

Mendez, Leslie

From: danute januta [danutezuikis@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Monday, June 23, 2014 11:11 AM
To: Mendez, Leslie
Subject: proposed construction

Hello Ms. Mendez-

When I recently visited Berkeley Vacuum at 1208 Berkeley Way, they told me that they will be forced to move if proposed new construction at 1955-1975 Shattuck Ave. is approved by the Berkeley Planning Dept.

This shop performs a very valuable service for the community and I am one of many customers who very much appreciate it. They have a really pleasant and knowledgeable staff, and have always done an excellent job and that is why I keep coming back. I would hate to lose them and wish that there were some way for them to keep their present location. So I vote NO for the new constr. unless these fine folks can stay and pay a reasonable rent.

all the best to you- Danute Januta

2631 Dana St., 94704

Mendez, Leslie

From: Chaparral House Activities [activity1309@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, June 22, 2014 6:02 PM
To: Mendez, Leslie
Cc: Worthington, Kriss; Maio, Linda
Subject: Please allow Berkeley Vacuum to stay in its current location!

Dear Ms. Mendez,

I am a long-time customer of Berkeley Vacuum on Berkeley Way in Berkeley.

I was recently told that Berkeley Vacuum and all of the other shops in the same building face the possibility of losing their location because of the proposed new construction of their building. This does not leave these small businesses with good options for relocating and because of that some of them may not survive. My family really values Berkeley Vacuum. They have kept our sewing machine serviced and in good working order for years. We can always count on them to fix and service our sewing machine and they take the time to explain how things work on the sewing machine so that we better know how to use it. They are always personal and the feeling in their shop is that of a family run business who has been a part of the Berkeley community for a long time. I highly recommend Berkeley Vacuum to everyone I know as a great quality business that provides excellent service.

I hope that you consider these factors when making the decision whether or not to allow this construction.

Sincerely,
Erika Shaver-Nelson

Mendez, Leslie

From: Dude With A Hammer [info@dudewithahammer.com]
Sent: Saturday, June 21, 2014 10:41 AM
To: Mendez, Leslie
Cc: Worthington, Kriss; Maio, Linda
Subject: the fate of Berkeley Vacuum Center

Dear Ms. Mendez,

I am writing to you about the fate of Berkeley Vacuum Center. I was saddened to hear that they may be required to leave their location because of new construction, and that it will be difficult for them to relocate. I would like to add my voice to others who truly value Berkeley Vacuum, and do not think this should happen. I bought my vacuum from them years ago, and it is still running fine. They have been a valuable help for accessories for the vacuum over the years, and have helped repair and service our sewing machine for years, even though the machine is no longer available commercially. I am a handyman, and they were able to adapt by "shop vac" to make it possible to vacuum sanding dust from power sanders. This has allowed me to do virtually dust-free work in people's homes, which otherwise I would not have been able to do. This is because they know their field, and are not just trying to sell me merchandise. They really care, know what they are doing, and are innovative, and so they were able to come up with something that has been very valuable to my work. That service-oriented approach is "gold" these days, is becoming rare. I would send anyone to Berkeley vacuum for this reason.

Please do not allow this forced relocation. Let's support Berkeley Vacuum, support our local independent businesses. I hope you consider the above in your decision.

Sincerely,

Alexi Malenky

Mendez, Leslie

From: Michael LaBash [mikee@designbymikee.com]
Sent: Friday, June 20, 2014 1:15 PM
To: Mendez, Leslie
Cc: Worthington, Kriss; Maio, Linda
Subject: Keep Berkeley Vacuum where it is, please!

Dear Ms. Mendez,

I have lived in Berkeley since 1990. I am a long-time customer of Berkeley Vacuum on Berkeley Way in Berkeley.

When I brought my vacuum cleaner in today, I was told that Berkeley Vacuum and all of the other shops in that building face the possibility of losing their location because of the proposed new construction of their building. I understand that this will not leave these small businesses good options for relocating and that some may not survive.

In the case of Berkeley Vacuum, I would like to have it on record that my family really values this business. It is a stand out in that it remains personal, reliable and just an all round great place to go. It represents the values that drew me to Berkeley.

I hope that these factors are given value when making the decision whether or not to allow this construction.

Sincerely,
Michael LaBash

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Michael LaBash
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Mendez, Leslie

From: Linda Mac [mac@eroplay.com]
Sent: Friday, June 20, 2014 12:48 PM
To: Mendez, Leslie
Cc: Worthington, Kriss; Maio, Linda
Subject: Keep Berkeley Vacuum where it is, please!

Dear Ms. Mendez,

I have lived in Berkeley since 1975. I am a 20+ year customer of Berkeley Vacuum on Berkeley Way in Berkeley.

Today when I brought my vacuum cleaner in I was told that Berkeley Vacuum and all of the other shops in that building face the possibility of losing their location because of the proposed new construction of their building. I understand that this will not leave these small businesses good options for relocating and that some may not survive. In the case of Berkeley Vacuum, I would like to have it on record that my family really values this business. It is a stand out in that it remains personal, reliable and just an all round great place to go. It represents the values that drew me to Berkeley.

I hope that these factors are given value when making the decision whether or not to allow this construction.

Sincerely,
Linda Mac

Mendez, Leslie

From: Gary P. HANDMAN [handman@berkeley.edu]
Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2014 7:46 PM
To: Mendez, Leslie; berkeleyvacuum@yahoo.com
Subject: 1955-1975 Shattuck

Dear Ms Mendez

I am writing to express my dismay and strong objection to plans for development of the block of properties spanning 1955-1975 Shattuck. As a long-time resident of Berkeley (close to 30 years), and a Berkeley tax-payer, I am concerned by the ouster of venerable and valuable small businesses on that block. Businesses such as Berkeley Vacuum and Ace Hardware are providing basic services for the community--they are, in fact, essential parts of the fabric of the community. The displacement of a business that has been serving Berkeley for close to 40 years in favor of an enterprise that will do nothing for the community at large except make large profits for developers and larger tax revenue for the city is shameful.

I understand that the proposed project will be a "live-work" complex. Every day I walk past the new, and largely vacant, project on Center Street. It's obvious that this type of development has been pushed forward without sufficient consideration of the real needs of this community and existing market realities. I realize that downtown Berkeley is in dire need of rehabilitation. This cannot be accomplished by neglecting or discouraging small businesses and services that are essential to the well-being and daily life of a city.

I am old enough and cynical enough to realize that the voices of residents in this community will not sway the City Council when big development money is involved. I am also becoming sadly aware that the city I have lived in and have grown to love over the past three decades is rapidly becoming unrecognizable.

Gary Handman
1119 High Court
Berkeley CA 94708