



Wolfgang Puck
catering

October 16, 2007

Via Facsimile & US Mail

Central Area Planning Commission
City of Los Angeles
Attn: Sheldred Alexander, Commission Executive Assistant
City Planning Department
200 North Spring St., 7th Floor
Los Angeles, California

Re: ZA 2006-10405 (ZV)

Dear Honorable Area Planning Commissioners:

After thoughtful consideration, Wolfgang Puck Catering and Events, LLC (“Puck”) is withdrawing its application for a variance to serve alcohol at catered events at the Griffith Park Observatory.

On June 29, 2007, the Associate Zoning Administrator approved the above-referenced variance granting an extremely limited right to serve alcohol at 36 catered events per year at the Griffith Park Observatory. Appeals of the Variance were filed by Marian Dodge and Tom Ford. Because appeals were filed, we understand the variance has not become effective, and will not become effective unless the Area Planning Commission denies the appeals.

At the September 25, 2007, appeal hearing it became clear to us that many neighborhood residents still oppose the variance. While we believe the variance is proper and that the limited rights granted by the variance would not pose significant impacts in the Griffith Park neighborhood, a protracted fight is not in anyone’s best interests.

The Griffith Park Observatory is one of Los Angeles’ great treasures, and our focus has been and will continue to be on ensuring that we can provide top-flight catering services at this world-class venue. Wolfgang Puck Catering, the community and the Department of Recreation and Parks each has a stake in sustaining the success of the Observatory as a place for discovery and entertainment.

The appellants and the area’s residents are our potential customers, and we have chosen to end this disagreement with them rather than perpetuate the conflict. We plan to work within the existing regulations, the provisions of the concession agreement, and the DRAP guidelines in serving as caterer to the Observatory.

We would like to express our gratitude to Councilmember Tom LaBonge, Associate Zoning Administrator Albert Landini, and the staff of the City Planning Department for their leadership and guidance throughout this process.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carl Schuster', written in a cursive style.

Carl Schuster
Chief Executive Officer

cc: Councilmember Tom LaBonge
Associate Zoning Administrator Al Landini
RJ Comer, Armbruster & Goldsmith
Marian Dodge
Tom Ford