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October 24, 2025

Cultural Heritage Commission
Attn: Denise Otero
200 N. Spring St., 10th Floor, Room 1010
Los Angeles, CA 90012
chc@lacity.org

Re: King Taco Restaurant

Dear Members of the Cultural Heritage Commission,

I am writing on behalf of the Los Angeles Conservancy to support the nomination of the King Taco Restaurant a.k.a. King Taco #1 as a Historic-Cultural Monument.

Founded in 1974, King Taco began its operation from a converted ice cream truck. Six months later, Raúl and Lupe Martinez then purchased a small food stand located in Cypress Park primarily to use as a central kitchen so that they could open and properly operate their restaurant business – King Taco #1 was born.

From this small stand, the Martinez family introduced their authentic *Carne Estilo de Mexico*, served to order on soft tortillas, a departure from the hard-shell tacos that were prevalent in L.A. at the time. Today it is one of the few surviving original restaurants, making it an L.A. staple.

Though authentic tacos and Mexican cuisine have proliferated across Los Angeles and have been introduced globally, King Taco #1 played an important role in this worldwide expansion. The Conservancy applauds the company for submitting the nomination, and for their contributions to Los Angeles' food culture.

We thank you for receiving our feedback, and ask that you take the property under consideration as a Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument.

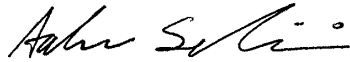
About the Los Angeles Conservancy:

The Los Angeles Conservancy is the largest local historic preservation organization in the United States, with nearly 5,000 member households throughout the Los Angeles area. Established in 1978, the Conservancy



works to preserve and revitalize the significant architectural and cultural heritage of Los Angeles County through advocacy and education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Salimian".

Andrew Salimian
Director of Advocacy

