

Dear Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors,

On behalf of John F. Kennedy High School, I am writing to express our enthusiastic support for the La Brea Tar Pits Master Plan.

The Natural History Museums of Los Angeles County is an exemplary institution and has been an invaluable partner to our school for the past four years. Through this partnership, the Tar Pits have provided professional development opportunities for educators like myself and my colleagues and delivered exceptional activities that have greatly benefited our students. As home to the world's largest collection of Ice Age fossils and the only active urban excavation site, the La Brea Tar Pits is a singular educational and cultural treasure with a legacy spanning a century.

The visionary Master Plan will significantly enhance the Tar Pits' capacity for world-class research and educational programming. Doubling the lab facilities, expanding exhibition spaces, and increasing immersive, hands-on opportunities will enable students to engage directly in real-time scientific discovery. Additionally, the transformation of the grounds into an innovative learning environment—including educational displays, historical native plants, and new recreational spaces—will benefit not only students but also the entire community.

The Master Plan will bring tremendous advantages to Los Angeles County. It will broaden access and educational opportunities for L.A.'s diverse population and international visitors, deliver significant economic impact, and establish a preeminent venue for engaging the public with the wonders of science. It will also inspire appreciation for the importance of safeguarding our planet during this critical era of climate change.

We at John F. Kennedy High School are excited to continue our partnership with the Natural History Museums of Los Angeles County and strongly urge you to approve the plan to modernize the La Brea Tar Pits. Should you require additional information or have any questions, please feel free to contact me at james.joseph1@lausd.net.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Joseph'.

James Joseph
Math Teacher
John F. Kennedy High School
Granada Hills, CA