FORM. GEN. 160 (Rev. 6-80)

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

October 8, 2003

To: Department of City Planning
Room 763 City Hall
Attn: Maya E. Zaitzevsky, Project Coordinator

From: Fire Department

Subject: **CANYON HILLS PROJECT**

PROJECT LOCATION

8000 La Tuna Canyon Road

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

An 887-acre site bounded by Verdugo Crestline Drive on the north and La Tuna Canyon Road on the south, bisected by the interstate 210 freeway into two sub-areas (A and B). Approximately 280 single-family homes on approximately 194 acres (approximately 211 homes on 142 acres in area A, north of I-210 freeway, approximately 69 homes on 52 acres in area B, south of I-210 freeway) are proposed.

The following comments are furnished in response to your request for this Department to review the proposed development:

A. Fire Flow

The adequacy of fire protection for a given area is based on required fire-flow, response distance from existing fire stations, and this Department's judgment for needs in the area. In general, the required fire-flow is closely related to land use. The quantity of water necessary for fire protection varies with the type of development, life hazard, occupancy, and the degree of fire hazard. 2-1

Fire-flow requirements vary from 2,000 gallons per minute (G.P.M.) in low Density Residential areas to 12,000 G.P.M. in high-density commercial or industrial areas. A minimum residual water pressure of 20 pounds per square inch (P.S.I.) is to remain in the water system, with the required gallons per minute flowing. The required fire-flow for this project has been set at 4,000 G.P.M. from 4 fire hydrants flowing simultaneously. (Based on hillside location with limited access.)

B. Response Distance, Apparatus, and Personnel

The Fire Department has existing fire stations at the following locations for initial response into the area of the proposed development:

AREA A

Fire Station No. 74*
7777 Foothill Boulevard
Tujunga, CA 91042
Task Force Truck and
Engine Company
Paramedic Rescue
Ambulance
Staff – 12
Miles – 2.73

Fire Station No. 24
9411 Wentworth Street
Sunland, CA 91040
Single Engine Company
Staff – 4
Miles – 4.73

Fire Station No. 77
8943 Glenoaks Boulevard
Sun Valley, CA 91352
Paramedic Engine Company
Staff – 4
Miles – 5.86

AREA B

Fire Station No. 77
8943 Glenoaks Boulevard
Sun Valley, CA 91352
Paramedic Engine Company
Staff – 4
Miles – 5.86

Fire Station No. 74*
7777 Foothill Boulevard
Tujunga, CA 91042
Task Force Truck and
Engine Company
Paramedic Rescue
Ambulance
Staff – 12
Miles – 2.73

Fire Station No. 24
9411 Wentworth Street
Sunland, CA 91040
Single Engine Company
Staff – 4
Miles – 4.73

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*Page IV. J-1 states that Fire Station 74 has an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Rescue Ambulance. Fire Station 74 has one Paramedic Rescue Ambulance only.

The above distances were computed to Area "A", La Tuna/Tujunga Canyon Blvd.

Area "B" – 1 mile west of I'210 Freeway on La Tuna Canyon Rd.

Based on these criteria (response distance from existing fire stations), fire protection would be considered inadequate.

In order to mitigate the inadequacy of fire protection in travel distance, sprinkler systems will be required throughout any structure to be built, in accordance with the Los Angeles Municipal Code, Section 57.09.07. 2-2

C. Firefighting Access

Access for Fire Department apparatus and personnel to and into all structures shall be required.

The entrance or exit of all ground dwelling units shall not be more than 150 feet from the edge of a roadway of an improved street, access road, or designated fire lane.

Where access for a given development requires accommodation of Fire Department apparatus, overhead clearance shall not be less than 14 feet.

The Fire Department may require additional vehicular access where buildings exceed 28 feet in height.

Where access for a given development requires accommodation of Fire Department apparatus, minimum outside radius of the paved surface shall be 35 feet. An additional six feet of clear space must be maintained beyond the outside radius to a vertical point 13 feet 6 inches above the paved surface of the roadway.

Fire lane width shall not be less than 20 feet. When a fire lane must accommodate the operation of Fire Department aerial ladder apparatus or where fire hydrants are installed, those portions shall not be less than 28 feet in width. 2-3

No framing shall be allowed until the roadway is installed to the satisfaction of the Fire Department.

Private streets shall be recorded as Private Streets, **AND** Fire Lane. All private street plans shall show the words "Private Street and Fire Lane" within the private street easement.

Plans showing areas to be posted and/or painted, "FIRE LANE NO PARKING" shall be submitted and approved by the Fire Department prior to building permit application sign-off.

Fire lanes, where required and dead ending streets shall terminate in a cul-de-sac or other approved turning area. No dead ending street or fire lane

shall be greater than 700 feet in length or secondary access shall be required.

Private streets and entry gates will be built to City standards to the satisfaction of the City Engineer and the Fire Department.

Electric Gates approved by the Fire Department shall be tested by the Fire Department prior to Building and Safety granting a Certificate of Occupancy.

No building or portion of a building shall be constructed more than 300 feet from an approved fire hydrant. Distance shall be computed along path of travel. Exception: Dwelling unit travel distance shall be computed to front door of unit.

Any required fire hydrants to be installed shall be fully operational and accepted by the Fire Department prior to any building construction.

This project is located in the very high fire hazard severity zone and shall comply with requirements set forth in the City of Los Angeles Municipal Code 57.25.01. 2-3

All landscaping shall use fire-resistant plants and materials. A list of such plants is available from the Fire Department.

All homes shall have noncombustible roofs. (Non-wood)

Mitigating measures shall be considered. These measures shall include, but not be limited to the following:

a. Boxed-in eaves.
b. Single pane, double thickness (minimum 1/8" thickness) or insulated windows.
c. Non-wood siding.
d. Exposed wooden members shall be two inches nominal thickness.
e. Noncombustible finishes.

Project implementation will increase the need for fire protection and emergency medical services in this area.

At present, there are no immediate plans to increase Fire Department staffing or resources in those areas, which will serve the proposed project.

Submit plot plans to the Fire Department for review and approval.

CONCLUSION

The proposed project shall comply with all applicable State and local codes and ordinances, and the guidelines found in the Fire Protection and Fire Prevention Plan, as well as the Safety Plan, both of which are elements of the General Plan of the City of Los Angeles C.P.C. 19708. 2-4

For additional information, please contact Inspector O'Connell of the Construction Services Unit at (213) 482-6504.

WILLIAM R. BAMATTRE
Fire Chief

Alfred B. Hernandez, Assistant Fire Marshal
Bureau of Fire Prevention and Public Safety

ABH:RG:gm
c:Canyon Hills Project