



CITY OF CAMPBELL
Community Development Department

June 17, 2016

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the City of Campbell has set the time of 7:30 p.m., or shortly thereafter, on Tuesday, **June 28, 2016**, in the City Hall Council Chambers, 70 North First Street, Campbell, California, for a Public Hearing to consider the application of Steven Bonner for a Modification (PLN2016-105) to a previously-approved Conditional Use Permit (PLN2014-57) for an existing restaurant, to modify the approved alcohol service from beer & wine to "general" (distilled spirits), extend the business closing time from 10:00 PM to 12:00 AM ("late-night activity"), increase the number of approved bar seats, permit amplified live entertainment, and allow occasional outdoor seating and service in the rear parking lot for special events, on property located at **368 E. Campbell Ave.** Staff is recommending that this item be deemed Categorical Exempt under CEQA.

Interested persons may appear and be heard at this hearing. Please be advised that if you challenge the nature of the above project in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the Public Hearing described in this Notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Campbell Planning Commission at, or prior to, the Public Hearing. Questions may be addressed to the Community Development Department at (408) 866-2140.

Plans and architectural drawings may be viewed at the Planning Division office during normal business hours (8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.) and on the City's 'Public Notices' web page (<http://www.cityofcampbell.com/501/Public-Notices>) under 'Planning Commission'.

Decisions of the Planning Commission may be appealed to the City Council. Appeals must be submitted to the City Clerk in writing within 10 calendar days of an action by the Commission.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, listening assistive devices are available for all meetings held in the Council Chambers. If you require accommodation, please contact the Community Development Department at (408) 866-2140, at least one week in advance of the meeting.

PLANNING COMMISSION
CITY OF CAMPBELL
PAUL KERMOYAN
SECRETARY

PLEASE NOTE: When calling about this Notice,
please refer to: **368 E. Campbell Ave**

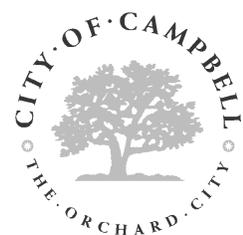
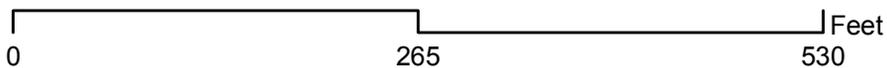
Project Location Map



Project Location: 368 E. Campbell Ave.

Application Type: CUP Modification

Planning File No.: PLN2016-105



Community Development Department
Planning Division



January 28, 2016

City of Campbell
Stephen Rose

Dear Mr. Rose:

This letter is to outline the Sociallight requests for changes to our operation. As a general summary of the past year, there were some initial hiccups in the very beginning of the opening of The Sociallight which were all cured and never recurred. Aside from the upcoming discussion on a window which is not a violation but a discussion on what should be done, there is nothing remaining on our CUP nor have there been any issues. Since our opening, The Sociallight has become a town favorite and has already won "Best Restaurant" in Campbell from the Campbell Express. There have been no issues at all including no police matters of any kind. We have been involved with several issues that took place in Campbell and provided video to Campbell police to assist them in their investigations of crashes outside our restaurant, etc. The restaurant is a hit and packed most nights with repeat diners from Campbell. Our local following has been fantastic and we are hoping to improve their experience.

It is believed that in the beginning of this restaurant venture, there needed to be proof of operation and delivering on what was promised, "a high end, classy restaurant focused on 5-star food". As words have been spoken before to the City of Campbell and permits issued based on those words, I perceived a concern from the city to not be "burned" again by a "bait and switch" and did my best to understand this position. Some abnormal regulations were imposed to help protect against this occurring. Some of these regulations are very crippling and the Sociallight is hoping to have them lifted so we can operate more efficiently and successfully for the City of Campbell.

Request #1: HOURS OF OPERATION

Originally, the Sociallight applied for operation hours to serve until 12:00am. As discussion over other matters were tossed around, it was decided to cut these hours of operation to 10pm as a compromise and get the restaurant opened. From the customer's standpoint, this has been very difficult and at times infuriating to them. They have made many comments about this not working for them and they are not coming back because they did not have time to finish their dinner, could not order dessert, could not finish the SF Giants baseball game (we have had to shut off our TV's many times to comply with this curfew), Golden State Warrior basketball games and occasionally San Jose Sharks. We are predominantly a local's restaurant where many gather to enjoy life in general. Many guests want to dine at 8:15 or 8:30pm. This is not possible at the Sociallight because it is often a 2-hour experience. We cannot offer reservations at 7pm because that would tie up one table the entire evening which has happened on many occasions. I could go into much detail but I think it is reasonably obvious on this request, it is very damaging to all involved and serves no benefit or positive purpose for anyone and not consistent with the other restaurants in town.



Please allow The Socialight Restaurant to be open for business until 12:00am.

Request #2: COUNTER SEATS INCREASED UP TO 12 SEATS.

We currently are limited to 9 counter stools. Please allow the legal code amount of 12 stools at our counter. Note, this does not change the occupancy of 49 max. but simply allows the flexibility of our guests to sit where they desire at that given moment.

Please increase our seat limit at the counter to 12 seats.

Request #3: ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT TO ALLOW FOR AMPLIFICATION.

Our current permit allows for entertainment but none amplified. For the first time ever this week, we had an entertainer come in and play acoustic guitar singing Nora Jones and singing and playing various Jazz classics in addition to originals. It was great night for all diners and all asked if we would be doing this more. We received some very positive feedback and 5-star yelp reviews. The vibe and pleasantness brought about by the live performer was great for all who dined at The Socialight that night. The acoustic guitar filled the restaurant reasonably well but the performer, Mark Rodriguez commented how difficult it was to sing loud enough for guests to hear for an extended period of time.

The Socialight is a classy upscale place with a professional demographic that will never be conducive to loud bands or even anything anyone could hear outside. But we do need amplification to some extent for the performers to entertain properly.

Please allow for our entertainment permit to provide for amplified live music.

Request #4: LIQUOR LICENSE ALLOWED TO BE APPLIED FOR: Type 47

In the beginning, The City of Campbell had a concern on having a full liquor license. As discussed above, this was probably a reasonable concern considering some recent history. However, with nearly a year of providing Campbell residents with the best food in town, I am hoping the probationary period can be over and the Socialight will be allowed to provide full service to its guests. Virtually every day we have guests that tell us about how someone in their party does not like or want beer or wine so they are going to Willard Hicks, Naschmarkt, Sushi Confidential, Pino's Trattoria, Blue Line Pizza, Liquid Bread, etc. The Socialight cannot service these guests and loses diners and revenue daily because of this. We have proven to be an upscale dining establishment which I think we all know is not where any of the problems of Campbell is coming from.

Please allow The Socialight the ability to apply to the ABC for a Type 47 liquor license.

Request #5: EVENT DAYS

The Socialight is unique in that it has its own parking. It has been requested at the Campbell Oktoberfest, Campbell Boogie on the Avenue and other special days like that to have extended outside seating by many Campbell residents and event workers. We have an area that we can rope off, decorate nicely and not effect traffic in any way but provide good quality outside seating that is shaded under the overhand of our building. Anyone who comes to these events or operates them will say the number one complaint is there is not



enough places to sit down out of the sun. It would be nice to provide this and on these days, increase our service and revenues to take advantage of the events optimally. Of course we would also abide by all conditions of ABC, Enclosure, Security, etc.

Please allow extended outside seating to include the described area attached.

Sincerely,

Steve Bonner
Managing Member