



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 6, 2006

Contacts
Rosendahl/Safiya Jones (213) 473-7011
Weiss/Lisa Hansen (213) 473-7005

COUNCIL SUPPORTS COMMUNITY POSITION ON VETERAN'S ADMINISTRATION AND FBI PROPOSALS

LOS ANGELES – Concerned that the federal government's proposals for its Westside properties would violate the deed that provided land for use by veterans and increase traffic congestion, the City Council today unanimously supported two joint measures sponsored by Councilmembers Bill Rosendahl and Jack Weiss that oppose federal plans for the properties.

The auction of a 10-acre portion of the Westside Veterans Administration (VA) property and proposed construction of a new Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) headquarters have raised serious concerns.

"As a veteran of the Vietnam-era, I am outraged that the federal government would attempt to sell land that is dedicated to veterans," Rosendahl said. "There is no excess land available for development, just underutilized land in need of more services for veterans."

"Although the federal government is technically not subject to local zoning laws, we are asking them to be sensitive to relevant local concerns," said Weiss. "Unfortunately decisions that greatly impact City streets and residents are being made 3,000 miles away without respect for local impacts. Residents and stakeholders should have a voice in an open public process to determine the best use of this land for veterans, law enforcement, and the community."

Local officials recently learned that the property used by the Armory is being auctioned on the Internet for possible development. The land was deeded to the federal government for use by veterans in 1888. If sold to a developer, it would no longer be available for veterans. Led by Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Los Angeles County recently initiated a lawsuit against the federal government to oppose this sale and the lack of transparency in the process. Today's action by the Council allows the City to join this lawsuit.

In the other action, the Council voted to oppose plans for a new FBI Headquarters proposed for 11000 Wilshire Boulevard, the current site of the Federal Building in Westwood. The intersection of Wilshire Boulevard and Veteran is already one of the most congested intersections in the nation, and

community members are concerned that the proposed new building's 937,000 square feet of building space would greatly aggravate traffic congestion in the area.

The Federal Building and nearby Veteran's Administration (VA) are both located on land which was deeded to the VA for federal government use, but there has never been a Master Plan for the use or development of the property.

###

This message was sent to manuel@simplesend.com by:

Councilman Bill Rosendahl
200 N. Spring Street, Room 415
Mailstop 218
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Sent Using :
SimpleSend
www.simplesend.com

Unsubscribe:
If you would like to be removed from this list please [click here](#).