

# Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council

IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN SUNLAND TUJUNGA

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January 29, 2013

Los Angeles City Council  
Planning & Land Use Management Committee  
200 N. Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Council File 12-1625 – Tuna Canyon Detention Station Site in the City's list of Historic Cultural Monuments

Dear Honorable City Councilmembers:

The Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council asks you to support Councilman Alarcon's motion to prepare an application to designate the Verdugo Hills Golf Course site as a Historic and Cultural monument of the Tuna Canyon Detention Station Site. This request reflects the wishes of our community at large.

The historical value of this site is very important. As the value of other Historical Landmarks in our City have been honored, so should this site be honored. It's meaning must be preserved for future generations so that we will not suffer the past. Just as the Manzanar War Relocation Center is being restored, we are fortunate to have a site within the City limits to help bring to light to our children and their children what can happen when a society becomes polarized with fear and imposes inhumane actions on specific people based on their Nationality. This is important for our posterity to learn to prevent such atrocities in the future, for any Nationality in our City and country.

Some would argue that the buildings are all gone. We would argue that when the war was over and the Station discontinued operations, the people of the area were disgusted and ashamed of what was there and removed all traces to "move forward". Now that those wounds have healed, it is time to acknowledge the Tuna Canyon Detention Station's existence and use that as a tool. Perhaps, in the future, some representative buildings could be built as part of the tools of learning.

Please vote for our City and for Councilmember Alarcon's motion to designate the Verdugo Hills Golf Course site as a City Historical and Cultural monument of the Tuna Canyon Detention Station.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark E. Seigel". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Mark Seigel  
President Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council

cc: Richard Alarcon, Councilman, CD7