

COMMENTS

RESPONSES

Ehsan, Beth

From: Melissa Ferrel <melissa.schwegel@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2015 2:41 PM
To: Sibbet, David; Ehsan, Beth; Loy, Maggie A; Blackson, Kristin; Wardlaw, Mark; Cox, Greg; Jacob, Dianne; Ron-Roberts; Horn, Bill; bruce.bettyliska@gmail.com; douglas.dill@att.net; efhgtc@gmail.com; Fitzpatrick, Lisa
Subject: opposition letter to Valiano Draft Environmental impact report:PDS2013-SP-13-001, PDS2013-GPA-13-001, PDS2013-REZ-13-001, PDS2013-TM-5575, PDS2014-MUP-14-019, PDS2013-STP-13-003, PDS2013-ER-13-08-002

Dear Planning department and City Leaders-

I am writing this letter in hopes that my voice will be heard and will mean something in opposition to the proposed Valiano Development. I live off of Fortuna Ranch Road in Olivenhain and was a first hand witness to the fire evacuations with the recent Cocos fire. We saw trailer after trailer passing along the dirt roads in Elfin Forest and through Fortuna Ranch road, onto Lone Jack and Rancho Santa Fe. Most of the people left well before their evacuations and some were actually evacuated, some were not. I cannot imagine what would have happened if the fire would have spread and there was a sudden evacuation, these people were barely crawling though the dirt roads trying to protect their animals and live stock. The Elfin forest, Harmony grove area only has a limited number of ways in and out, most of them not being substantial enough to handle heavy traffic which this development would create, especially in an emergency situation.

On the subject of traffic impact, here on Fortuna Ranch Road we have had long term problems with people trying to commute to or from Escondido and taking the back roads to do this. They race down Fortuna Ranch Road and our neighborhood is up in arms about it. We have approached the city and have been told we cannot have speed bumps because the fires responder time is already at a maximum to get to the homes at the end of our road and they cannot afford to slow that down. In return, the safety of our neighborhood and our children is jeopardized by vehicles flying down our road at speeds well above 50mph. I cannot imagine what our quality of life will be like if that number is to multiply by adding hundreds more homes. Not to mention that Lone Jack road with its hair pin turns is hardly equipped for more traffic either.

Our water district has been told by the state that we need to cut our water consumption by 35% this year, a feat they know will probably not be possible and will therefore raise rates. Slowly we are letting our mature trees and plants die, changing the air quality, taking away shade and creating a hotter climate. I have to ask how do we have enough water to sustain hundreds of new homes when all of our water districts are trying to cut back to come inline with the states new guidelines. We need to stop the growth that our natural environment can no longer sustain.

I am a very concerned resident who is opposed to a project that is jeopardizing our health, safety and rural values. Please strongly consider our stance.

Sincerely,

Melissa Ferrel
619.929.6299

AP-1 The comment raises fire safety issues with evacuation. This comment is addressed in Topical Response: Fire/Evacuations.

AP-2 The Project would not generate a significant number of vehicle trips on Fortuna Ranch Road. As discussed in Response K-165, a relatively small amount of Project-generated trips would head west on Harmony Grove Road. In addition, based on the trip distribution using the SANDAG Traffic Model, the Project would add fewer than 25 peak hour trips to Elfin Forest Road. As Fortuna Ranch Road would be reached past Elfin Forest Road, even fewer peak hour trips would be expected. In accordance with County requirements, the low number of trips eliminated this location from the analysis.

AP-3 See Responses C-2, C-8, C-10 and K-99 for explanation of how the Project would reduce water usage from the baseline of agricultural use. Your objection to the Project is hereby included as part of the record and made available to the decision makers prior to a final decision on the Project.