

Line in the Sand

A Newport Beach Political Action Committee

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Residents organizing referendum to put the Museum House tower to a vote

Newport Beach, CA: On November 29, the Newport Beach City Council approved the Museum House, a 25-story, 391,158 sq. ft. condo tower that would replace the OC Museum of Art in Newport Center with a high-rise, high-density residential building.

Opponents to the project had packed city meetings and presented elected officials with letters and petitions from thousands of residents opposed to the project, but the City Council pressed on with its agenda.

Line in the Sand, a local grassroots organization dedicated to the quality of life in Newport Beach, launched a referendum drive immediately after the vote with a plan to obtain 5,800 valid signatures in 30 days. If successful, this will force the City Council to either rescind the project or put it to a citywide vote.

The City Council explicitly took action (Councilmen Petros and Curry excepted) to ensure that each and every petition carried by opponents of the project during the referendum will be several thousand pages long. And more recently, developer Related California and its affiliate OCMA Urban Housing LLC have employed a myriad of tactics to create confusion and false information about the referendum and signature-gathering process. While the council and developer clearly hope this will slow the referendum down, organizers say that this has only energized them to fight harder.

Line in the Sand firmly believes this project required a Greenlight vote, but the City has steadfastly refused to consider this. This referendum will give residents the citywide vote on the project that they deserve.

We believe residents will step up to the plate because they know the only way Newport Beach will retain its charm and character is if we make our voices heard.

For more information about Line in the Sand, visit LineInTheSandPAC.com.

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