From:

Desmond, Jim

Sent:

Monday, March 04, 2019 9:22 AM

To: Cc: FGG-DL, LSDOCS Mills, Benjamin

Subject:

FW: Proposed Otay Village 14 and Planning Area 16/19

Attachments:

Proposed Otay Village 14 and Planning Area 1619_BOS_Letter_FE_28FEB2019.pdf

From: Josh and Andrea <joshanddre@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, March 1, 2019 4:38 PM

To: Cox, Greg <Greg.Cox@sdcounty.ca.gov>; Jacob, Dianne <Dianne.Jacob@sdcounty.ca.gov>; Gaspar, Kristin <Kristin.Gaspar@sdcounty.ca.gov>; Fletcher, Nathan (BOS) <Nathan.Fletcher@sdcounty.ca.gov>; Desmond, Jim

Jim.Desmond@sdcounty.ca.gov>

Cc: FGG, CAO Mail <caomail@sdcounty.ca.gov>

Subject: Proposed Otay Village 14 and Planning Area 16/19

Good Evening Members of the Board of Supervisors,

Attached you will find a letter concerning the proposed Otay Village 14 and Planning Area 16/19. An original has been placed in the mail to your attention. Should you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Josh & Andrea Harris joshanddre@gmail.com

The San Diego County Board of Supervisors 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 402 San Diego, CA 92101 Phone: (619) 531-5600 Fax: (619) 338-8146

SUBJECT: Village 14 and Planning Areas 16/19: PDS2016-GPA-16-008, PDS2016-SP-16-002, PDS2016-REZ-16-006, PDS2016-TM-5616, PDS2016-ER-16-19-006; Jamul/Dulzura Subregional Plan Area

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors,

We are writing as concerned citizens and residents of the Jamul Community, in relation to the proposed development, noted above.

Our first concern relates to the unknowns regarding the "secondary access" being proposed. The developer is proposing to connect Planning Area 16 through two private roads, Whispering Meadows Lane and Valley Knolls Road (a community known as Mountain View Estates). In addition, this proposed road would extend through existing CDFW Lande to connect to Planning Area 16.

There are currently 8 "Irrevocable Offers of Dedication" (IODs) to the County to improve both Whispering Meadows Lane and Valley Knolls Road to an ultimate 60' right-of-way, which would require removal of private improvements adjacent to the road edges, possible relocation of power lines, drainage, and other public utilities, etc. To date, the County has not accepted them, although may do so at any time to allow project access. It is also our understanding that the road maintenance may remain private and subject to the requirements of the fire protection district. We are not sure how this is even possible and why this is being considered, especially when it appears that access could be obtained by connecting directly to California State Route 94.

Another area we are concerned with in association with this proposed road connection is traffic. In the final draft environmental impact report, the Transportation and Traffic section (2.9) indicates that based on the calculations provided the traffic added to these roads would be less than the 20 trip minimum. Therefore, no further analysis is being required. Refer to exhibit A. Common sense will tell you that the residents located in the Easterly part of Planning Area 16 will not be primarily using the Southern/Westerly route to Proctor Valley Road through various roundabouts to get access to Proctor Valley Road. Just as our community does now, a majority of the time they will travel through Whispering Meadows Lane and Valley Knolls Road onto Proctor Valley Road to go either South/West or North/East. As such, we would like to request that a condition be included to require additional analysis of this, by a new consultant.

This road connection is not in the best interest of the community and we would like to propose a condition be included to require the developer to look into alternatives, such as connecting directly to California State Route 94. Or since this is strictly being proposed as a secondary access, could the existing gate at the end of Whispering Meadows Lane remain locked and only accessible by Fire and County Officials?

Secondly, we are concerned with the overall traffic impact and related fire evacuation plans. California State Route 94, which is an existing two-lane expressway, is already extremely congested. We fear that with the addition of 1,119 new homes and the additional students that will attend our schools the traffic will be impacted greatly, far more than what has been noted in the CEQA reports prepared. Recently the Jamul-Dulzura Union School District's office estimated that they are expecting around 163 additional students into the K-8 schools (Village 14 = 101, PA 16 = 56, PA 19 = 6). This estimate does not incorporate any anticipated numbers of high school students that may attend Steele Canyon High School located on California State Route 94.

Furthermore, as noted on page 41 of the OV14 Hearing Report, it indicates that it would take approximately 2.5 to 3.0 hours to evacuate the new community in the event of a fire. What does this mean for the neighboring communities? This is very concerning given the recent and tragic Camp Fire in the Community of Paradise. The Paradise Community infrastructure is set up almost identical to how our community would be with the addition of the proposed project. This tragic event clearly tells us that Cal Fire and the Sheriff's Department cannot handle evacuations in such infrastructure layouts. This is not meant to criticize them for all of their efforts, we are simply expressing our concerns, as lives depend on it. Cal Fire was present at the October 19th hearing and made it clear that they accepted the proposed project as it stands. We just don't understand how our community would be any different than the Camp Fire in Paradise, if a fast moving fire were to occur in our area again. If you refer to Exhibit B, you will notice that history tells us that fires move directly through the path in which these proposed communities would be built. The road mitigation to Proctor Valley Road is proposed to remain a narrow two-way road with a limited road shoulder and various roundabouts. Perhaps the new portion of the roadway could be built with a large enough shoulder on both sides allowing two additional lanes for evacuations and emergency vehicles.

In conclusion, we feel that a much closer review of this project is necessary. As you move toward your deliberations, we urge you to consider the alternatives we have presented here. We appreciate your time and look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully,

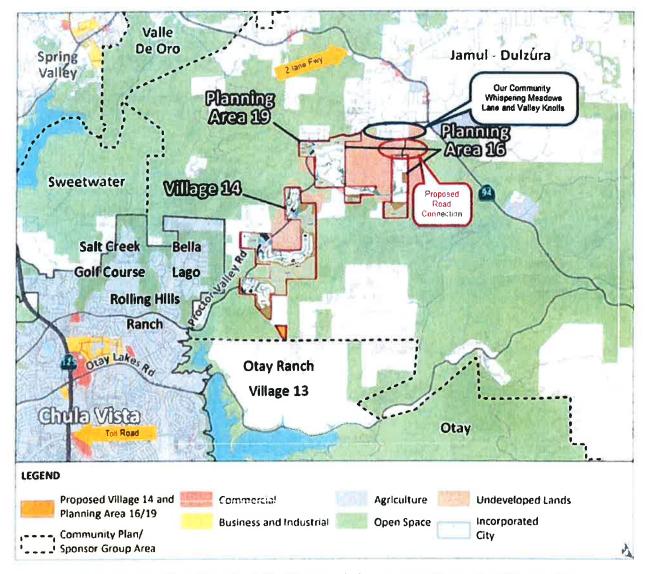
Joshua and Andrea Harris 2827 Valley Knolls Road Jamul, CA 91935

Cc: Helen N. Robbins-Meyer, Chief Administrative Officer

EXHIBIT A

NEW ROAD CONNECTION

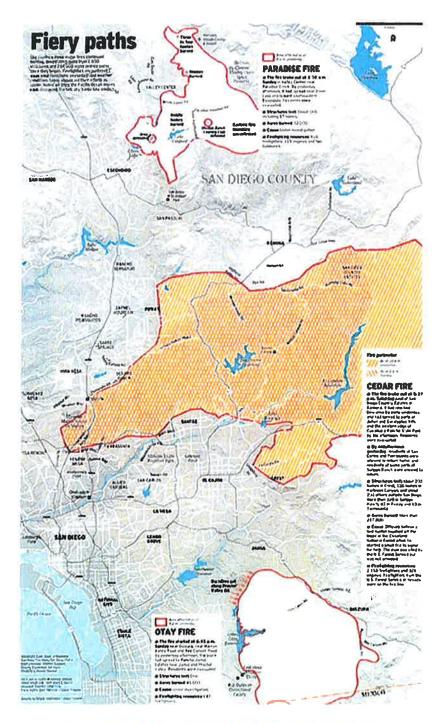
IMAGE 1: In this image you can see the locations of the proposed roadways throughout the community. Common sense will tell you that the future residence of Planning Area 16, those particularly in the easterly location will likely use the proposed secondary access through Whispering Meadows Lane and Valley Knolls Road, even if they are traveling to EastLake to avoid roundabouts, etc. However, they will definitely use it if they are traveling to State Route 94 or into Rancho San Diego, which is a shopping destination for the Jamul Community.



*This map is from the Planning Commission Hearing Report, dated 10/19/18. It includes an overlay of the proposed development showing the roadways, which was taken from the EIR Report.

EXHIBIT B

HISTORIC FIRES



Source: http://www.signonsandlego.com/news/fires/multimedia.html#graphics