



JOSE HUIZAR
COUNCILMEMBER, 14TH DISTRICT

Honorable Janice Hahn, Chair
Board of Referred Powers
200 North Spring Street, Room 435
Los Angeles, CA 90012

July 27, 2009

Dear Ms. ^{Janice}Hahn:

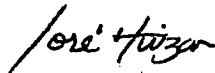
The Board of Referred Powers held a meeting on June 30th, 2009 to consider the Autry National Center's expansion plans at its Griffith Park site. At that time, I asked that the Board consider granting the Autry's proposed revised lease agreement for its expansion on the condition that the Autry sign a legally binding agreement committing it to the re-opening of the Southwest Museum at its Mt. Washington site. As I stated at that meeting, I support the Autry's expansion at the Griffith Park site, but I do believe that the Autry must abide by several commitments it has made with regard to the Southwest Museum, in a Memorandum addressed to me in September 2007 (attached). In addition, at the Board of Referred Powers, I requested that the Autry also provide the City of Los Angeles with a master plan and timeline, including a discussion regarding exhibit space, for both its Griffith Park and Mt. Washington sites, as the two are inextricably related. The Board granted a continuation of the Autry items in order to allow the Autry National Center and my office an opportunity to review outstanding issues related to the Southwest Museum.

Over the past few weeks, I have met with John Gray, Autry's Executive Director, and I have also addressed the Autry Board of Directors at its meeting of July 15, 2009. In addition, I have met with several stakeholders, including the Southwest Society and the Southwest Coalition, and other constituents. I have been acting in *good faith* to bring agreement and/or compromise to the issue at hand. However, I do not believe that the Autry has taken seriously the Board of Referred Power's instructions to work out with me options for a legally binding document.

The Autry Center has essentially threatened to abandon its expansion project at Griffith Park altogether if I continue to pursue with them any document which legally binds them to its commitments made to me and to the City of Los Angeles.

This stance has made it very difficult for me and my constituents to come to a mutually beneficial resolution with the Autry. Therefore, at this time, I am requesting that the Board of Referred Powers allow me additional time to work with the Autry. Specifically, I ask that the Board not put this item on its agenda until after the Council August Recess (after August 31st). Please do not hesitate to contact me or my office at 213-473-7014 to notify us of your decision.

Sincerely,



José Huizar, Councilmember, 14th District

CC: Members, Board of Referred Powers