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**GREATER GRIFFITH PARK
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**GREATER GRIFFITH PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
TO HOST COMMUNITY FORUM NOVEMBER 10TH
ON REDEVELOPMENT OF 4500 LOS FELIZ BLVD. SITE
(THE DERBY & LOUISE'S formerly MICHAEL'S, BROWN DERBY AND WILLARD'S)**

Responding to community concerns regarding the proposed plans to redevelop a corner that has been a focal point for social gatherings for more than 75 years, the Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council is hosting a forum to address the issues on November 10th at 7 p.m. in the parish hall of Our Mother of Good Counsel Church.

The developer's proposal is to redevelop the southwestern corner of Los Feliz Boulevard and Hillhurst Avenue (extending to Avocado on the south) which is presently the site of The Derby and Louise's Trattoria. The building, known to many as Michael's Restaurant, a popular restaurant for decades and, in earlier years, a Brown Derby Restaurant and watering hole for such Los Feliz notables as Cecil B. DeMille and W. C. Fields is part of a large parcel of land at Hillhurst and Los Feliz Blvd. The proposal is to demolish the present building and to construct one or more buildings to house 80 condominiums and over 40,000 square feet of retail space. There are plans for underground parking for 390 automobiles.

According to Ron Weinstein, Chair of the Planning, Zoning and Historic Preservation Committee of the GGPNC, "Following presentations by the developer, the Committee brought the issue to the full Neighborhood Council and it was apparent that as this site is on a major thoroughfare with a long history, this was an issue that involved the entire community. We recommended a public forum to discuss the issue."

The forum will feature presentations by the developer, Adler Realty, by Councilmember Tom LaBonge and the staff of Council District 4 regarding the required variances, and by Save-the-Derby Coalition and the Los Angeles Conservancy regarding their desire to preserve what they consider to be a historic structure. There will also be representatives from the City Planning Department and the Department of Transportation. Following the presentations, there will be a question and answer period.

"We're working with the Council District office, the homeowners and business associations to give this a full airing. This is our community and development on this site will affect everyone who lives, works or drives through Los Feliz," said Charley Mims, President of the Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council.

Mims went on to state that the purpose of the forum is to educate stakeholders and the public regarding current development plans and their consequences. It will provide the opportunity for the GGPNC Board to hear the views of its stakeholders in order make an informed decision regarding the variances that will be required by the developer. By hosting this public forum, the GGPNC seeks to inform the community, the developer and City officials on the many issues involved.

The forum will take place on Thursday, November 10, 2005, at 7 p.m., at the Parish Hall of Our Mother of Good Counsel Church, 2071 Dracena directly to the east of the Church, which is located at Vermont and Ambrose. There is parking in the Church parking lot on Vermont just south of the Church's administration building.

Information regarding the proposed redevelopment and the forum can be found on the Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council website www.ggpnc.org.