

I-271 Margaret McCowan Liles (1)

Comment Letter I-271

**From:** Margaret Liles [mailto:mmccownliles@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 01, 2017 10:18 PM  
**To:** Smith, Ashley  
**Subject:** Newland Sierra Draft EIR

August 1, 2017

Planning and Development Services  
Attn: Ashley Smith, environmental Planner  
County of San Diego  
5510 Overland Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92123  
Re: Newland Sierra Draft EIR

Dear Ms. Smith

I object to the Newland Sierra project because, in the age of the sixth major extinction on this planet, and considering that San Diego County has more endangered species than any other county in this country, to build two thousand plus homes on this natural habitat would be an unconscionable act of irresponsibility.

I-271-1

I object to the Newland Sierra project because it does not provide adequate improvement of roads. During the 2007 fire evacuation, Mountain Meadow Road was a nightmare. This would double the traffic tie up. People could die in their cars trying to evacuate.

I-271-2

I object to the Newland Sierra project because it violates the county's General Plan, on which millions of dollars, and countless hours of volunteer time were spent trying to develop growth in a sensible manner that did not include this sort of sprawl development. It, like Lilac Hills, is a slap in the face to all the local planning commissions and sponsor groups that spent so much time developing the General Plan.

I-271-3

I object to the Newland Sierra project because it will not pay for the new infrastructure needed to support it. I have lived in Hidden Meadows since 1980. I voted to form the Deer Springs Fire Protection District. We have already had to increase the rate of property tax we pay to maintain the district due to the new development since that time.

I-271-4

I am a native Californian, and my family, on both sides, have been in California for over 100 years. I've noticed two things as the population increased, my taxes have increased, the things and services my taxes are supposed to pay for have decreased in quality.

I am amazed that otherwise intelligent people think that there can be infinite growth in a finite area. As UCSD economist Dr. Richard Carson has pointed out, there are two ways in which San Diego County can go. It can be built out to resemble Tokyo or Hong Kong, and the prices of housing will continue to rise, or growth can be managed and the prices of housing will continue to rise, because San Diego County is such a desirable place to live. Building more homes will attract more businesses, more businesses will bring in more employees, and the endless cycle will continue.

I-271-5

It's time to plan for a steady state economy—and that means no more sprawl development. Do not approve Newland Sierra. To approve it would be an unconscionable disregard for health of this county and planet.

Sincerely,

Margaret McCowan Liles

INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK