

COMMENTS

RESPONSES

Ehsan, Beth

From: Paul O'Loughlin <pgodds@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2015 3:59 PM
To: Sibbet, David; Ehsan, Beth; Loy, Maggie A; Blackson, Kristin; Wardlaw, Mark
Cc: Fitzpatrick, Lisa; Cox, Greg; Jacob, Dianne; Roberts, Dave; Ron-Roberts; Horn, Bill; bruce.bettyliska@gmail.com; douglas.dill@att.net; efhgtc@gmail.com
Subject: Valiano Project

Ladies and Gentlemen, Planners and Staffers, Councilmen and Board members,

CA-1 I am a resident of the Hidden Hills neighborhood community immediately east of Eden valley. I bought my house with the notion that my view would never change. In the last few years we have seen the view change with the demise of an avocado grove, the loss of the chicken ranches, the rise of 742 new homes and hundreds of acres burned. My property overlooks the valley where I had a bird's eye view of the DC10 converging on the Los Coronados Hills dropping fire retardant on the landscape in the Cocos fire last May. I discovered that reverse 911 doesn't work with Voice over Internet protocol in the Witch fire in 2007 and watched East Escondido burn from my living room window in the Cedar fire in 2003. I was evacuated for several days for the last two fires and sustained only minimal property damage from the Cocos fire. I was amazed at how quickly the fire had shifted literally in minutes with a sunny sky one moment to a darkened and eclipsed sky in the next moment. When I woke up on Thurs 15 May 20014, I believed we had escaped the worst of the fire threat, but we found ourselves leaving in minutes with what we were about to unpack. Many were caught off guard. Some went to work and were not allowed back into the neighborhood with their automobiles to retrieve their pets. I loaned my truck to a such a neighbor with two large dogs and whose cat urinated in my new truck and left a lasting reminder of the of the fires every time I get into my front seat.

CA-2 CA-3 CA-4 If the Valiano Project continues as planned, I can only imagine the much sadder stories that will be told after the next fire given the new homes being built and already up for sale in Harmony Grove and more inflammatory is the density with which Valiano is projecting into Eden Valley. Aside from the fact that we are in a state wide water crisis where more homes will clearly put an added strain on the environment, we are adding homes before there is egress improvements. The Nordahl Rd overpass is already at maximum capacity during rush hour and will only see greater constraints even if Citracado Prwy is completed to Harmony Grove Rd. I am not against progress or development of the area, but the sheer number of added homes without improving the infrastructure of roads and safety of pedestrians, cyclists and live animals and giving greater thought and planning to the possibility of a prolonged water crisis is fool hardy.

In my opinion, more opinions need to be heard and vetted before any future progress is made on the Valiano Project.

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CA-1 The comment regarding the changing nature of surrounding private properties is noted. Regarding fire evacuation, see Topical Response: Fire/Evacuations.

CA-2 The FPP (Appendix L of the Final EIR) does state that statistically the increased density of structures and the number of residents in the interface areas could increase potential ignition sources and thereby increase the likelihood of large fires in the area. See Response I-59.

CA-3 Based on the results of the TIA (Appendix H of the Final EIR), impacts were calculated to be less than significant at the recently improved SR-78 / Nordahl Road interchange. Therefore, mitigation measures would not be necessary.

CA-4 As discussed in Subchapter 2.8 of the EIR, significant impacts from Project traffic would be mitigated with improvements to the infrastructure of the roads.

Subsection 2.8.2.8 of the EIR discusses traffic hazards to pedestrians, bicyclists, and equestrians, and the Project was determined to have a less than significant impact. The Project would provide a public multi-use trail for pedestrians, bicyclists, and equestrians. In addition, soft-surface sidewalks would be installed in the portions of Country Club Drive abutting the Project site.

See Responses C-2, C-8, C-10 and K-99 regarding water supply. See Response BH-2 regarding community input.