Comment Letter A-5

Jamul Dulzura Union School District

March 27, 2018

- The Jamul Dulzura Union School District will be submitting formal comments in response to the Environmental Impact Review prior to the April 16th deadline. A copy of the district’s formal comments will be shared with the Jamul Dulzura Union Planning Group.

- The Environmental Impact Report as written, is inadequate and inaccurate.

- The sterile description in the EIR does not adequately address issues such as annual operating revenue produced by Average Daily Student Attendance, loss of Assessed Value when the property is transferred out of the District and impacts to current and future Bond Funding for facilities improvements. The loss of ADA revenue is estimated to be over $1 Million annually for JDUSD operations.

- In particular, the District is very concerned and strongly opposes the transfer of Jamul territory to the Chula Vista Elementary School. Such a transfer would have disastrous long-term consequences to the District and the community at-large.

- The district has been meeting with the San Diego County Superintendent and local superintendents to discuss the negative impact to the district. And while these discussions have been positive, the developer has refused to acknowledge or address the fiscal and environmental impacts this transfer would cause. In fact, the developer has repeatedly made reference to the fact that they believe the transfer is a foregone conclusion.

- JDUSD is in a better position to accommodate the children generated by these developments than is Chula Vista.

- The three closest schools to Otay Village are in an over capacity situation with enrollment. The three closest Chula Vista schools listed in the EIR include Salt Creek, Arroyo Vista and Thurgood Marshall are overcrowded by 133 students. There is more room in Chula Vista only when the radius is moved out 6 miles and includes charter schools. JDUSD administrative and support services, including facilities, maintenance and transportation services are situated closer to the new development than are those of Chula Vista Elementary.

- JDUSD is in a position to absorb the children without the construction of a new school, a result that is environmentally sound and a more efficient use of public resources.

- JDUSD is also in a better position to offer more robust educational programs in a smaller class-size setting.

- The District will provide more detailed comments in a formal letter to the EIR, a draft of which will be provided to the planning group in advance.