

Cheviot Hills Homeowners' Association
Past Office Box 64458, Los Angeles, California 90064-0458

September 14, 2006

Via email and U.S. Mail (councilmember.weiss@lacity.org)

Councilmember Jack Weiss
Los Angeles City Council
822 S. Robertson Boulevard
Suite 102
Los Angeles, California 90035

Re: Proposed Ordinance Regulating Size of Single Family Homes (File No. 06-1293)

Dear Councilmember Weiss:

We are writing with respect to the proposed ordinance regulating the size of single family homes (file no. 06-1293), which was initiated by Councilmember LaBonge and supported by several other Councilmembers.

At the time the ordinance was proposed I spoke with Beverly Kenworthy of your office to determine your position on this important issue. She told me that you were reviewing it. Ms. Kenworthy and I also discussed the fact that you would be more likely to support the proposed ordinance if the Cheviot Hills Homeowners' Association ("CHHA") could demonstrate that its members favored this type of legislation. Since those conversations, two things have happened.

First, the issue of McMansions has received increasing negative publicity. For example, an August 27, 2006 article in the Los Angeles Times, entitled "Curbing the Big, the Bad the Ugly," highlighted the problems created by the increasing number of McMansions. Unfortunately for Cheviot Hills, the McMansion featured in the article is located in the middle of our neighborhood.

Second, the CHHA conducted a survey of its members to determine their views on such things as traffic, further development in Century City, and the McMansion problem. Nearly 70% of those who responded supported the concept of taking steps to limit the size of new and remodeled houses! This is clearly the statement of support that Beverly indicated you wanted. And, I think it is fair to assume that the other homeowner associations in your District have a similar view.

Based on the above, this is to request your support for the proposed ordinance. McMansions are ruining the character of our neighborhoods. This is an especially critical

problem in areas like Cheviot Hills that have older, architecturally diverse homes, as opposed to large boxes. This also is to request that you have a member of your staff contact me so that we can determine the best way to provide the Departments of City Planning and Building and Safety with appropriate input.

I can be reached during the day at 213-896-6655 or by email at jaberman@comcast.net.

Thank you for your support and I look forward to hearing from you.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeffrey A. Berman', written over a horizontal line.

Jeffrey A. Berman

Board Member and Chair Neighborhood Protection Committee

Cc: Kevin Hughes, President, Cheviot Hills Homeowners' Association
Beverly Kenworthy email: beverly.kenworthy@lacity.org;
Lisa Trifiletti email: lisa.trifiletti@lacity.org
Neighborhood Protection Committee