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Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2017 8:21 AM

To: Scott Kinsey <Scott.Kinsey@longbeach.gov>

Cc: Marty Reed <Mreedrentals2@aol.com>; Jolson Pham <jolsonpham@gmail.com>; Robert Lacy <rtlacy@frontier.com>

Subject: Stephen Albrecht for Start Behavioral Group Urgent Care Center (Application No. 1611-08)

Dear Mr. Kinsey,

I would like to submit the following written testimony against the proposed Stephen Albrecht for Stars Behavioral Health Group Urgent Care Center project, for consideration by the City Council at the meeting being held May 23, 2017.

I vehemently urge you to vote against the placement of any psychiatric treatment facility at 3200-3220 Long Beach Boulevard, Long Beach 90807.

I am coming to you as a city of Long Beach homeowner, concerned citizen and registered voter. I have resided in the great city of Long Beach since 2008. I purchased my home here in Wrigley Heights because it was a lovely neighborhood that I believed to be safe. As a single woman, safety is and will always be my primary concern secondary to the value of my property. In recent years, this neighborhood and city has undergone some changes, not irreparable, but noticeable and can worsen if ignored. There has been an increase in homelessness in and around this neighborhood and some appear to suffer from mental disorders. These issues have been largely ignored by the city and the local police department.

Every day, there are homeless people sleeping and hanging out beneath the 405 Freeway underpass making it unsafe for the morning joggers or walkers to exercise without the benefit of being "catcalled" or harassed. I am one of those walkers and have not walked in this neighborhood in 4 months due to safety concerns. However, Bixby Knolls and Signal Hill does not have this ongoing problem. The intersection of Long Beach Boulevard and Wardlow has become a haven for panhandlers and beggars who are homeless. Even the local businesses, 7/11 and AM/PM are impacted because customers are accosted by the panhandlers. I am one of those customers. There is a homeless encampment located on Wardlow Boulevard just West of Long Beach Boulevard behind the strip mall. This was reported multiple times and yet I have seen them daily. I have experienced strangers wandering around on my property, going thru my trash and

smoking marijuana on my steps. What I am attempting to express is that this neighborhood is not as safe as it was in 2008 and placing a psychiatric treatment facility will undoubtedly have a negative impact on this environment instead of improving the preexisting problems.

Psychiatric treatment facilities often have consumers who hang around and loiter while they await treatment or for appointments. These consumers can suffer from confusion and be disorganized and often AWOL from these types of facilities. They are undermedicated or misdiagnosed and many of them are homeless by choice. This will place everyone in the neighborhood at risk of violence of self or property damage. Please understand, I am not unsympathetic nor do I oppose this facility. I also agree that there is a need, but this location is not appropriate. In agreeing to place a psychiatric treatment facility in Wrigley at 3220 Long Beach Boulevard, you are placing our safety at risk and such a facility brings no value to our property but instead will cause property to lose value. For the safety and integrity of our neighborhood, please vote against the placement of the psychiatric treatment facility at 3220 Long Beach Boulevard.

Sincerely,

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