

December 4, 2018

Long Beach City Council Meeting

Agenda Item 2. 18-1055

Honorable Mayor, City Council, and City Staff,

I am opposed to the reduction in price and sale of the property located at 6600-6620 Atlantic Ave and 601-685 East Artesia Blvd, Long Beach, CA 90805 to Atlantic and Artesia, LLC

The proposed development as designed, will be a detriment, not a benefit, to the residential community.

it looks like the City is selling milk before it has the cow. If a sale is being approved without the Planning Commission's hearing to approve the development requirements and approvals for the site, then reducing the price for the contemplated "benefit" should not happen before the project is approved. The terms of sale are inappropriate unless this is already a done deal and the Planning Commission hearing is simply for show. Any support or opposition to the development is therefore rendered moot and the whole process a sham. The developer is basically looking for a hand out because the city put demands on the development. It all seems a little fishy, because in all of the productive and positive meetings with the 9th District councilman and city staff, the community requested and were expecting a sit down restaurant, a bank, AND a community space. What got lost in translation? Now I see another fast food restaurant, a bank, three drive thrus (with two of them needing conditional use permits to be extended to 210 ft), and a community space, now with a kind of mini Steelcraft on the corner of Atlantic/Artesia, that for some reason the developer seemed to not know about as a condition from the beginning.

Since the project would be on schedule to be completed before any others, a precedent is being set that could be exploited by future developers in the area.

I hope standards can and will be put in place to protect community health since the area as a whole is negatively impacted (according to the Health Department's Community Health Assessment), and bring in the fresh ideas our Councilman and the community were expecting all along in this process.

I know a lot of my neighbors are excited to see something done no matter what it is, because we have been waiting a long time to see the light at the end of the tunnel. It may be hard to wait any longer, but the project will have a long-lasting affect on our neighborhood successful or not. As designed, the development is for commuters and does not seem to have the welcome vibe to have me walk over and support it as constituted.

For the record, I am not against development of the site, only as it is currently designed. I am asking for the terms of reduction/sale to be tabled until after the final Planning Commission decision and thorough contemplation of public comment especially as related to public health and overall neighborhood impact.

Sincerely,

Kirk Davis, Immediate past Co-Chair Coalition for a Healthy North Long Beach

6691 Myrtle Ave

Long Beach, CA 90805