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Meridian Consultants
920 Hampshire Road, Suite A5
Westlake Village, CA 91361

Attn: Kelene Strain, Senior Project Manager

re: Paleontological resources for the proposed Crenshaw Crossing Project, in the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, project area

Dear Kelene:

I have thoroughly searched our paleontology collection records for the locality and specimen data for the proposed Crenshaw Crossing Project, in the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, project area as outlined on the portion of the Hollywood USGS topographic quadrangle map that you sent to me via e-mail on 22 July 2019. We do not have any vertebrate fossil localities that lie directly within the proposed project area boundaries, but we do have localities nearby from the same sedimentary deposits that occur subsurface in the proposed project area.

Surface deposits in the entire proposed project area consist of younger Quaternary Alluvium, derived as alluvial fan deposits from the slightly more elevated terrain to the northeast. These younger Quaternary deposits typically do not contain significant vertebrate fossil remains in the uppermost layers, but they are underlain by older Quaternary sediments at relatively shallow depth that do contain significant vertebrate fossils. We have a cluster of localities near the proposed project area from these older Quaternary sediments that were found during the excavations for outfall sewers in the 1920's. Our closest fossil vertebrate locality from these deposits is LACM 1159, immediately west of the proposed project area west of Crenshaw Boulevard near the intersection of Rodeo Road and Buckingham Road, that contained remains of fossil human, *Homo sapiens*, at a depth of 19-23 feet below the surface.

We have more vertebrate fossil localities further west along Rodeo Road including LACM 3369, at Sycamore Avenue and Rodeo Road, that produced a specimen of fossil horse, *Equus*, at a depth of only six feet below the surface. Just west of locality LACM 3369 we have localities LACM 3367 and 3370 also along Rodeo Road. These localities produced fossil mastodon, *Mammut*, at unknown depth, and a fossil sabertooth cat, *Smilodon*, at unknown depth. Just north of those localities we also have locality LACM 3366, slightly north of west of the proposed project area along the Southern Pacific Railway, that produced a specimen of fossil camel, *Camelops*, at unknown depth.

Northeast of the proposed project area, in a cut for the Santa Monica Freeway (I-10) just east of Gramercy Place, our older Quaternary locality LACM 1893 produced fossil specimens of mammoth, *Mammuthus*, and bison, *Bison antiquus*. Almost due north of the proposed project area, near the intersection of Venice Boulevard and Vineyard Avenue, our locality LACM 7137 from these deposits produced fossil specimens of mastodon, Mammutidae, camel, Camelidae, and bison, *Bison*, at a depth of about forty feet below the surface during excavations for storm sewers. West of our locality LACM 7137, on the western side of La Brea Avenue from Venice Boulevard to immediately north of San Vicente Boulevard, we have localities LACM 1226, 1272, and 1783, that produced fossil specimens of ground sloth, *Paramylodon*, mammoth, *Mammuthus*, horse, *Equus*, camel, *Camelops*, bison, *Bison*, at depths between 9 and 23 feet below the surface. To the southeast of the proposed project area, near the intersection of 46th Street and Western Avenue, our older Quaternary locality LACM 7758 produced fossil specimens of three-spine stickleback, *Gasterosteus aculeatus*, meadow vole, *Microtus*, deer mouse, *Peromyscus*, pocket gopher, *Thomomys*, and pocket mouse, *Perognathus*, at a depth of 16 feet below the surface.

Surface grading or very shallow excavations in the younger Quaternary Alluvium exposed throughout the proposed project area are unlikely to encounter significant fossil vertebrate remains. Deeper excavations that may extend down into older Quaternary deposits, however, may well uncover significant vertebrate fossils. Any substantial excavations below the uppermost layers in the proposed project area, therefore, should be monitored closely to quickly and professionally recover any fossil remains discovered while not impeding development. Also, sediment samples should be collected and processed to determine the small fossil potential in the proposed project area. 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