

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY

May 22, 2015 Statement by the League of Women Voters of San Diego County

To: Dennis Campbell - Planning & Development Services

Re: OTAY RANCH VILLAGE 13 MASTER PLANNED COMMUNITY - RESORT VILLAGE: PDS2004-3800-04-003; PDS2004-3810-04-002; PDS2004-3600-04-009; PDS2004-3100- 5361A & B; LOG NO. PDS2004-04-19005; SCH NO. 2004101058

0-3-1

The League of Women Voters has commented throughout the evolution of the General Plan, supporting principles of compact growth and enforcement of fire-safe development. We promote conservation and preservation of critical natural resources, including habitat and open space. Our Land Use position supports minimizing urban sprawl. We review major development projects which have regional impacts, including environmental analysis, for consistency with the comprehensive plan and regional infrastructure plan. Land use decisions should relate to and protect the overall quality of the environment while minimizing additional motor vehicle traffic.

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This proposed mixed-use project consists of 1,881 single-family residences, 57 multi-family residences, 20,000 square feet of commercial use, and a 17-acre resort site including 200 guest rooms on 1,869-acres of undeveloped land. This project will require a General Plan Amendment, a Specific Plan Amendment and a zone reclassification.

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This project was conceived of before the current drought and climate change challenges. According to the report, this development will use at least 800,000 gallons of water per day! We cannot afford this additional water use while current San Diego residents are facing water restrictions. Furthermore, direct and cumulative impacts to aesthetics (visual resources), air quality and solid waste disposal remain significant and unavoidable. There are also significant direct and cumulative impacts to Biological Resources and Traffic.

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This property adjoins the San Diego National Wildlife Refuge, part of the only true coastal "core biological area" that still exists south of Camp Pendleton. The proposed project would violate the MSCP conditions of coverage for the Golden Eagle by removing a critical mass of core foraging area for a nesting pair. Preservation of existing open space is also crucial for the survival of the endangered quino checkerspot butterfly, and other endangered and threatened species. Proctor Valley will suffer due to highly significant cumulative impacts. Wildlife habitat and corridors will be fragmented.

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Based on our principles, the League of Women Voters of San Diego County believes that the proposed development is unacceptable. Please retain the integrity of the General Plan by preventing the development of this critical habitat and watershed. We urge you to deny this General Plan Amendment, Specific Plan Amendment and zone reclassification.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Kay Ragan, President LWV San Diego County <u>kragand@cox.net</u> Jösan Feathers, Registered Civil Engineer Natural Resources Director LWV San Diego County