



April 15, 2017

Supervisor Janice Hahn  
County of Los Angeles  
County of Los Angeles, Board of Supervisors  
Fiscal Services  
500 West Temple St., #822  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Recommendations for the San Pedro Courthouse Site

Dear Supervisor Hahn,

The San Pedro Chamber of Commerce believes that the San Pedro Courthouse site is a key component of the overall revitalization of downtown San Pedro. It is our opinion that site should be a pedestrian friendly, mixed-use project that maximizes the opportunity to include a market rate housing component.

As the Urban Land Institute has stated in a report on revitalizing downtown San Pedro: housing growth stimulates commercial growth. We know that new residents in downtown San Pedro will support local restaurant, retail and service businesses. New housing and residents will lift the overall economy of our downtown and community. The survival of our current businesses and the ability to attract new businesses by increasing demand in the area is critical to us.

It is also vitally important to the Chamber that the county use this site to provide much needed housing in a time of an acute housing crisis in our city and county. We are losing our ability to provide housing for our local workforce which impacts our area businesses, and can lead to a worker shortage.

We believe that the development planned for the courthouse site should be of the highest quality, and the design should complement our historic downtown. It should have a vibrant gathering space or "town square" for public events, and include public parking in the parking structure for the development. We support an art component in the project to enhance our thriving arts community. Arts tourism is growing in San Pedro, and we have recently partnered with the San Pedro Waterfront Arts District to seek a CA Cultural Designation for San Pedro. We strongly support a Los Angeles County Museum of Art satellite in the project.

We appreciate your consideration of our recommendations.

Sincerely,

Elise Swanson  
President/CEO  
San Pedro Chamber of Commerce

