

May 24, 2013

To: Santa Monica City Council

From: Northeast Neighbors, North of Montana Association, Santa Monica Mid City Neighbors, Wilshire Montana Neighborhood Coalition, Ocean Park Association and Friends of Sunset Park

We are writing to object to the vote by a majority of the Council taken on May 14, 2013 to approve the Development Agreement submitted by Century West Partners (Agenda Item 7-A - 1318 2nd Street DA) because this decision was made before the public had an opportunity to review or comment on the changes submitted by the applicant after the meeting was in progress.

At the City Council meeting of May 14, 2013, during discussion of Agenda Item 7-A, a motion was made by Councilman Ted Winterer that the vote on this DA be delayed in order to allow time for the Council to consider the changes proposed by the applicant. This motion did not receive a majority vote but instead the majority of Council voted to approve the DA.

We are writing to express our dismay over the fact that there was not an opportunity for the public to review and provide substantive comment as to the changes submitted by the applicant during this meeting.

We feel that the decision by the Council to approve this development without any opportunity by the public to review and comment on the changes is a violation of the public process.

We are also concerned that this action by Council will set a precedent for both this developer, who has multiple projects pending with the City of Santa Monica, and also others who might choose to circumvent the public process by submitting changes at the last minute, thereby preventing the public from reviewing and commenting on a final DA application proposal.

We request that Council not approve this project on a second reading to allow time for the Council and the public to review and comment on the proposal. We also request that Staff and Council make it policy to continue an item when there is late arriving information that has not been made part of the public record prior to the hearing and has not arrived in time for Staff to review the new information.

Sincerely,

Northeast Neighbors Board
North of Montana Association Board
Santa Monica Mid-City Neighbors Board
Wilshire Montana Neighborhood Coalition Board
Ocean Park Association Board
Friends of Sunset Park Board