

I-75 Debbie Chappie

- I-75-1** The comment states that they wrote a similar letter regarding Merriam Mountains Project and that there are other places to develop in the County. The County acknowledges the comment as expressing the opinion of the commenter. The previous project denial has no bearing on the current project or its environmental analysis. Please see **Response to Comment O-1-377**.
- I-75-2** The comment states that you can always have houses, but you can't have more natural area. The County acknowledges the comment and notes it expresses the opinions of the commentator, and does not raise an issue related to the adequacy of any specific section or analysis of the Draft EIR. The County will include the comment as part of the Final EIR for review and consideration by the decision-makers prior to a final decision on the project. No further response is required or necessary.
- I-75-3** The comment expresses concern regarding wildfires and evacuation. The Draft EIR, Section 2.8, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, discloses that the project is located in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ); specifically, page 2.8-17. The Draft EIR notes that while prior evacuations within the project vicinity have experienced traffic congestion, the project includes improvements to Deer Springs Road, which would increase capacity of the main evacuation route compared to the existing condition. Refer to **Topical Response HAZ-1**. The County will include the comment as part of the Final EIR for review and consideration by the decision-makers prior to a final decision on the project.
- I-75-4** The comment states that there is a remarkable array of wildlife that call this area home. The County acknowledges the comment and notes it expresses the opinions of the commentator, and does not raise an issue related to the adequacy of any specific section or analysis of the Draft EIR. The County will include the comment as part of the Final EIR for review and consideration by the decision-makers prior to a final decision on the project. No further response is required or necessary.
- I-75-5** The comment states that we cannot pretend that we're not destroying wildlife corridors. The Draft EIR analyzes the project's potential impacts with respect to wildlife corridors in Section 2.4.12.4, Wildlife Movement and Nursery Sites. Refer to **Topical Response BIO-2**. The County will include the comment as part of the Final EIR for review and consideration by the decision-makers prior to a final decision on the project.

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