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*“The Gateway to the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area”*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** March 4, 2022

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STATEMENT FROM CITY MANAGER NATHAN HAMBURGER

**City of Agoura Hills Is Committed to Following Rigorous Standards for Development and Preservation**

Earlier this week the vacant Stage Door Theater was demolished. The owner of the Stage Door Theater had applied for a demolition permit from the City in late-February.

The theater along with other buildings in Agoura Hills go through a process, known as a Historic Resources Assessment, that guides our decision making on whether or not a building should be preserved.

This process sets up exhaustive state and federal measures that our team takes into account to determine if the property is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and/or the California Register of Historical Resources. If a building meets the criteria, there may be an exception for preservation. In the case of the Stage Door Theater, it did not meet these criteria.

In Agoura Hills, our community is built on a unique blend of history, rural roots, natural beauty, and small-town charm. Although it is hard to see a building like the Stage Door Theater demolished, we want to assure our residents that the City has rigorous standards put in place that guide our City’s building and development policies.

Currently, the property owner has not submitted new plans to the City for what is proposed to replace the theater. When these plans are submitted by the property owner, they will go through a thorough City vetting process before being sent to our Planning Commission and City Council with public input to consider approval.

We are committed to transparently communicating with our residents about development going on in our City. To learn more about our Council and Commission meetings as well as our building and development processes, visit agourahillscity.org.