

May 3, 2020

Governor Gavin Newsom

1303 10th Street, Suite 1173

Sacramento CA 95814

Re: Proposed Capitol Annex Project

Dear Governor,

I am writing to express opposition to the Capitol Annex Project - the plan to demolish the Capitol Annex Building, build an underground parking garage for legislators and other top state officials, and excavate the West Capitol Plaza for an underground Visitor Center.

As a former Mayor, you have a singularly important perspective about how special places in cities need to be valued and protected. You did that in SF and I hope you will help do it here in Sacramento, your adopted city. Please protect one of the most unique things about our city. Please be our advocate.

My opposition, and I hope yours, is based on the following concerns:

- Too expensive to justify for the return
- Bad timing given the financial and social impact of the Covid-19 pandemic
- Too much to lose in terms of 100 trees, history, visitor attraction, and a beautiful park
- Climate Change impacts are too severe, by removing trees that remove carbon, reduce the urban heat island effect, and improve air quality.
- There are other locations for a visitor center and parking that do not destroy a local treasure. After Covid 19 we may even rethink how we work and when we drive.
- There hasn't been any meaningful public dialog about the project or the options.

I ask that you work to halt the current project, especially any construction funds, and ask for a plan that costs less and protects this precious historical, environmental and community resource. The Capitol and its surrounding Capitol Park is an historic landmark and a local treasure, that deserves to be protected, not destroyed.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Former Mayor Heather Fargo

1911 Bannon Creek Drive, Sacramento 95833