

re: Support of Green TI [Terminal Island Freeway Transition Plan]

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council,

We are pleased to submit this letter of support for the City Council to approve and continue the Green TI, a community based vision for transforming Terminal Island Freeway in West Long Beach into a community asset. The possibility of transforming the mile long portion of the freeway north of Pacific Coast Highway can dramatically improve the quality of life for residents of West Long Beach, including our residents at the Century Villages at Cabrillo (CVC), Springdale Apartments and Gold Star Manor.

Century Villages at Cabrillo is a residential community established to break the cycle of homelessness. CVC has developed into a unique supportive housing community that provides housing on any given night to over 1,300 persons, including veteran and non-veteran individuals, families, youth and children who are housed within a robust continuum of supportive housing, ranging from shelter, to transitional housing, to permanent housing, all supported by more than 20 service provider organizations and other community partners.

Preservation Partner's Springdale West Apartments is a 24 acre housing community that is home for over 1,600 residents. Preservation Partners is addressing the great challenges facing our society today, the shortage of long-term, quality, secure, and affordable housing alternatives for very low income families and seniors.

American Gold Star Manor is a 348 unit beautifully landscape campus dedicated to housing parents of US veterans who have died in military action. The independent living facility caters to low-income individuals older than age 62 who are Gold Star Mothers, Gold Star Fathers, or other seniors. These three communities are home to nearly four thousand of Long Beach's most vulnerable residents, including US Veterans, seniors, children, the disabled populations. While we strive to provide the safest, most nurturing environment within our respective neighborhoods there are limits to how we protect the health and wellness of our residents as it relates to pollution emanating beyond our borders. The potential to transform the Terminal Island Freeway into a mile long greenbelt connecting our neighborhoods to schools, other parks and community amenities would have dramatic benefits for our residents.

We together ask the City Council to support the Green TI and define a path forward to serve residents of Long Beach. If you have any comments or questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

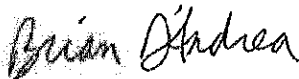
Sincerely,



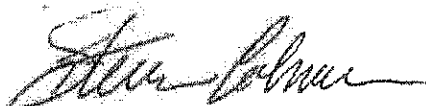
Terry Geiling  
President, America Gold Start Manor



William E. Szymczak  
Owner, Springdale West Apartments



Brian D'Andrea  
President, Century Villages at Cabrillo



Steve Colman  
Executive Director, Century Villages at Cabrillo