



Pacific Palisades Community Council

May 28, 2024

Attn:

Hon. Councilwoman Traci Park, Councilmember LA City Council

CC: Jeff Khau, Sr. Planning Deputy, Council District 11

Cc: Senator Ben Allen, Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin, Supervisor Lindsey Horvath

Via email

Re: Tramonto Slide matter in Pacific Palisades, in light of slope slippage that has caused the slowing of traffic on PCH due to a lane closure that will not be cleared by Caltrans until the underlying slide is addressed.

Dear Councilwoman Park,

As you know, on May 20th, Pacific Palisades Community Council (PPCC) held a Special Meeting to discuss the Tramonto Slide, which is a longstanding landslide in the Castellammare neighborhood of Pacific Palisades that has recently slipped and cascaded down to Pacific Coast Highway (PCH), encroaching onto an entire lane. Photographs show the entire hillside having slipped forward, depositing more than just debris onto PCH, and rendering an entire lane unusable. That lane has since remained closed and continues to pose a public safety hazard to Palisadians and other Angelenos who use PCH as a major artery from the coast to different inland areas, as well as access to the 10 freeway and downtown. Further, Pacific Palisades is a community that lies entirely within the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ), with only two major roadways for ingress and egress – one of which is PCH.

PPCC is the most broad-based voice of the Palisades community for more than 50 years. At our most recent Special Meeting, called specifically to address the Tramonto slide slippage onto PCH and the ensuing message from Caltrans that they will not clear the debris to restore the lane unless and until the underlying slide is addressed by the City, we heard from Jeff Khau, representing your fine office, as well as from the developer who proposes to build four large homes at the crest of the slide, and from local residents through the presentation made by the Castellammare Mesa Homeowners. Our aim was to consider Caltrans' statement that they will not restore PCH until the Tramonto Slide is stabilized and understand the impact of the proposed construction on the stability of the slide - which had conceptually impressed us as an active

landslide but has now actually failed and slipped onto a major artery that causes both daily traffic gridlock and great community concern for our collective public safety.

In light of the factors raised during our Special Meeting of May 20th and the inherent concerns that come with being a hillside neighborhood entirely within the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ) with very few major arteries of ingress and egress, PPCC supports the appeal by Castellammare Mesa Homeowners of the adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Tramonto Project. We insist, instead, that the City Council require a full Environmental Impact Report (EIR), performed independently by a responsible consultant that is approved by the City. We also ask that the City of LA prioritize the stabilization of the Tramonto Slide as part of its mandate to protect the public's safety - partnering with the County and the State, if need be, to accomplish that goal.

Best,
Maryam Zar
PPCC President