## **APPENDIX D.3**

Natural History Museum <u>Paleontological Resources for the Proposed Bow Tie Yard Lofts Project,</u> <u>in the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County</u> February 21, 2017

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21 February 2017

Parker Environmental Consultants 23822 Valencia Boulevard, Suite 301 Valencia, CA 91355

Attn: Mariana Zimmermann, Associate Environmental Planner

re: Paleontological resources for the proposed Proposed Bow Tie Yard Lofts Project, in the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, project area

Dear Mariana:

I have conducted a thorough search of our paleontology collection records for the locality and specimen data for the proposed Proposed Bow Tie Yard Lofts Project, in the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, project area as outlined on the portion of the Los Angeles USGS topographic quadrangle map that you sent to me via e-mail on 3 February 2017. We do not have any vertebrate fossil localities that lie directly within the proposed project area boundaries, but we do have localities nearby from the same sedimentary deposits that probably occur as subsurface deposits in the proposed project area.

Surface deposits in the entire proposed project area consist of younger Quaternary Alluvium, derived as overbank deposits from the Los Angeles River that currently flows in a concrete channel adjacent to the south of the proposed project area. These deposits typically do not contain significant vertebrate fossils in the very uppermost layers, but they are underlain in this vicinity by older Quaternary deposits that do contain significant vertebrate fossils. Our closest vertebrate fossil locality from older Quaternary deposits beneath the younger Quaternary Alluvium is LACM 1023, south-southeast of the proposed project area east of the Golden State Freeway (I-5) and north of the San Bernardino Freeway (I-10) near the intersection of Workman Street and Alhambra Avenue, where excavations for a storm drain recovered fossil specimens of turkey, *Meleagris californicus*, sabre-toothed cat, *Smilodon fatalis*, horse, *Equus*, and deer,





*Odocoileus*, at unstated depth. A specimen of the turkey, *Meleagris*, from this locality was published in the scientific literatus by D. W. Steadman (1980. A Review of the Osteology and Paleontology of Turkeys (Aves: Meleagridinae). Contributions in Science, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, 330:131-207). Just to the south of locality LACM 1023, also east of the Golden State Freeway (I-5) near the intersection of Mission Road and Daly Street, we have another locality, LACM 2032, also from older Quaternary deposits beneath the younger Quaternary Alluvium, that produced fossil specimens of pond turtle, *Clemmys mamorata*, ground sloth, *Paramylodon harlani*, mastodon, *Mammut americanum*, mammoth, *Mammuthus imperator*, horse, *Equus*, and camel, *Camelops*, at a depth of 20-35 feet below the surface. The pond turtle swpecimens from locality LACM 2032 were figured in the scientific literature by B.H. Brattstrom and A. Sturn (1959. A new species of fossil turtle from the Pliocene of Oregon, with notes on other fossil *Clemmys* from western North America. Bulletin of the Southern California Academy of Sciences, 58(2):65-71).

Surface grading or very shallow excavations in the uppermost few feet of the younger Quaternary Alluvium in the proposed project site area are unlikely to uncover significant fossil vertebrate remains. Deeper excavations in the proposed project area that extend down into older sedimentary deposits, however, may well encounter significant vertebrate fossils. Any substantial excavations in the proposed project area below the uppermost layers, therefore, should be closely monitored to quickly and professionally collect any specimens without impeding development. Also, sediment samples should be collected and processed to determine the small fossil potential in the proposed project area. Any fossils recovered during mitigation should be deposited in an accredited and permanent scientific institution for the benefit of current and future generations.

This records search covers only the vertebrate paleontology records of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. It is not intended to be a thorough paleontological survey of the proposed project area covering other institutional records, a literature survey, or any potential on-site survey.

Sincerely,

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Samuel A. McLeod, Ph.D. Vertebrate Paleontology

enclosure: invoice