March 3, 2011

The Honorable Antonio Villaraigosa  
Mayor of the City of Los Angeles  
City Hall  
200 N. Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Eric Garcetti  
President, Los Angeles City Council  
City Hall  
200 N. Sprint Street, Rm 475  
Los Angeles CA 90012

Re: La Plaza De Cultura y Artes (“LPCA”) Project Site

Dear Mayor Villaraigosa, President Garcetti and Honorable Councilmembers:

We write on behalf of John Tommy Rosas, who is an individual and member of the Tongva-Gabrieleno Native American Tribe and the Tongva Ancestral Territorial Tribal Nation (“TATTN”) concerning the treatment of the remains of Native Americans and others at the LPCA Project Site. We seek the assistance and support of the City of Los Angeles in this matter.

We have requested that the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors take immediate steps to address the concerns of Mr. Rosas and others whose ancestors have been laid to rest within the cemetery commonly known as the Campo Santo at the LPCA Project Site. As a lineal descendent of Native Americans buried at the cemetery at the Project Site, Mr. Rosas is deeply concerned about the treatment of the human remains unearthed at the former cemetery at the Project Site since October 28, 2010. The Site has much historical significance to the City of Los Angeles. It is located in La Plaza de Los Angeles National Historic District and El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument in downtown Los Angeles.

The County reported that 117 sets of human remains have already been excavated at the Campo Santo site next to La Placita Catholic Church, which is in the area of the Tongva Gabrieleno village of Yaangna. Church records at the Huntington Library show 696 burials at the site, with one third to one half being Native Americans. Remains were first unearthed beginning in October 2010. We are informed and believe that additional excavation activity has reportedly occurred as recently as February 12, 2011. The project is not finished and excavations are expected to continue. We understand that the remains have been moved first to California State University at Los Angeles and then to the Los Angeles County Museum of
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Natural History ("Museum"). The Native American Heritage Commission and the Catholic
Archdiocese of Los Angeles have asked the County to stop excavations until there is a proper
investigation.

We have requested from the County and Museum that the remains at the Museum stay there
unmoved and undisturbed. The remains still at the Project Site should also stay there
undisturbed. We have also requested that members from the Native American community have
access to the remains both at the Museum and Project Site. The County should engage in
respectful consultation with the Tongva Gabrielino community and other Native Americans, as
well as other people whose ancestors have been laid to rest at the Project site. After proper
consultation, the remains that have been removed should be reburied respectfully at the Site.
Please save the ancestors at Yaangna and Campo Santo.

We are meeting with counsel for LPCA this week. We have requested a meeting with the
County and Board of Supervisors. We would also appreciate the opportunity to meet with the
City of Los Angeles and individual councilmembers regarding this matter.

We are eager to discuss these matters with you and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Robert Garcia
THE CITY PROJECT

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Attorneys for Mr. Rosas and TATTN

cc: Councilmember Ed Reyes
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Councilmember Tom LaBonge
Councilmember Paul Koretz
Councilmember Tony Cardenas
Councilmember Richard Alarcon
Councilmember Bernard Parks
Councilmember Jan Perry
Councilmember Herb J. Wesson, Jr.
Councilmember Bill Rosendahl
Councilmember Greig Smith
Councilmember Jose Huizar
Councilmember Janice Hahn