Mr. David Szymanski February 6, 2013

Supervisor, Santa Monica Mountains

National Recreation Area

401 West Hillcrest Drive

Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

BE IT KNOWN THAT on February 6, 2013, the Chatsworth Neighborhood Council voted to approve the following letter of support:

The Chatsworth Neighborhood Council requests that the National Park Service (NPS) step forward to be the eventual custodian of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory in the Simi Hills.

We believe that the NPS is the only entity that has the expertise to preserve this site in perpetuity. We envision this site as particularly well suited to house a public museum honoring the nations rocketry achievements, as well as it is a critical habitat linkage between the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area and the Los Padres National Forest. The NASA site also includes a significant Native American pictograph area, on the National Registry of Historic Places, and has an extensive archaeological district with many artifacts and areas that show it was heavily used by Native Americans.

The General Services Agency (GSA) is tasked with disposing of excess federal property. Approximately 450 acres of the 2,700-acre Santa Susana Field Laboratory site, administered by NASA, is being disposed of through a federal government process that provides first refusal rights to other federal agencies. Under the federal process for disposal of excess property, the administrative transfer must occur in the near future. However, such transfer would include a binding obligation that NASA clean up the parcel to appropriate standards prior to transfer of the management of the property. NPS, however, must step forward now, if this key property is to be preserved for future public use.

We are asking for your help in preserving forever this parcel that contributes in so many ways to public goals. This parcel will assist with the key linkage between the Santa Monica Mountains and other open space, and may become part of the Rim of the Valley Trail. This site, above all others, provides an opportunity to maintain significant, unique cultural and historic riches as resources that we - and our grandchildren - will be able to visit and marvel at in perpetuity.

The CHATSWORTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL is an elected body of 21 members within the City of Los Angeles representing 35,317 residents ( 13,541 households ) in the City of Chatsworth,   
California.

Thank you for your support,

Andre van der Valk

President

cc: