

**Lowden, Jennifer S@DOT**

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**From:** Lowden, Jennifer S@DOT on behalf of Affordable Sales Program@DOT  
**S** Wednesday, July 30, 2014 12:08 PM  
**To:** Constance haddad; Affordable Sales Program@DOT  
**Cc:** Lowden, Jennifer S@DOT  
**Subject:** RE: comment on affordable sales program

Hi Connie,

Your e-mail did come through. Thanks very much!

Thank You,

*Jennifer S. Lowden*

Assistant Chief  
Division of Right of Way and Land Surveys  
916-652-2122



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**From:** Constance haddad [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 30, 2014 12:04 PM  
**To:** Affordable Sales Program@DOT  
**Subject:** comment on affordable sales program

Jim and Connie Haddad

[REDACTED]  
Division of Right of Way and Land Surveys  
Affordable Sales Program  
Department of Transportation  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Your request for comments on your Affordable Sales Program, let me clarify our situation, which we believe is quite unique.

Our property that was taken by eminent domain is at [REDACTED] we do not live there as a "tenant" as that word would usually imply sending mail there that is returned to you and then you resend it to [REDACTED] where we do live.

not live at [redacted] at the request of the local Caltrans authorities. We have been told to use the building at [redacted] for storage (this is that Douglas Failing and Linda Willford, with whom we met a number of times, were sympathetic to our unique situation, and it [redacted] as an uninhabitable building, suitable for storage only, the price for selling it back to us would be kept very low. Therefore we are not privy to the inner workings of Caltrans, and perhaps there was some other reason for this arrangement. The situation is the following: The property at [redacted] is part of a large culturally and historically important Japanese Garden that has been listed in the National and State Registers as an Historic Place and is under the protection of the City of Pasadena through a Mills Act compact. In this situation we know of, the main residence at [redacted] was not taken through eminent domain, but a valuable slice of the east side, at 244 Arlington, was taken. That slice is absolutely essential to the integrity of the Japanese garden. We have read the guidelines you have spelled out for selling off your surplus properties, but they do not apply to our situation. The property is not a stand-alone property. It was always, since the 1930s, an integral part of the Japanese Garden. So not only is it absolutely necessary to get this part of our property back into our ownership, we believe it would be appropriate for Caltrans to donate it for the preservation of the garden.

Sincerely,

Jim and Connie Haddad