

Maryanne Cronin

From: Donna Sievers <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 12:20 PM
To: Maryanne Cronin
Cc: Cindy Allen
Subject: 4th Street Mural

-EXTERNAL-

Hello Maryanne,

I just looked at the proposed 4th Street mural. While I personally don't approve of the entire mural concept in historical neighborhoods, I understand many residents approve. So be it.

However, the mural with the women with her breast exposed is completely inappropriate. I am referring to the proposed 2800 E. 4th Street mural which is in the Bluff Heights Neighborhood.

Fortunately, we live in a time of the "Me Too Movement" and a growing awareness of the inappropriate sexualization of women's bodies for exploitation. This mural has no relevant significance other than exploitation. It is insulting to all women and men who value equality and support human justice.

I am a volunteer in the Joyful Child Foundation founded by Erin Runnion after her 5 year old daughter, Samantha Runnion, was kidnapped, raped and murdered. As a volunteer, I have presented information to families, especially young mothers, on how to provide a "joyful" childhood for their children while keeping them safe from harm. While Samantha was abducted by a stranger, approximately 90% of sexual assaults are perpetrated by a family member, babysitter other person known to the family. This often starts when the child is "groomed" by the molester. When I saw the proposed mural on 4th Street, I immediately thought that this girl is being "groomed" to accept that her body is not her own. While others may see that the artist had another purpose in mind, to me this is a young woman, whose body is on display, for the sole purpose of exploitation.

I am copying this message to the Bluff Heights Board and they will be able to determine how we proceed; however, I plan to attend the Cultural Heritage Commission meeting on Feb. 23 and express my disapproval of the proposed mural.

Thank you,
Donna Sievers
President, Bluff Heights Neighborhood Association

Maryanne Cronin

From: DV - Cultural Heritage
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 1:26 PM
To: Maryanne Cronin
Subject: FW: 2800 E. 4th street mural

From: Maria Kootsikis <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 5:43 PM
To: DV - Cultural Heritage <cultural.heritage@longbeach.gov>
Subject: 2800 E. 4th street mural

-EXTERNAL-

Hello,

As a resident living in Bluff Heights, I do not find the proposed mural of the woman on the wall at the Lyft appropriate. It is very deeming to woman.

I realize the color purple is identified with cannabis; however, I would prefer colors associated with the craftsman neighborhood.

Sincerely,
Maria Kootsikis, PharmD

[REDACTED]

BHNA board member

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