December 2, 2013

**RE: Great Hall/Long Hall, Plummer Park**

Dear Mayor Land and members of the City Council:

I am writing on behalf of the Los Angeles Conservancy regarding the Plummer Park Community Clubhouse (Great Hall/Long Hall) and the plan before City Council to assess property conditions and reopen the historic building on an interim basis. The Conservancy supports this plan, as it will maintain and reactive a significant historic building for public and community uses.

The 1938 Community Clubhouse, which was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in July 2013, is a notable example of a local recreational facility constructed through a partnership between the County of Los Angeles and the Works Progress Administration.

In our experience an empty and vacant building will always be subjected to more costly and accelerated deterioration than one that is being used. The City’s proposed 2-year interim use would establish a process for West Hollywood to effectively steward this City-owned structure in the near-term, and contains provisions for both temporary and permanent repairs in addition to a condition assessment. Such provisions will prevent further and potentially irreversible deterioration to the Clubhouse. We believe this will result in a significant cost savings should the City identify a long-term use for the building in the future.

Thank you and please let me know if the Conservancy can be of any assistance to the City in this effort.

Sincerely,

Adrian Scott Fine
Director of Advocacy