City of Los Angeles Moves Forward With Farmers Field, Challenges Loom

By: Daniel F. Freedman, Esq.

http://commercialcounselor.com/

What does pro football in the City of Los Angeles have to do with affordable housing?

According to a coalition of community activists, the decision to build a stadium in downtown LA for an NFL franchise "would create a huge need for affordable housing to serve low-wage workers." [Los Angeles Times, 9/14/12]

That and other community implications are why the Play Fair At Farmer's Field Coalition (the "Coalition") is warning that an existing lawsuit will challenge the efforts of the stadium developer, Anschutz Entertainment Group ("AEG"), if it doesn't agree to commit millions of dollars in housing concessions.

The Coalition's current lawsuit attacks <u>SB 292</u> as unconstitutional. SB 292 was passed in September 2011 and specifically addresses the administrative and judicial review process related to the Environmental Impact Report for the downtown LA stadium, limiting the time during which such review and approval must occur.

The ironic part of this dispute is that the Coalition had been a key supporter of the stadium project, which is expected to bring thousands of jobs and significant economic activity to the downtown area.

In fact, the stadium deal was approved unanimously by the City Planning Commission on September 13.

AEG has already committed millions in concessions, albeit for other purposes, such as upgrading traffic signals, widening a freeway and Metro line improvements.

According to the <u>LA Times</u>, AEG seems to be standing firm for now.

Link to original article: <u>http://commercialcounselor.com/city-of-los-angeles-moves-forward-with-farmers-field-challenges-loom/</u>

For over 35 years small businesses, major corporations, public entities, individuals and insurance companies have depended on Tharpe & Howell, LLP, to deliver pragmatic, innovative, cost-effective civil litigation and transactional solutions. For more information, please contact us at (818) 473-5720 or email your request to cabusinesslawreport@tharpe-howell.com.