DATE: June 19, 2013

TO: David W. Louie, Chair  
    Esther L. Valadez, Vice Chair  
    Harold V. Helsley, Commissioner  
    Curt Pedersen, Commissioner  
    Pat Modugno, Commissioner  

FROM: Samuel Z. Dea  
    Section Head, Special Projects  

SUBJECT: PROJECT NO. TR071216-(5)  
    PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 200900010  
    ZONE CHANGE NO. 200900012  
    VESTING TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 071216  
    CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 200900126  
    OAK TREE PERMIT NO. 200900041  
    PARKING PERMIT NO. 201000002  
    ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. 200900112  
    EIR SCH NO. 2010011010  

Additional comment letters regarding the Disney | ABC Studios At The Ranch Project have been received and are attached including an additional letter from representatives of California Native American Heritage Commission, the Friends of the Santa Clara River, the Valley Industry and Commerce Association, Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, and members of the public.

The letter from the California Native American Heritage Commission affirmed tribal concerns about the Golden Oak Ranch as a sensitive site and the need to monitor carefully. The letter from the Friends of the Santa Clara River inquired about an update to the Water Supply Assessment and questions about the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program. A copy of the cover letter for the April, 2013 update to the Water Supply Assessment indicating adequate water supply for the project for 20 years was included in the June 6 submittal to the Commission. Questions about certain mitigation measures were asked. The FEIR addresses corrections to those mitigation measures. The Valley Industry and Commerce Association and the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce and members of the public indicated support for the Project's contribution to job creation and economic development for the region.

If you have any further questions, please contact Mr. Kim Szalay at (213) 974-4876, or, by email at kszalay@planning.lacounty.gov.

SZD:KKS

Attachments: Additional Comment Letters
FYI – I just received this from Fernandino tribe

From: Rudy Ortega [mailto:rotega@tataviam-nsn.us]
Sent: Tuesday, June 18, 2013 2:11 PM
To: David Singleton
Cc: Vizcarra, Edel
Subject: FW: Disney Ranch

From: David Singelton <ds_nahc@pacbell.net>
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2013 2:09 PM
To: Rudy Ortega <rotega@tataviam-nsn.us>
Cc: "evizcarra@lac.bos.org" <evizcarra@lac.bos.org>
Subject: Re: Disney Ranch

June 18, 2013

Dear Mr. Ortega and the County Department of Regional Planning:

This is to affirm the tribal concerns about the proposed Disney Ranch project; the project site (area of potential effect or APE) is known to be very culturally sensitive. The California Native American Heritage Commission urges the County Department and the project developers to work closely with Mr. Ortega’s members in order to avoid harm to sacred sites and to minimize harm where a mitigation plan is appropriate.

Sincerely,

Dave Singleton
California Native American Heritage Commission
1550 Harbor Boulevard, Suite 100
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916) 373-3715 - Direct Line
(916) 373-3710 - Main Line
(916) 373-5471 - FAX
ds_nahc@pacbell.net<mailto:ds_nahc@pacbell.net>
www.nahc.ca.gov<http://www.nahc.ca.gov/>

On Jun 18, 2013, at 1:34 PM, Rudy Ortega <rotega@tataviam-nsn.us> wrote:

Hello Edel,
It was pleasure speaking to you the other day. I've attached is a PDF of the tribe's map with tribal villages. As expressed the Tribe is highly concern of an ancestral village "Tobimonga" within Disney's project. The Tribe has sent its comment letters to the Department of Planning, State Native American Heritage Commission and Army Corps expressing its concerns.

I would like further discuss with you in-depth about the Tribe's concerns.

Sincerely,

Rudy Ortega Jr.
Tomiar

Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians
1019 Second Street
San Fernando, CA 91340
(818) 837-0794
(818) 837-0796 FAX
www.tataviam-nsn.us
<Tataviam Tribal Territory Map Final-2013.pdf>
6-15-13

Planning Commission and Christina Tran, Staff
Los Angeles County Regional Planning Dept.
320 W. Temple St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Via email toctran@planning.lacounty.gov

PLEASE COPY TO ALL COMMISSIONERS

Re: Comment on the FEIR – Disney Studio Project - Placerita Canyon County Project TR071216 – (5), Plan Amendment 200100010, Zone Change 20090012, VTT 071216, CUP 200900126, Oak Tree Permit, Parking Permit, Flood Map Change, etc.

Honorable Members of the Planning Commission
And Ms. Tran, Staff:

Friends of the Santa Clara River was formed in 1993 to provide community oversight of issues pertaining to the Santa Clara River watershed. We particularly review projects that will affect the river and its tributaries in an effort to ensure habitat protection, retention of the natural hydrology, protection of floodplains and continued groundwater recharge.

As a tributary to the Santa Clara River, Placerita Creek provides an important contribution to the watershed through surface flows, sediment movement and habitat.

On July 15th 2012, we submitted detailed comments on the DEIR reflecting concerns over disclosure and mitigation proposed to protect this tributary. Instead of responding to our comments with details and explanations, the FEIR seems to have merely eliminated the mitigation measures proposed and circulated in the DEIR. (see attached line outs from the FEIR). We believe that you cannot inform the public
of your intentions by circulating substantial mitigation proposals in the DEIR document, only to later eliminate them in the FEIR, a document that is not as universally available. This "bait and switch" tactic does not meet the goal of CEQA, i.e. to inform the public of environmental impacts so that mitigation can be proposed and implemented. We therefore request that the detailed description of mitigation measures be restored to the EIR and not deferred to a "Standard Stormwater Mitigation Plan" that the public has not seen and to which it may not easily have access.

Although a new Water Supply Assessment (WSA) was submitted to the County in April of this year, replacing the 2010 assessment included in the DEIR, the new WSA was neither included in the FEIR nor circulated to the public by other means. We believe that the impact on local water supplies due to closures of two additional contaminated Saugus wells (V201 and V205) were not adequately disclosed or assessed in the DEIR. Based on information supplied in the WSA and Santa Clarita Valley Water Report (on file at the County and hereby included in this document by reference), the Santa Clara River alluvial groundwater is already fully utilized. Water supplies needed to replace production from these closed wells may not be forthcoming. These issues should have been disclosed and discussed in the DEIR. We attach for your reference our comment letter to Newhall County Water District regarding the WSA for this project.

The lose of 158 oaks in this rural area and its ensuing impact on lose of sequestration of green house gases and lose of habitat is unacceptable. We therefore oppose any plan amendment change for this area.

Thank you in advance for your attention to these concerns.

Barbara Wampole
Vice Chair

Attachments:
1. Mitigation line outs from the FEIR
2. WSA comment letter to Newhall County Water District
ATTACHMENT 1

(EXCERPT SHOWING DELETED MITIGATION MEASURES)
relevant report, the revisions to the Development Area do not affect the analysis or conclusions contained therein.

Section IV, Project Description, page IV-40, revise the first paragraph as follows:

Power from the substation would be distributed underground through four 16 kV feeder circuits to the various buildings on-site. This distribution would occur entirely underground through a dedicated network of ductbanks and manholes. This distribution would occur entirely underground through a dedicated network of ductbanks and manholes. Telecommunications fiber optic cable would need to be constructed into the new substation to connect relays installed for the protection of electrical power lines and equipment to operate properly under electrical fault conditions.

Section IV, Project Description, page IV-54, revise the second full bullet item as follows:

- A parking permit to authorize tandem parking, use of shared off-lot parking, and an exemption from paving and striping requirements for surplus parking within the conditional parking lots unless—if parking within the LADWP transmission corridor is later revoked by LADWP.

V.A. GEOTECHNICAL HAZARDS

Section V.A, Geotechnical Hazards, page V.A-37, revise PDF A-1 and PDF A-2 as follows:

PDF A-1: During construction and operation of the Project, The Applicant shall implement appropriate erosion control and drainage devices as specified in the Project’s Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan and Standard Urban Stormwater Mitigation Plan.

PDF A-2: Excavation and grading activities shall be scheduled during dry weather periods to the extent feasible. If grading occurs during the rainy season (October 15 through April 1), diversion dikes and channels shall be constructed to channel runoff around the site. Channels shall be lined with grass, jute mesh or berms to reduce runoff velocity. Appropriate erosion control measures shall be implemented in accordance with the approved Wet Weather Erosion Control Plan.

Section V.A, Geotechnical Hazards, page V.A-38, revise MM A-3 as follows:
MM A-3: Prior to issuance of a grading permit, the Applicant shall submit a grading plan to the Seis-Section of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works for verification of compliance with County codes and policies.

V.B. FLOOD HAZARDS

Section V.B, Flood Hazards, page V.B-17, revise the short paragraph at the bottom of the page as follows:

In compliance with regulatory agencies' and LACDPW requirements, a variety of construction and operational BMPs would be implemented to both allow infiltration and treat stormwater runoff. The following Project design features, or equivalent, would be implemented, as appropriate based on the Final Hydrology and Hydraulics Study approved by LACDPW for the final Project design, to comply with regulatory and LACDPW requirements:

Section V.B, Flood Hazards, pages V.B-34 to V.B-36, revise PDF B-3 as follows:

PDF B-3: In compliance with County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works requirements, a variety of construction and operational best management practices shall be specified in the Project's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan and—Standard—Urban Stormwater Mitigation Plan and implemented to allow infiltration and treat stormwater runoff, including the following: during construction.

In compliance with County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works requirements, a variety of operational best management practices shall be depicted in the Project's Standard Urban Stormwater Mitigation Plan, specified on improvement plans, and constructed to allow infiltration and treat stormwater runoff.

- Cut and fill slopes shall be constructed no steeper than 1:2 (vertical:horizontal) unless steeper slopes are approved at specific locations by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works. All slopes shall be stabilized in accordance with Los Angeles County Standard Erosion Control Policy.

- Design Pollution Prevention best management practices, such as concentrated flow conveyance systems, protection/velocity dissipation devices, and slope surface protection, shall be employed.
- New slopes shall be treated with erosion control materials such as native-grasses, jute mesh, and soil stabilizers upon completion of grading.

- Retaining walls shall be incorporated into the Project's design to reduce the steepness of slopes and/or to shorten slopes.

- Existing slopes shall be disturbed only when necessary.

- Cut-and-fill areas shall be minimized to reduce slope lengths.

- Benches or terraces shall be provided on high-cut-and-fill slopes to reduce the concentration of flows.

- Slopes shall be rounded and shaped to reduce concentrated flows.

- Hard surfaces (slope paving) shall be constructed beneath the proposed permanent single-span bridge as a slope stabilization feature; buried soil cement shall be used along the creek banks to allow revegetation of the stabilized slopes. The bridge shall be designed to limit work within flowing streams and minimize construction impacts to surface waters. The proposed bridge shall span Placerita Creek, with no bridge footings or other permanent impermeable surfaces within areas of the creek subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

- The Project shall contain two drainage line outlets with headwalls or flared-end sections with rock-slope protection, as required by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works. These devices generally shall be located along the Placerita Creek embankments to maintain historic drainage patterns. The final number of outlets and proposed improvements (e.g., headwalls or flared-end sections with rock-slope protection) shall be determined in the final Hydrology and Hydraulics Study approved by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works for the final Project design.

- Downspout Connection—The proposed building downspouts shall direct stormwater to the streets and storm drain system, which shall discharge into the on-site detention basins that would have infiltration capacity (thus stormwater loads during precipitation events).
II. Corrections, Clarifications, and Additions to the Draft EIR

- Vegetated Swales—These engineered densely vegetated depressions shall be implemented where appropriate to retain and filter the first flush of runoff from impervious surfaces such as parking lots or streets.

- Riparian Buffers The existing riparian buffer adjacent to Placerita Creek shall be expanded as part of the Project after stabilization of the fill pad slopes.

- Concentrated flow conveyance systems—Other new conveyance systems shall include curb and gutter, a storm drain system, catch basins, manholes, asphalt-lined dikes, detention basin surface ponds, underground detention/infiltration chamber devices, and debris basins.

- Routine non-structural source control best management practices shall include the following:
  
  — Educational materials for Property Owners, Tenants and Occupants regarding stormwater protection and pollution prevention;

  — Activity Restrictions;

  — Spill Contingency Plans;

  — Employee Training Programs regarding stormwater protection and pollution prevention;

  — Road-Sweeping; and

  — Catch Basin Inspections.

- Routine structural source control best management practices shall include the following:
  
  — Landscape Planning and Design;

  — Roof Runoff Controls;

  — Efficient Irrigation;

  — Protection of Slopes and Channels;

  — Storm Drain Signage;

  — Inlet Trash Racks;
— Energy Dissipators; and

— Trash Storage Areas and Litter Control.

• Erosion Control Measures shall be employed to prevent the movement of soil by wind or water during construction and might include watering and erecting physical barriers to the movement of soil particles.

V.C. NOISE

Section V.C, Noise, page V.C-27, revise the first sentence of the second full paragraph as follows:

As part of the Project, a public multi-use trail, referred to as the Placerita Canyon Connector Trail, would be constructed south of Placerita Canyon Road (south of the Development Area) in an area referred to as the Trail Area.

Section V.C, Noise, page V.C-48, revise PDF C-2 as follows:

PDF C-2: To expedite soil export activities, a second work shift from approximately 7:00 or 8:00 P.M. to approximately 2:00 or 3:00 A.M. may occur if appropriate permits/exemptions are granted. Activities scheduled during this night shift shall be limited to loading trucks with soil and hauling and Applicant shall ensure no noise disturbance at any residential property line would occur due to these hauling—night shift activities. The Applicant shall obtain an exemption from the County Engineer, as applicable, before any soil export activities can occur for the second work shift.

Section V.C, Noise, page V.C-49, revise MM C-5 and MM C-6 as follows:

MM C-5: The booster pump station associated with the water infrastructure improvements shall be designed and constructed such that noise levels at the nearest residential receptor do not exceed the City of Santa Clarita’s ambient noise limits of 55 dBA during nighttime hours (between 10:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M.) and 65 dBA during daytime hours (between the 7:00 A.M. and 10:00 P.M.) or the lowest measured ambient noise level.

MM C-6: For construction of segments of the proposed off-site utility lines located within the jurisdiction of the County of Los Angeles or the City of Santa Clarita, construction shall be permitted from
7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. Monday through Friday and 8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. on Saturday. For applicable segments under Caltrans’ jurisdiction, construction hours shall be from 11:00 P.M. to 5:00 A.M. Monday through Friday.

V.D. WATER QUALITY

Section V.D, Water Quality, page V.D-21, following the first bullet list, revise the introductory sentence before the second bullet list as follows:

All of the following BMPs, or equivalent, would also be implemented as part of the Project’s SUSMP:

Section V.D, Water Quality, page V.D-23, following the first bullet list, revise the introductory sentence near the bottom of the page before the next bullet list as follows:

In addition, in accordance with County’s LID Manual, the following LID BMPs, or equivalent, would promote infiltration and would complement, or be a part of, the SUSMP BMPs listed above:

Section V.D, Water Quality, page V.D-29, revise the first sentence of the second full paragraph as follows:

In addition, prior to the issuance of any building permit and installation of the new septic tank, the Applicant would submit a feasibility report in conformance with the requirements outlined in the “Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS) Guidelines” “A Professional Guide to Requirements and Procedures for Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS)” of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health (LACDPH) and demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Environmental Health section of LACDPH that the Potential Mobile Home Relocation Areas are capable of supporting a new septic tank.

Section V.D, Water Quality, page V.D-30, revise PDF D-1 and PDF D-2 as follows:

PDF D-1: The Applicant shall prepare and implement a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan in compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Construction General Permit prior to and during construction activities.

PDF D-2: The Applicant shall prepare and implement a Standard Urban Stormwater Mitigation Plan to address water quality issues during ongoing operation of the Project, consistent with the
approved Drainage Concept/LID Plan/SUSMP Plan contained in Appendix C of the Draft EIR.

Section V.D, Water Quality, pages V.D-30 to V.D-32, remove PDF D-4 as shown below:

**PDF D-4:** The following best management practices shall also be implemented as part of the Project's Standard Urban Stormwater Mitigation Plan:

- Treatment-Control best management practices in accordance with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System requirements, the following treatment-control best management practices shall be implemented to infiltrate or treat the first 0.75 inch of stormwater runoff from the first flush storm event:

  — Vegetated swales—Vegetated swales shall be used to remove pollutants, reduce stormwater volumes and flow velocity, and convey stormwater runoff.

  — Detention basins—Detention basins shall serve as the main treatment-control best management practice for the Project. They shall be designed to manage the increase in stormwater runoff and to detain and slowly release the design volume of urban runoff, allowing particles and associated pollutants to settle and be removed. These detention basins shall be composed of a vegetated aboveground portion and an underground detention system. The vegetated portions shall allow infiltration, and turf management in the basin shall ensure that pesticides would not contribute to water pollution. The surface detention system overflow outlet shall drain to Placerita Creek, while the underground detention systems shall capture and detain stormwater flows and provide first flush mitigation before either infiltrating back into the local groundwater basin or draining via outlets to Placerita Creek. Energy dissipaters shall be required to minimize erosion. Cleanup shall be conducted semiannually, especially during and after major rainfall events. The Applicant and/or its successor or assignee shall be responsible for cleanup and documenting maintenance.

  - Operation and maintenance requirements for best management practices. In order to minimize the potential
for pollutants to enter receiving waters in stormwater runoff following Project construction, the following—best management practices—shall be implemented to separate stormwater from potential pollutants:

- Parking lot and roadway cleaning—Parking lots and internal roadways shall be routinely maintained to effectively minimize nuisances and to keep internal roads and parking lots in safe condition. Cleaning shall include vacuuming or sweeping of all parking lots, and internal roadways.

- Parking lot runoff—Parking lot drainage points shall be equipped with oil/water separators which would be maintained according to manufacturers’ specifications.

- Landscape planning—Landscape, buffers, and other vegetated areas shall require weekly maintenance to control optimum height and prevent drain blockage. Pesticide and fertilizer use shall occur in accordance with product instructions and be applied by a certified applicator.

- Irrigation system—Maintenance of the irrigation system(s) within the Project site shall comply with County requirements regarding water conservation. Systems shall be periodically inspected to address overspray, broken sprinklers, or other system failures.

- Trash storage areas—Trash areas shall be paved with impervious surfaces and designed to prevent runoff from percolating. Trash storage areas shall be maintained routinely to effectively minimize nuisances.

- Roof runoff control—Roof drain downspouts shall drain to concrete gutters or shall be directly connected to the proposed on-site underground drain-pipe system.

- Storm drain inspection—All storm drain facilities, including catch basins, pipes, drain inlets, and channels, shall be inspected and cleaned just prior to the rainy season.

- Detention basins—Clean up and inspection shall occur before, during, and after major rainfall events. Basins shall be serviced semiannually or following an extreme
storm. Service shall include cleaning the basins and maintaining the outlet structures.

- Other reasonable Best management practices The Applicant shall implement other good housekeeping and storage measures, as needed, to keep pollutants out of stormwater, as outlined in the Standard Urban Stormwater Mitigation Plan.

Section V.D, Water Quality, page V.D-32, revise MM D-1 as follows:

**MM D-1:** Prior to the issuance of any building permit/installation of any on-site wastewater treatment system, the Applicant shall submit a feasibility report in conformance with the requirements outlined in the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health's guidelines "A Professional Guide to Requirements and Procedures for Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS)-Guidelines" to the Environmental Health section of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health for review and approval and demonstrate that the Potential Mobile Home Relocation Areas are capable of supporting the installation of an on-site wastewater treatment system.

**V.E.1. AIR RESOURCES—AIR QUALITY**

Section V.E.1, Air Resources—Air Quality, page V.E.1-1, add the following sentence at the end of the first paragraph under the heading 1. Introduction:

Calculation worksheets for emissions associated with Project-related pyrotechnics are provided in Appendix E.3 of this Draft EIR.

Section V.E.1, Air Resources—Air Quality, page V.E.1-61, revise MM E.1-4 and MM E.1-5 as follows:

**MM E.1-4:** After mass—rough grading of the Project site is completed, construction activity shall utilize electricity from power poles on or adjacent to the Ranch rather than temporary diesel power generators and/or gasoline power generators when electricity with adequate circuit capacity is available from power poles in proximity to construction areas.

**MM E.1-5:** The selected contractor shall use a mix of equipment that includes Tier 3 or Tier 4 equipment for off-road construction equipment, as defined by the United States Environmental
ATTACHMENT 2

(LETTER TO NEWHALL COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
OBJECTING TO THEIR WATER SUPPLY ASSESSMENT
FOR THE DISNEY PROJECT)
4-11-13

Newhall County Water District
PO Box 220970
Newhall CA. 91322

Please Copy All Board Members
Delivered via email

Re: Disney Studios, Placerita Canyon, Water Supply Assessment

Dear Board Members

The Friends of the Santa Clara River is discouraged that your agency and others in the Santa Clarita Valley continue to overstate the water supply in the area as well as the available water that can be pumped from the Santa Clara River.

We are concerned about the Disney project because Placerita Creek is a tributary to the Santa Clara River. This project proposes extensive filling of the flood plain, hard-scaping of the creek bed and additional water use with no evaluation of the loss of ground water re-charge caused by the project. Loss of recharge in the tributaries affects the recharge of the Santa Clara River.

We are especially incredulous at the statement you make regarding pumping from the Santa Clara river that is already exceeding safe yield even by your own lax standards. On page 14 the WSA states that the water agencies are using only 24,000 to 26,000 Acre Feet of the estimated yield of the river, while the additional pumping that brings the production up to the 40,000 AF is agricultural. This is absurd. The river and the habitat do not know whether the water is going to municipal uses or agricultural uses. The pumping, for whatever purpose, is over-extending the safe yield of the river. Further, as your District is well aware, Newhall Land has stated that it intends to convert the agricultural pumping to municipal uses for Newhall Ranch. The river upper basin is being overdrafted now. The Disney Studio use will add to this problem.

The WSA disguises and overstates the actual well production ability by using “capacity” of well pumps. This gives a false impression of the amount of water that can actually be supplied. Your district is perhaps more familiar than any of the inability of pumps to produce water when the water levels drop as occurs in
the Upper basin to several of your wells in low rain years and summer months. It
doesn't matter what their capacity is.

This is not only true of the alluvial water wells, but also of the Saugus treatment
facility that is performing far under capacity, when it is not closed down for failure
to not meet treatment standards. This information should be accurately provided
in the WSA.

While you mention that well 201 has been removed from service, you fail to
mention, that according to the Department of Health Services, well 205 has also
been closed by Valencia Water Company because of low level detection of
Volatile Organic Compounds.

The Water Supply Assessment mentions the operation of Valencia Well 207.
Please provide us with the date that this well was put into operation and its
pumping capacity and water quality start up readings. Please consider this
a public records request. Any document you can provide to verify this
information will be acceptable. Please email the documents to Friends of
the Santa Clara River at: bottorf@gmail.com.

Stating that the ground water Saugus Well capacity of 27,000 Acre Feet is
adequate, further stretches the credibility of the WSA. Your district is well aware
that this source has NEVER produced more than 15,000AF. Production in
excess of that amount is completely hypothetical, especially with the apparent
spread of the pollution plume in a westerly direction.

As the climate continues to heat up, water supplies throughout the state will
diminish. It is imperative that your agency and the other Santa Clarita Water
Agencies begin to report water supplies more accurately so that the true impacts
of the impending water shortages can be faced head on and properly addressed.

We request that you provide more comprehensive and accurate information on
the Santa Clarita Valley water supply for both the project proponent and the
County of Los Angeles.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Ron Bottoff
Chairman

Cc: County of Los Angeles, Dept of Regional Planning
June 13, 2013

Mr. Kim Szalay
Department of Regional Planning
320 West Temple Street, Room 1362
Los Angeles, CA 90012

SUBJECT: SUPPORT Disney/ABC Studios at The Ranch – County Project Number TR071216-(5)

Dear Mr. Szalay:

The Valley Industry and Commerce Association (VICA) would like to express our strong support for the development of Disney/ABC Studios at The Ranch, a major economic investment for the Santa Clarita Valley. VICA represents over 370 businesses in Los Angeles County, most of whom are directly affected by the vitality of our entertainment industry.

From caterers to equipment suppliers and prop manufacturers, increased film production in the region creates jobs. The construction of the Studios at the Ranch will create 3,152 jobs during construction alone. As a result, the county will gain $1.3 million in annual revenue. As we emerge steadily from one of the greatest economic crises in our nation’s history, we must continue to focus on getting people back to work, which this project will accomplish.

For decades, the Walt Disney Company’s Golden Oak Ranch has served as a location of choice for classic films such as Pearl Harbor, The Parent Trap, and Pirates of the Caribbean II & III. Disney/ABC Studios at The Ranch will continue its novel legacy and provide new, state-of-the-art studio space as an addition to film offerings currently available in the Santa Clarita Valley.

Disney/ABC Studios at The Ranch is an exciting investment in our county. This project is exactly what is needed to create jobs and stimulate economic activity in the Santa Clarita Valley.

For this reason, VICA urges the Regional Planning Commission to give the project their unanimous support.

Sincerely,

[Signatures]
David Adelman  
Chair

Stuart Waldman  
President
June 17, 2013

Mr. David W. Louie, Chair
Members of the Regional Planning Commission
Hall of Records
320 W. Temple St.
Los Angeles, California 90012

RE: Disney/ABC Studios at The Ranch - County Project Number TR071216-(5)

Dear Mr. Louie and Commissioners:

On behalf of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, I write to support Disney/ABC’s land use proposal for the Golden Oak Ranch. This project will bring thousands of jobs and millions in revenue to the region, while working to effectively mitigate environmental impacts to the surrounding environment.

The development will take place on two mostly barren parcels of land, affecting about 6 percent of the 890-acre ranch and preserving the rest as a natural backdrop. Disney is also committed to restoring the Placerita Creek with natural vegetation, planting 1,600 oak trees, and adding a nature trail to the Los Angeles Forest. The buildings themselves will be sustainably designed and Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified.

The complex will be a major contributor to and economic stimulus for the region’s economy. Construction of the production center alone will create 3,152 construction jobs and $522 million in direct economic activity. Once finished, the studio will host 2,854 job positions and contribute $533 million annually to the county’s economy, while providing $1.3 million in new annual revenues to Los Angeles County and providing $26 million in new annual revenues to California.

During a time in which TV and film producers are moving in greater numbers to the 40 other states that offer film incentives, particularly Louisiana, Georgia, and New York, it is vital to support the efforts of a studio that is pursuing greater opportunities to shoot here in Southern California. Few large sound stages have been built in Southern California in the last decade even as companies like ABC have outgrown the space at their main studios, contributing to the extreme shortage of studio space in the region. Supporting the development of the Disney/ABC Studios at The Ranch is a critical step in spurring the economic recovery of the county, strengthening the future of the entertainment industry in Los Angeles, and slowing the outflow of entertainment and media jobs to other locations.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ruben Gonzalez at 213.580.7568 or rgonzalez@lachamber.com. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Gary Toebben
President & CEO

Cc: Hon. Michael Antonovich
    Mr. Edel Vizcarra
    Mr. Adam Gilbert
Mr. David W. Louie, Chair  
Members of the Regional Planning Commission  
Hall of Records  
320 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

REFERENCE: Disney/ABC Studios at The Ranch – County Project Number TR071216-(5)

Dear Chairman Louie and Commissioners:

I am writing to express my support for the Disney/ABC Studios at The Ranch project to build new soundstages and production support facilities on their property near Santa Clarita.

As a crafts worker in the film industry, I am optimistic that these new facilities can help facilitate and encourage more filming here in California and reduce runaway production to other locations.

The entertainment industry is key to the area’s economic recovery and I’m pleased that Disney/ABC Studios is making this worthwhile investment.

This project will create thousands of jobs, which will be very helpful in spurring economic recovery.

Respectfully,

Joseph Hawthorne  
12562 Sunnyglen Drive  
Moorpark, CA 93021

cc: Hon. Michael Antonovich  
Mr. Edel Vizcarra  
Mr. Adam Gilbert