

I-13 Elizabeth Aragon (2)

Comment Letter I-13

From: Elizabeth Aragon <elizabmarie@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 13, 2017 4:34 PM
To: Smith, Ashley
Subject: No to Newland Sierra

Hi Ashley ~ You requested that I submit this email that I wrote on Nextdoor in response to a neighbor who supported Newland Sierra. I already submitted an email to you against the NS project on August 9th, so please delete this one if responses are limited to one per person. Thank You.

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I understand the concerns about the housing shortage in San Diego County. I live north of Escondido a mile or so off of I-15 and have the concerns as well. However, I think the fundamental issue is about the quality of life of the current residents and for the residents of any proposed housing development in this area. AND ~ it's about finding a reasonable solution and a balance between the two. Newland Sierra is an example of the developers greed (I'm sorry but it's all about money to them). I was very involved in the proposed Lilac Hills Ranch development which ended up in a countywide referendum vote that was turned down by the voters. In that case, the developer wanted to put 1700 homes rather than 100 as stated in Valley Center's General Plan. Newland Sierra is just one of numerous developments, some proposed and some in progress, along the I-15 corridor between the area where I live and Temecula. This is not a new issue but rather one that has been going on for a long, long time. In September 30, 2001, an article in the SD Union stated in part:

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'SANDAG also is trying to shift those new homes into cities and out of rural communities, in keeping with smart growth philosophy and avoiding the full-scale paving of the backcountry. Planners estimate that if plans don't change, and those nearly 900,000 people do come, new development will gobble 600,000 acres -- the equivalent of three San Diegos -- by 2020.'

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So ~ we have to be vigilant and smart and be involved in the planning and development of the area in which we live AND our children will live. Do we envision them in an area gridlocked by traffic with dismal air quality and no escape route in case of a wildfire or similar emergency?? I for one ~ do not!!"

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Elizabeth Aragon
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