## EQUESTRIAN ASSOCIATION OF WRIGLEY HEIGHTS

September 20, 2016

Honorable Mayor and City Council City of Long Beach, California 333 W. Ocean Boulevard

RE: Item No. 20. of the Tuesday, September 20, 2016 Agenda
File No. 16-0881
Recommendation Submitted by City of Long Beach Depart of Public Works for the Adoption of the Plans and Specifications R-69073

Dear Sir/Madam:

This letter is in opposition to the suggested action of the item listed above to approve the above recommendation. We appreciate the opportunity to be heard to voice our objection to the suggested action of approval. Our opposition is based on the following facts:

To our knowledge, the proposed recommendation fails to request a grant of or grant the appropriate rights as promised to the Equestrian Association of Wrigley Heights (the "Association") by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (the "District"). Such easement is located either fully or partially within the proposed location of the plans and specifications, as shown and described within the above recommendation.

On February 5, 1981, the District sent a letter to the Association which stated the terms upon which a certain private trail easement for "equestrian purposes, including trash pickup, and the right to fence over a 12-foot-wide strip of land between Spring and 32nd Streets in Long Beach" would be granted to the Association. In order to receive the grant of easement, the Association was required to pay the District \$14,700. Ten percent of such payment was to be paid within 30 days of the February 5, 1981 letter as a deposit. The deposit was paid and acknowledged by a letter from the District dated March 18, 1981. The February and March 1981 letters are enclosed with this letter.

Upon receipt of the above deposit, the District was to issue a permit to the Association for a "12-footwide equestrian easement, as well as a 12-foot-wide east-west access to the regional trail." On June 1 1981, a permit "to utilize a 12-foot-wide strip of District's right of way for equestrian purposes" was issued naming the Association as the permittee. Under the permit the Association was responsible for the maintenance of the "12-foot-wide trail, including responsibility of keeping the area free and clear of any and all waste materials inherent to such usage." To date the Association has maintained the easement and trail.

On March 1, 1988, an additional permit was issued in accordance with the 1981 letter, authorizing "access to the [Association's] equestrian easement located within the easterly 12 feet at the Los Angeles County Flood Control District's property between 32<sup>nd</sup> Street southerly to Spring Street in the City of Long Beach."

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On December 1, 2015, the Los Angeles Department of Public Works sent a letter to the Association which stated that the 1981 grant of easement will be honored and the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisor Don Knabe offered to pay the remaining balance of the 1981 easement purchase price. On March 14, 2016, a letter was sent from the Association to the District confirming the acceptance of Mr. Knabe's offer to pay the balance of the 1981 easement purchase price, granting the 1981 easement from the District. The December 2015 letter is enclosed with this letter.

Given the payment of the deposit, longstanding use and maintenance of the permit in accordance with the 1981 letter, and the payment of the balance of the 1981 easement purchase price, the Association's right to a grant of easement in accordance with the language of the 1981 letter and accompanying documents should be included within the plans and specifications of the above recommendation. Among other items, the plans and specifications should include specificity as to all easement rights and how the plans and specifications will accommodate those rights both during and after construction.

Please take the above rights and concerns into your decision regarding the above recommendation. If you have any questions please contact Renee Lawler by phone at 562-900-9416 or by email at renee\_matt@live.com.

Very truly yours,

EQUESTRIAN ASSOCIATION OF WRIGLEY HEIGHTS,

Zenon Kesik President

Renee Lawler Vice President

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