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Zoning Administrator
Department of City Planning
Los Angeles City Hall
200 North Spring Street, Room 750
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RE: ENV-2004-7627

To Whom It May Concern,

As our City continues to grow, we must protect our community assets. In the Westdale neighborhood of Mar Vista, a proposed development threatens affordable housing, neighborhood open space and potentially historically significant structures. The environmental clearance for the project proposed for National Boulevard in Westdale without more thorough study of the impacts would cause irreparable harm to a unique and prized Westside community.

The Westdale Courtyard Apartments were built as a part of the original Westdale tract in the late 1940s. Efforts are underway to obtain Los Angeles Cultural Historical Monument designation for these buildings. The existing apartments provide reasonably priced rental homes for low-income families and seniors on fixed incomes. These buildings provide more open space than modern complexes; the configuration of the courtyards, front and side yards were designed specifically to fit with the surrounding lower density housing. The side yards and courtyards also provide a community asset in and of themselves as they serve as makeshift pocket green spaces for our collective enjoyment.

It has come to my attention that there may be incorrect or inadequate information from environmental documents. We must ensure that existing structures and the surrounding community are accurately depicted and we must account for or at least acknowledge the potential loss of affordable housing units.

I urge the City to require a revised and more comprehensive environmental review and request that all progress on this development be halted until cultural historic designation status can be fully evaluated.

Thank you very much for your consideration,

Bill Rosendahl
Candidate for the 11th Council District