

June 18, 2013

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304 Ivy Street
San Diego, CA 92101-2030

Re: Scope and Content of the Environmental Impact Report for Point Loma High School (PLHS)

Dear Ms. Washington:

Though I attended, as well as spoke, at the May meeting at PLHS, there are far too many environmental issues to attempt to cover in the short public comment permitted that evening. Also, the audience was curiously prohibited from asking questions.

By way of background, it's well-documented that the SDUSD and the PLHS administration has outright lied to us, the neighbors, so often in past years re: their plans and intentions for the stadium, night lights, and consequently the events they intend to hold there. Administrators and school board members come and go, and no one is ever held accountable for past promises, agreements, or steadfast vows of their predecessors. This provides ample opportunity for the SDUSD and PLHS to do "about faces" when it suits their specific needs, and this is certainly one of them. Sadly, it has gotten to the point that we can't believe a word they say - period. Please understand, therefore, that we view your firm's role in the process - and whether there will be an entirely thorough, unbiased, accurate, dependable, and entirely professional series of studies performed - with a very healthy dose of skepticism. We have every right. We were repeatedly assured there would **not** be night lights at that stadium. There is no reason to trust the EIR process, especially since your firm was hired and is paid by SDUSD and that makes you biased, plain and simple, and the process likely tainted. It is in your best interests to come up with a report favorable to the District's every wish and objective. Give them what they want, they'll give you more work (\$\$\$). I see little incentive for your report to honestly document adverse impacts to our Loma Portal neighborhood, but I try to remain hopeful that professionalism will prevail. I'm sorry to be so negative, but I worked directly for, shall we say, a "very wealthy, determined, influential and prominent developer" of land in the 70's and 80's. I know what goes on to get projects approved.... enough said.

Please understand that it may come to pass that each and every study performed for this EIR will be placed under the microscope. Given the recent alleged "football season traffic study" performed on some of our streets on quiet April days, which the District was behind, we have all the more reason to distrust the process. The company hired to install the monitors did not even secure them to the concrete correctly, so neighbors removed them to avoid flat tires from the exposed spikes. If your firm was hired to do that "study", it is totally moot, beyond being a puzzling way to predict the football season event traffic that descends upon our neighborhood.

I have lived directly adjacent to the PLHS athletic field for the last 15 years. I have a wealth of knowledge as to the impacts of athletic field use and events, since by virtue of my location *I live it*. I have attended many public meetings conducted by either SDUSD board members, administration and/or PLHS administration. For over a decade I worked in management for a major local real estate developer/general contractor, and am very familiar with the environmental issues and neighborhood impacts of development. My husband is a general contractor, near 40 years in the business, and well-versed in all aspects of

construction. Please include the following in your scope of work:

Other Options: It is premature to even consider the site plan as proposed by the District at the May meeting. Clearly they have not adequately or seriously explored or studied other options. There are other sites where PLHS could have their enlarged athletic field, which are not located within an historic urban neighborhood. As part of the EIR, it is necessary for you to study other options that could prove to have less adverse effects on surrounding neighborhoods. These could include not just other build-able sites, but joint-use options with other existing facilities.

Emergency Vehicle Access: The enclosed photo CD shot during a recent stadium event shows myriad violations occurring on our jammed streets that obviously would impede emergency vehicles reaching their destination in an urgent manner. Holding huge events, and clogging our narrow streets, will result in neighbors being denied prompt emergency service and could further endanger the public. Photos document several vehicles blocking the fire access lane (clearly posted with a sign and red curb) to service the school in two separate locations. The District does nothing to thwart these parking violations, is not pro-active to respect/protect fire department access areas, and therefore endangers the neighborhood and the public by their ongoing indifference to illegal parking. This illegal parking would not go on, if not for *the severe lack of on campus parking for their events*.

Athletic Field Use: Our SDUSD board representative (Scott Barnett) has publicly, and very unapologetically, stated that he wants the athletic field used “24/7”, and “the community” supports that (though he failed to identify what “the community” is exactly, who was polled, or provide any documentation of any kind). Yes, an apparent exaggeration, however well-publicized PLHS newsletters available for reading by students, parents and the community alike state that if lights were installed at PLHS, they would only be in use “five nights a year” for football games. That's a quote from a District newsletter. This is a complete and blatant misrepresentation – a lie. Additionally, another SDUSD board member (Shelia Jackson), at another public meeting, said it's all about maximizing food concession sales during athletic events at our high schools, i.e. “we need them to survive” (another direct quote) – meaning the athletic fields must all be transformed to maximum use, day and night, with concession stands open selling junk food to provide funding for the schools. She stated that schools without night games are unfairly penalized since they can't have concession stands open longer hours. A mini “Petco Park”, if you will – that's what the District wants to plant in the middle of an historic Loma Portal neighborhood. Given the wild swing between “24/7” and “five nights”, along with the publicly stated goal of maximizing concession sales, and obvious opportunities for abuse, it is imperative that any EIR pertaining to any use of the PLHS athletic field be highly specific and detailed as to event type; scope; timing; use of lights, limits on lights; noise, including noisemakers like air horns (prohibited, but still used at PLHS nonetheless); PA system volume, usage and limits; equipment operation hours (including noise-generating clean up and maintenance equipment); and impacts of same. **“Gray areas” of interpretation are totally unacceptable when dealing with SDUSD.** There is a complete loss of trust, they can't be allowed any leeway, given their history of deceiving the public over and over again. They deceived the public with Prop S, and were found by the Court of Appeals to have installed night lights illegally. Now they are scrambling to come in the back door to pay for night lights with Prop Z funding. (Frankly, at this juncture for you to even proceed with an EIR involving night lights, *and to spend tax payer dollars to fund same*, would appear to be illegal.) Unbelievably, a prominent PLHS coach is still spreading the lie to

anyone who will listen that the lights will only be on “five nights a year”. To thwart further deception, any EIR must contain:

a) A clear and accurate definition of permissible events, including but not limited to school-related, local community, SD county, school-hosted, for lack of a better term “outside” (such as when PLHS allowed out-of-state teams to use the field unsupervised), non-profit, for profit, adult teams, alumni groups, competitive events, “special” events, band competitions, concert nights, cheer leading competitions, post-season play-offs, just to name a few. It is imperative to prevail upon SDUSD to list and clearly define any and all potential users they envision, now or in the future, and to determine if they intend to rent the field for profit. Other options for fields this “list of users” can book instead should be explored, including an explanation of why they feel they must use this location.

b) Size, number of participants, and projected maximum allowable attendance are key factors to pin down. Last week PLHS seems to have already violated the stated maximum attendance. It is critically important, when conducting studies, that a true max capacity event be examined, for this is the goal of SDUSD at their events. If you want a true study, then their stated maximum capacity for the stadium must be a known commodity, and is the only study to use. And how do we, as neighbors, get any assurance that they will adhere to or control this maximum capacity? To envision a maximum capacity night event, you would be wise to attend a Lincoln High School night football game, one between arch rivals that would be well-attended, to understand fully the neighborhood consequences. PLHS doesn't have lights, so the only true and fair way to understand a night event would be to attend one at a similar high school in an urban neighborhood, come early, and stay for the duration, along with an additional hour, to observe the loitering, trespassing, trashed yards/streets, how slowly fans disburse, the reckless driving, speeding cars, double parking, loud hollering, booming car audio, etc. that is part and parcel of a night athletic field event. This is what we dependably can count on at the night PLHS Homecoming event when lights are rented.

c) School academic calendar timing needs to be accurately spelled out, and the various time periods clearly distinguished as it pertains to field use. For instance: school in session weekday vs. weeknight, school in session weekend day vs. weekend night, breaks during academic year when school would otherwise be in session (“in service” days, etc.), holidays (MLK Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Spring Break, etc.), summer vacation, prospects for year-round school, etc. It is noteworthy that PLHS opened the campus gates (normally locked) as well as the gymnasium on Thanksgiving Day 2012, and also allowed students/alumni unrestricted unsupervised access, including to the PA system. One of the school coaches blamed access to the gym on an errant rock on the ground that “just happened” to prop the door open the night before, *rather than admitting he willingly unlocked the doors*. That meant during Thanksgiving dinner in my home, a typically solemn occasion, we were forced to try to enjoy conversation, and then dine by blaring pop music, yelling and screaming from both the athletic field and the PLHS gym PA system. An EIR must include a statement from SDUSD what their use policy is, if what I have described, indeed, is acceptable facility policy on a holiday – *that national holidays are no different from a regular school day and raucous behavior is allowed and to be expected* - if that is the case. Their intentions for use of the field – and all its ancillary buildings (snack shack, etc.) - in these various time frames must be clearly defined, including number of days, hours of use, etc. Frankly, for PLHS administration to leave a building unsecured all night long, which sits extremely close to my home, is a cause for serious concern – **namely fires, started by**

vandals/students that could endanger my property. There already have been two fires deliberately set on the athletic field, that I know of. Coastal League peewee football coaches smoke in hidden areas of dry shrubbery on the athletic field, on school property. Why? Because PLHS does not supervise these activities.

d) Based on “c” above, the EIR needs to clearly address under what conditions and at what times the lights may be used, what lighting needs may arise, now or in the future. This is imperative. Why? One simple example of many: After a night football game at PLHS, the administration's clearly stated/promised “absolute end time” for lights to the neighbors was 10 p.m. to allow for fans to fully exit the stadium (reasonable request). The lights still remained on, however, until 11:45 p.m., which meant bright lights precluding sleep, shining into our homes and miles beyond. The excuse given by school administration was that clean up equipment was in operation to prepare the field for an early morning event the next day. As such, an extremely loud motorized “sweeper” sucking up trash was in operation until 11:45 p.m., under the lights. As you can see, Ms. Washington, without exacting details to dictate the timing of lights, and restrictions, opportunities for abuse abound. There can be no “gray areas” when dealing with SDUSD. If there are loopholes, it's pretty much guaranteed SDUSD will find them, abuse them, and use them to their advantage. Then what is our recourse? When PLHS acts in a manner that is not consistent with being a “good neighbor”, their mantra has been, and continues to be, “Let's do what suits us now, and ask for forgiveness later”.

e) In the event that SDUSD represents that they will not be renting the PLHS athletic field, this needs to be clearly stated in the EIR. However, Ms. Washington, any such denial should be met with a healthy dose of skepticism, given that SDUSD, by their own past admissions, is counting on a stream of income coming in from these fields being heavily used all year-long at the expense of the neighborhoods. (In four words, “**concession income**” ; “**rental fees**”).

Parking: A study must be done re: each household stretching out a minimum of 5 blocks from the athletic field site. It's well-documented this is a highly impacted area when an event is held. The number of occupants per house & number of cars and drivers must be ascertained. We have homes with no driveways (Ex: Zola St is just one area), no parking, only a single garage, or a driveway too short to park in without incurring a ticket for blocking the sidewalk (Ex: 2209 Clove is just one homeowner of many who cannot legally park in the driveway – too short, and was ticketed). There are boats and RV's on our streets or parked in driveways. We have cases with as many as 3 generations living in one home, with 3 generations of drivers and cars. All this information is key to determining how much street parking is used by residents and their guests on a daily basis. This is not a modern Carmel Valley or Temecula suburb. This is an old neighborhood built well before modern building codes and the explosion of multi-car households. For that reason, its unique character must be factored in, and the only means of accurately accounting for this is by conducting a detailed survey composed of relevant questions given to every household within this radius.

Neighborhoods, like Loma Portal, already impacted by narrow streets, dim lights and tight street parking must be protected from the influx of vehicles public events bring. For SDUSD to continue to refuse to address the parking nightmares they cause, and the unnecessary increased burden they intend to put upon the adjoining streets is environmentally irresponsible. The stance of SDUSD, by their own admission at public meetings, is that residential neighborhoods surrounding their athletic fields are intended to “absorb” overflow parking. We are not their absorbent sponge. This stance is entirely contrary to the strict codes

private developers are required to meet. Case in point: At a public meeting re: the development of additional athletic fields adjoining Correia Middle School, and to enable the public to view the proposed design drawings and ask questions, a parent directly questioned SDUSD representatives about the woefully inadequate proposed parking lot to service these fields. The answer given by the District was that there was no room on the site for additional off street parking, and the surrounding streets could be used for parking. The main surrounding street is Worden Street, San Diego 92110. Ms. Washington, if you or anyone on your staff has knowledge of Worden Street, then you are painfully aware that that street, and those surrounding it, are an unending snake of tightly parked vehicles, 24/7, much like one finds on the ridiculously jammed streets of Ocean Beach. For SDUSD to continually view our 100-year-old fragile neighborhoods - many with winding narrow streets and crumbling concrete - with many homes having only a single or no useable garage forcing residents to use street parking - as the panacea and "absorbent sponge" for school event parking is irresponsible, unsafe and environmentally unsound. It is an ignorant and unenlightened approach, contrary to all measures of public schools within our neighborhoods being "good citizens and neighbors". The explosion of more vehicles, and oversize vehicles, in modern society needs to be addressed as it pertains to the huge influx of vehicles we know are generated by events on school campuses. Participants and fans alike, anxious to find **ANY** place to park, hem in or even block residential driveways, double park, causing residents to be at risk when attempting to back out of their own driveways or even drive to/from their homes. When conducting studies, the bleacher capacity, effects of sold-out games, and range of parked vehicles into the outlying neighborhood must be known. Exactly how many parking spaces are necessary must be identified and compared to what minimal parking may be available on the streets. It's not at all unusual for the player, mom, dad, grandparents, often with busy disparate schedules, **to bring 3+ vehicles to an event per player**. Any parking studies need to identify streets by name and not be generalized. District officials have openly stated at meetings that our neighborhoods will continue to serve as their parking lot. If inadequate parking exists on school property, that cars will park in adjacent neighborhoods. When PLHS has a large event in the stadium, it is commonplace for homeowners to be unable to park anywhere near their homes. View the enclosed CD to see what happens to our streets.

Future Parking Plans: PLHS intends to remove even more campus parking, which means more cars on our streets. "Phases" were mentioned at the scoping meeting for upcoming projects. We, the public, are not privy to exactly what these "phases" are. What are they? Site plans exist that show homes demolished surrounding the school, and properties taken by eminent domain, to make way for a larger campus. I'm among the minority that has seen them. It is not possible to adequately provide comment on scoping when it appears information is being withheld from the general public as to the probable ultimate plans SDUSD has for the PLHS campus and demolishing adjoining homes. How do we know whether the land our homes sit on is intended for a parking lot? Any and all site plans or site plan studies that exist, they need to be made public as part of this study so the public gets the full picture of possibilities and probabilities, not just a tiny piece. The neighbors are not getting the complete or ultimate picture of what the District has in mind re: eminent domain. The District has hired consultants to do site plans based on expanding their campus by the taking of existing homes. Obviously, what they plan to do now is based on a future long-range plan. Any EIR, to be meaningful, must include these "future" plans that are largely being withheld from the public's scrutiny. Has the District provided you with the site plan that shows a parking garage topped with tennis courts at the current dead end of the 3500 block of Xenophon? If

not, you need to get your hands on that.

Parking Enforcement: Reference again the CD of photos documenting the numerous parking abuses at a recent stadium event. These include the whole gamut, from parking in the red zone, to blocking fire hydrants, driveways, crosswalk areas, blocking fire lanes, a car with no license plates or handicap hang tag parked in a blue handicap space, etc. From an EIR standpoint, it is noteworthy that our neighborhood cannot expect **any** assistance with parking violations from City parking enforcement. The reasons why comes direct from a supervisor at the City parking enforcement office with whom I spoke:

- they are **very** understaffed due to budget cuts
- they have 1-2 enforcement officers, max, covering all of Ocean Beach and Point Loma
- their daily priority is usually Newport Avenue and downtown Ocean Beach
- they visit other areas “as available”
- there is not a person standing by to answer their phone line and it only accepts messages
- callers may leave a message, but the phone line is generally not checked for messages until the end of the day, and it says calls may not be returned until the following business day
- messages are then prioritized by sense of urgency
- it is not possible to pre-arrange for the presence of a parking enforcement officer when a PLHS event is likely to cause numerous parking violations (as the recent event did)
- they do not work after dark, and typically not after 5 p.m.

It is perfectly clear, therefore, that neighbors have **no recourse** when parking abuses abound, which clearly is an adverse environmental impact to our neighborhood caused solely by PLHS athletic field events. I, *and many others*, have called SDPD and they, too, don't respond to “minor things” like parking problems, and don't ticket blatant offenders. We've called. It's useless. Nothing against SDPD – they clearly have more important things to do.

Traffic and Safety: From my years of personal experience living by the school, excessive speed, reckless driving, alcohol consumption in parked vehicles, excessively loud audio emanating from vehicles, excessive horn honking, “showing off”, jay walking, crowds of revelers oblivious to their surroundings gathering in the middle of streets, and “wanderers” who are clearly under the influence stumbling about are just **a few** of the traffic hazards brought to bear by athletic field events, **particularly at night**. “Party Atmosphere” and “Night Event” go hand-in-hand. At the PLHS night game, a significant number of people gather outside the stadium on adjoining streets, *often with no intention of ever entering the stadium*, (don't want to buy a ticket) **or** they leave the stadium early, hang around and loiter. The effects of these groups on the level of perceived safety in the neighborhood cannot be ignored. They intimidate residents, engage in indecent exposure, use our private property as public toilets, leave liquor bottles behind to break on our sidewalks/streets, vandalize yards, and revel long into the night, among other things. Widows, single women, and elderly residents feel trapped in their own homes, reluctant to go outside if they need to for they might encounter these “fans” who are often confrontational and verbally abusive. Traffic studies **must** include a detailed analysis of a night time scenario involving a **maximum capacity** event to be relevant. As I said, your staff should visit Lincoln High, and its adjoining streets, during a night football game to get a true feel for this type of event. Loitering before, during and after events on

nearby streets, at local businesses and their parking lots must be examined. There are many who refuse to shop at Stump' s Market on Voltaire or adjoining businesses when the throngs of fans assemble there. Also, secondary streets and arteries must be studied as these are impacted as well, as fans look for 1) “short cuts” to speedily exit the area, or 2) clandestine areas to engage in illegal activity (underage drinking and drug use), or 3) sex (as evidenced by the condoms found in our gutters). The bottom line on safety is this: 1) SDUSD does not have funding to provide the proper level of safety to match their grand plans for events, and 2) they will not provide or fund the level of SDPD presence (overtime pay), or duration that is necessary to control night events.

Voltaire Street: The main entrance to the stadium is on Voltaire St. This is poor planning at its finest. The District had a golden opportunity to re-locate the ticket booth, but chose not to. This location is the site of a dangerous “blind” hill with no street striping. The City has indicated they will not stripe this street. It is commonplace for cars to drive too fast right down the middle of the street, double parking is rampant, along with illegal and dangerous U-turns and the frequent running of the stop sign at Clove Street intersection. It has been the site of accidents. We are way overdue for a pedestrian fatality. The old bumpy, narrow, crumbling sidewalks full of trip hazards leading away from the stadium entrance are certainly not ADA compliant. I am questioning whether PLHS can legally spill 2,500 fans, including those with disabilities, out into these areas without massive infrastructure upgrades? Who will pay for that? The rampant dangerous double parking has to stop. Everyone from the disabled, to the overweight, to those with small children, to those with baggage, wearing high heels, to the just plain lazy who enter or leave the stadium – they all double park and create hazards. Despite repeated requests over years and years PLHS does nothing to stop it. They are endangering my life every time I drive on Voltaire and have to deal with PLHS-generated double parked cars. An EIR must include the burden they intend to increase, by expanding the stadium, on an already overburdened dangerous street. It cannot be mitigated. The width and topography of Voltaire is not changing.

Chatsworth Blvd.: Chatsworth Boulevard is a well known hazardous stretch of road with its very own, and aptly named, “dead man's corner” near the campus of PLHS – the site of many accidents. It was not built, nor designed, for modern-day traffic but for a road race early the last century. Chatsworth is a main artery to and from the campus where drivers regularly speed. Pedestrians, including unsupervised small children on their way to play or to Loma Portal Elementary School, risk their lives trying to cross at the few crosswalks, or more often simply jaywalk, along with helmetless skateboarders and cyclists alongside speeding cars. All this makes for constant hazards and risks taken. For PLHS to contemplate bringing in even more traffic, day and night, with larger stadium events, is cause for serious concern. Significant and hugely expensive re-designs and safety improvements – including traffic calming - are long overdue on this stretch of road and the City has done nothing. This area needs the type of traffic calming mitigation measures seen in Bird Rock, including pedestrian generated lit crosswalks. It is dangerous and environmentally unsound to add a greater burden to Chatsworth Blvd. Additionally, I'm told Loma Portal Elementary parents/neighbors are also actively engaged in getting the City to address the dangers of Chatsworth Blvd. Where does that process stand? You need to find out, perhaps through our City Councilman's office. It is necessary, therefore, to include the population of Loma Portal Elementary, and the traffic it generates, in your study. The two school properties are right next to one another.

Commercialization of a Residential Neighborhood: At a recent stadium event, we got a

glimpse of what's in store for us with the potential for a larger stadium, more events, and night events. A commercial food vendor (who likely did not have the proper licenses, permits, etc. to even be here) was illegally parked in several places on our streets. There was a woman who approached me on the sidewalk and tried to sell me trinkets, again, likely without licenses or solicitors permits. There were young "street corner hires", armed with paper advertising, who placed it on every windshield for blocks and blocks. And it goes straight from the windshield onto our sidewalks and into our gutters as trash. This type of commercialization has an adverse environmental impact. Given the SDUSD's intent to rent out the stadium 24/7, they encourage this inappropriate commercialization of a residential neighborhood. As word gets out to vendors/solicitors/advertisers/etc. of event schedules, and the masses known to be descending on our neighborhood, our residential neighborhood then becomes "Coney Island" commercial, along with all the blight that goes along with it.

Criminal Behavior: Alcohol and drugs are openly consumed on our streets at stadium events to the extent of students passing out on our lawns or behaving erratically. There is drinking and drug use in parked cars, then adults, as well as minors, drive off into our streets drunk and/or high. Glass liquor bottles are left behind on our lawns and in our gutters to break. It is common knowledge that the parents of athletes enjoy "happy hour" in the stadium, sneaking in alcohol to drink while they watch their children, even in broad daylight. Neighbors have retrieved "water bottles" that smell of alcohol dropped by parents in the street and on sidewalks as they exit the stadium. (Of course they don't want evidence like that in their cars when they drive off, in case they get stopped.) Is this contributing to the "family-friendly" environment of Loma Portal, with parents like these as role models? PLHS 1) does not have the financial means, or 2) chooses not to address/solve this problem by hiring an adequate, comprehensive and sustained police presence to put a stop to this criminal behavior. Elite Security, their "security" of choice, does not and will never do anything. Elite Security is nothing more than "window dressing" to give the appearance of some semblance of control at these events. They will not even ask loiterers to disburse, much less take action to put a stop to more serious criminal behavior. Large stadium events at night will bring back the type of crime we have worked hard to eliminate since forming an extensive Neighborhood Watch program 4 years ago – specifically car break ins, vandalism and burglaries. This area will again become a mecca for car burglaries since the criminals know the majority are in the stadium, nowhere near their cars. The drug sales that used to occur in front of my home will be back. If I leave my home during a night stadium event, I can expect fans to trespass since there is a good view of the stadium from my property. During one Homecoming night game, when I was away from home watching my daughter cheer lead elsewhere, two dozen people entered my back yard, climbed on my boat and also my stepladder to watch the game, then left their beer cans behind. This was the report from my neighbor who was too fearful of retaliation to ask them to leave. Conclusion: Any homeowner near the school would be wise to stay home to protect their property during a stadium night event. Is this how PLHS expects us to live? An EIR needs to study the effects of increased crime brought to bear by large incoming crowds at night events.

Lights: The negative environmental impacts of athletic field lights in our neighborhood are many, as they are in other vintage/historic neighborhoods where homes directly meet school properties with no buffer. Obstructive fat tall poles block views, intense light creates glare, lights intrude directly into homes, interrupt or prevent sleep, and give people the appearance of being under an intensely bright microscope, thereby precluding the enjoyment of our own homes. Glaring lights in my windows denies me the peace, tranquility and enjoyment of my

property. Light effects often reach for miles, depending on topography. Pole lights permanently, and negatively, change the character of a neighborhood, particularly a long-established vintage one. Studies show property values plummet with the installation of night lights by 15% or more. These poles will **never** blend in or add anything positive to the existing physical character of this neighborhood – a character it's had for a century. Where once graceful trees were the tallest natural objects the eye sees, surrounding neighbors would now be forced to look at many over-sized ugly metal posts with heavy clusters of lights, even during lengthy daylight hours when their absolute blight upon the neighborhood, and blockage of natural views, serves no useful purpose. The crest of a hill with glorious sunset views, the Pacific Ocean, the SD Bay, and the mountains – natural features currently enjoyed by many who live or visit here - is no place to put lights. Wise city planners who value the remaining natural resources of San Diego's vintage neighborhoods would never, ever consider permanently destroying the natural beauty of Loma Portal with night lights. Furthermore, it is guaranteed that PLHS will abuse and never abide by any “terms of use” policy for night lights, and the neighborhood will have no recourse. They have not been honest, have not played fair, have not been a good neighbor, and there is no reason to expect anything different. Our neighborhood, which is near 100% pride of ownership, owner-occupied, will soon transform to a neighborhood of short term renters. Several homeowners already very reluctantly sold their homes, fearing the worst is to come. For 100 years settlers to Loma Portal have respected and appreciated the 360 degree views from many locations. Now the District wants to permanently destroy this irreplaceable bucolic environment.

Light Pole Dangers: Given the height of these poles, in air turbulence it is possible that one could blow over onto my house. Other properties and people are in harm's way as well. High wind gusts common in this area will have to be studied, as well as wind factors caused by frequent large low-flying aircraft overhead. What is the long-term inspection schedule/plan and what source funds that? Due to our proximity to the ocean, we are in a marine environment that calls for extraordinary materials and measures. Deterioration of these poles will likely be hastened by these factors. Up to 80% of these light poles are improperly installed or have an unseen fracture and/or deterioration that poses a risk. Low-flying aircraft could get off course and clip a pole. Glaring lights, situated directly in the flight path, can confuse pilots. The potential risks to the public and property clearly outweigh any perceived benefits or need for these lights.

Aesthetics (Graffiti and Blight in General): Proposed or modified buildings and facilities, as part of any entire whole site modernization, should blend in to the existing neighborhood, not stick out in a glaring way via size, style or paint colors chosen (evidence the ghastly building the District constructed at Alcott/Clove Sts). Graffiti will be worse in the future if night games come to pass, particularly under the cover of darkness at the conclusion of night events on the athletic field. Night events, in our neighborhood, are known for the vandalism that occurs afterward, including such destructive behaviors as the spray painting of cars, breaking off of side view mirrors, slashing of tires, thefts from yards and parked cars, etc. SDUSD needs to address in writing, for purposes of the EIR, how they plan to mitigate the certainty of graffiti (the only acceptable measure is ongoing immediate removal) and preclude it from recurrence. From personal experience, PLHS does not promptly and dependably address graffiti. It took nearly a year to properly remedy a patch of graffiti on Clove Street. Their construction firms continue to bring in trailers covered with graffiti and expect the neighborhood to look at that sort of blight on an ongoing basis. Huge cluster lights on 100' poles will bring the ultimate blight to the neighborhood, and have no place here. Ask anyone – Loma Portal is well-known

for our vintage lampposts. This is the true character of Loma Portal. 100' light posts are totally OUT of character.

Trash: Containers/wrappers from fast food purchased both inside and outside the stadium, event ticket stubs, windshield advertising fliers, cigarette butts, even dirty diapers, etc. are regularly dumped in our neighborhood by event attendees. (It's been 10 days since a stadium event, and the dirty diaper drop left behind by a stadium visitor is still sitting in the gutter waiting for removal.) PLHS long ago removed all the trash cans at school exits, leaving students/fans to dump their remains in our neighborhood. PLHS does not pick up trash dependably or adequately. Neighbors are left with the job of cleaning up their own yards, sidewalks and streets of debris after events. Much lightweight trash (plastic bags, wrappers, balloons, etc.) becomes airborne in the high winds coming up off the athletic field and travels out into the neighborhood. PLHS is already violating litter laws. With more stadium capacity & more events, our environment will be regularly trashed with both hazardous and non-hazardous waste. Besides the obvious environmental hazards, this type of activity contributes significantly to neighborhood blight. It is apparent that the District needs to hire a foot patrol service after every stadium event to completely "sweep" the surrounding streets for trash left behind, rather than leave the job of environmental clean up to the neighbors.

Secondhand Smoke Hazards: The 2200 block of Clove St & the 3500 block of Voltaire St have become the PLHS "smoking rooms". (There likely are more areas on the Chatsworth Blvd side.) Those who depart the stadium to smoke gather in groups, loiter, and force their 2nd hand smoke on innocent neighbors, homeowners, bystanders, children – even babies sleeping in their cribs in homes nearby. Groups of smokers block sidewalks and openly trespass in yards. At the recent stadium event, groups of 3-4 smokers trespassed and gathered in yards at 3610 Voltaire St (home of elderly widow), 3605 Voltaire St (9+ mo pregnant mom home alone), and 3530 Voltaire St, even well up into her driveway (home of elderly single woman). There were surely more – this is what I saw in a mere 20 minutes. PLHS does not force smokers to disburse and condones this activity. By so doing, they are a root cause of environmental pollution, given the 2nd hand smoke entering nearby homes (many with small children) and the huge amount of cigarette litter left behind. Statistics show 12% of CA adults and 11% of teens aged 12-17 yrs are smokers. At a sold out event of 2,500, therefore, we can expect near 290 smokers in the crowd. That's 290 people who will be exiting the stadium frequently for smoke breaks in our neighborhood. If only 20% of those smokers were chain smokers, that would be near 60 people constantly smoking throughout the event in front of our homes. According to the Lung Association, the District should not permit smoking within sight of children or neighbors of the school, given that they receive anti-smoking funding from the Federal government. What does PLHS intend to do to rectify this environmental hazard it is imposing on neighbors? They, effectively, are turning our family-friendly neighborhood into an area no different than the smoke-filled sidewalk areas outside bars. Also, PLHS construction workers using our neighborhood as an ashtray is commonplace. Both supervisors/managers of construction firms hired by the District all the way down to laborers - they smoke just outside the school fence and dump their cigarette litter on the sidewalks, in yards, and in the gutter to head out to the ocean. With more ongoing construction expanding the stadium, what does PLHS intend to do to rectify this environmental hazard it is continually imposing on the neighbors, and our oceans, at every campus exit where smokers gather? What controls will be in place to prevent event attendees from continuing to light up, gather and loiter in our yards?

Other Health Hazards: PLHS has not kept its promise to prevent team buses from idling on our streets. With a larger stadium and more events, we can expect more team buses lining up, idling, and spewing hazardous materials into the atmosphere and our homes. Where will team buses park and idle so as not to present a hazard?

Additional Bleachers: The surrounding neighborhood streets already struggle with the number of people coming to stadium events, and the myriad adverse consequences. Expanding the stadium is environmentally unsound. School parents have offered up two reasons why they “need” a set of away team bleachers. They say physical confrontations, profanity and verbal abuse occurs when competing fans sit next to one another. Is this a reason to further burden an already compromised neighborhood, because fans are disrespectful, abusive and uncivilized? The myriad adverse effects of bringing an additional 500 people to the stadium, and the cars, parking nightmares, noise, trash, etc. that come with them makes no sense.

Additional Visitor Snack Shack and Bathrooms: Here is yet another flagrant lie told to neighbors by the PLHS administration. During past public meetings regarding the proposed bathroom facility that was oddly located by District architects between two historic homes on Voltaire Street, the public was told a location farther away from homes within school grounds – actually not far from this proposed visitor bathroom – was absolutely not an option. We suggested a bathroom belonged in a more central location, not cheek to jowl with vintage homes. Yet the school administration was adamant the one and only stadium bathroom “had” to be at its present location. Then, when neighbors objected to the sudden increase in the number of stalls from what was initially proposed, and therefore the increased size of the structure, they were told all these stalls were necessary to accommodate “everyone in the stadium”. Now, we see that they not only a) absolutely could have located the central bathroom facility mid-campus where we had asked (i.e. NOT between two historic homes on Voltaire St), and 2) they did not need all those stalls, or to expand the structure on Voltaire St, *because all along they planned a second bathroom and snack facility which is on your site plan*. Clearly, it is impossible to trust any words emanating from the mouths of District officials or PLHS administration. Lie after lie after lie. There was never any mention of a second snack shack, either, though clearly the SDUSD knew this was part of the ultimate plan. They chose to withhold this information from neighbors, i.e. lie to us. There is no need for more bathrooms or a second snack shack. What's needed is to preserve the parking area that currently exists where they want to build these unnecessary buildings. The basketball courts are regularly used for much-needed on-site parking. As the mother of a cheerleader, I have been to hundreds of games. I recall that most often, I had to walk to a building, typically to a large campus gymnasium, if I wanted to use the restroom. Never was there a bathroom structure sitting right next to the bleachers, much less the away team bleachers. Given the money already spent on, and the huge size of the brand new bathroom facility on Voltaire St, there is no reason to add more blight to the green belt area of the stadium with more buildings, besides it being fiscally irresponsible. More structures bring more lights, more bathroom fans, more noise, *more graffiti targets, more trash*. PLHS has already shown it is incapable of handling the amount of trash it already generates that spews out into the neighborhood.

Noise: Given the “hollow” that the PLHS campus sits in, the potential for loud noise to carry not only up the hillsides, but way out into the night sky, noise is a huge consideration and must be addressed in the EIR. To make matters worse, much of the noise created is amplified noise. The late night cleaning equipment previously mentioned above, fans parading their

loud vehicle stereos (even mounted on the exterior of cars), school drum corps, air horns, marching bands with drums, fans loudly screaming, PA systems, amplified music, and a FedEx jet flying overhead all at the same time are just a few examples of activities that will very likely **violate allowable noise levels**. The 10 p.m. noise curfew will be violated – guaranteed. The District is not exempt from the 10 p.m. noise curfew. At PLHS, students have been allowed unchecked, unsupervised access to PA systems, to use or abuse as they see fit. Football players blared unchecked rap music during practice over the PA system. The type, volume, duration, and true necessity of PA system use, including voice and “music”, must be addressed in the EIR. For example, a “pee wee” football league using the PLHS athletic field has proclaimed at a public meeting that every play, including the child's name involved in that play, must be called over the PA system to “promote self-esteem”. The league mothers indicated that hearing their children named over loud speakers is critical. One would think the overall game, sportsmanship and athleticism is important, but apparently not. Given the attitude of field users, who seemingly have unchecked access to the PA systems, SDUSD must explicitly state what is appropriate, or inappropriate, PA system use for all the various entities using the fields, the stated rules, **and how they intend to enforce those rules** since they do not provide on-campus oversight at most of these events and (unbelievably) rely on the “honor system”. Neighbors can attest to the fact that the “honor system”, or even a written contract with the District, does not prevent regular noise abuse.

What noise will be generated by the light poles? Will there be a “whistling” in high winds keeping nearby residents awake at night? A “humming” of electricity? What about the clanking of 1,000 shoes on noisy aluminum visitor bleachers late at night? What about bathroom fans running 24/7 near homes (as they do on Voltaire St now)? What additional environmental noise will come about with these additional structures?

Press Box: Adding additional height/bulk to the existing concrete bleachers in the form of a press box is a blight to the environment. The homes all along Voltaire St and surrounds will be adversely affected by this overwhelming structure. As it is, they are already forced into the shadows. We already have to yell inside our own homes to hear one another if a large event is held at the athletic field. Even with all windows and doors shut, it's just like sitting on the 50 yard line – there is no escape. Many of us have resorted to leaving our homes during the night Homecoming game rather than be subjected to the incessant screaming, PA system, air horns, etc. that carries incredibly in the night air. This noise is easily heard many blocks from the school. Obviously, no one can plan any social event at their home when there is an event like this. There is no parking for guests, and you cannot have a conversation within your own home. An EIR needs to study and measure noise levels within homes surrounding the stadium during the Homecoming night game.

Noise in the form of “Music”: For some reason, the playing of blaring amplified “music” has become inextricably entwined with academics and school campuses. It's as if nothing can happen, no event can be held on the athletic field, or be enjoyed or participated in without the blaring over the PA system of “music” anymore. (And I'm not referring to marching or concert bands, which are a legitimate and valuable asset to high schools.) As an example, I visited my high school in Ohio and had a chance to talk to the football coach during practice. He advised me that they never play music, they just practice. Same for other team sports at that school; they manage to practice “as is”. They don't force noise upon the neighborhood. To me, this is a huge issue in our youth culture, and something that needs to be in the spotlight of an EIR. The noise pollution forced upon our society, and which is part and parcel of high school life

has gotten to be quite ridiculous, and no one seems to care, or ask why that has to be so. School administrations are very accepting of noise pollution, and oblivious to the adverse environmental effects within their neighborhoods. I ask, what if I aimed my big speakers at the athletic field, grabbed my microphone, sang along and blared Christmas music during their graduation ceremony?

Just as:

- ⤴ Coastal areas in California are afforded specific protections due to their sensitive nature;
- ⤴ We, as humans, have our personal space evermore protected by our government from the known dangers of cigarettes and second hand smoke;
- ⤴ Liquor-serving establishments and their negative affects on nearby areas are under ever more scrutiny and government regulation, so neighborhoods are not blighted and abused by their operations;
- ⤴ etc.,

it is evermore important that neighborhood residents and homeowners, like those surrounding PLHS, are also afforded a vigorous, extensive, wide-ranging and appropriately detailed EIR. The EIR is perhaps the only means of protecting them against the specific intentions (both known and unknown) and future actions by a very determined SDUSD to impute its narrowly-focused values and development plans onto the existing neighborhood *no matter what*.

Thank you for considering our public input on this very serious investigative report.

Sincerely,

Beverly Klose

Enclosures: Scoping meeting oral presentation
Photo CD of just some of the neighborhood streets impacted by stadium events
Map of just some of the neighborhood streets impacted by recent stadium event
(Note: Time precluded photos or analysis of Chatsworth Blvd or blks north)