

April 4, 2006

Honorable Mayor and Members of
the Hermosa Beach City Council

Regular Meeting of
April 11, 2006

**LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE
LOMITA RAILROAD MUSEUM EXPANSION PROJECT**

Recommendation:

That the City Council authorize the Mayor to send a letter of support to Congresswoman Jane Harman for the Railroad Museum Expansion Project.

Background:

I have attached a request from Susan Dever, President of the South Bay Cities Council of Governments, asking that the City Council express its support for the \$1,000,000 grant from the federal government for the project. Like other projects in the South Bay, this is a unique resource that is open to all. The City Council supported Rancho Palos Verde's efforts last year in their effort to add more open space, which was successful.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen R. Burrell
City Manager

SAMPLE LETTER

April 2006

The Honorable Jane Harman
2400 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Harman:

I am writing in support of a \$1 million appropriations request by the City of Lomita for their Lomita Railroad Museum. The appropriation will help fund the much needed expansion of the museum, adding additional educational facilities, community meeting space, and integrated outdoor space. This appropriation would supplement \$200,000 already raised in private contributions and an additional \$200,000 pending before the California Cultural and Historical Endowment.

The Lomita Railroad Museum has been in existence since 1967 and is owned by the City of Lomita and operated by a board of directors. The museum currently draws 6,000 to 7,000 visitors per year, serving the greater South Bay community, including school children, parents, and members of the Lomita Historical Society. Many school groups have expressed interest in using the museum for instructional hands-on field trips aligned with the State Education Content Standards in California history. The current space, however, is too small to accommodate such requests.

The Lomita Railroad Museum is a valuable resource to residents throughout the South Bay. Expansion will allow the museum to serve an even greater community and to accommodate the needs of schools and children who would like to use the museum to meet their educational goals. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to aid in the success of this important appropriations request. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,