

October 22, 2016

Mrs. Constance Boukidis
Chair of Land Use and Planning Committee
Westwood Neighborhood Council Land Use and Planning Committee
PO Box 24802
Los Angeles, California 90024

Re: Letter of Intent
Case Number: ZA-2016-2962 CUB
Project Title: D1
Project Address: 10959 Kinross Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90024
Contact Info: Sherrie Olson
Project Description: CUP for the sale and dispensing of full-time alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption in conjunction with proposed 3,126 sf restaurant with 73 indoor seats operating 6 a.m.-2 a.m. daily

Dear Mrs. Constance Boukidis, and WWNC LLUP members,

I am writing on behalf of Amir Rahimi and his wife, Maryam Gharani, owners of D1 Café, a fine dining sit down restaurant located at 10959 Kinross Avenue. As you are aware, D1 Café applied for a Conditional Use Beverage permit pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 12.24, W-1. Pursuant to the Westwood Neighborhood Council, Land Use and Planning Committee, meeting held on October 17, 2016 at the Westwood Public Library, the WWNC LUPC has made a Proposed Motion regarding said application (*Exhibit 1*) whereby a recommendation was graciously made for the board of directors to support the request for CUP for the sale and dispensing of full-line alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption. As there are conditions in said Proposed Motion, the purpose of this letter is to set forth the intent of Mr. Rahimi and his wife, Mrs. Gharani, owners of D1 Café with respect to the aforementioned conditions. This letter merely constitutes a statement of mutual intention with respect to the application contemplated and does not constitute a binding agreement between all parties.

Background/Full Menu

Mr. Rahimi and Mrs. Gharani are experienced restaurateurs and owners of eight (8) fine dining restaurants in the metropolitan city of Tehran, Iran. D1 Café is Mr. Rahimi's first venture in the United States. Both the name and menu of D1 Café are inspired by Mr. Rahimi and Mrs. Gharani's restaurant, Divan, which is situated in the affluent region of Northern Tehran. Divan is a very popular and reputable restaurant that has been featured in publications such as *The Culture Trip* and *the Financial Times*. For your convenience, copies of these articles are attached as *Exhibit 2*.

Mr. Rahimi and Mrs. Gharani's intention is to offer the same internationally renowned cuisine in their new US location, D1 Café. The modifications to the adopted menu are the inclusion of a breakfast and lunch menu. A menu that offers breakfast, lunch and dinner will greatly foster the success of D1 Café as a bona fide asset to the wonderful community of Westwood Village.

By way of example of the great pride that Mr. Rahimi and Mrs. Gharani take in their food, a great deal has been invested in special machinery to create a breakfast item called *Haleem*, a popular dish in Iran. In fact, the three Cleveland Range kettles in which the Haleem will be slow cooked for fifteen hours cost nearly \$100,000. It must be noted that if you google Haleem, you will be provided with a description akin to oatmeal. Needless to say, this comparison fails to do a properly made Haleem, like D1's Haleem, any justice. D1's Haleem is an experience that must be tasted in order to be fully appreciated.

The Haleem is only the tip of the Iceberg. The breakfast and lunch menu have been inspired by the delicious recipes of two countries rich in culinary history, Iran & Italy, creating a unique fusion. Furthermore, a review of the fine dining menu of D1 Café will exemplify unique takes on familiar recipes that one comes to expect from a fine dining restaurant. A copy of the menu is attached for your convenience as *Exhibit 3*. Of course, upon opening of the restaurant various items may be subject to change based on customer response. At the same time, items commemorative of the quality of the existing recipes may be added based on demand. In any case, the quality, taste and freshness that the clientele will come to expect from D1 Café which made the sister restaurant, Divan, a raving success will remain consistent.

Conditions/Hours of Operation

D1 Café is amenable to all conditions proposed by the WWNC LUPC (Exhibit 1), including the proposed limited hours for the service of alcohol. In fact, upon applying for a license to the Alcohol Beverage Control, D1 Café will attach a letter volunteering to limit the hours *during which alcohol is served* consistent with the hours proposed by the WWNC LLUP.

It must be noted, however, that the Proposed Motion states *operating hours* for D1 Café as 10-11 a.m. Sunday through Thursday, 10-12 a.m. Friday and Saturday. In the original application, D1 Café requested the maximum allowable hours of operation, 6 a.m. to 2 a.m., Monday through Sunday, and these are the hours during which D1 Café wishes to offer its full menu of breakfast, lunch and dinner.

As noted previously, D1 Café's menu features breakfast, lunch and dinner. Great effort and pride has been placed in creating the menu that Mr. Rahimi and Mrs. Gharani are excited to share with Westwood Village. The hours that D1 Café proposes would foster the success of D1 Café as it enthusiastically becomes a member of Westwood Village's culinary community. Mr. Rahimi and Mrs. Gharani wish to cater to all types of customers. As Westwood is home to professionals that work extreme hours, students who often have long unpredictable study hours and long-time residents in the surrounding area, Mr. Rahimi and Mrs. Gharani feel strongly that there will always be a client base for an early breakfast and a late dinner. As such, D1 Café respectfully requests approval of operating hours for which it originally applied.

On behalf of Mr. Rahimi, Mrs. Gharani, their family and everyone at D1 Café, I thank the WWNC for their consideration and for their recommendation. We look forward to making D1 Café a thriving force in Westwood Village's culinary scene and in forging strong relationships with everyone in this very special community.

Respectfully submitted,



Shirin Shojapour
On behalf of Amir Rahimi & Maryan Gharani
Enclosures (As stated)

Exhibit 1