

LETTER

RESPONSE

Letter I68

From: Annie Ryan DiMeglio [mailto:annierd614@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, July 28, 2014 12:18 PM
To: Slovick, Mark
Subject: Comments for new DEIR

Hello Mark,

I'm sure all issues that I could discuss here have been stated and restated over and over. All of them extremely important and real to all of us who live in the target zone of Accretive.

I won't go into all of them again, here, but please count me in as agreeing with all the facts and details that my neighbors have sent in.

One issue that I haven't seen much discussion on is those of us who have horses and other livestock animals. NO discussion has been proposed on this issue from what I can see and it is a very critical and important one! Evacuating with trailers full of horses and livestock is very time consuming and scary, not being able to get out is one of our biggest fears! Allowing all the extra traffic could mean devastation to us horse people on a much larger scale!

What really brought it home was the recent fire activity, specifically the fire on the hill behind the mobile home park off of Old Hwy 395, between the 76 and West Lilac.

I live 2.3 miles east of the bridge off of West Lilac, East on Covey lane. Covey Lane is a puney, quiet road with NO EXIT on either end. During that fire Old Hwy 395 was closed off at the bridge at West Lilac. People who had exited the freeway (15) because it was also closed were searching, searching, searching for a way to get out. Hundreds of cars came up and down our little roads only to hit dead ends where they had to turn around creating MORE TRAFFIC JAMS.....ON OUR LITTLE TINY DEAD END ROAD!!

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I68-1 The project's Evacuation Plan (Appendix K) of the FEIR, includes multiple components intended to create an orderly and safe evacuation of the project site in time of emergency. As discussed in subchapter 2.7 of the FEIR, the Evacuation Plan provides evacuation routes, evacuation points, and specific measures to keep future residents and employees informed about what to do if a wildfire occurs and safe at a time of evacuation. The availability of the Evacuation Plan to all residents and businesses, along with the multiple exits available for egress from the site, would support safe and efficient evacuation. The Project Evacuation Plan is a resident awareness and education program and key for preparing a plan by residents for evacuating livestock in the event of a wildfire in the area.

The specific needs of farm animals during evacuation events are understood by emergency responders as a result of experience obtained from prior fire events. This experience has increased the region's ability to mobilize and provide resources needed to evacuate large animals such as horses. In the event of a wildfire, the residents are key for providing evacuation means for their animals but would be assisted with emergency resources normally available to large animal owners in times of emergency (such as local equestrian groups, County and Humane Society animal evacuation shelters). The County acknowledges this comment and the opposition to the project. The comment will be included as part of the record and made available to the decision makers prior to a final decision on the proposed project.

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My husband, myself and our neighbors watched in disbelief as a steady stream of cars, for hours on end, came up our road. All I could think about was if I HAD TO GET OUT I COULDN'T!! I have 8 horses, my next door neighbor has 2, another neighbor has 2 and numerous other neighbors have several, all within a few blocks of West Lilac!!

So, perhaps this issue of large animal evacuation can be brought up as well. It is definitely a huge issue which little attention has been paid! Many of us were drawn and sold on the Valley Center area because we are horse people and Valley Center was APPARENTLY horse savvy and horse friendly. Allowing this new development which will hamper our evacuation roads beyond measure is INSANITY!!

Thank you for your attention to this matter, it really could be a matter of life & death for both humans and horses.

Annie Ryan-Di Meglio
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Escondido, CA 92026

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Love is the absence of judgment.....Dalai Lama

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