PACIFIC PALISADES COMMUNITY COUNCIL



The Eyes, Ears, and Voice of the Pacific Palisades Community Serving the residents and businesses of Pacific Palisades since 1973 Post Office Box 1131, Pacific Palisades, California 90272

July 5, 2007

The City of Santa Monica
Civil Engineering and Architecture
1437 4th Street, Suite 300
Santa Monica, California 90401
Attention: EUGENIA CHUSID, PROJECT MANAGER

RE: CALIFORNIA INCLINE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Dear Ms. Chusid:

The Pacific Palisades Community Council (the "Council") represents thousands of Los Angeles residents and numerous businesses that may be significantly and adversely impacted by the above-referenced project (the "Project").

On June 8, 2006, and again on June 14, 2007, the Council unanimously passed the resolutions that are enclosed with this letter. The Council's primary concern is that the work on the Project will exacerbate safety and traffic issues for the stakeholders in our community (as well as many residents of the City of Santa Monica) to the extent that egress from, and ingress into, the Pacific Palisades will be stifled and that concomitant issues of safety to drivers and residents in the Pacific Palisades will be increased to unacceptable levels.

Council Board Members have attended various meetings put on by the City of Santa Monica to allay the concerns and fears of our citizens. The effect of these meetings has, unfortunately, had the contrary effect. The Council believes that the City of Santa Monica has not worked through thoughtfully enough the traffic and safety mitigation issues necessary to reduce inconvenience to the lowest possible level and to raise safety to the highest possible level.

In this regard, the undersigned reiterates the suggestion put forth by Los Angeles City Councilman Bill Rosendahl in his letter of July 2, 2007, to Mr. Ewell, the Santa Monica City Manager, wherein Councilman Rosendahl suggests the creation of a working group composed of his office, the City manager of Santa Monica's office, the various transportation agencies and local stakeholders be formed to assure the maximum input by all concerned.

The Council is prepared to participate in this very important process in order to insure that the residents and businesses located within the Pacific Palisades have an

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opportunity to vet proposed mitigation suggestions and to propose alternative suggestions that may arise out of this process.

The Council believes that the problems created by the Project are not local to the City of Santa Monica, but rather are truly regional in their impact. Traffic patterns, work hours, taking children to/from schools will be impacted, and businesses and residents as far north as Malibu will be impacted by how well the traffic and safety issues of the Project are mitigated.

We believe that the enclosed resolutions of the Council speak to many of the issues concerning us. But it is impossible for the Council to list all of its concerns and possible suggestions, because the City of Santa Monica has not yet said to us how it actually intends to proceed, except to thank us for our input. We think this has been a somewhat ingenuous approach, even if not intended to be so. The process should be a collaborative process and, in the end, one which we can buy into and support as the best possible solution under the difficult circumstances presented.

I also think that the City of Santa Monica benefits if it can point to regionally affected parties having participated in the process and buying into the ultimate solutions.

For all of the foregoing reasons, the Council appreciates your serious attention to the enclosed resolutions and the undersigned respectfully requests that the City of Santa Monica seriously consider the suggestion of Councilman Rosendahl to form a Santa Monica – Los Angeles California Incline Working Group.

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Pacific Palisades Community Council

Enclosure

cc: Los Angeles City Councilman Bill Rosendahl Mr. Lamont Ewell, Santa Monica City Manager CalTrans