

South Brentwood Residents Association
149 South Barrington Ave. #194
Los Angeles, California 90049

May 4, 2018

United States Department of Veterans Affairs
c/o Mr. Erik Gutierrez
11301 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90073
Via Email: Erik.Gutierrez@va.gov

Re: April 26, 2018 Hearing on renovating Building 207 and other related work

Dear Department of Veteran's Affairs,

I am writing on behalf of the South Brentwood Residents Association (SBRA). SBRA represents approximately 18,000 residents who reside in the area south of San Vicente Blvd., north of Wilshire Blvd., east of Centinela Ave. and west of Federal Ave. Additionally, SBRA represents the interests of all residents living in multi-family dwellings throughout the Brentwood community. **SBRA represents the neighborhood immediately to the west of the VA North Campus and therefore is highly impacted by any changes that increase traffic on the streets in our area.**

No SBRA Board members were able to attend the public hearing on April 26 because it took place at the same time as our annual general meeting. However, we would like to submit this letter as public comment.

SBRA is fully supportive of having the VA find solutions for housing for veterans, and for implementing those solutions as quickly as possible.

SBRA also supports the Brentwood Homeowners' Association (BHA) comment letters stating that development on the VA should comply with applicable terms of NEPA and any related legislation that require a complete analysis of significant impacts on the community, particularly with respect to traffic. South Brentwood's residents already deal with severe gridlock on a daily basis and as the immediate neighbors of the VA it is extremely important to us that no projects be approved without a full review and consideration of every possible mitigation measure that would decrease the traffic impact.

Therefore, we ask that no project be approved without a full traffic study and a discussion of possible mitigations that would reduce traffic impacts. These mitigations could include items such as:

- Placement of entrances and exits to the VA Campus close to the I-405 freeway instead of onto streets without close freeway access.
- Scheduling the work hours of campus employees so that their commute times do not fall within peak traffic hours of 7 am to 9 am and 3 pm to 7 pm Monday through Friday.
- Shuttle systems onto and off of campus that reduce the number of vehicles coming into the area

Any traffic study must consider the impact of vehicles driving to and from the VA station of the Purple Line, currently scheduled to open at the VA in 2026.

SBRA is a part of a working group on VA Traffic set up through the Brentwood Community Council, and it is extremely important to us that that group be allowed to work with the appropriate representatives at the VA who are developing the project to discuss the transportation plans and possible mitigations in advance of any projects being submitted

for approval. This VA-neighborhood working group needs to integrate its findings into the design of any traffic study that is developed for the project as the study should incorporate potential mitigations that reduce the traffic impacts.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

David A. Holtzman, President
South Brentwood Residents Association

Cc: Councilmember Mike Bonin
Nicolas Rodriguez – District Director, Congressman Ted Lieu
Janet Turner – Senior Field Representative, Congressman Ted Lieu