

February 25, 1957

Honorable John Anson Ford
Chairman, Board of Supervisors
Hall of Records
Los Angeles 12, California

Dear Mr. Ford:

I know you shared my gratification at the news that the Brooklyn Dodgers have purchased the Los Angeles and Wrigley Field, thus removing a major obstacle in the path of obtaining big league baseball for this great metropolitan area.

I believe that this first concrete evidence of the strong desire, and quite probably the definite intention, of this big league team to transfer its franchise to Los Angeles calls for immediate and vigorous cooperation by officials of both the city and the county. I hope you share my conviction that neither the city nor the county alone can provide the assistance that this situation rightfully demands.

As I have announced publicly, it is my intention to fly to Florida within the next few days to meet with Walter O'Malley, president of the Dodgers, to ascertain in what ways he feels the city can be of help in bringing major league baseball here with the least delay. I am also inviting City Council President Gibson and another representative of that body to accompany me.

May I respectfully request that you and the other members of the Board of Supervisors, Harold W. Kennedy, County Counsel, and Arthur J. Hill, Chief Administrative Officer, meet with me at luncheon tomorrow to discuss this matter thoroughly. I am also inviting Mr. Gibson and another representative of the Council, City Attorney Roger Arnebergh and Samuel Leask, Jr., City Administrative Officer. The time and place of the luncheon will be fixed later today.

May I also urge that the Board authorize at least one of its members to go to Florida to join me in conferring with Mr. O'Malley. I should like to emphasize how essential I believe it is that the city and county work together as a team in this effort that is so important to the people of this area.

Sincerely yours,

NP:F

MAYOR

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