



JACL

Japanese American Citizens League

WEST LOS ANGELES CHAPTER

P.O. Box 251436

Los Angeles, CA 90025-9325

September 20, 2010

Councilman Bill Rosendahl
Los Angeles City Council District 11
200 North Spring Street, Room 415
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Councilman.rosendahl@lacity.org

Dear Councilman Rosendahl;

The West Los Angeles Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) supports the efforts of the *Free Venice Beachhead* and the students of Venice High School to recognize the northwest corner of Venice and Lincoln Boulevards with a commemorative marker.

On April 25, 1942, complying with Civil Exclusion Order No.7, hundreds of Japanese Americans from the Malibu, Santa Monica, West Los Angeles and Venice areas were ordered to assemble at this location and transported by bus to the Manzanar War Relocation Authority in the Owens Valley. Clearly, this action violated Americans of Japanese descent their civil and human rights. The United States government targeted Japanese Americans and denied these citizens of their Constitutional rights because of their shared ethnicity with a nation that attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. A commemorative marker will serve as a reminder of the prejudice and injustice inflicted on American citizens of Japanese ancestry.

The West Los Angeles JACL urges you to exert your full support and influence to the commemorative marker campaign. The mission of our national organization is to protect and secure the civil and human rights of Japanese Americans and anyone victimized by prejudice and discrimination. The fearful atmosphere of 1941 is frighteningly relevant today and a commemorative marker will be a reminder to prevent such future injustices.

Sincerely,

John Saito, Jr.
West Los Angeles JACL Chapter President