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June 29, 2016

Santa Barbara LAFCO
c/o Mr. Paul Hood
105 East Anapamu Street, Room 407
Santa Barbara, California 93101

Subject: **LAFCO#15-5**
Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History Reorganization

Dear Commissioners,

As president of the Santa Barbara Upper East Association, I wish to express our board's support for the inclusion of what is referred to as the "westerly properties" into the City of Santa Barbara's jurisdiction.

In addition to my current role with the Upper East Association, I have also been serving for the last five years on the City of Santa Barbara's Single Family Design Review Board and currently serve as its chair. That board's mandate is to address each project application in the context to assure that such projects preserve the character of each of the city's neighborhoods. That is also part of the mission of the Upper East Association.

This area of Mission Canyon has many unique characteristics and as such should be preserved as it represents the transition between the urban nature of the main portion of the city and the edge of that urban area to the wilderness of the Santa Ynez Mountains. The area around the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History and its immediate surrounding residential areas are as designated by the City of Santa Barbara as part of the upper east neighborhood. The board of the Upper East Association sees nothing in this proposal that would present any deviation from the mission of our organization to preserve the character of our neighborhood. Certainly given the many oversight agencies within the City of Santa Barbara we would not anticipate any change to that mission.

The Upper East Association is dedicated to ensure that all of our public portions of neighborhood are available to the community. We believe that this rich area, which is the cradle of rich cultural and natural history of our area, should be made available to all. This proposal will continue to all for that access.

Respectfully Submitted.

Fred L. Sweeney AIA, President UEA Board of Directors