

KNBC “Laundered Elections” Story

KNBC TV (Channel 4) reported towards the end of last month that the Mayor, the City Attorney, Jack Weiss and many other council members had received illegal campaign contributions. The story also discussed the requirement in the L.A. Charter that reads:

“In the event it is discovered by a candidate or committee treasurer that a contribution has been received in violation of this subsection, the candidate or treasurer shall promptly pay the amount received in violation of this subsection to the City Treasurer for deposit in the General Fund of the City.”

Despite this exceptionally clear rule, the politicians have **not** given the tainted money back, nor have they returned the PUBLIC MATCHING FUNDS which were based on the illegal contributions.

The Channel 4 story can be found on the KNBC website at www.KNBC.Com. The story is on the Investigations page.

Ethics Complaint Filed Against Weiss

The Committee to Recall Jack Weiss responded to the KNBC story mentioned above by filing an extensive ethics complaint against Jack Weiss.

The complaint lays out the case that Jack Weiss has failed to follow the law and return illegal contributions as well as public matching funds. The complaint goes on to say:

“A failure to fully remove tainted money from the system provides a temptation for both contributors and candidates alike to break the rules. To date, getting caught simply results in fines long after a candidate is in office. All this does is to make the contributions a bit more expensive, but the ultimate goal of both candidate and contributor (a successful election) is achieved.” See www.RecallJackWeiss.Com

Yaroslavsky on SB1818

Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky has written Mayor Villaraigosa concerning the implementation of SB1818 – a density bonus scheme theoretically aimed at increasing affordable housing.

Supervisor Yaroslavsky makes an excellent case that the proposed implementation of this “poorly thought-out effort” would be to actually REDUCE affordable housing while INCREASING density.

His letter (which can be found on the Tract 7260 website www.Tract7260.Org) reads in part

“Over the last 25 years, land use controversies preoccupied the City’s political and neighborhood leaders. Many of those issues were settled through a series of land use ordinances, now in the City’s codes, with which you are all too familiar. Those settled issues threaten to unravel unless great care is given to the drafting of the density bonus ordinance. The consequence of not doing so will likely be the loss of public support for responsible density bonus projects and the loss of public interest and support for bond issues that would facilitate them.”

“... the density bonus ordinance that is now being considered will likely reduce rather than increase the supply of affordable housing in the City of Los Angeles, exactly the opposite of the stated intent of the law. It will also insure that expensive, market rate units will be built at the expense of units that serve the City’s most economically vulnerable renters.”

Supervisor Yaroslavsky, who recently stated that the City is being run by developers, has asked for public support for his position.

Please send email to sb1818@Tract7260.Org with your comments, and we will forward it to Supervisor Yaroslavsky for use in his fight against his horribly flawed proposal.

Bellwood Project Meeting Notice

The Bellwood Project will be presented at a Westside Neighborhood Council Land Use Committee meeting on October 10th at 7p. The Bellwood developers will be presenting their project.

PLACE: Westside Pavilion, Community Room #B

ADDRESS: 10850 W. Pico, Los Angeles, CA 90064

Please make plans to attend this very important meeting. The Land Use committee, which is chaired by David Ty Vahedi, will be reviewing the project and will provide members of the public with an opportunity to share their views on the project.

From the Official Notice:

Project Developer: Jonathan-Lehrer-Graiwier Separate Property Trust DBA Bellwood Condominiums

Project Title: Bellwood Condominiums

Project Description: A multi-family residential project to be built in four buildings including 158 for-sale condominium units (210,372 square feet of floor area) with grade-level and subterranean parking. The project will also include a shuttle stop, and approximately 32,710 square feet of private and public open space. The project proposes to set aside 5% of its total units (8 units) for very low income households.

Project Address: 10330, 10340, 10344, 10360, 10380, 10368, 10341 Bellwood Avenue, Los Angeles, CA

Entitlements Requested: Zone change and Height District change to RAS4-1; subdivision map to create condominiums and vacate Bellwood Avenue; height adjustment.

Westwood Charter Space Shortage

Westwood Charter is experiencing an influx of students and has been forced to ask several children to leave the school. In the past, children who had lived in the area and attended Westwood Charter had been allowed to stay once they moved outside the area. This is no longer the case. The grades most severely impacted are Kindergarten and 3rd grade.

The overcrowding was so severe that the special education students were forced to relocate to Overland Elementary to make room for new kindergarten and 3rd grade classes. The school's administrators actually had to go door to door to verify residency for many students.

If the trend continues, the school's leaders are concerned that they will not be able to guarantee attendance at Westwood Charter for students who live in the area.

The root of the problem is simple: Increasing development and increasing density.

When single-family homes are torn down and large multi-family dwellings are built, demand for school seats exceeds supply.

The same is true for large developments that have recently been approved and also for the Bellwood Project which would replace 115 bachelor apartments with 158 multi-bedroom condos.

The strain on the infrastructure from uncontrolled development can be felt in many ways. This includes the ever-increasing traffic we endure every day.

Many of the impacts are hard to quantify until residents face a shortage of some key resource – like a seat for their child at their local elementary school. This is a lesson many families learned the hard way this school year.

Tract No. 7260 HOA
2057 Kerwood Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90025

Resident

Tract No. 7260
Homeowner's
Association, Inc.



Neighborhood Update

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