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NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM
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27 February 2019

Parker Environmental Consultants
23822 Valencia Boulevard, Suite 301
Valencia, CA 91355

Attn: Elise Lorenzana, Associate Environmental Planner

re: Paleontological resources for the proposed Main Street Tower Project, in the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, project area

Dear Elise:

I have conducted a thorough search of our paleontology collection records for the locality and specimen data for the proposed Main Street Tower Project, in the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, project area as outlined on the portion of the Hollywood USGS topographic quadrangle map that you sent to me via e-mail on 11 February 2019. We do not have any vertebrate fossil localities that lie directly within the proposed project boundaries, but we do have localities nearby from the same sedimentary deposits that occur at depth in the proposed project area.

The entire proposed project area site has surface deposits composed of younger Quaternary Alluvium, derived as overbank deposits from the flood plain of the Los Angeles River that currently flows in a concrete channel just to the east. These younger Quaternary deposits usually do not contain significant fossil vertebrates, at least in the uppermost layers, but the underlying older Quaternary deposits found at varying depths may well contain significant vertebrate fossils.

Our closest vertebrate fossil locality from the older Quaternary deposits is LACM 1755, just west of the proposed project area near the intersection of Hill Street and 12th Street, that produced a fossil specimen of horse, *Equus*, at a depth of 43 feet below the street. Our next

closest vertebrate fossil locality in older Quaternary Alluvium is LACM 1893, almost due west of the proposed project area in a cut for the Santa Monica Freeway (I-10) just east of Gramercy Place, that produced fossil specimens of mammoth, *Mammuthus*, and bison, *Bison antiquus*. Our next closest vertebrate fossil locality from older Quaternary deposits beneath the younger Quaternary Alluvium is probably LACM 2032, northeast of the of the proposed project area near the intersection of Mission Road and Daly Street around the Golden State Freeway (I-5), that produced fossil specimens of pond turtle, *Clemmys mamorata*, ground sloth, *Paramylodon harlani*, mastodon, *Mammut americanum*, mammoth, *Mammuthus imperator*, horse, *Equus*, and camel, *Camelops*, at a depth of 20-35 feet below the surface. The pond turtle specimens from locality LACM 2032 were figured in the scientific literature by B.H. Brattstrom and A. Sturn (1959. A new species of fossil turtle from the Pliocene of Oregon, with notes on other fossil *Clemmys* from western North America. Bulletin of the Southern California Academy of Sciences, 58(2):65-71). At our locality LACM 1023, just north of locality LACM 2032 near the intersection of Workman Street and Alhambra Avenue, excavations for a storm drain recovered fossil specimens of turkey, *Meleagris californicus,* sabre-toothed cat, *Smilodon fatalis*, horse, *Equus*, and deer, *Odocoileus*, at unstated depth. A specimen of the turkey, *Meleagris*, from this locality was published in the scientific literatus by D. W. Steadman (1980. A Review of the Osteology and Paleontology of Turkeys (Aves: Meleagridinae). Contributions in Science, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, 330:131-207).

Shallow excavations in the younger Quaternary Alluvium exposed throughout the proposed project area are unlikely to uncover significant fossil vertebrate remains. Deeper excavations in the proposed project area that extend down into older Quaternary deposits, however, may well encounter significant vertebrate fossils. Any substantial excavations in the proposed project area, therefore, should be closely monitored to quickly and professionally recover any potential vertebrate fossils without impeding development. Also, sediment samples should be collected and processed to determine the small fossil potential in the proposed project area. Any fossils recovered during mitigation should be deposited in an accredited and permanent scientific institution for the benefit of current and future generations.

This records search covers only the vertebrate paleontology records of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. It is not intended to be a thorough paleontological survey of the proposed project area covering other institutional records, a literature survey, or any potential on-site survey.

Sincerely,

Samuel A. McLeod

Samuel A. McLeod, Ph.D.
Vertebrate Paleontology

enclosure: invoice