



County of San Diego

DAVID HALL, CCB
EXECUTIVE OFFICER/CLERK

CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
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ANDREW POTTER
ASSISTANT CLERK OF THE BOARD

February 5, 2019

TO: Chairwoman Dianne Jacob
Vice-Chairman Greg Cox
Supervisor Kristin Gaspar
Supervisor Nathan Fletcher
Supervisor Jim Desmond

FROM: DAVID HALL
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

Attached, for your information, is correspondence from Norma Trost regarding the Adara Development.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID HALL
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

Attachment

cc: Helen Robbins-Meyer, Chief Administrative Officer
Sarah Aghassi, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Land Use & Environment Group
Communications Received

DCH:dl

From: Cox, Greg
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 10:19 AM
To: FGG-DL, LSDOCS
Subject: FW: Planned Adara Development

From: Norma Trost [mailto:ntrost4@cox.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 10:01 AM
To: Jacob, Dianne; Helen Robbins-Meyer; Cox, Greg; Kirstin Gaspar; Fletcher, Nathan (BOS); Desmond, Jim
Cc: Kevin May; Andrea Harris; Nancy Shelburne
Subject: Planned Adara Development

February 5, 2019

Dianne Jacob, Chair
San Diego County Board of Supervisors

Dear Supervisor Jacob:

We are concerned over recently received information relating to the Adara development and its impact on our community, specifically in the areas of increased traffic, fire dangers and the use of wildlife lands for road access to parts of the development.

It has recently come to our attention that the planned Adara development, specifically Planning Area 16, has been modified to greatly increase the number of homes to be built. During a meeting in July 2018 with County Planning Department official Greg Mattson, we were told that Planning Area 16 would include 30-40 single family homes on acre-plus lots. We recently learned that Planning Area 16 will include 112 single family homes.

The developer of Adara is planning to use Whispering Meadows Lane and Valley Knolls, both private roads, for ingress to and egress from Planning Area 16. Vehicles using these two roads would then use Proctor Valley Road to access Highway 94, the traffic pattern for current residents. Whispering Meadows Lane, in particular, is a narrow road currently capable of handling the traffic generated by our small community. Allowing the Adara developer to funnel traffic from Planning Area 16 through our community would more than triple the traffic on our narrow private road. Information from the Jamul-Dulzura School District estimates 56 students would enroll in K-8 schools from Planning Area 16, greatly increasing traffic on Whispering Meadows Lane and Valley Knolls, just to take students to and from school.

Please do not think that we are against thoughtful development in our area, because we are not. But after reviewing the Adara plans, we have come to the conclusion that this development, and Planning Areas 16 and 19 to a greater extent, do not integrate well into the rural community of Jamul, where lot sizes of one or more acres are the norm.

We are further concerned about the potential for evacuating the Whispering Meadows-Valley Knolls community in the event of fire (which is not an uncommon occurrence in Jamul) with the addition of 112 new homes. Was nothing learned from the tragic Paradise fire just a few short months ago? We could easily see a

repeat of that disaster in the future if these proposed homes do not have primary access to Highway 94. The fires of 2003 and 2007, including the Otay and Harris fires, were disastrous for our county. The Otay fire, you will note, was finally contained at Proctor Valley Road after burning through the area now designated Planning Area 16. We cannot have a repeat of these tragic fires that potentially could destroy these planned homes.

Requiring the developer to build access from Planning Area 16 directly east to Highway 94 would go a long way to addressing our concerns and provide a much safer and quicker access to safety in the event of an emergency, to say nothing of daily access to the highway. As the plan currently stands, the developer is proposing to access Whispering Meadows Lane through a dedicated wildlife preserve. It is our understanding that the California Fish and Wildlife Department has not granted any right of way to build the ingress/egress road that is proposed between Planning Area 16 and Whispering Meadows Lane and that it is the department's policy to deny any request to build roads across/through their reserves.

We fail to see any logical explanation for destroying the habitat and the lives of the wildlife currently living there for a road through the preserve and the Whispering Meadows Lane/Valley Knolls neighborhood, especially when there is an alternative: requiring the developer to build a direct road link from Planning Area 16 to Highway 94 and abandoning the idea of accessing Planning Area 16 through Valley Knolls and Whispering Meadows Lane. This easterly road we are proposing will also go through some environmentally sensitive areas, but the return on safety as well as the daily access for future Area 16 residents and more direct access for emergency medical, law enforcement and fire responses makes more sense.

As you move toward your deliberations on the Adara plan, we urge you to consider the alternative we have presented here regarding traffic, ingress/egress and the wildlife reserve. We respectfully ask to be notified in advance when the Adara project is scheduled to be considered by the Board of Supervisors so that we may attend your meeting and voice our concerns.

Sincerely,

Robert T. Foor

Norma Trost Foor
13889 Whispering Meadows Lane, Jamul, CA 91935
ntrost4@cox.net

Cc: Helen Robbins-Meyer
Greg Cox
Kristin Gaspar
Nathan Fletcher
Jim Desmond