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**GREATER GRIFFITH PARK  
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

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NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

Certified Council #35

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July 27, 2008

Jane Ellison Usher, Esq.  
President  
City Planning Commission  
City of Los Angeles  
City Hall  
Room 525  
200 North Spring Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

CPC-2008-2548-VCU-ZV-CUB-SPR  
Autry National Center  
4700 Western Heritage Way (Griffith Park)

Dear Ms. Usher:

The application of the Autry National Center to obtain various discretionary rights to greatly enlarge its facility on City-owned land in Griffith Park was filed in the latter half of June 2008. On July 24, 2008, we received notice of a hearing on August 18, 2008, before a hearing officer who would report to your Commission.

We believe that it is premature to have any hearing on this application,

Therefore, we ask that you cause this hearing date to be vacated and order that no hearing be held on this application until a date not earlier than 60 days after the public release of the final Environmental Impact Report for this project.

The proposed project has been the subject of substantial interest both in our community and in other parts of the City. We have had a number of meetings regarding it.

We and a large number our stakeholders and other citizens made extensive comments to the draft EIR in October 2007. Moreover, our neighborhood council, together with two other neighborhood councils, has funded a special professional review of the transportation section of the draft

EIR, which found that one section of the draft EIR to be deficient in nearly a score of matters.

Although the notice of the August 18 hearing says under the rubric "ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE: The Autry National Center's Griffith Park Campus Improvements Project, Environmental Impact Report SCH No. 2007051084" no such document has yet to be released to the public and presumably is not in the file.

Based on the draft EIR and the extensive comments which must be addressed by the final EIR we expect the final EIR will exceed 1,000 pages.

The applicant has had now over nine months to consider the public's comments and to address them in a final EIR. It would be fundamentally unfair after allowing the applicant such a long time to compress the public's right to review and comment to a few days.

This is particularly so as applicant has well-paid sophisticated counsel, and our neighborhood council and other members of the public have only volunteers.

Because neighborhood councils are empowered by the City Charter to give their advice to the City and its various agencies and departments we need time to make complete and cogent comments, from which we hope the City, including your commission, will benefit.

While mindful of the cost of re-circulating notices, we make this request because of the wide public interest in this project, our desire to make appropriate comment and to allow other neighborhood councils and the public generally to provide your commission, through your hearing officer, with the information necessary for you to make a fully informed decision.

None of these goals can be accomplished on the schedule set by this notice.

Charley Mims, President

By Kenneth E. Owen  
Chair, Planning, Zoning and Historic Preservation Committee

CC: by email  
S. Gail Goldberg