

St. John's Episcopal Church

Lateef Sholebo, Project Coordinator Environmental Review Section Los Angeles City Planning Department 221 N. Figueroa Room 1540 Los Angeles, Ca 90012 Fax: (213) 580 5542

Re:Draft EIR 2000 3577, Los Angeles Sports and Entertainment District

Dear Sir:

I am writing to represent the concerns of this parish which has served this neighboorhood for more than a century. We are a congregation of 350 members at Adams and Figueroa. We run a free clinic for children most of whom live in the vicinity and many of whom live in the area directly impacted by the Sports and Entertainment District. We are part of the Figueroa BID and we are members of the Figueroa Coalition for Economic Justice.

I am writing to comment on the draft EIR for the proposed Sports and Entertainment District. Our concern is primarily with the impact on the current residents in the area who are mostly low income people of color. These people already suffer from the problems generated by the Staples center. More affordable housing has been eliminated. Traffic has significantly increased along with noise and air pollution. Area residents bear the brunt of the problems while the rest of the city reap the benefits.

Further, we are persuaded that these residents will suffer more as a result of the 7 year construction plan and the project's operation over time. The draft does not adequately address the loss of affordable housing in the area due to the neglect of the housing stock and the gentrification of the neighborhood. There is no environmental energy analysis. We are concerned by the identified air and noise impacts and the possibility of water quality violations.

We would like to see the city address these impacts identified in the draft through measures developed in conjunction with the community. We would like the city to review and implement the request for additional analysis and mitigation measures developed by the Figueroa Corridor Coalition for Economic Justice in their comments on the draft. We would like to see a full energy analysis included

in the final EIR with appropriate mitigation. Finally we would hope the city would make the completed EIR available in spanish, the native language of the majority of the affected residents.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

The Rev. Warner R. Traynham

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