Comment Letters

I-17   Susan Arneson (2)

Ashley Smith
Environmental Planner
County of San Diego
5510 Overland Ave.
San Diego, CA
921123

Dear Ms Smith,

In this letter I am addressing traffic and evacuation issues concerning Newland's Sierra Draft EIR.

I-17-1

At present we are dealing with traffic problems and a lack of a satisfactory evacuation plan in our Twin Oaks Community with no solution in sight. I live on a street that connects to Buena Creek Road. The County traffic projection has Buena Creek Road listed as a future 4 lane road, but the Planning Commissioners have declared that this will never happen because of the creek which runs along it and major imminent domain/condemnation problems. Heavily burdened high power lines run its length and we are plagued with frequent power outages when trees or cars bring one of them down. It is a winding country road with no shoulder existing on much of it, nor the possibility of creating one. Yet, at commuter times, it is a raceway between the 78 and the 15 freeways. At peak times there is nearly a mile backup on Buena Creek Road at the Twin Oaks Valley Road signal and the Sprinter station/South Santa Fe Avenue has been declared a failed intersection with as many as 5 signal cycles to traverse.

I-17-2

My community has met with the various fire agencies concerning evacuation strategies. Part of the evacuation plan is to convert both lanes of Buena Creek Road to one way traffic. A recent fire in the area proved this was an impossible plan because the narrow condition of the road does not allow for the passage of emergency vehicles traveling in the opposite direction!

I-17-3

How will Newland mitigate the impact of its proposed development on Buena Creek Road? If we have no solution to the present traffic gridlock and an impossible evacuation plan, how will adding the approximately 4,270 vehicles of the residents of Sierra and their daily trips make for a safe environment?

I-17-4

I-17-5

Thank you for your attention,
Susan Arneson
1310 Sugarbush Drive
Vista, 92084
CA

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