



October 21st, 2011

The Honorable Bernard Parks
Committee Chair Budget and Finance
Council District Nine
200 N. Spring Street, Room 460
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Lancer Industrial Site

Dear Chairman Parks and Budget and Finance Committee members:

On behalf of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, representing more than 1,600 businesses, which employ over 700,000 individuals throughout our region, I write to request that you move forward with the proposed Lancer Industrial Site land swap.

The site in question has been vacant since 2006. Recently a proposal to develop the entire 14 acre property was submitted by the property owner. Through prior agreements, the City of Los Angeles was committed to developing a park on 2.6 acres of this property. The garment manufacturing plant requires the full property. A proposed compromise would have the developer pay the City \$3.6 million in lieu of constructing a park.

While the Chamber of Commerce recognizes the importance of open spaces and parks to the community, we support the proposed compromise. With unemployment at 13.3% in the Los Angeles area, we cannot afford to pass up job creation opportunities, especially at one of the largest vacant industrial properties in the City. The tenet forecasts that the new facility will create 600 new jobs with a commitment to hire local residents. The payment for the land would be earmarked towards the Pueblo Del Rio Housing Development, Fred Roberts Park and Ross Snyder Park.

This project will not only create new jobs, but will help fund housing and park operations in a time of tight City budgets. I would request that you move this proposal forward and start getting Los Angeles back to work. If you have any questions, please contact Director of Public Policy, Beverly Kenworthy, at bkenworthy@lachamber.com or (213) 580-7531.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Toebben".

Gary Toebben
President & CEO