



Los Angeles County
Department of Regional Planning

Planning for the Challenges Ahead



Richard J. Bruckner
Director

June 3, 2013

TO: Alex Garcia, Hearing Officer
FROM: Gretchen Siemers, Planner, Zoning Permits North
SUBJECT: **Additional Materials for Hearing**
Project No. R2011-01574
Oak Tree Permit No. 201100044
June 4 Hearing
Agenda Item: 8

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "GJ".

Please find enclosed correspondence for the above referenced project, which was received subsequent to hearing package submittal.

If you need further information, please contact me at (213) 974-6435.

SMT: GS

Gretchen Siemers

From: Charlotte Brodie <charlottebeast@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, May 31, 2013 5:52 PM
To: Gretchen Siemers
Cc: Jarrod DeGonia; Mary Kaufman
Subject: Gopher Canyon-Chatsworth

May 31, 2013

Planning Department

Attention: Gretchen Siemers

RE: Hearing on June 3, 2013 for Gopher Canyon

Dear Ms. Siemers:

We would like to comment on Gopher Canyon and the changes to it that have been brought about in the recent years by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy/Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (SMMC/MRCA).

My first ride through the canyon was in 1968 when it was an active rock quarry. The folks running the equipment would always stop the equipment or turn it off whenever equestrians were passing through. By the early 1990's the business was completely shut down.

ETI Corral 54 in Chatsworth has been working with the community, City, County, and SMMC since the 1990's to secure a staging area with parking for at least 40 rigs and an arena for equestrian events. We have explained in detail to them all how important this issue is many, many times.

Finally, in 2003 we thought our equestrian future was secured with the purchase of Gopher Canyon by the County and SMMC. ETI Corral 54 and other horse groups have staged many equestrian events on the property through 2010 with plenty of parking for 25-30 rigs. Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich held his 2005 Spring Trail Dusters Ride here with about 40 rigs strategically parked.

In 2009 the SMMC/MRCA started making changes to Gopher Canyon - eliminating one access to the large parking area, grading away part of the parking area, digging a hole to create a pond, installing fencing (eliminating more parking), planting bushes and trees, etc.

On June 3, 2010 Millie Jones, Sr. Deputy for Supervisor Antonovich, set up a meeting on site with the County (Millie Jones, Paul Novak), SMMC (Paul Edelman), and Corral 54 (Michelle Ventimiglia, Jan Languein, and myself) to see how a staging area and arena could still be provided

with the changes that had been made.

From June 2010 to the present time, the SMMC/MRCA has continued to make changes to Gopher Canyon, more plants, more grading, more fencing and more swales to collect water. There are three small parking areas left in the Canyon, one you can turn a small truck and trailer around in and park about six rigs, another could hold about two, and the one on the hill is too narrow to safely turn around on. Maybe 8-10 rigs can now fit on the site.

I am totally disappointed in the SMMC/MRCA by how they have listened and ignored the equestrian community and County. I have copies of letters going back to December 1999 to both the County and SMMC documenting the communities needs for a staging area and arena. It's obvious the SMMC has had it's own agenda and they didn't include the concerns and needs of the equestrian community.

We feel the SMMC/MRCA is a Catch 22, they've saved the land from development by builders, but they have developed the property into something we cannot use for the communities equestrian events. It's unfortunate that they did not have any community or County meetings so we could work together to make things good for all of us.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Brodie
ETI Corral 54
Trail Coordinator
818-892-3862
charlottebeast@msn.com

May 22, 2013

To Gretchen Siemers,

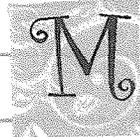
Regarding case Gopher Cyn
Permits: R2011-01574-(5)
Oak 201100044

I do not want any more oak
trees killed or removed or the
stream restoration done or grading.
There are very few trees left in
Chatsworth.

Thank You

Carol Ann Miller

AKA Carol Ann Reames



Carol Miller
15490 Kelso Ave
Weldon CA 93283-9665

