

# City of Carson and the Carson Reclamation Authority Stand Against Corporate Intimidation in Mall Development Dispute

*Simon Property Group has failed to meet its obligations to Carson, including an outstanding debt of over \$12.5 million owed to the CRA.*

CARSON, CALIFORNIA, UNITED STATES, June 11, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The City of [Carson](#) and the Carson Reclamation Authority (CRA) have diligently negotiated with Simon Property Group, LP, a New York rooted company (Simon) in good faith for the past 20 months to finalize a deal that would bring the Los Angeles Premium Outlets to the community. Despite sincere efforts and commitment to this project, actions by Simon Property Group have undermined our progress. Simon has repeatedly failed to acknowledge and respect the culture and needs of our local community and has approached the negotiations with an uncompromising stance.

**“** We stand firm against intimidation tactics and remain dedicated to making decisions which are in the best interest of our taxpayers and residents.”  
*Lula Davis-Holmes, Mayor of Carson*

The planned outlet mall is to be located on 42 acres of a 157-acre former Cal-Compact site. Since 2017, the CRA has diligently worked and committed substantial resources to complete extensive remediation systems and prepare the site for development. In the last 20 months in a good faith effort to make the outlet mall project a reality, the City of Carson also committed substantial funds and resources towards developing public infrastructure and ancillary needs on the site. Collectively, the city and CRA committed over \$65 million in resources to facilitate the development of the outlet mall project, provided Simon would drop the lawsuit and proceed with developing the outlet mall. All these commitments were made through public hearings and documented in public documents available for review, underscoring the importance of transparency and accountability in large-scale public-private partnership projects.

Despite various extensions to Simon for the company to decide if the market now warrants this development and significant financial commitments from the City and CRA, Simon has failed to meet its obligations, including an outstanding debt of over \$12.5 million owed to the CRA and paying its contractual carry-cost obligations.

Mayor Lula Davis-Holmes emphasized the city's resilience against corporate intimidation, stating, "We remain dedicated to the revitalization of our city and will continue to work towards solutions that benefit our residents and the community at large. As public officials, we have a responsibility not to allow private developers or anyone else to take advantage of our community."

The loss of the outlet mall would be disappointing, but it does not deter the CRA and the City from pursuing development goals. The CRA is actively working with other developers, such as Carson Goose Owner LLC, which is successfully developing on the same landfill site.



City of Carson Logo

Carson Goose Owner LLC is developing the Carson Place, an 11.12-acre community amenity and commercial area featuring retail, restaurants, a performance stage, and other community-serving uses. This project is proceeding as planned and demonstrates the CRA's capacity for successful redevelopment and it showcases Carson's ability to foster positive and productive partnerships.

In a written statement, Brendan Kotler, Faring's Chief Investment Officer, stated on behalf of Carson Goose Owner, LLC, "For many years, the City of Carson and the Carson Reclamation Authority have been thoughtful, committed, and diligent partners. As good stewards of the land, the CRA has always put the interests of the residents first. We look forward to breaking ground on our project, a 96-acre lifestyle and industrial park called Carson Place, by the end of the year, and continuing our relationship with the CRA and the City of Carson. We eagerly anticipate unveiling our 12-acre community park featuring exceptional indoor and outdoor restaurant spaces, as well as lifestyle shopping, to the Carson community, whom we deeply value. Additionally, we're excited to commence construction on 1100 new townhomes and luxury apartments this fall."

Mayor Davis-Holmes added, "The City of Carson values transparent partnerships and remains hopeful that a path forward can be found with CAM-Carson LLC, which represents Simon Property Group. However, we stand firm against intimidation tactics and remain dedicated to making decisions which are in the best interest of our taxpayers and residents."

The City of Carson is also proud to be the first venue city to sign an agreement for the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Los Angeles and continues to work towards revitalizing and improving the local environment and economy, further solidifying its commitment to growth and community engagement.

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#### About the City of Carson

The City of Carson is committed to enhancing the quality of life for its residents by promoting economic development, providing quality services, and fostering a safe and sustainable community. Through the efforts of the Carson Reclamation Authority, the city realizes revitalization and improvement of its local environment and economy. Carson is also excited to be a venue city for the 2028 Olympic Games, further solidifying its commitment to growth and community engagement.

Shawna Charles, MBA, Ph.D.

Charles Communications Group

+1 3106894310

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