September 25, 2020

Honorable Mayor Miguel Pulido Honorable Mayor Pro Tem Juan Villegas Members of the City Council, Planning Commission, and City Planning Staff

City of Santa Ana 20 Civic Center Plaza, Santa Ana, CA 92701

Re: Proposed 4<sup>th</sup> & Mortimer Project (409 E and 509 E 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Santa Ana)

Honorable Mayor and members of the City Council and others:

I am an active member of the downtown arts community with a studio/gallery in the basement of the Santora Building, a current board member for DTSA and my family has lived and worked in Santa Ana for four generations (My uncles actually built the Santa Ana Bowl). As a long-time stakeholder with a vested interest in the direction of our city, I encourage you to approve the proposed 4<sup>th</sup> & Mortimer development. I support the project for the following reasons:

- This project will enhance the neighborhood and improve an eastern block between Mortimer and Minter. An area of downtown that is much deserving of an upgrade as it is the 'gates to Downtown Santa Ana' via the 4th street access from the i5 freeway.
- The parking ratio of 2.35 stalls per unit is higher than recent projects to come through the city.
- Northgate is a long-time partner with the community and has supported many different initiatives and activities to give back. They are a name we know and trust. I am glad Northgate is choosing to continue to invest in downtown. I hope they will open a new store nearby soon for the convenience of the Mortimer development tenants and existing neighbors.
- This development will help support downtown by placing bringing residents and prospective customers near our businesses and art galleries.
- Lastly, this project only adds and enhances the menagerie of shopping and restaurant opportunities for jobs and leisure in the flourishing downtown economic community.

I hope you will approve this project for the good of our community of businesses and the neighborhood that is Downtown Santa Ana.

Sincerely,

GENE Jimenez artist <u>genej@me.com</u> • 714-337-4363

- <u>artofgene.com</u> fine art portfolio
- <u>machinebrand.online</u> artist brand apparel
- studio/gallery: GENE art studio/gallery, 207 N. Broadway, B11, Santa Ana, CA