Preliminary geomorphic, stratigraphic and structural evaluation of the Century City area



Miles Kenney, PhD, PG Kenney GeoScience

May 17, 2012





Interim Conclusions

Miles Kenney, PhD. PG

- A reasonable re-evaluation of the existing data suggests that faults associated with the West Beverly Hills Lineament (Newport-Inglewood fault zone) do not exist.
- At least one fault identified by Parsons within the WBHL fault zone is likely real, but is considered part of the Santa Monica Boulevard fault zone (strikes more EW compared to NS). Fault F.
- The Santa Monica Boulevard faults likely do exist, but they may be:
 - Dominantly strike-slip normal
 - Secondary upper plate faults to the Santa Monica Fault Zone proper
 - Inactive

Review of the Existing Data

- Published scientific reports and maps
- Subsurface work by
 - MACTEC,
 - Parsons Brinkerhoff (Parsons),
 - Leighton (LCI),
 - Earth Consultants International (ECI),
 - Soil Tectonics
 - Kenney GeoScience (KGS)



Local Stratigraphy key to understanding faulting

In order to understand local faulting behavior, location and activity, it is critical to understand the age and characteristics of the local stratigraphy



Site Stratigraphy

GEOL DESI	OGIC UNIT		SYMBOL	DESCRIPTION	ESTIMATED AGE
			Af	Artificial fill	
Benedict Canyon Wash Deposits	BCWD	Modern BCWD	Qf/Qfo	Quaternary alluvium (late to latest Pleistocene) as defined by Parsons. Drawn in some areas where the original Parsons designation of Qf/Qfo v modified herin. Unit Qf/Qfo likely includes uppermost members of ancient BCWD.	as slightly ~40,000 years old (Soil Tectonics, 2012b). Terrace elevation approximately 275 to 280 msl ~134,000 years old (Soil Tectonics, 2012b) ~150,000 years old erosion surface created during Marine Isotope Stage 6
	·45-55′	Ancient BCWD	(A)	Soil profile marker horizon within Benedict Canyon Wash Deposits.	
		"30 s	00T″ terrace urface	Abandoned geomorphic terrace surface that locally ranges in elevation - between approximately 275 to 350+ feet above msl.	Minimum ~80,000 year old soil (Soil Tectonics, 2012a) but sediments may be as old as 150,000 to 200,000 years
Cheviot Hills Deposits	CHD	B		Soil profile marker horizon that typically exists in the uppermost section of the Cheviot Hills Deposits. Type local is in Boring T2E-B1. In most places the upper soil horizons have been eroded away.	~500,000 years old as correlated
			C	Soil profile marker horizon that typically exhibits relatively strong calcium carbonate. Type local is in Boring in Boring T7-B2.	ECI (2012).
			D	Soil profile marker horizon that exhibits a distincive reddish brown "spotted" or "praprika" texture as identified in Transect 4.	Erosion Surface
			E	Soil profile marker horizon that typically exhibits manganese oxide deposits and/or carbonate.	These soils likely do not exist
			E	Soil profile marker horizon that typically exhibits manganese oxide deposits and/or carbonate and generally exists just above unit Qfob.	due to erosion in the BHHS site and thus were not dated
San Pedro Sequence	SPS	Qfob		A distinctive sedimentary unit composed of silty sand with clay identified by Parsons (2012) and utilized in this report that exhibits abundant carbonate.	Minimum ~574,000 years old as
			Qeb	A distinctive sedimentary unit dominated by clay identified by Parsons (2012) and utilized in this report that exhibits abundant carbonate. Unit likely terrestrial and is comformable with underlying San Pedro Formation.	(2012) and ECI (2012).
Kenney Ge	oScience		Qsp	San Pedro Formation. This unit was deposited in a marine environment and typically exhibits abundant shells, and distinctive dark colors. Members are generally well sorted clays, sands, and gravels.	Minumum 600,000 years old (LCI, 2012; ECI, 2012).

Ancient Benedict Canyon Wash



Site Geologic Map -I think the first one made to date!



Do the West Beverly Hills Lineament Faults really exist?



Constellation Transect - Geologic composition evaluation Scale 10x vertical exaggeration





Evaluation of Fining Upward Sequences (FUS) along Parsons Transects









Kenney GeoScience



Transect 2E FUS - WBHL FZ





One and possibly two faults were however identified in the WBHL FZ area along Transect 7.







Transect 1-8 FUS - Close up of Fault F



Additional evidence for Fault F to reach Transect 7 Fault F was already mapped by MACTECH (2010)



Fault Map Overlay - MACTECH AND PARSONS



Fault Map Overlay - MACTECH AND PARSONS



Fault F to Transect 7



Interim Summary

- The WBHL faults likely do not exist.
- Our analysis indicates that at least one fault mapped within the WBHL by Parsons is likely real, but strikes NE-SW and is part of the SMBFZ (Fault F).

Geomorphic Analysis

- Preserved terrace surfaces across Santa Monica Boulevard - Cross Sections
- Drainage analysis
- Lineament analysis along Santa Monica Blvd
- Preserved terrace surfaces overlying faults





Terrace Surfaces







Results

Faults along Santa Monica Boulevard have not exhibited significant reverse faulting



Geomorphic drainage analysis









Kenney GeoScience

Geomorphic Drainage Analysis





Results of drainage analysis

- Tributary system does not appear systematically offset by either right- or left lateral displacement.
- Infers that the Santa Monica Blvd Lineament appears dominated by erosion and depositional processes – thus possibly not active



Is there a lineament along SMB? Yes, and it is VERY linear, suggesting dominantly strike-slip motion





Any well defined fault scarps in the ~40,000 years old terrace surface? = NO





Results of Lineament Analysis

- Straight trend of the Santa Monica Boulevard Lineament suggests strike-slip displacement as apposed to dip-slip but not offset drainages = suggesting inactive
- No well defined scarps associated with the SMBFZ or proposed WBHL fault zone on the ~40,000 year old terrace surface. = suggesting inactive



Are the faults along Santa Monica Boulevard inactive?



Is the SMBFZ a "secondary" upper plate fault?



Kenney GeoScience



Is the SMBFZ a secondary upper plate fault?



Is the SMBFZ a secondary upper plate fault?



Is the SMBFZ a secondary upper plate fault? - Continued Lets look dips



Is the SMBFZ an upper plate fault?



Proposed cartoon model of local faulting in the Cheviot Hills



Proposal for Regional Kinematic Model





Interim Conclusions

Miles Kenney, PhD. PG

- A reasonable re-evaluation of the existing data suggests that faults associated with the West Beverly Hills Lineament (Newport-Inglewood fault zone) do not exist.
- At least one fault identified by Parsons within the WBHL fault zone is likely real, but is considered part of the Santa Monica Boulevard fault zone (strikes more EW compared to NS). Fault F.
- The Santa Monica Boulevard faults likely do exist, but they may be:
 - Dominantly strike-slip normal
 - Secondary upper plate faults to the Santa Monica Fault Zone proper
 - Inactive