

CAPITOL OFFICE  
STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 5108  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
TEL (916) 651-4023  
FAX (916) 324-4823

DISTRICT OFFICES  
10951 WEST PICO BLVD., SUITE 202  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90064  
TEL (310) 441-9084  
FAX (310) 441-0724

300 WEST THIRD ST., 4TH FLOOR  
OXNARD, CA 93030  
TEL (805) 486-3776  
FAX (805) 486-6865

# California State Senate

SENATOR  
**SHEILA JAMES KUEHL**  
TWENTY-THIRD SENATE DISTRICT  
CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH



COMMITTEES:  
AGRICULTURE  
APPROPRIATIONS  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
JUDICIARY  
LABOR & INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
NATURAL RESOURCES & WATER  
SELECT COMMITTEES:  
CHAIR, HEALTH INSURANCE CRISIS  
IN CALIFORNIA  
CHAIR, SCHOOL SAFETY  
JOINT COMMITTEE:  
JOINT COMMITTEE ON RULES

July 9, 2007

Eugenia Chusid  
Civil Engineering and Architecture  
City of Santa Monica  
1437 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 300  
Santa Monica, CA 90401

Dear Ms. Chusid:

I am writing to express my interest in the City of Santa Monica's Project to Replace the California Incline Bridge. I have reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) and wish to submit comments on this vital project, which includes demolition of the existing structure, excavation, grading and reconstruction of the new structure; all of which are estimated to take approximately ten months.

I want to congratulate the City for moving forward on this project and look forward to the completion of the project and the day when the California Incline is safer for all users of the facility, including cyclists, pedestrians and motorists. My comments are all related to the construction period and, most specifically, the ways in which traffic will be handled during that time.

There is little doubt that the temporary closure of the California Incline will negatively impact traffic on local streets in the Cities of Santa Monica and Los Angeles, including the communities of Santa Monica Canyon and Pacific Palisades, as well as two major state thoroughfares, the Santa Monica Freeway and Pacific Coast Highway. The 23<sup>rd</sup> State Senate District includes all of the impacted communities. However, I particularly want to note that my constituents in Santa Monica Canyon have expressed deep concern about the impact on their community and their ability to get in and out of their homes.

With the utmost respect, I request that you work closely with the City of Los Angeles and the California Department of Transportation to consider all suggestions for mitigating the traffic impacts on residents of both the Cities of Santa Monica and Los Angeles. Once the construction begins and the mitigations have been adopted, I would suggest that traffic be very carefully monitored, that there be a mechanism for flexibility, for altering the initial plans and for making sure that information gets to the public.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the DEIR for the California Incline Bridge Replacement Project. My staff and I are available and willing to be of any assistance as you work with professionals and residents on the plans for handling the impacts of the construction phase of the project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheila Kuehl".

SHEILA JAMES KUEHL  
Senator, 23<sup>rd</sup> District

Representing the cities of Agoura Hills, Beverly Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Malibu, Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Santa Monica, West Hollywood and Westlake Village  
and the communities of Bel Air, Brentwood, Canoga Park, Encino, Hollywood, Mt. Olympus, Port Hueneme, Pacific Palisades,  
Sherman Oaks, Studio City, Tarzana, Topanga, West Los Angeles, West Hills, Westwood and Woodland Hills.

