

Office of the City Council



March 11, 2010

Ms. Francine Scinto
President, Board of Education
Tustin Unified School District
300 South C Street
Tustin, California 92780-3695

Dear Francine:

I am sure that we can both agree that this unfortunate conflict between the City of Tustin and Tustin Unified School District has unnecessarily escalated. Before matters go further, I want to recap for you my understanding of the situation in the hope that we can resolve this issue and the District can move forward with its construction program.

The City is in receipt of the District's draft grading permit applications and draft storm water management plans. The City has made its comments and resubmitted them to the District to be amended and sent to the City. As soon as we are in receipt of the District's clear, complete and verifiable changes to these documents, the City will issue the necessary permits.

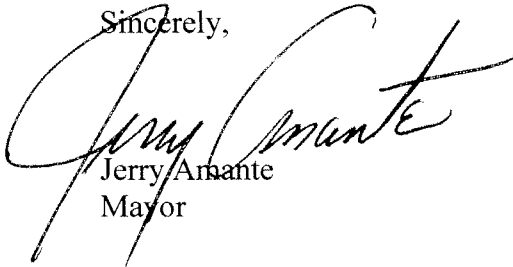
The City is required by law to enforce these grading and storm water management programs, and we have done so with every other school, business and residential development in the City, including the Rancho Santiago and South Orange County Community College Districts, which are also regulated by DSA. Apparently, TUSD understands this as the applications and plans have already been submitted. Since we are so close to having what each party requires, we ask that the District staff or its consultants make the necessary revisions quickly to move this process forward. I promise you that City staff is equally motivated to move this forward and will review and issue permits as soon as all the requirements are accomplished.

We do not know for certain, nor can we control, what other jurisdictions do regarding compliance with state law, but it is our fiduciary responsibility to the citizens of Tustin that we follow the rules. The penalty for failure to comply could result in stiff fines to the City and the District unnecessarily. I am sure that the school board recognizes the importance of environmental stewardship and protecting the ocean by preventing harmful pollutants from entering the storm water system. I know that this important concept is taught in TUSD schools.

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We look forward to getting the District's amended grading permit materials and storm water plans and you have my word that on behalf of the council and me we will do everything in our power to make your school construction program a success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jerry Amante". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Jerry Amante
Mayor