

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: I wish the architect had given us better tools here, rather than just the flat elevation; flat elevation view is utterly misleading. It is approximately, yes, it is approximately three feet from sidewalk, current existing elevation of sidewalk, to the flat portion of the rear site where this will be built. It's about; call it three and a half feet.

Because the existing single-story house is elevated, the site lines from the sidewalk will be more cut off than they would be if the site was flat. In other words, you will tend -- even though the building behind it is higher in elevation than it would be if the site was flat, the visual cutoff of the building in front is greater.

So, again, this is something that, whether it's a model or whether a rendering, would have been an enormous help in a situation like this. But I don't think that you will see -- well, certainly from the sidewalk on this side of Flores, on the east side of Flores, you will not see as much of the building, the two-story building behind, because of the grade change.

EMILY STADNICKI: I think it's also important to note that the facade of the new construction is significantly behind the façade of the original house. I mean, it's set way back so that just that in itself changes the view.

COMMISSIONER RICE: Well, I'd like to comment. I mean, I look at the

alternative here is that the owner can't build this -- I mean, maybe we're looking at this as a compromise. But we could lose the whole historic property; that would be the alternative. So your streetscape would change and you could have higher density with subterranean parking in the seven-unit.

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: He can have Mills Act, though, and he can rehabilitate the --

COMMISSIONER RICE: Well, but maybe -- you know, this preserves the building at present. And I think the structure that's going behind it doesn't change the immediate streetscape. Certainly, it has impact to the residents on each side. But I think I'd rather have a two-story building than a much denser. But to me, the alternative is then no historic building on the streetscape at all if they choose to raze the building. At least we're saving the building that we have at the front.

CHAIR CHARLES: More thoughts, Comments?

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: Well --

EMILY STADNICKI: Can I add one thing before you --

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: Yes.

EMILY STADNICKI: -- go further? I wanted to just clarify my understanding of the reduction in development standards. And again, (inaudible) my understanding is that is the intent to use it in a situation such as this where new construction occurres that needs flexibility in the zoning code to create that, to keep the viability of the property so -- in this case it's designated. But if it wasn't, to make sure that that resource stays and compatible, if allowable, density occurs behind it.

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: Can you provide examples of where this has been applied in the past? I would like to -- I'd like to know where we've applied rehab incentives to new construction. Because again, I've seen it applied as adaptive reuse,

like the Charlie Chaplin Bed and Breakfast. There was some development flexibility that we provided for them. My concern is new construction and I just want to, again, I may be wrong, but I just don't think it's the appropriate way to use rehab incentives.

EMILY STADNICKI: I cannot provide an example right now.

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: I know you can't do it now.

EMILY STADNICKI: But I did, through the discussions, we happen to have had discussed this through our multifamily incentives program that we're talking about. And we were talking about how many of these are not very applicable for the apartments, because there is no additional land, where, this could be utilized.

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: And I realize my comments bleed into what the Planning Commission's purview is as the impact of parking for a 2,200 square-foot home with one space.

EMILY STADNICKI: I just wanted to show you the department's position on the development standards, it is absolutely appropriate to use them with new construction in conjunction with historic resources, as long as it meets the standards and that that was the intent to preserve the viability of properties.

COMMISSIONER TORGAN: I mean, I understand where you're coming from in that rehab incentives shouldn't be used as a matter of policy for new construction. But in terms of has it been before, I think we're getting into kind of a chicken and the egg situation. It's like, yes, it may not have been done because nobody's ever brought it forward to us before, because the layout of the City is just such that the opportunity to use it on new construction in a situation like this has just never been presented to us.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: I mean, I think we have to look at it fairly holistically. We designate buildings. And what that does is it encumbers the property

and says to the owner that your building is important enough to the City that the City has a public interest in it, and, because of that, you may not change your building without permission. You must maintain your building. And in exchange for that, though --

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: Right. But I think --

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: I think in exchange -- if you'll let me finish the sentence.

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: Yes.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: In exchange for that, though, I think that the city has some obligation to try to accommodate the economic hardship that that imposes on an owner. Now, that doesn't mean that we have to go to the ends of the earth. That doesn't mean that we have to allow a four-story building back here. It doesn't mean that we have to allow subterranean parking. But we need to be able to make some accommodation on a holistic basis to allow the owner to have --

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: Right.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: -- some reasonable benefit as well --

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: I agree. However --

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: -- in principle.

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: -- I'm just not willing to accept this plan.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: That's fair enough.

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: And I don't think settling for this plan is appropriate. I have other problems with the fact that it -- how it has impact. I mean, we're --

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: That's fair enough.

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: We provide recommendations to the planning

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commission. It's going to be entirely within their purview. I just don't think it's appropriate. I think its jam packing a building that's too bulky and too massive in context with a historic resource. So, and I think that allowing this rehab incentive to apply to new construction is a detriment to a historic designated resource.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: Well, they're asking for two things. Do you have a problem with the minimum density requirement waiver?

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: I don't. Actually, I don't. But --

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: So it really has to do with the one parking space?

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: I have a problem with the one parking space.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: And the building design is bulky in mass, but I defer that to the Planning Commission.

CHAIR CHARLES: How do we want to -- it looks like there's some consensus on the Mills Act. Do we want to go ahead and --

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: Well, I think we should treat this as because they're going to different entities, I think we should treat them separately.

CHAIR CHARLES: Okay.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: So I'm going to move a recommendation for approval of the Mills Act Contract.

COMMISSIONER RICE: I'll second that.

CHAIR CHARLES: All right. And let's go ahead and take a roll call on that.

COMMISSIONER OSTERGREN: Before we do that, can I just --

CHAIR CHARLES: Yes.

COMMISSIONER OSTERGREN: -- ask, since the resolution has -- it's been written as a single resolution, has it not?

MR. ROME: Commissioner Rice? COMMISSIONER RICE: Yes. MR. ROME: Commissioner Torgan? COMMISSIONER TORGAN: Yes. MR. ROME: Commissioner Castro? VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: Yes. MR. ROME: Chair Charles? CHAIR CHARLES: Yes. MR. ROME: Motion approved unanimous. CHAIR CHARLES: All right. [COMMISSIONER LEVIN]: That was an easy one. CHAIR CHARLES: That one's off the table. EMILY STADNICKI: Would you like a little more Staff comment on the issue of one parking spot? COMMISSIONER LEVIN: Sure. ANTONIO CASTILLO: I just want to mention that initially when the application came in, it provided the parking spaces were going to be in the -- actually, I'm sorry. Both parking spaces were going to be in the driveway. And because it's part of a development permit, the code requires that we have a neighborhood meeting. During the discussions at the neighborhood meeting several months ago, what resulted from that was the introduction of the parking space within the envelope of the structure, so to accommodate -- or to not have one of the tenants have to back out their car and so forth.

So initially there were going to be tandem on the driveway. As I mentioned,

what resulted from that was to have one of the vehicles inside the garage so each of

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the units have the one-car garage. So I just wanted to mention that.

So that wasn't part of the original request. It was part of a discussion that came out of the neighborhood meeting, and Staff encouraged them to create that one-car garage to try to avoid the tandem situation.

COMMISSIONER: So what we have is a code requirement for three covered parking spaces, and what we have is two covered parking spaces plus one driveway space?

ANTONIO CASTILLO: Right. So if they were to propose one car in the driveway, they do meet their parking requirement. What we talked to the applicant about is to eliminate the need for that one tandem parking space and request for the incentive. Because if they provide as currently proposed, they provide a one-car garage and they park in the driveway, they meet their parking requirements. And the code allows for that tandem for residential, uncovered for a single-family residence.

COMMISSIONER TORGAN: I will be happy to make a motion. I move we approve Resolution Number HPC13-106 as it appears in our agenda packets.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: I'll second.

COMMISSIONER OSTERGREN: Before you move forward on that, can I point out one --

COMMISSIONER OSTERGREN: Yes. The use of the term complimentary; several times throughout it should be complementary, C-O-M-P-L-E, not L-I.

COMMISSIONER TORGAN: Yes, that's acceptable.

COMMISSIONER OSTERGREN: So there are at least four usages there.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: Actually, in some of those it could be either.

Either one would work. It changes the meaning, but either one would work.

CHAIR CHARLES: All right.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: In fact, I think under three, the second sentence of three actually they do mean with I, as in not completing, but as in -- I think they mean I there.

COMMISSIONER OSTERGREN: Well --

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: But it could go either way.

MR. ROME: It's been moved by Commissioner Torgan and seconded by Commissioner Levin, to accept the resolution, the draft resolution, as presented, with the exception of typo correction for complementary. Did the Chair want to entertain any discussion?

CHAIR CHARLES: So these are our recommendations to planning. Do we either accept it as a whole?

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: Well, that's the current motion. I mean someone could amend it. It could fail and we could have to amend it, but that's the current motion. I mean, it's not -- it isn't an all-or-nothing proposition necessarily, not by law.

CHAIR CHARLES: Do we have to have a single, I'm guessing we have to have a single recommendation, to Planning? It can't be --

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: Yes, sure. I mean, if this one fails, then someone will try to craft a motion that eliminates whatever caused it to fail.

CHAIR CHARLES: Okay.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: I would think. But, yes, we have to make a single recommendation regarding the HPC13-106 one way or the other.

EMILY STADNICKI: And if it passes, we can state that it wasn't unanimous then, that there were votes in opposition.

ANTONIO CASTILLO: But also I might add that if the Commission feels that there should be specific conditions placed on the development that will lessen or

1	mitigate any potential impacts, we would welcome that as well.
2	CHAIR CHARLES: Okay.
3	BRENDAN ROME: And the same respect, we can also take away
4	COMMISSIONER CHARLIE: Right. Right.
5	CHAIR CHARLES: Okay. Well, I guess we can go ahead and do roll call as
6	it's currently written.
7	MR. ROME: As is with the typos?
8	CHAIR CHARLES: Right. So there's a motion and a second. Do roll call.
9	MR. ROME: Commissioner Charlie?
10	COMMISSIONER CHARLIE: Yes.
11	MR. ROME: Commissioner Levin?
12	COMMISSIONER LEVIN: Yes.
13	MR. ROME: Commissioner Ostergren?
14	COMMISSIONER OSTERGREN: No.
15	MR. ROME: Commissioner Rice?
16	COMMISSIONER RICE: Yes.
17	MR. ROME: Commissioner Torgan?
18	COMMISSIONER TORGAN: Yes.
19	MR. ROME: Vice-Chair Castro?
20	VICE-CHAIR CASTRO: No.
21	MR. ROME: Chair Charles?
22	CHAIR CHARLES: Yes.
23	MR. ROME: Motion passes five to two.
24	COMMISSIONER LEVIN: And I'd ask that when this goes to Planning
25	Commission that it go with not only the fact that it was a split vote, but with the
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we'll know when it's calendared before we have to decide to send someone?

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ANTONIO CASTILLO: Yes.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: We [may want], it's pertinent.

MR. ROME: So you want that added to the agenda in Janu

MR. ROME: So you want that added to the agenda in January, correct?

COMMISSIONER TORGAN: Yes, at such time as we know when this will

be calendared, we should bring this back just to decide if and who will present this to Planning Commission.

CHAIR CHARLES: All right. That's it for Item 9. Item 10, new business, there is none.

Item 11, unfinished business, there is none.

Item 12A is upcoming projects. Staff will update the Historic Preservation Commission on projects that have been submitted that may require action by the Commission at a future date.

EMILY STADNICKI: I don't have any particular projects to discuss, but I was just going to give a very brief overview about our progress with the multifamily incentives.

Things are going very well. We had our focus group meetings. We had two residents meetings, tenants, I should say; and one with owners, one with real estate professionals and design professionals, and one with the Historic Preservation Community, which was basically the Preservation Alliance, as well as the LA Conservancy. So we got a lot of good feedback. We had good participation in almost all the sessions. And we feel we're really moving on the right track.

COMMISSIONER TORGAN: I guess I'm curious how the focus groups with the owners went.

EMILY STADNICKI: It was complicated, but kind of what you would expect. They did seem to acknowledge the value of -- I mean, they all sort of

expressed how much they love the property and that that's why they were doing it and that there were challenges. There were some complaints about different divisions and departments and how they deal with tenants versus landlords and that sort of perspective; again, as expected. And I think that what surprised me the most was the tenant meetings, how much the tenants love their units as well and acknowledge that they all had really good deals and were sort of saying, when something comes up, I sometimes just pay for it myself because I already know that I have this great rent and I just love my building, and I want to stay there. So there was a real acknowledgment of sort of the burden that it was for landlords as well. So that was the most surprising thing to me.

COMMISSIONER OSTERGREN: What kind of a turnout did you have?

EMILY STADNICKI: We had about 8 to 12 people for each session, except for the one tenant meeting. We had two tenant sessions, one in the daytime and one in the evening. And the daytime session actually there was only one person.

COMMISSIONER OSTERGREN: Very focused group.

EMILY STADNICKI: We got a lot of good information. And, but all the others were -- it was good. There was a good number of people. I mean, that was kind of what we were wanting; any larger than that, you really can't get a lot from each individual. So I think we were very pleased with the turnout. And a lot of people again said I want to stay involved, let me know what I can do to help. The owners were very willing to open their properties for the team to review the situation on the ground. So it was very productive.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: The owners are more realistic than you might imagine. I mean, they've been dealing with the city for a long time. I did attend the preservation, as part of the subcommittee, I thought it was appropriate that one of us

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24 25 was there, so.

CHAIR CHARLES: Thank you.

EMILY STADNICKI: That's all.

CHAIR CHARLES: All right, Item 13, Commissioner Comments.

COMMISSIONER TORGAN: I did attend Council last week to tell them a little bit more about what we did on the Tower Records recommendation. And that's exactly what the Council did; they accepted our recommendation in full. I don't know if -- and because it did not meet the criteria, and I explained to them how we thought in part, at least there was one line of thought that our hands were kind of tied by the language of our ordinance. But in the end, they believed it did not meet the criteria, but were interested in the idea of some type of commemoration, not as a substitute, but as something other than designation.

Don't know where it will go, but I think the next step for me or one of us would be go to talk to the Cultural Affairs Commission, kind of let them know this should be on their radar screen.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: Yes, I watched on television. I thought you did an entirely appropriate and measured presentation.

COMMISSIONER TORGAN: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN: And thank you for doing that.

COMMISSIONER TORGAN: Thank you. I even had a live drive-time interview with KNX that morning as well.

CHAIR CHARLES: Anyone else?

COMMISSIONER TORGAN: And so my request, I think from the last meeting, too, was to know when the next Cultural Affairs Commission meeting is.

EMILY STADNICKI: I know Stephanie sent that out in an e-mail, but we can

1	confirm that.
2	COMMISSIONER LEVIN: Okay.
3	EMILY STADNICKI: Did anyone else receive that? We sent that out, like
4	these are the meetings
5	COMMISSIONER LEVIN: Yes. Yes, in fact, you did. Yes, but, the last
6	meeting doesn't seem like it was an entire month ago; seems like it was two weeks.
7	That seems like it was a month ago. That memo seems like it was a month ago.
8	COMMISSIONER TORGAN: Just again, just send it to me and
9	EMILY STADNICKI: Sure, no problem.
10	COMMISSIONER LEVIN: And I'll be happy, unless anybody wants to, I'll
11	make time to go talk to Cultural Affairs.
12	CHAIR CHARLES: Item Number 14 oh, I just oh, I'm sorry.
13	COMMISSIONER LEVIN: My only comment would be to wish everyone a
14	Happy Thanksgiving.
15	COMMISSIONER TORGAN: Yes, Happy Thanksgivukah.
16	COMMISSIONER RICE: Exactly.
17	COMMISSIONER CHARLIE: Actually, I have one comment.
18	CHAIR CHARLES: Yes.
19	COMMISSIONER CHARLIE: I know I probably sound like a broken record,
20	staff, 'cause I bring this up every time. But I just wanted to get some sort of update to
21	find out if there was any forward motion on the kind of multimedia, social media
22	outreach that I was hoping we could start to do.
23	EMILY STADNICKI: No update at this time. But we do have our new intern
24	onboard, Stephanie, and she's great. She's sort of doing a backlog of things that didn't

happen while we were so long without the intern. But it is something that we are

1	interested in doing and we are going to update all them and try to get that soon. I
2	think it'll be after the new year. We're working on the CLG report, I know, in part,
3	right now, and when that's done, then maybe we'll have some time for that.
4	COMMISSIONER CHARLIE: Thank you.
5	CHAIR CHARLES: Anyone else? Item 14, public comment, there, is none.
6	ALLEGRA ALLISON: Happy Thanksgiving.
7	M. COMMISSIONER: Thank you.
8	CHAIR CHARLES: Thank you. So we are adjourned until the next specially
9	scheduled meeting on December 9th.
10	(Meeting adjourned)
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14	APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION
15	COMMISSION ON THIS 27 <sup>th</sup> DAY OF JANUARY 2014.
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### **Transcriptionist Certification**

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I subscribed my name this 21st day of January, 2014.

Debra A. Sprague

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