### 9/27/12 90

Concerns pertaining to the DEIR presented to the Transportation Commission and the City of Pasadena City Council – Jonas C. Peters, 596 Rosemont Ave Pasadena CA, jpeters@caltech.edu

\* I AM A FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE ENST ARROYONEIGHBORHOOD My name is Jonas Peters and I am a City of Pasadena resident and a Professor of Chemistry PRESENTION at the California Institute of Technology with expertise in chemicals of an organic and inorganic nature, having relocated here in 1999 for work. I live, work, and am raising a family here in Pasadena. I oppose renting the Rose Bowl to an NFL and any associated change thereby" حـــ required of the Pasadena Municipal Code, as such a change would have a profoundly negative impact on the quality of life of Pasadena residents and neighboring communities, as is abundantly clear from the DEIR despite its deficiencies on numerous issues that effect the quality of life of our citizens." \*DEIR TRAFFIC ANALYSIS SHOWS SIGNFICANT IMPACT TO 85% OF INTERSECTION 1 SITUATIONS ON WEEKDAYS AND 74% ON WEEKENDS - MITIGATION METHODS (MM's) MAKE NO CHANGE TO THESE TWO STATISTICS\* There is frightening data contained within this DEIR report to heavily consider, despite its many failings. Traffic is one such area where the data is abundantly evident and weighs heavily against moving forward with this project. Table 3.7-16 of the DEIR lists 66 intersections studied pre- and post-game (132 total intersection situations including all pre- and post-game situations) as part of this DEIR and estimates traffic impact LOS (level of service) grades for each of them, assuming a project goes forward: Summary of these scores are tabulated using LOS below: Weekday Future w/project LOS score: 38/132 score and F: 29% have the worst score possible 10/132 score an E: 8% have the second worst score 22/132 score a D: 17% have the third worst score 2 Summary: 54% of intersections perform in the bottom half of scoring (F, D, or E)! 112/132 intersection situations would be "significantly" impacted! This study represents 85% of the situations studied on a weekday game event! Statistics with "mitigation" are virtually identical. MMs are not shown to be effective. These data unequivocally establish that, under no circumstances whatsoever, should the City of Pasadena proceed with weekday NFL games at the Rose Bowl. Traffic is predicted to become horrendous on such occasions. How about weekend games?

#### Weekend Future w/project LOS score:

19/132 scored an F: 14% have the worst LOS score possible; 24/132 scored an E or D: 18% have the second worst LOS score possible. 32% of intersections are in the bottom half of LOS scoring (F, D, or E)!

98/132 intersection situations would be "significantly" impacted!

This represents 74% of the situations studied on a weekend!

Statistics with mitigation are again identical. MMs are not shown to be effective.

-> These data unequivocally establish that, under no circumstances whatsoever, should the City of Pasadena proceed with weekend NFL games at the Rose Bowl either.

1

## 9/27/12 90P

Concerns pertaining to the DEIR presented to the Transportation Commission and the City of Pasadena City Council – Jonas C. Peters, 596 Rosemont Ave Pasadena CA, jpeters@caltech.edu

These tabulated summary data show that on both weekdays and weekends the traffic impacts to the City of Pasadena are enormous with mitigation not changing the situation much for the better. These data argue strongly against moving forward. Why change a good quality of life to our residents to a bad one? So NFL fans can watch a football game?

Summary statements from the DEIR

See 3.7-89 of the DEIR, where, consistent with my own math, it is shown that "after applying the appropriate adjustments to the v/c and LOS calculation to account for MM 3.7-2, it was determined that the proposed mitigation will reduce the project related incremental v/c resulting in partial mitigation of the project's traffic, however, the reduction in v/c will not be enough to reduce the impact to a less than significant level at any of significantly impacted intersections."

Again, the DEIR is clear. It states on 3.7-97: "It is expected that impacts to the 20 CMP [Congestion Management Program] freeway-monitoring stations, though temporary, would remain significant and unavoidable."

Given anticipated traffic build-up, the possible impacts of local air quality, noise, and safety on parks, schools, and other points of congregation, especially by young children, near all significantly impacted intersections and arteries must be thoroughly studied. The DEIR does not address this issue and thus does not conform to CEQA guidelines.

\*LOCAL REAL ESTATE DISCLOSURES SHOULD BE MADE TO PROSPECTIVE HOME BUYERS IN AREAS OF PASADENA IF THIS PROJECT IS NOT IMMEDIATELY SHELVED – MAJOR SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS TO LOCAL TRAFFIC, NOISE, SAFETY, AND POLLUTION ARE ABUNDANTLY CLEAR FROM THE DEIR, AND THIS ME IMPACT QUALITY OF LIFE AND PROPERTY VALUES\* THE DEIR

DOES NOT EVALUATE THE IMPACTS

Siven the rather dire and well-documented traffic and associated noise, safety, and local air quality situation raised by Dianne Newman with independent input from Professor John Seinfeld of Caltech, the City of Pasadena should immediately direct all real estate agents presenting Pasadena properties in the vicinity of any of these intersections or arteries, minor, major, or otherwise, to present such information to prospective home buyers as a formal disclosure. Such a disclosure should be well-documented, disclosing health and quality of life issues in the same way any lead paint or known disturbance issue disclosure is made. Because buyers purchasing Pasadena homes in advance of a possible NFL arrival would have no way of knowing what they were getting into, City officials should make immediate efforts to educate all local real estate agents on this topic. When I bought my Pasadena home one year ago on Rosemont Ave, I wish such a disclosure had been made to me at the time. While I knew I could suffer through 12 Displacement events while cheering for the UCLA Bruins and renovating a historic 1917 Pasadena home, I trusted the City ordinance and had no clue that the City would consider more than "doubling" the number of such events. Indeed, I was instead told the NFL issue was dead - that we'd voted on it already. I would have chosen an alternative location to reside had I then known this was back on the table. Other prospective home buyers should not be similarly fooled. Pasadena City Officials, do your due diligence and direct local realtors to begin making formal disclosures that the NFL, and all its troubles, especially those issues that pose substantial safety, traffic, and health hazard risks as clearly

documented in this DEIR, could be here by next Fall.

90f

4

### 9/27/12 908

Concerns pertaining to the DEIR presented to the Transportation Commission and the City of Pasadena City Council – Jonas C. Peters, 596 Rosemont Ave Pasadena CA, jpeters@caltech.edu

THE DEIR DOES NOT STUDY IMPACTS TO BUS SERVICE IN PASADENA AND IMPACT ON COMMUTERS THAT USE IT –SOCIOECONOMIC AND RACIAL BIAS OF STUDY APPEARS TO BE PROBLEMATIC IN THIS REGARD

- The DEIR is sorely lacking with respect to impacts to local Pasadena bus service on both weekdays and weekends. This is highly problematic because the user community of local bus lines leans towards socioeconomically disadvantaged citizens whose work and livelihoods depend on reliable operation of such bus services. These include comparatively low-wage workers that simply need to get to a job, or to get home in time to meet their children getting out of an after school program. When we speak of economic benefit, do we anticipate benefits to landscapers in Pasadena, people that clean homes, people that need to get to a restaurant to work a shift busing tables? What about painters, contractors, and home care services? The list goes on. The DEIR must address traffic implications on all transportation lines, buses included, and estimate the true impact on people's lives. On a weekday it's clearly a disaster and a no go. But many low-wage workers need to travel to a job on either a Saturday or a Sunday, or both. What is there fate when a UCLA and an NFL game happen to clog the traffic arteries on both Saturday and Sunday? The DEIR is socioeconomically and racially biased in chosen areas of focus. There are certain demographics that will be heavily punished if this project moves forward.
- 2 DEIR STUDY (AND PROPOSAL) APPEAR TO BE BIASED AGAINST UNDER REPRESENTED MINORITY RACIAL GROUPS, AND SOCIOECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED GROUPS, USING THE ROSE BOWL, BROOKSIDE, AND ALL ASSOCIATED RECREATIONAL FACILITIES ON WEEKENDS AND WEEKDAY EVENINGS

The Rose Bowl and Brookside recreation areas are wildly successful in drawing socioeconomically disadvantaged people, and many people from URM groups, to engage in healthful exercise of all sorts - running, soccer, baseball, aerobics, walking, playgrounds, etc. These are two demographics where routine fitness is hard to sustain, and where obesity is problematic. A casual walk around the 3-mile loop, gazing at the grass fields of the Rose Bowl and Brookside filled with Latinos and other groups playing soccer, women of all races (and some men) doing aerobics, watching softball and baseball and kickball games filled with all types of people, not to mention the playgrounds within Brookside filled with joyful children likely of predominant URM groups, is heartwarming to behold. These groups make the effort to come, often driving to the area, because it is safe, beautiful, and because there is benefit in 'shared community'. This demographic, which is likely in the thousands per week, would be displaced on the weekends and weekday evenings of NFL games in the Fall by a different demographic, presumably the one that can afford and would want to attend an NFL game. The other parks in Pasadena will not fill the void, nor provide a similar experience. Not even close. This is a huge environmental impact and has not been addressed at all in the DEIR. Specifically, what demographic is displaced and what are the specific numbers, and what demographic replaces it, and what are the comparative health benefits to these respective groups engaging in the two different types of activity, the present regular users being people obviously engaged in healthful recreation, the NFL fans being engaged in, for the most part, entertainment, with food and alcohol consumption being a large part of that entertainment.

5

6

7

#### 8

# 9/27/12 900

Concerns pertaining to the DEIR presented to the Transportation Commission and the City of Pasadena City Council – Jonas C. Peters, 596 Rosemont Ave Pasadena CA, jpeters@caltech.edu

DEIR IS INADEQUAT IN ECOLOGICAL STUDIES OF THE ROSE BOWL AND ARROYO SECCO AREA, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO CUMULATIVE EFFECTS OF CHEMICAL WASTE RESULTING FROM TRAFFIC AND OTHER SOURCES AS A RESULT OF USE OF THE AREA FOR DISPLACEMENT EVENTS WITH NEW FREQUENCY OVER A SUSTAINED PERIOD OF TIME

The DIER (draft environmental impact report) fails to address possibly cumulative impacts of great environmental concern resulting from cumulative organic and inorganic chemical waste that is potentially hazardous and even toxic to the environment, as a result of this City proposal to rent the RB to the NFL for up to 5 years and increase the number of allowable displacement events from 12 to 25. CEQA is clear these impacts must be addressed. What are the chemical waste implications related to vehicles and possibly oil and gas leakage/spillage, cooking equipment in tailgating venues and associated disposal of various forms of trash items, cooking within the Rose Bowl, huge amounts of spillage of liquids including beer and high in sugar juices and sodas? How do these cumulative effect change when a single UCLA-type college game is played less than a dozen times per season, virtually never more than one such event in a single 7-day period, to a schedule wherein both a UCLA game and an NFL game would be played in a single week, for example on a Saturday and a Sunday, or a Thurs/Mon and a Saturday. Will these chemical and food-derived wastes products stimulate (or attenuate) the rate of metabolism of microorganisms essential to the ground soils of the Arroyo Secco, or microorganisms possibly harmful to the area? If such metabolisms are changed, what are the cumulative ecological chain effects that might be envisioned on various plant species and local Arroyo wildlife? As rainwater washes airborne pollutants that arise from the increased pollution, clearly documented in the DEIR due to vehicle emissions but not covering emissions of other sources like outdoor cooking, into the ground soil of the Arroyo, what cumulative change to that soil occurs over the time of the project? As living organisms drink that water to sustain life, including microorganisms, insects, and so on up the animal kingdom chain, what impact will there be to the local ecology of the Rose Bowl and Arroyo Secco area? CEQA demands we study these impacts. As particulate matters (PMs) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) rise nearly an order of magnitude above SCAQMD threshold values with a new frequency due to the scope of this project, what environmental impact to we expect to local residential (and non-residential) gardens, including food-producing gardens? As these pollutants exceed threshold values and thereby increase their rate of dissolution in local residential (and non-residential) swimming pools, including the Aquatic Center, what cumulative effect can we expect? Our children swim in and sometimes accidentally swallow some water from these pools. Pollution and water are everywhere, and like the air we breath, tie all residents and wildlife of the area together regardless of what street we live in or hole we live in. CEQA is clear that the Arroyo Secco ecology must be studied carefully to establish the impacts the scope of this project could have. This parkway accounts for ca. 95% of Pasadena's public park lands and must be considered precious and be well looked after. Such questions need answers as is clear from CEQA.

Letter No. 49: Jonas Peters

Jonas Peters September 27, 2012

Response 49-1

See Response 48-3.

Response 49-2

See Response 48-3.

Response 49-3

Refer to **Response 48-4**.

Response 49-4

The comment raises issues that do not appear to relate to any physical effect on the environment. The comment will be included as part of the record and made available to the decision makers prior to a final decision on the proposed project.

Response 49-5

Refer to **Response 48-12**.

Response 49-6

Refer to **Response 48-12**.

Please refer to **Response 15-1** regarding the cumulative impact of two games in one weekend.

Response 49-7

Refer to **Response 48-14**.

Response 49-8

Refer to **Response 48-16**.