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December 7, 2011

Honorable Mayor Bob Foster  
Councilmember Robert Garcia (District #1)  
Councilmember Suja Lowenthal (District #2)  
Councilmember Gary DeLong (District #3)  
Councilmember Patrick O'Donnell (District #4)  
Councilmember Gerrie Schipske (District #5)  
Councilmember Dee Andrews (District #6)  
Councilmember James Johnson (District #7)  
Councilmember Rae Gabelich (District #8)  
Councilmember Steven Neal (District #9)

***RE: CVC's Concerns on the Draft EIR for the Proposed SCIG Project***

Dear Esteemed Mayor and Councilmembers:

I am writing to respectfully submit the comments that I shared in part at last night's City Council meeting on Agenda Item #21.

My name is Brian D'Andrea and I am president of Century Villages at Cabrillo. Century Villages at Cabrillo is the 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that owns, develops, manages, and serves as steward of the 26 acre Villages at Cabrillo campus in West Long Beach. Now, nearly 15 years after the redevelopment of the former naval housing site, CVC is home to more than 1,000 individuals, including families and children, many of whom were previously homeless. CVC is proud to collaborate with some 15 different nonprofit and government agencies that operate within our campus. These include:

- the Bethune Transitional Center, Long Beach Unified's homeless education program,
- Comprehensive Child Development, an affordable child development facility that serves more than 80 children at any point in time, and
- Other organizations such as US VETS, service provider to the more than 550 veterans that call CVC home, PATH Ventures, and Catholic Charities among others.

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Collectively, our mission is to end homelessness by providing those in need with a safe, supportive, dignified, and **healthy** environment in which they may overcome obstacles, regain independence, and achieve their highest potential. CVC is located directly adjacent to the proposed SCIG facility, on the east side of the Terminal Island Freeway. As the stakeholder most directly and immediately impacted, I am here this evening to voice our primary concerns about the SCIG project and its proposed mitigation, as outlined in the Draft EIR.

1. **Notice of Preparation:** Since the time the NOP was filed in September 2005 and the environmental baseline established, there have been significant, unmistakable changes to the composition of the Villages at Cabrillo campus. This includes the completion of the Family Commons at Cabrillo, CVC's permanent supportive housing development, financially supported by the City of Long Beach, which is home to some 300 family members. This development has resulted in a population increase of 41% to include more than 1,000 residents on any given night. In addition, the long planned Family Shelter development, a new emergency shelter complex is scheduled for completion this month. This new facility will serve approximately 100 more individuals per year than are currently being served by the existing shelter on site. The Notice of Preparation, now 6 years old, ignores each of these developments and the more than 400 *incremental* sensitive receptors that they house.
2. **Traffic:** With future truck traffic to the SCIG site anticipated to exceed 5,500 trips per day, CVC is highly concerned about the proposed access to the site and its impact on its 1,000 residents and the many staff members that work at the Villages at Cabrillo. As proposed, northbound Terminal Island truck traffic will exit the freeway on the PCH cloverleaf that empties onto San Gabriel Avenue, the **ONLY**, ingress and egress to the CVC campus. The high volume of traffic onto PCH west will surely create queuing and idling, thereby severely impacting our campus entry and generating additional emissions at the foot of our campus. Unfortunately, this intersection was **NOT** evaluated by the Draft EIR and as such overlooks a significant, yet fully avoidable, impact.
3. **Air quality:** Like many other stakeholders, we are concerned about the project's impact on air quality, through a combination of truck traffic to

the facility and the SCIG's railyard operations. Projected emissions, net of mitigation, will still exceed SCAQMD and national air quality standards. We also believe the proposed lease measures and project conditions do not sufficiently mitigate against the project's cumulative air quality impacts. In addition, we question the assertion that truck traffic along the 710 will significantly decrease as a result of the SCIG.

4. **Noise and Light:** Finally, we are extremely concerned about the project's noise and light impacts on the sensitive receptors that reside at the Villages at Cabrillo. These include children in day care, school aged children, and formerly homeless individuals, many of whom are veterans and some of which suffer from PTSD. The project, which will be operational 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, will create a noise impact that is significant and unavoidable. Further, the proposed soundwall mitigation measure will do little to reduce ambient noise to levels acceptable under the Long Beach Municipal Code.

In summary, CVC acknowledges the regional need for the SCIG project. However, we do not believe the project's impacts have been sufficiently studied nor adequately mitigated.

We urge the Long Beach City Council to consider the magnitude of this project and its lasting impacts upon the Villages at Cabrillo and the broader West Long Beach community. We respectfully request that you express your concerns regarding the Draft EIR to the Los Angeles Harbor Department, as afforded by the CEQA process. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Brian D'Andrea  
President

cc: Patrick H. West, City Manager  
cc: Amy Bodek, Director, Development Services  
cc: Derek Burnham, Planning Administrator  
cc: Larry Herrera, City Clerk