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ICF International
811 West 7th Street, Suite 800
Los Angeles, CA  90017

Attn: Shelly Long, Archaeologist

re: Paleontological Resources for the proposed Van Nuys Fire Station 39 Project, ICF Project # 226.12, in the Community of Van Nuys, Los Angeles County, project area

Dear Shelly:

I have conducted a thorough search of our Vertebrate Paleontology records for the proposed Van Nuys Fire Station 39 Project, ICF Project # 226.12, in the Community of Van Nuys, Los Angeles County, project area as outlined on the portion of the Van Nuys USGS topographic quadrangle map that you sent to me via e-mail on 17 October 2012. We do not have any vertebrate fossil localities that lie directly within the proposed project area boundaries, but we do have localities nearby from the same sedimentary deposits that occur at depth in the proposed project area.

The entire proposed project area contains surficial deposits of older Quaternary Alluvium, derived primarily as fan deposits from the Santa Susana Mountains to the north. These deposits typically do not contain significant vertebrate fossil remains in the uppermost layers. At varying depths, however, older Quaternary sediments that contain significant fossil vertebrate materials are likely to be encountered. Our closest vertebrate fossil locality in these older Quaternary sediments is LACM 3822, just north and west of the proposed project area between Sepulveda Boulevard and Kester Avenue, that produced fossil specimens of extinct peccary, *Platygonus*, camel, *Camelops*, and bison, *Bison*, at depths between 75 and 100 feet below the surface. South-southwest of the proposed project area, along Kester Avenue near Burbank Boulevard, we have locality LACM 6208 that produced fossil specimens of extinct bison, *Bison*, at a depth of 20 feet below the surface. Further south-southeast of the proposed project area, further south along...
Kester Avenue near Otsego Street, our locality LACM 3263 produced fossil specimens of extinct horse, *Equus*, at a depth of 14 feet below the surface.

Surface grading or very shallow excavations in the proposed project area may not uncover significant fossil vertebrate remains. Deeper excavations in the proposed project area, however, may well encounter significant vertebrate fossils of late Pleistocene age. Any substantial excavations in the proposed project area, therefore, should be monitored closely to quickly and professionally recover any fossil remains discovered without impeding development. Any fossils recovered during mitigation should be deposited in an accredited and permanent scientific institution for the benefit of current and future generations.

This records search covers only the vertebrate paleontology records of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. It is not intended to be a thorough paleontological survey of the proposed project area covering other institutional records, a literature survey, or any potential on-site survey.

Sincerely,

Samuel A. McLeod, Ph.D.
Vertebrate Paleontology

enclosure: invoice