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21 November 2014

CAJA Environmental Services, LLC  
11990 West San Vicente Boulevard, Suite 200  
Los Angeles, CA 90049

Attn: Kerrie Nicholson, Senior Project Manager

re: Paleontological resources for the proposed Equity Residential Mixed-Use Project, in the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, project area

Dear Kerrie:

I have conducted a thorough search of our paleontology collection records for the locality and specimen data for the proposed Equity Residential Mixed-Use Project, in the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, project area as outlined on the portion of the Los Angeles USGS topographic quadrangle map that you sent to me via e-mail on 28 October 2014. We do not have any vertebrate fossil localities that lie within the project boundaries, but we do have localities nearby from the same sedimentary deposits that occur in the proposed project area.

Surface deposits throughout the entire proposed project area consist of younger Quaternary Alluvium, derived as fluvial overbank deposits from the Los Angeles River that flows just to the east. Although these deposits typically do not produce significant vertebrate fossils, at least in the uppermost layers, our closest vertebrate fossil localities from the same deposits near the Los Angeles River are LACM 7701-7702, east-southeast of the proposed project area in the City of Commerce near the intersection of Atlantic Avenue and the Long Beach Freeway (I-710) that produced fossil specimens of threespine stickleback, *Gasterosteus aculeatus*, salamander, *Batrachoseps*, lizard, Lacertilia, snake, Colubridae, rabbit, *Sylvilagus*, pocket mouse, *Microtus*, harvest mouse, *Reithrodontomys*, and pocket gopher, *Thomomys*, at depths of 11 to 34 feet below grade. Our closest vertebrate fossil locality from older Quaternary deposits that probably occur at relatively shallow depth in the proposed project area is LACM 1755, southwest of the proposed project area near the

intersection of 12<sup>th</sup> and Hill Streets, that produced a specimen of fossil horse, *Equus*, at unknown depth.

Immediately to the northwest of the proposed project area, across Hill Street, there are exposures of the marine Pliocene Fernando Formation. We have one vertebrate fossil locality from the Fernando Formation, LACM 4726, that occurs adjacent to the proposed project area at the corner of 4<sup>th</sup> and Hill Streets and produced a fossil specimen of undetermined bony fish, Osteichthyes. Our next closest Fernando Formation localities are LACM 7730, east-northeast of the proposed project area near the intersection of Main Street and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street; LACM 6971, due west of the proposed project area west of Pershing Square near the corner of 6<sup>th</sup> and Flower Streets; and LACM 3868, further north of west of the proposed project area across the Harbor Freeway (I-110) near the corner of Wilshire Boulevard and Lucas Avenue. These nearby Fernando Formation localities have produced a composite fauna including fossil specimens of stingray, *Dasyatis*, eagle ray, *Myliobatis*, skate, *Raja*, chimaerid, Chimaeriformes, bull shark, *Carcharhinus leucas*, dusky shark, *Carcharhinus obscurus*, hammerhead shark, *Sphyrna*, sixgill shark, Hexanchiformes, bonito shark, *Isurus oxyrinchus*, salmon shark, *Lamna ditropis*, white sharks, *Carcharodon sulcidens* and *Carcharodon carcharias*, herring, Clupeidae, hake, *Merluccius*, sheephead, *Semicossyphus*, mackerel, *Scomber*, bird, Aves, orqqual baleen whale, Balanopteridae, and toothed whale, Odontoceti.

Shallow excavations in the younger Quaternary Alluvium deposits covering the entire proposed project area probably will not encounter significant fossil vertebrate remains. Deeper excavations in those areas that extend down into older deposits, however, may well encounter significant vertebrate fossils. Any substantial excavations in the proposed project area, therefore, should be monitored closely to quickly and professionally recover any fossil remains discovered while not impeding development. Additionally, many specimens in these rock units are small and may not be detected in normal excavation monitoring activities. We recommend that samples from these rock units be collected and analyzed for their paleontological potential. Any fossils recovered during mitigation should be deposited in an accredited and permanent scientific institution for the benefit of current and future generations.

This records search covers only the vertebrate paleontology records of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. It is not intended to be a thorough paleontological survey of the proposed project area covering other institutional records, a literature survey, or any potential on-site survey.

Sincerely,



Samuel A. McLeod, Ph.D.  
Vertebrate Paleontology

enclosure: invoice