Climate Action Campaign
3900 Cleveland Ave, Suite 208
San Diego, CA 92103

VIA EMAIL: San Diego County Planning Commission
5520 Overland Avenue
San Diego, CA 92123

April 15, 2020

RE: Climate Action Campaign Opposition, Item 1: Otay Ranch Resort Village - Village 13

Dear Honorable Chair and Commissioners,

We urge you to reject the proposed Otay Ranch Resort Village 13 development, which would further lock in car-dependence and deadly air pollution in the region, and make it virtually impossible to adhere to state climate law.

In an age when we know exactly what is causing the climate crisis, and we know that our decisions and our actions today will determine the extent and severity of the crisis in the years to come, continuing to embrace sprawl development is climate change denial.

Aside from the natural habitat destruction, lack of affordable housing mandates, and increased wildfire danger, as the final EIR indicates, this project lacks clarity on mitigation measures, does not provide evidence needed to meet SB 375 targets, and lacks a traffic analysis necessary to measure the inevitable negative impacts of increased vehicle miles travelled.

We also have no confidence in the County’s ability to develop and track in-county offsets, as no such program exists or has been vetted by the Board of Supervisors, the public or the courts. In fact, we have recently learned that even the County acknowledges the challenges involved and is seeking another route.

The Commission must also stop docketing general plan amendment sprawl projects entirely, and instead support the growth already zoned in the General Plan, especially in light of the County’s flawed and legally deficient Climate Action Plan.
Please reject this CAP-busting sprawl project that is incompatible with your mandate to make land-use decisions in the best interest of County residents.

Sincerely,

Matthew Vasilakis
Co-Director of Policy
Climate Action Campaign

Noah Harris
Transportation Policy Advocate
Climate Action Campaign