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Michael LoGrande City Hall, 5th floor 200 N. Spring Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

December 20, 2012

Re: Historic-Cultural Monument at 3200 Durand Drive in Hollywoodland

Dear Mr. LoGrande:

The Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations, Inc., established in 1952 and representing forty resident and homeowner associations spanning the Santa Monica Mountains, supports the Hollywoodland Homeowners Association in its efforts to preserve the Historic-Cultural Monument status of the granite walls and steps of Hollywoodland at 3200 Durand Drive because they are a significant and irreplaceable historic element of the community contributing to the unique character and history of the neighborhood.

A full EIR for the proposed fence is required based on the potential for significant and unavoidable impacts to a designated historic monument and a lack of alternatives analysis to address mitigation measures to reduce the impact on that historic structure. The proposed fence atop the historic granite wall, HCM #535, would significantly impact the environment by altering the historic resource, both as to its physical integrity and its aesthetic appeal from the neighboring streets. (Committee to Save Hollywoodland Specific Plan v. City of Los Angeles (2008) 161 Cal.App.4th 1168, 1187.) The proposed mitigated negative declaration (MND) for the project is inadequate given the historic significance of the granite walls which are the character defining element in all of Hollywoodland.

Furthermore, the existing unpermitted, over-height fence should be removed immediately before any permits are issued to the property owner. Such removal was required in the 2003 Order to Comply #18303. The City issued the Order to Comply because the wooden fence violates multiple city codes, plans, policies, and ordinances. It is incomprehensible that the City would not enforce its own codes and ensure that the Order to Comply is obeyed. Failure to enforce codes and allow impacts to an historic monument sets a dangerous precedent and encourages others to ignore codes, plans, policies and ordinances as well.

We respectfully request that the City enforce the Order to Comply by requiring the removal of the unpermitted fence and require a full EIR prior to any approval of modifications to the historically designated structure at 3200 Durand Drive.

Sincerely, Marían Dodge-

Marian Dodge

cc: Frank Bush, Code Enforcement Bureau Jane Usher, City Attorney Councilmember Tom LaBonge Sarajane Schwartz, Hollywoodland Homeowner's Association