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Judge Orders Beverly Hills To Turn Over Montage Project Documents

By Norma Zager, Editor of the Courier

Opponents of the Montage Hotel project are celebrating their victory after Tuesday's Los Angeles Superior Court Judge David P. Yaffe decision ordering the City of Beverly Hills to disclose 56 of 63 documents related to the proposed project.

The judge acted at the request of the Bever-

ly Hills Residential-Business Alliance for a Livable Community, which had sued the City over its refusal to divulge the documents.

Robert P. Silverstein, of Hill, Farrer & Burrill, the attorney for the Alliance, said that Judge Yaffe reviewed each of the 63 documents

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Judge Awards Alliance Court Fees

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge David P. Yaffe has ordered Beverly Hills to pay \$70,000 to the BH Residential-Business Alliance.

The payment reimburses the alliance for legal fees incurred during its successful court battle to obtain documents withheld by The City related to the proposed Montage Hotel project.

In June, Judge Yaffe ordered The City to disclose 56 of 63 documents, totaling hundreds of pages. These include key financial and environmental information which it had not made public.

Robert P. Silverstein, of Hill, Farrer & Burrill, the attorney for the Alliance, noted The City spent about \$130,000 in fees for private attorneys who waged its losing battle to withhold the documents.

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