

# CITY OF LOS ANGELES

## HISTORIC HIGHLAND PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Post Office Box 50791  
Los Angeles, CA 90050  
<http://www.highlandparknc.com>  
Certified as NC #33 May 28, 2002

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## CALIFORNIA



## DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT

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October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Mr. Steve Wasserman  
Ms. Gelena Wasserman  
Mr. Keith Wasserman  
5567 Reseda Boulevard, Suite 218  
Tarzana, CA 91356

Dear Wasserman Family,

The Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council represents over 60,000 Los Angeles stakeholders who reside, own property, or conduct business in our neighborhood. We are writing you on behalf of our stakeholders, specifically the tenants of the Marmion Royal Apartments. It has come to our attention that you are the owner-operator of this multi-housing property, and that you have initiated a project where the building is undergoing renovation and an impending rental increase for tenants.

At a Brown Act compliant public meeting, held on Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, the board of the Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council passed the following motion:

**“Motion: to utilize whatever resources are available in HHPNC's capacity to support the tenants of Marmion Royal Apartments, a.k.a. Royal Marmion Apartments, in order for them to preserve the lifestyle and housing to which they are accustomed, and to provide a letter stating said support to their landlord.”**

Highland Park is a diverse community, rich in culture, art, and historic significance. Our stakeholders enjoy one of the most unique and welcoming urban neighborhoods in the entire country. One of our key missions as the 2016-2017 Neighborhood Council is to uphold, protect, and preserve all of these neighborhood qualities, as well as to work

veraciously to ensure that the neighborhood is accessible to all people of all income levels, backgrounds, and demographic characteristics. In this robust real estate climate that Los Angeles is currently undergoing, it is particularly important for us to prioritize ways to keep housing as affordable as possible for our neighbors, especially those who are underserved or less fortunate than others, while encouraging and fostering smart, sensible housing investment in our community.

It is our understanding that many of your tenants at Marmion Rooyal are families and long time residents, and have children in local schools. Several have small businesses in the area, while others work several jobs to maintain their housing and livelihood.

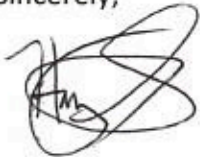
A representative of the tenants has contacted us, alleging that the tenants are being systematically evicted as a part of your renovation project, in order to create luxury housing in place of what is now a diverse, working family-friendly place to live. We have also been informed that there is on-going construction such as sand blasting being conducted at the project, with no accommodations provided for tenants to stay elsewhere. Other reports include that access to laundry facilities has been discontinued, and that satellite dishes and other tenant improvements have been disconnected and-or removed.

It is our objective to act within our capacity on behalf of the health, safety and housing security of our stakeholders, as well as acting to ensure that companies that invest in our neighborhood are following the law, including the Rent Stabilization Ordinance and applicable housing laws, as well as making good faith efforts to do the right thing by our stakeholders, and to show a genuine interest in preserving and upholding a quality of life for all our stakeholders.

If necessary, we are prepared to have an agenda discussion with your company to help back up our stated objective. In the very least we are committed to ensuring that your tenants are treated fairly and given a reasonable chance to preserve and continue enjoying a secure home in the way they are accustomed.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation. We look forward to doing what we can to facilitate a favorable outcome for everyone.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Harvey Slater', written over a circular scribble.

Harvey Slater, President  
Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council