Lowden, Jennifer S@DOT

From: Julio C. Esperias, Jr. [julio.esperias.jr@lacity.org]
Sent: Friday, July 11, 2014 5:00 PM
To: Affordable Sales Program@DOT; Lowden, Jennifer S@DOT
Cc: HUGO GARCIA
Subject: RE: Affordable Sales Program: Caltrans SR-710 Surplus Properties Sales
Attachments: Caltrans Properties Extension Letter.pdf

I am submitting this letter (attached) on behalf of Los Angeles City Councilmember Jose Huizar, who represents the community of El Sereno, requesting that the current minimum 45 day public comment period for the proposed Affordable Sales Program Regulations, set to expire on July 14, be extended by 120 days.

Julio C. Esperias, Jr.
Field Deputy - El Sereno
Councilmember José Huizar
14th Council District
4927 East Huntington Drive North, Suite 100
Los Angeles, CA 90032
Phone: (323) 226-1646
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JOSE HUIZAR
COUNCILMEMBER, 14TH DISTRICT

July 11, 2014

Brent L. Green
Chief, Division of Right of Way and Land Surveys
ATTN: Affordable Sales Program
California Department of Transportation
1120 N. Street, MS 37
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Affordable Sales Program: Caltrans SR-710 Surplus Properties Sales

Dear Mr. Green:

As the Los Angeles City Council representative for the community of El Sereno, I am writing to request that the current minimum 45 day public comment period for the proposed Affordable Sales Program Regulations, set to expire on July 14, be extended by 120 days.

We have heard concerns from United Caltrans Tenants (UCT) of El Sereno and other affected residents who live along the proposed 710 Freeway Extension. I support their request to extend the public comment period that will allow those directly affected by this Caltrans proposal adequate time to review and understand this complex proposal. It is vital for residents that have lived in these properties for decades to be given the opportunity to fully vet the proposal and then provide appropriate feedback for Caltrans to address.

In August 2012, I led the effort for the City Council to support a resolution to oppose all 710 Freeway extension options that negatively impact Northeast Los Angeles communities, as well as a tunnel option that would travel below El Sereno, also known as F-7. I opposed this based on Metro and Caltrans poor community outreach, where little focus has been placed on truly informing resident about the options before them and the impacts on their lives.

Providing the bare minimum of only 45 days for the public comment period is unacceptable. On behalf of the over 300 tenants that reside in the affected Caltrans properties within the community of El Sereno, I request that you demonstrate a true willingness to respect their concerns and allow for a vibrant public participation process by granting them the full 120 day extension.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. Please feel free to contact my Chief of Staff Paul Habib at (213) 473-7014 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

José Huizar

José Huizar
Councilmember, 14th District

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