Fourth Civil Number D079215

# In the Court of Appeal of the State of California

FOURTH APPELLATE DISTRICT DIVISION ONE

UL CHULA TWO LLC,

Plaintiff and Appellant,

v.

CITY OF CHULA VISTA,

Defendant and Respondent.

Appeal from the Superior Court of the State of California For the County of San Diego Case No. 37-2020-00041554-CU-WM-CTL The Honorable Richard E. L. Strauss, Dept. 75

## OPPOSITION TO RESPONDENT'S MOTION TO STRIKE PORTIONS OF APPELLANT'S OPENING BRIEF

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## MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN OPPOSITION TO RESPONDENT'S MOTION TO STRIKE PORTIONS OF APPELLANT'S OPENING BRIEF

#### INTRODUCTION AND FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Defendant and respondent the City of Chula Vista ("the City") filed a motion to strike portions of plaintiff and appellant UL Chula Two LLC's ("UL Chula") opening brief claiming UL Chula's brief cited to impermissible record evidence. [Motion, p. 4.] The City argues UL Chula did not request judicial notice of certain documents within the appendix that the trial court declined to judicially notice, and therefore could not cite to them. [Motion, p. 6.] However, UL Chula has filed a motion for judicial notice that moots this motion to strike. [UL Chula's Motion for Judicial Notice.]

Because UL Chula filed its judicial notice motion, the City's motion to strike is mooted and is not ripe for adjudication. The court's ruling on UL Chula's motion for judicial notice will dispose of the motion to strike.

#### LEGAL ARGUMENT

The Court Should Deny the City's Motion to Strike Because the Controversy the Motion Seeks to Resolve Is Not Ripe for Adjudication.

"A controversy is 'ripe' when it has reached, but has not passed, the point that the facts have sufficiently congealed to permit an intelligent and useful decision to be made." (Wilson & Wilson v. City Council of Redwood City (2011) 191 Cal.App.4th 1559, 1573 (Wilson), citing California Water & Telephone Co. v.

County of Los Angeles (1967) 253 Cal.App.2d 16, 22 (California Water).) "The ripeness element of the doctrine of justiciability is intended to prevent courts from issuing purely advisory opinions." (Wilson, supra, 191 Cal.App.4th at p. 1573, citing Pacific Legal Foundation v. California Coastal Com. (1982) 33 Cal.3d 158, 170.) "[Ripeness] is primarily bottomed on the recognition that judicial decisionmaking is best conducted in the context of an actual set of facts so that the issues will be framed with sufficient definiteness to enable the court to make a decree finally disposing of the controversy." (Ibid.)

Here, the City filed a motion to strike portions of UL Chula's opening brief requesting that the court strike sections of UL Chula's opening brief that cited to allegedly "impermissible extrarecord evidence." [Motion, p. 4.] The justification for the City's motion was the trial court denied UL Chula's request for judicial notice in the underlying proceeding and that UL Chula did not seek judicial notice of those same documents in the appellate proceeding. [Motion, p. 6.] The City contended UL Chula could not base its appeal on evidence not officially in the appellate record. [*Ibid.*]

The City's motion to strike is not ripe for consideration by the court and is mooted by UL Chula's motion for judicial notice filed on April 7, 2022. [UL Chula's Motion for Judicial Notice.] Since the court has not yet ruled on UL Chula's motion for judicial notice, it would be premature for it to rule on the City's motion to strike. (Wilson, supra, 191 Cal.App.4th at p. 1573, citing California Water, supra, 253 Cal.App.2d at p. 22.) If the court grants UL

Chula's motion for judicial notice, the City's motion becomes moot and should be denied by this court. (*Wilson, supra*, 191 Cal.App.4th at p. 1573 [defining moot cases as those where the controversy ceases to exist].) UL Chula thus respectfully submits the City's motion to strike should be denied.

#### **CONCLUSION**

For the forgoing reasons, UL Chula respectfully requests that the court deny the City's motion to strike.

DATED: April 8, 2022 LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP

By: /s/ Lann G. McIntyre
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UL CHULA TWO LLC

#### CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE WITH RULE 8.204

I, the undersigned, Lann G. McIntyre, declare that:

- I am a partner in the firm of Lewis, Brisbois, Bisgaard
   Smith LLP, counsel of record for plaintiff and appellant UL
   Chula Two LLC.
- 2. This certificate of compliance is submitted in accordance with rule 8.204 of the California Rules of Court.
- 3. This opposition to motion to strike portions of appellant's opening brief was produced with a computer. It is proportionately spaced in 13-point Century Schoolbook typeface. The brief contains 570 words, including footnotes.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed at San Diego, California, on April 8, 2022.

/s/ Lann G. McIntyre Lann G. McIntyre

#### PROOF OF SERVICE

UL Chula Two LLC v. City of Chula Vista Fourth Civil Number D079215

I, Janis Kent, state:

I am employed in the County of San Diego, State of California. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action. My business address is 550 West C Street, Suite 1700, San Diego, California 92101.

On April 8, 2022, I served the following document described as **OPPOSITION TO RESPONDENTS' MOTION TO STRIKE PORTIONS OF APPELLANT'S OPENING BRIEF** on all interested parties in this action through TrueFiling, addressed to all parties appearing on the attached service list for the above-titled case. The service transmission was reported as complete and a copy of the TrueFiling Receipt/Confirmation will be filed, deposited or maintained with the original document in this office.

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Executed on April 8, 2022, at San Diego, California.

/s/ Janis Kent Janis Kent

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#### STATE OF CALIFORNIA

California Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District Division 1

### PROOF OF SERVICE

#### STATE OF CALIFORNIA

California Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District Division 1

Case Name: UL Chula Two LLC v. City of Chula Vista et

al.

Case Number: **D079215** 

Lower Court Case Number: 37-2020-00041554-CU-WM-CTL

- 1. At the time of service I was at least 18 years of age and not a party to this legal action.
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