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MARCH 2, 2011

REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7

PROJECT NO. TR066952-(5)

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

FEBRUARY 17 – MARCH 2, 2011

Two (2) letters of opposition from local residents

February 15, 2011

Department of Regional Planning
C/O Jodie Sackett
320 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Project Number TR066952

Dear Ms. Sackett,

We are writing to express our concerns regarding the above proposed housing tract project in Leona Valley, California.

We have lived in Leona Valley for over 19 years. We moved here to get away from the city with our horses as we appreciated the rural lifestyle it offered which we strongly feel is now in jeopardy. We also live on 87th Street which is proposed to be a thoroughfare for the owners of the over 100 homes the proposal asks for. This street was not in any way built to withstand the amount of additional cars the tract will place upon it. Builder said 100 more cars per day? It will be way more. We have children, horses and pedestrians walking their dogs up and down this street during the day/evening and these additional cars will create an incredibly dangerous hazard to everyone.

We don't have to mention that a huge project like this tract or any other tract simply does not make fiscal sense in this economy. The very idea of adding these high end, high priced homes is preposterous and we all know this housing market will not correct itself in a couple years.. This project is doomed to fail just like the Ritter project failed twice and left a huge mess behind that we have to look at each day. We do not want that to happen to our area which is rich with wildlife and scenic beauty.

We invite you to come out and see for yourself what a unique area Leona Valley really is and why we must protect it from overbuilding which this project, as spelled out, will certainly do. The idea of this "gated" community is an insult as it will only serve to separate "them" from "us". The population he wishes to draw to these homes is not the rural lifestyle population that will appreciate and uphold our way of life. We are families that enjoy our horses, dogs, goats, etc. Our kids are involved in 4H and FFA and during the spring, as example, it is not unusual to see a kid walking their goat down the street.

If this project was greatly scaled back and the "gated" part taken away so it blends in and embraces the existing population I don't believe there would be such an uproar from us. We don't object to moderate building, but we do object to turning this unique valley into an urban neighborhood.

Thank you,



Robert and Valerie Harpham
39933 87th Street West
Leona Valley, CA 93551

Date: February 18, 2011

To: LA County Dept. of Regional Planning
320 W. Temple St. – Room 1382
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Attn.: Jodie Sackett, Sr. Regional Planning / Land Division Section

Re.: Valley Vineyards Project # TR066952-(5) – Leona Valley

I am a six year local resident of Leona Valley owning a home on 87th. St. and have taken great pride in the rural surrounding of our quaint community. I moved from the hustle and bustle of the Santa Clarita area for the serenity that Leona Valley offers and to live near my youngest son (LA County fireman/paramedic), who has lived here for twelve years. I respected the vision that my son and his family had in this beautiful area and decided to follow in his footsteps.

Leona Valley is one of the last remaining all country, rural areas in LA County and I will fight to keep it that way. I AM TOTALLY AGAINST the Valley Vineyards project and the construction of the 117 homes that are planned to be built. With a bit more effort and thought, I believe that Mr. Bill Ford could construct and sell his project in the Palmdale or Lancaster area easier then he can in Leona Valley.... The vineyards would thrive just as well (even better) and we wouldn't have the enormous traffic and fire issue that the construction would create. We are not a gated community type of place ---- homes and ranches are very open which is welcoming.

Building 117 homes would be a disaster due to the additional vehicles per home and would realistically create A FIRE DANGER to us all. The amount of traffic on Bouquet Canyon Road already has a dangerous traffic flow from folks heading to and from Los Angeles, back home to the Palmdale and Lancaster area. The attempt to exit from the Valley Vineyards site to Bouquet Canyon Rd. would be a life threatening effort. DO YOU REALLY THINK THAT PEOPLE WOULD ACTUALLY ALLOW YOU TO ENTER ON TO BOUQUET CANYON???? If we had a fire, it would be a deadly situation for all concerned. As it is, our locals do not have many escape route choices.

As I see it, IT IS ALL ABOUT MONEY. Valley Vineyards can make their fortune elsewhere. They are creating a huge safety issue for us all. This attempted construction is NOT WELCOME at any time. For me, it's not about the fact that pricey tract homes would be constructed. IT'S ABOUT THE SAFETY OF OUR COMMUNITY and the destruction of our hillsides. It's not beautification, it's a ruination of our area just like it happened with Newhall Land and Farming Co... what they thought was beautification turned out to be land destruction and overcrowding... It was all about the money and the fat cats just got fatter and fatter.

Respectfully,

Jan Clark – Leona Valley Resident