



January 13, 2021

Mayor Farrah Khan  
& Council Members  
City of Irvine  
1 Civic Center Plaza  
Irvine, California 92606

Dear Mayor Khan and Irvine City Council Members:

Thank you for your letter regarding the matter that the city and Southern California Air Quality Management District (AQMD) are reviewing regarding the All American Asphalt plant in Irvine. I apologize for the delay in responding.

The bond between UCI and the City of Irvine has been central to the growth and influence both have in the region and across the state. The university community remains committed to this partnership that has collaboratively addressed issues of public safety, transportation, housing, and most recently the challenges surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic.

The University of California is dedicated to the principles of academic freedom to help us serve our mission to discover knowledge and disseminate it to our students and to society at large. The principles of academic freedom protect faculty members' freedom of inquiry and research, freedom of teaching, and freedom of expression and publication in their University roles, which includes the faculty addressed in your correspondence.

When conducting research outside of university programs, faculty are instructed to make clear that the positions they are expressing are their own and not those of the University. The use of university letterhead expressing the faculty's personal interest was not consistent with university policy, and we apologize for any confusion the correspondence may have caused. The University of California, Irvine is not engaged nor a sponsor of the research activities by faculty as related to All American Asphalt.

Thank you, and please feel free to contact me directly with any questions you might have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "P. Alberto Sandoval".

P. Alberto Sandoval  
Senior Director  
Community & Government Relations

cc: Hal Stern, Interim Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor  
Dean Michael Stamos, School of Medicine