
A New View of the City



Los Angeles Garment & Citizen

06/10/2003 Entry: "Perry Says No to Jail at 1st & Alameda"

"I have publicly opposed the jail at this location and will continue to do so," said Perry, whose 9th District includes the proposed location at the northwest corner of Alameda and 1st Street.

Word of Perry's first position came to members of the Historic Cultural Neighborhood Council (HCNC)—which includes both the Arts District and Little Tokyo as constituent territories—during a tour of Chinatown for the group's board of directors. Councilmember Perry joined the tour and told directors of her stand.

"Her support is enormously important and could well prove fatal to the city's plans to place those facilities on that site," said HCNC board member Jonathan Jerald in a widely circulated e-mail following the tour.

The police headquarters plan has been a source of controversy in the Arts District and Little Tokyo for months. Concerns first arose after a city engineer told a meeting of the Little Tokyo Community Council that the land—currently a parking lot—was being strongly considered as the home for a new police headquarters and public safety facility. Initial plans called for the replacement facility for Parker Center, a fire station, an emergency services dispatch center, a bomb squad, and a 512-bed short-term jail.

Community members have expressed opposition to certain components of the plan, especially the jail. Opposition has already led the city to commit to finding an alternative location for the bomb squad that was originally considered for the 1st and Alameda site. —*Eugene Yi*
