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## Sheikh Jarrah: Plan for 6-story Commercial Building Deposited for Objections

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April 26, 2018

Today the District Planning and Building Committee published deposit of a plan for a 6-story commercial building in Sheikh Jarrah, setting the 60-day clock for public objections running. The building would be located adjacent to the parcel designated for the Glassman yeshiva, near the entrance to Sheikh Jarrah, despite the area being zoned for public buildings for a Palestinian neighborhood sorely lacking in social services.

Sheikh Jarrah has long been a locus of radical private settlement activity within the Old City and surrounding band of Palestinian neighborhoods, known to settlers as the “Historic” or “Holy” Basin. The plan deposited today was discussed at the District Committee in July and [approved for deposit](#) as part of rash of plans for 1,700+ housing units, including revival of long frozen projects in the highly sensitive Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood. Included in that wave of plans was the controversial Glassman project, a yeshiva for dozens of religious men that would be erected at the gateway to Sheikh Jarrah, exacerbating simmering neighborhood tensions while strengthening settlers’ hold on this Palestinian neighborhood. Together with several projects being promoted by city councilor and settler leader Arie King, these buildings would form a block of settlement from the entrance to Sheikh Jarrah deep into the neighborhood.

In addition to promotion of plans through the planning system, settlers – with the support of the state – are waging a concerted campaign to evict residents from the neighborhood. A member of the A-qanebi family, one of tens of families at risk, will be evicted between May 13 and 27 according to a recent notice of eviction.

**Ir Amim, along with Peace Now and NRC, will be conducting a tour of Sheikh Jarrah and Batan al-Hawa, Silwan in early May** to discuss the role of evictions in more global Israeli efforts to consolidate control of the Old City and adjacent Palestinian neighborhoods, and call attention to imminent hearings of principled legal cases with import for the communities at large. Details will be forthcoming soon.

Please refer all inquiries to:

Betty Herschman

Director of International Relations & Advocacy

Ir Amim (City of Nations/City of Peoples)

Jerusalem

[betty@ir-amim.org.il](mailto:betty@ir-amim.org.il)

054-308-5096

[www.ir-amim.org.il](http://www.ir-amim.org.il)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/IrAmimEng](http://www.facebook.com/IrAmimEng)

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