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16 July 2020

CAJA Environmental Services, LLC  
15350 Sherman Way, Suite 315  
Van Nuys, CA 91406

Attn: Sherrie Cruz

re: Paleontological resources for the Vertebrate Paleontology Records Check for  
paleontological resources for the proposed 8141 Van Nuys Boulevard Project, in  
the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, project area

Dear Sherrie:

I have conducted a thorough search of our paleontology collection records for the locality and specimen data for the proposed 8141 Van Nuys Boulevard Project, in the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, project area as outlined on the portion of the Van Nuys USGS topographic quadrangle map that you sent to me via e-mail on 2 July 2020. We do not have any vertebrate fossil localities that lie directly within the proposed project boundaries, but we do have localities nearby from the same sedimentary deposits that occur at depth in the proposed project area.

The entire proposed project area contains surficial deposits of younger Quaternary Alluvium, derived as alluvial fan deposits from the Pacoima Wash just to the west or from the Tujunga Wash to the east. These deposits typically do not contain significant vertebrate fossils in the uppermost layers, but they are underlain at depth by older Quaternary sediments that do contain significant fossil vertebrate materials. Our closest fossil vertebrate localities in similar deposits are almost due south of the proposed project area just east of the Sepulveda Dam Recreation Area including LACM 3822, near Kester Avenue and Sepulveda Boulevard north of Oxnard Street, that produced fossil specimens of extinct peccary, *Platygonus*, camel, *Camelops*, and bison, *Bison*, at depths between 75 and 100 feet below the surface; locality LACM 6208, further south along Kester Avenue near Burbank Boulevard, that produced fossil specimens of extinct bison, *Bison*, at a depth of 20 feet below the surface; and further south still locality LACM 3263, near the intersection of Kester Avenue and Otsego Street, that produced fossil

specimens of extinct horse, *Equus*, at a depth of 14 feet below the surface. Also nearby, but nearly due north of the proposed project area, we have vertebrate fossil localities at or near the Van Norman Reservoir. These localities include LACM 3397 that produced fossil bison, *Bison*, at a seventy-five foot depth; LACM 5745 that contained fossil mastodon, *Mammot*, and horse, *Equus*, in fill dirt; and LACM 7152 that produced fossil mammoth, *Mammuthus*, and bison, *Bison*, in terrace deposits.

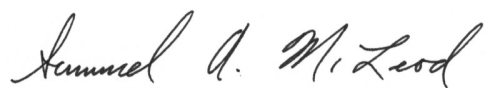
Shallow excavations in the younger Quaternary Alluvium in the proposed project area are unlikely to produce significant fossil vertebrate remains. Deeper excavations in the proposed project area that extend down into older Quaternary deposits, however, may well encounter significant vertebrate fossils. 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.

Council Street, that produced a specimen of fossil mastodon, Mammutidae, at a depth of only 5-6 feet below the surface. To the southeast of the proposed project area, east-northeast of locality LACM 5845 at about the intersection of Madison Avenue and Middlebury Street, our vertebrate fossil locality LACM 3250 produced a fossil specimen of mammoth, *Mammuthus*, at a depth of about eight feet below street level. To the southwest of the proposed project area, near the intersection of Sierra Bonita Avenue and Oakwood Avenue, our vertebrate fossil locality LACM 3371 produced specimens of fossil bison, *Bison antiquus*, at a depth of 12 feet below the surface.

Very shallow excavations in the older Quaternary Alluvium exposed throughout the proposed project area are unlikely to uncover significant vertebrate fossils. Deeper excavations that extend down into older deposits, however, however, may well encounter significant vertebrate fossil remains. 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. Also, sediment samples should be collected and processed to determine the small fossil potential in the proposed project area. Any fossils collected should be placed in an accredited 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