

COMMENTS

RESPONSES

Dear Madam,

June 6, 2015

When you vote on the proposal to build the “Valiano” community project, please consider my objection. I have been a resident of Escondido living in the Hidden Hills development for the past eight years. The boundary of the development is Country Club Drive and Kauana Loa Drive connecting to Harmony Grove Road. All are two lane roads.

My concern for development is the lack of roads for egress in case of fire. I have seen our neighborhood evacuated twice for wild fires. The last one was the Cocos fire in May of 2014. At that time we were properly prepared to evacuate. Our neighborhood waited anxiously. The firefighters established control of the fire. All looked well. Those who had already vacated returned. The following day the wind shifted. Very quickly the fire was an extreme threat. Our neighborhood got the call to leave and all residents evacuated at once. Fire had reached Country Club Drive. Harmony Grove Road was the only way out and was immediately at capacity.

I fear that with the additional homes proposed, evacuation in a similar circumstance will not occur smoothly. Even with the new bridge to access Citracado Parkway I do not see how the population of an additional 350+ (1500+ with Harmony Grove Estates, etc) homes in the area could possibly evacuate in the time that I observed the advance of the fire.

In the litigious society we live in I fear the city of Escondido will be held liable for the decision to build without the infrastructure of roads to egress a known fire hazard. Fighting those lawsuits and paying for damages is not where I want to see my tax dollars spent.

Thank you for your time.

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AY-1 See Topical Response: Fire/Evacuations regarding fire evacuation. Lawsuits against local jurisdictions are not a CEQA issue.