

I-187 Georgeann Higgins

Comment Letter I-187

From: Georgeann Higgins [mailto:georgeann101@verizon.net]
Sent: Sunday, August 06, 2017 12:00 PM
To: Smith, Ashley
Subject: Newland Sierra Project

I am writing regarding the Newland Sierra EIR which was recently released. My questions and comments are as follows:

- Of all the open spaces near here, why burden Deer Springs Road any more than you have to? What about a catastrophe: fire, or earthquake? Where do those residents go with only two ways to exit the development? Do they spill out onto two lane roads...and four lane roads with a median that are already crowded? With that many homes, there will be a minimum of 3,000 cars, not to mention visitors and delivery and service vehicles.
- Water is already a problem and will continue to be forever. There is a likelihood that we will enter another major drought period very soon. If Vallecitos Water does not see fit to increase their provisions and resources now for existing residents, why burden them anymore? Why take a chance with water, and why punish existing residents to accommodate new people who will not have enough water either?
- Schools are not ready, nor will they be in the near future, for that many additional students. Is Newland going to pay for building extra schools and improving and expanding the existing ones? That is another burden on the taxpayers.
- Animal habitat is decreasing fast. With population density, we lose animal habitat. Without the animals, the eco system becomes out of balance. The other day we had a Great Egret in our front yard...its partner was circling in the sky above. We have deer, coyotes, ducks that regularly use our creek and hatch their babies there, a plethora of unusual birds, among other wildlife. We have so few rural areas left, so I find it hard to believe that the Board of Supervisors would not protect those few areas. What is your plan for protection of those areas as it relates to the environment, wild life, noise, and pollution? Those green areas are helping to cleanse the air and promote wild life which we need to keep the eco system vibrant. Extra noise and traffic increases pollution and helps no one.
- Living in impacted areas causes aggression and violence. (Calhoun, John, B. (1962)
- You probably would not hear a peep from any of us if you built the 99 homes in the master plan (or even 200), but 2,135 is out of reason. How do you explain such a drastic divergence from the master plan?

Why can't we leave parts of our city with rural advantages, open spaces, trees and agriculture instead of building solidly from city boundary to city boundary? Both in the near future and the long run, this would make our city a more desirable place to live by leaving it with rural areas.

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