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Assembly
California Legislature

MIKE FEUER
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, FORTY-SECOND DISTRICT

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October 10, 2007

Mr. Wayne Alves
63D Regional Readiness Command
U.S. Army Reserve
4235 Yorktown Ave.
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

ATTN: ARRC-CCA-ENV

Dear Mr. Alves,

I am writing to oppose the proposed exchange to a non-governmental entity of approximately 10 acres of property currently used by the U.S. Army Reserve, located at the southeast corner of Wilshire Boulevard and Federal Avenue. In the alternative, I support returning the property to the jurisdiction of the West Los Angeles Veterans Administration for the exclusive purpose of providing direct services to veterans.

The September 11, 2007 and September 12, 2007 public scoping meetings revealed a deeply flawed process for obtaining community input. In addition, the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that will be prepared for this project must: (a) demonstrate that the property is no longer needed for continued federal use if it is to be transferred to a private developer; (b) show that any proposed use is consistent with the county zoning designation "county institutional" and (c) address in detail the type of development that would occur at the property.

Furthermore, the environmental effects of any development must be considered in the EIS, including traffic (which in this area has already reached crisis proportions), loss of use of the property for veterans' services, toxic contamination on the property that could impact human health in the event of redevelopment, loss of open space in densely-developed West Los Angeles, and the cumulative effects of the proposed project when considered with existing and planned but as-yet-unbuilt residential and commercial projects in the neighborhood. The EIS should also set forth feasible mitigation measures that would reduce significant environmental impacts of any development.

The community I represent is clearly unhappy with the current scoping process and neighborhood leaders unanimously oppose the property exchange sought by the Department of the Army. In order to comply with NEPA requirements, additional scoping meetings should be held to allow for meaningful public comment and to present a more fully-realized proposed project and reasonable alternatives to the public.

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments and please do not hesitate to contact my office if I can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

Mike Feuer
Assemblymember, 42nd District

cc: Senator Diane Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
Congressmember Henry Waxman
Senator Sheila J. Kuehl
Assembly Majority Leader Karen Bass
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Councilmember Jack Weiss
Councilmember Bill Rosendahl
Wendy-Sue Rosen