



Los Angeles County
Department of Regional Planning



Planning for the Challenges Ahead

June 12, 2008

Bruce W. McClendon FAICP
Director of Planning

TO: Harold V. Helsley, Chair
Leslie G. Bellamy, Vice Chair
Esther L. Valadez, Commissioner
Wayne Rew, Commissioner
Pat Modugno, Commissioner

FROM: Susan Tae, AICP, Supervising Regional Planner *SMT*
Land Divisions Section

SUBJECT: **ZONE CHANGE CASE NO. 2008-00004-(5)**
VESTING TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 53653-(5)
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT CASE NO. 2005-00088-(5)
OAK TREE PERMIT CASE NO. 2005-00039-(5)
HOUSING PERMIT CASE NO. 2006-00001-(5)
JUNE 18, 2008; AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 a, b, c, d, e

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Your Regional Planning Commission ("Commission") held a public hearing on November 15, 2006 for Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653, a residential subdivision proposal to create 93 single-family lots, one multi-family lot with 93 attached senior condominium units in two buildings, five open space lots, one recreation lot, six public facility lots and one fire station lot on approximately 234.8 gross acres. The project is located approximately 273 feet southwest of Sagecrest Circle west of Interstate 5 (I-5) Freeway and The Old Road between Calgrove Boulevard and Sagecrest Circle in the unincorporated Santa Clarita Valley. The proposal also required approval of Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5) ("CUP") to ensure compliance with the requirements of hillside management, density controlled development, development within a Significant Ecological Area ("SEA"), and onsite project grading. Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5) is also required to allow the removal of 162 oak trees (including 13 heritage oaks) and encroachment into the protected zone of 52 oak trees (including six heritage oaks). Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5) is required to authorize a density bonus up to 50 percent for the senior citizen housing development.

A Draft Environmental Impact Report ("EIR") was also prepared that identified potentially significant impacts of the project, including Geotechnical (Geology, Soils and Seismicity); Hydrology/Water Quality; Hazards; Noise; Air Quality; Biological Resources; Cultural Resources; Aesthetics; Traffic; Water and Wastewater; Schools; Fire Services; Sheriff Services; Solid Waste; Utilities (Electricity, Natural Gas); Libraries; and Parks and Recreation. Impacts that cannot be mitigated to less than significant include Aesthetics, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Geology, Noise, Cumulative Sheriff Services and Cumulative Solid Waste.

UPDATED DRAFT FINDINGS AND CONDITIONS

Attached are updated draft findings and conditions for the project, reflecting minor editorial corrections and clarifications as well as additional conditions for the vesting tentative tract map and housing permit. These additional conditions include requiring the applicant to submit a

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June 18, 2008 RPC Memo – Supplemental Information

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condition requiring an offsite access easement through the subject property for the Kantor and Speer parties (please see previous June 5, 2008 memo for exhibits depicting both offsite properties as well as various access route options). The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health's recommended condition for the vesting tentative tract map was also inadvertently left out of the previous package, and has been included.

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENCE

One additional correspondence has been received since the distribution of the June 5, 2008 hearing package. The letter is from a constituent who is opposed to the project, and concerned specifically with the need for infrastructure and traffic improvements to I-5 (Golden State) Freeway as well as water shortages, destruction of oak-covered hills, and the more suited use of the property as a park.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The following recommendation is subject to change based on oral testimony or documentary evidence submitted during the public hearing process.

Staff recommends that the Commission close the public hearing, and adopt the environmental document. Staff also recommends the Commission approve Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653, Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5), Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5), and Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5); and recommend approval of Zone Change Case No. 2008-00004-(5) to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

Suggested Motion: "I move that the Regional Planning Commission close the public hearing, certify the Final Environmental Impact Report, and adopt the Statement of Facts and Overriding Considerations."

Suggested Motion: "I move that the Regional Planning Commission approve Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653, Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5), Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5), and Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5) (with the conditions as added into the record); and recommend approval of Zone Change Case No. 2008-00004-(5) to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors."

SMT:st
06/12/08

Attachment: Updated Draft Findings and Conditions
Correspondence

DRAFT
A RESOLUTION OF THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
RELATING TO ZONE CHANGE CASE NO. 2008-00004-(5)

WHEREAS, the Regional Planning Commission of the County of Los Angeles conducted a public hearing regarding Zone Change Case No. 2008-00004-(5), Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653, Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5), Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5) and Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5) on November 15, 2006 and June 18, 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Planning Commission (“Commission”) finds as follows:

1. The subject site is located approximately 273 feet southwest of Sagecrest Circle, west of the Golden State (“I-5”) Freeway and The Old Road between Calgrove Boulevard and Sagecrest Circle in Newhall Zoned District.
2. The irregularly-shaped property is 234.8 gross acres in size with slight to steeply sloping terrain. Approximately one-third of the subject property has zero to 25 percent slopes, one-third has 25 to 50 percent slopes, and one-third has slopes greater than 50 percent.
3. Access to the proposed development is provided by The Old Road, an 80-foot wide secondary highway as designated on the Los Angeles County Master Plan of Highways. The main access road serving the project will be 64-foot wide “A” Street with additional interior access provided by 64-foot collector streets, and 60-foot and 58-foot wide local streets.
4. Zone Change Case No. 2008-00004-(5) is a request to change the zoning on 9.3 acres of the subject property from A-2-1 (Heavy Agriculture – One Acre Minimum Required Lot Area) and A-2-2 (Heavy Agriculture – Two Acre Minimum Required Lot Area) to C-3-DP (Unlimited Commercial – Development Program) for the senior condominium development. The Development Program (“DP”) designation will ensure that development occurring after rezoning will conform to approved plans and will ensure compatibility with the surrounding area. As applied in this case, the conditional use permit will restrict the development of the rezoned site to the proposed residential development as shown on the site plan marked “Exhibit A.” No other development will be permitted on the property unless a new conditional use permit (“CUP”) is first obtained.
5. Zone Change Case No. 2008-00004-(5) was heard concurrently with Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653, Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5), Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5) and Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5) at the June 18, 2008 public hearing. Zone Change Case No. 2008-

00004-(5) was previously not considered during the November 15, 2006 public hearing.

6. Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653 is a related request to create 93 single-family lots, one multi-family lot with 93 new attached senior condominium units within two buildings as well as five open space lots, six public facility lots, one park lot and one fire station lot on 234.8 gross acres. One single-family lot is required to be eliminated due to density, for a maximum of 92 single-family lots.
7. Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5) is a related request to ensure compliance with the requirements of nonurban hillside management; density-controlled development; development within an SEA, DP overlay zone, and residential use in a commercial zone; and onsite project grading.
8. Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5) is a related request to authorize removal of 162 oak trees (including 13 heritage oaks) and encroachment within the protected zone of 52 oak trees (including six heritage oaks).
9. Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5) is a related request to authorize a 50 percent density bonus associated with a senior citizen housing development along with modification of the maximum building height of 35 feet to 50 feet.
10. Approval of the vesting tentative tract map, conditional use permit, oak tree permit and housing permit will not become effective unless and until the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors ("Board of Supervisors") has adopted an ordinance effecting the proposed change of zone, and such ordinance has become effective.
11. The applicant's site plan, labeled as "Exhibit A," depicts a residential development of 93 attached senior condominiums in two buildings, and 93 single-family lots in clustered design. The single-family lots range from approximately 9,350 square feet to 3.2 acres in size. Grading consists of 2,090,350 cubic yards of cut and fill (total of 4,180,700 cubic yards) to be balanced onsite. Also depicted is a fire station location along The Old Road as well as desilting basins, a private park and a 12-foot wide hiking and riding trail traversing the property. Open space consists of 167.6 acres (71.4 percent), including 123.6 acres of natural open space. The project also depicts access to offsite properties through two tap streets to the west, and one tap street to the east. The senior multi-family lot also proposes a private recreational building, pool and spa, and will contain 172 parking spaces.
12. The property is depicted in the Non-urban 2 ("N2") and Hillside Management ("HM") land use category of the Santa Clarita Valley Areawide Plan ("Plan"), a component of the Los Angeles Countywide General Plan ("General Plan"). Residential development is permitted within the N2 and HM land use categories.

The proposed 186 dwelling units exceed the maximum 123 dwelling units permitted by the N2 and HM land use categories for residential development. However, the Plan supports a density bonus of up to 50 percent for the senior development for a maximum of 185 dwelling units. One single-family residential lot will be required to be eliminated at the time of final map recordation to comply with the Plan's maximum density. The property is also designated within two Significant Ecological Areas ("SEAs") (Lyon Canyon, and Santa Susana Mountains); the project proposes development within the boundaries of both SEAs

13. The project site is currently zoned A-2-1, A-2-2 and C-3 (Unlimited Commercial), which were established by Ordinance No. 7168 on July 5, 1957. The project proposes a zone change on 9.3 acres from A-2-1 and A-2-2 to C-3-DP over the senior multi-family Lot No. 94.
14. Surrounding zoning includes RPD-1-1.4U (Residential Planned Development – One Acre Minimum Required Lot Area – 1.4 Dwelling Units per Net Acre) and C-3 to the north; City of Santa Clarita to the east; A-2-2 and R-R (Resort and Recreation) to the south; and A-2-2 to the west.
15. The subject property consists of four vacant lots. Surrounding uses include single-family residences to the north; I-5 Freeway and single-family residences (City of Santa Clarita) to the east; park and vacant property to the south; and vacant property to the west.
16. The single-family residential portion of the project is consistent with the existing zoning classifications. Single-family residential development is permitted in the A-2 zone pursuant to Section 22.24.120 of the Los Angeles County Code ("County Code"). The applicant has requested a CUP to authorize a clustered design within three areas as a density-controlled development pursuant to Section 22.24.150 and 22.56.205 of the County Code, which reduces the lot sizes to less than the one acre and two acres required but maintains an average of one and two acres per lot throughout the project (excluding the fire station and senior multi-family portion of the development) and reserves the undeveloped portion of the project as permanent open space.
17. The multi-family senior condominium portion of the project is consistent with the proposed C-3-DP zoning classification as the applicant has requested a CUP to permit a residential use in a commercial zone pursuant to Section 22.28.210 of the County Code. The applicant has also requested a CUP to comply with the proposed DP zone to ensure that the development will comply with the proposed designs and exhibits as submitted to the Commission. .

18. Of the project's 93 condominium units, the applicant proposes that all 93 dwelling units be set aside for seniors in perpetuity to qualify for the density bonus as applied for under the associated housing permit.
19. Twenty-four (24) comment letters were submitted to the Commission. Twenty (20) letters were in opposition to the project, with concerns related to lack of access being provided by this project to adjoining properties to the west and northwest, and a desire to retain horsekeeping abilities on the proposed single-family lots. Concerns also include requests for reduction in project size to reduce impacts to the SEAs as well as a question regarding the provision of an adequate second means of access; and requests for fire station to be constructed as part of the project, and disclosure regarding fire danger. Changed circumstances due to the recent Wanger decision with respect to water supply; and request for project changes in order to preserve more oak trees for an adjacent wildlife corridor, including elimination of the "back portion" of the development, and provision of full monetary value of removed trees to the Los Angeles County Oak Tree Fund ("Oak Fund"), were also raised in written correspondence.
20. Four letters were received by the Commission with neutral comments regarding provision of water from the Valencia Water Company, and comments regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Report ("EIR") including recommended mitigation measures.
21. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the Commission heard a presentation from staff. Staff presented the proposed subdivision with the associated CUP, oak tree permit and housing permit. After opening the public hearing, the Commission also heard testimony from the applicant as well as the public.
22. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the applicant presented the history of their project including an original proposal with the City of Santa Clarita for a much larger development. A modified project was submitted by the applicant to the County of Los Angeles for processing, and was designed to be consistent with the General Plan as well as provide for dedication of open space, trails to be open to the public, and creation of a private park lot with tot lot and other amenities. The project will improve public safety by providing a fire station location as well as emergency access to properties further west of The Old Road. School district mitigation agreements have also been finalized with the Newhall and William S. Hart Union School Districts, and the project was designed to preserve significant natural resources with additional enhancement of habitat.
23. Ten (10) people testified during the November 16, 2006 public hearing: four representing the applicant, two in support of the project, and four in opposition.

Those in support of the project addressed the project's provision of dirt trails, and offsite access to the southwest (as depicted on the tentative map). Additional issues raised during the public hearing in opposition to the project, included comments related to provision of senior housing elsewhere that is much closer to shopping, increased paving of land resulting in less recharge and loss of riparian habitat, insufficient information in the Draft EIR regarding water supply and presence of perchlorate, and preservation of additional oak trees within the project. Concerns also presented addressed the project's significant and unavoidable impacts to seven factors in the Draft EIR, and recommendation for redesign to the Draft EIR's Alternative No. 4.

24. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the applicant responded that claims for offsite access via prescriptive easements have yet to be verified by the applicant, and while "not interested" in constructing additional roads, the applicant indicated their willingness to maintain access. The proposed market-rate senior housing will be for active seniors with onsite access to private recreational facilities, and within short distance to shopping locations. The impacts to the SEA are primarily from the debris basin lot, which would have been required with any alternative of the project. The applicant also indicated that the SEA Technical Advisory Committee ("SEATAC") confirmed that a debris basin is a compatible use with the SEA, and that the project was designed with up to 71 dwelling units with a single means of access in the southwest portion. Land is available on the property for onsite oak mitigation, and efforts will be focused where previous oak habitat exists or previously existed. The applicant also committed to placing no restrictions for horsekeeping on the property. Alternative No. 4 was considered by the applicant, but was determined to be infeasible based on the cost of acquiring and developing the property with high infrastructure costs. The project however was designed to provide benefits, including public access and a location for a fire station as well as maintaining the most sensitive habitat on the property as undisturbed.
25. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the Commission discussed the project and its impacts to oak trees and the SEA. The Commission discussed that while the project considers a large number of oak removals, including heritage oak trees, the property is within private ownership and project itself has benefits. The project has been mitigated to the extent feasible, and grading has been balanced onsite. Senior housing in this price range is needed, and shopping is available close to the development. The provision of offsite access via depicted tap streets allows for further development in private ownership, and with additional development comes a greater amount of open space dedication and contiguous open space.

26. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the Commission also expressed concerns with the development, including need for greater consideration of the tap streets and how they will affect future development. The project proposed is better than that previously proposed with the City of Santa Clarita, but further study of Alternative No. 4 was necessary to examine recharge, include a water supply assessment, and additional analysis in the Draft EIR regarding grading. A motion to continue the public hearing to a date certain to address these concerns was made, but did not pass.
27. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the Commission indicated that they felt there was sufficient information in all areas of the project, and that provision of tap streets allow for access to be resolved for landlocked parcels. The project was designed with consideration of economic constraints, and conversely Alternative No. 4 as indicated by the applicant, was infeasible. Fire sprinklers will be provided in the homes and the project was designed to comply with the maximum of 75 dwelling units on a single means of access with 71 homes.
28. After considering all testimony, the Commission closed the public hearing on November 16, 2006 and indicated their intent to approve Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653, Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5), Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5), and Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5); and directed staff to return with final documents for approval including the Final EIR. The Commission also directed the applicant to work with the offsite property owners ("Kantor and Speer parties") to resolve the access issues before final action.
29. After the close of public hearing on November 16, 2006, the applicant had worked ~~over the course of more than 16 months~~ with the Kantor and Speer parties in addressing concerns regarding provision of offsite access. The applicant, and Kantor and Speer parties discussed various potential access routes, with the applicant ultimately ~~concluding~~ conclusion of three options:
 - Option 1: This access route would be through the subject property in the general vicinity of debris basin Lot No. 96 and through open space Lot No. 104. An access easement could be granted through the subject property, with environmental review, engineering design and ultimate construction the responsibility of the Kantor and Speer parties.
 - Option 2: Access rights may already exist along the northern property line of the subject property. ~~Through prescriptive easements however,~~ Access rights through prescriptive easements however, would have to be established through legal means by the Kantor and Speer parties, and can be done at any time ~~separate~~ independent from the subject project.

- Option 3: This access route would be through the northern Larwin development, and lies outside the boundaries of the subject project. Negotiations on the terms of the access easement between Larwin and the Kantor and Speer parties were never finalized, and can be done at any time separate independent from the subject project. Engineering design and ultimate construction would be the responsibility of the Kantor and Speer parties.
30. Subsequent to the close of public hearing on November 16, 2006, the applicant was required to file an application for a zone change and amended CUP request to address the multi-family use in the existing A-2 zone. The zone change proposed changing the A-2-1 and A-2-2 zones to C-3-DP on 9.3 acres (senior multi-family Lot No. 94) of the subject property. The amended CUP includes the DP zone and request to permit a residential use in a commercial zone.
 31. On May 7, 2008, the Commission heard a presentation from staff for discussion and possible action regarding the additional entitlements required to implement the project as originally presented. On May 7, 2008, the Commission re-opened the public hearing to consider the zone change and amended CUP request, and directed staff to prepare proper notice of the re-opened public hearing to be held on June 18, 2008.
 32. During the June 18, 2008 public hearing, the Commission heard a presentation from staff as well as testimony from the applicant and the public.
 33. During the June 18, 2008 public hearing, the Commission after considering all testimony, closed the public hearing and approved Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653.
 34. As agreed to by the applicant, the project shall not restrict future horsekeeping activities on the property.
 35. As agreed to by the applicant, provision of transportation options for the senior development shall be incorporated into the project.
 36. The zone change is consistent with the goals and policies of the Plan, a component of the General Plan. The project increases the supply and diversity of housing and promotes the efficient use of land through a more concentrated pattern of urban development.

37. The technical and engineering aspects of the project have been resolved to the satisfaction of the Los Angeles County Departments of Public Works, Forester and Fire Warden, Parks and Recreation, Public Health and Regional Planning.
38. The subject property is of adequate size and shape to accommodate the yards, walls, fences, parking, landscaping and other accessory structures, as shown on the site plan and Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653.
39. Compatibility with surrounding land uses will be ensured through the related ~~zone change~~, subdivision, conditional use permit, oak tree permit, housing permit and environmental conditions.
40. There is no evidence that the proposed project will be materially detrimental to the use, enjoyment, or valuation of property of other persons located in the vicinity of the project site.
41. Modified conditions warrant a revision in the zoning plan as it pertains to the subject property as residential housing is needed for the fast-growing senior population.
42. The subject property is a proper location for the recommended zoning classification in that the recommended zoning classification for the subject property is compatible with adjacent and/or nearby zoning classifications and/or land uses. There is existing C-3 zoning in the areas adjacent to the proposed zone change area, as well as north of the subject property along The Old Road.
43. The adoption of the proposed zoning classification will be in the interest of public health, safety and general welfare, and in conformity with good planning practices in that the proposed zoning classification implement a project that promotes higher-density residential development for seniors in a location near commercially-zoned properties and near local shopping. Transportation options will be provided by the project for the senior condominium residents.
44. Adoption of the proposed zone change will enable the development of the subject property as proposed.
45. The applicant in this case has satisfied the "Burden of Proof" for the requested Zone Change which is needed and appropriate.
46. An Initial Study was prepared for this project in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et. seq.) ("CEQA"), the State CEQA Guidelines, and the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines of the County of Los Angeles. The Initial

Study identified potentially significant effects of the project on geotechnical, hydrology/water quality, hazards, noise, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, aesthetics, traffic, water and wastewater, schools, fire services, sheriff services, solid waste, utilities (electricity and natural gas), libraries, and parks and recreation. Based on the Initial Study and project revisions, a Final EIR has been prepared for this project. The Final EIR consists of the Draft EIR dated September 2006 and the Responses to Comments and identifies mitigation measures to be implemented as part of the project. The Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations ("Findings and SOC") are incorporated herein by this reference, as if set forth in full.

47. The Commission reviewed and considered the Final EIR and found that it reflects the independent judgment of the County. As stated in the Final EIR and Findings of Fact and SOC, implementation of the project will result in specifically identified significant effects upon the environment. Except for adverse impacts upon aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, geology, noise, sheriff services (cumulative) and solid waste (cumulative), identified significant adverse effects can be reduced to acceptable levels with the mitigation measures identified in the Final EIR and incorporated as conditions in this vesting map for this project.
48. With respect to the adverse effects upon aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, geology, noise, sheriff services (cumulative) and solid waste (cumulative), the Commission determined that the substantial benefits resulting from the project outweigh the potential unavoidable adverse effects and are acceptable based upon the overriding considerations set forth in the Findings and SOC.
49. A Mitigation Reporting and Monitoring Program ("MMP") consistent with the conclusions and recommendations of the Final EIR was prepared, and its requirements are incorporated into the conditions of approval for this project.
50. The MMP in conjunction with the Final EIR identified in detail how compliance with its measures adopted to mitigate or avoid potential adverse impacts to the environment is ensured.
51. This project has an impact on fish and wildlife resources. Therefore, the project is not exempt from California Department of Fish and Game fees pursuant to Section 711.4 of the California Fish and Game Code.
52. The location of the documents and other materials constituting the record of proceedings upon which the Commission's decision is based in this matter is the Department of Regional Planning ("Regional Planning"), 13th Floor, Hall of Records, 320 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California 90012. The custodian

of such documents and materials shall be the Section Head of the Land Divisions Section, Regional Planning.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Regional Planning Commission of the County of Los Angeles recommends that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors:

1. Hold a public hearing to consider the above recommended zone change; and
2. Certify that the Final EIR has been completed in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act, and the State and County Guidelines related thereto and reflects the independent judgment of the Board of Supervisors; and
3. Approve the Final EIR prepared for the project and certify that it has reviewed and considered the information contained therein; and
4. Approve and adopt the Mitigation Monitoring Program for the proposed project, incorporated in the Final EIR, and pursuant to Section 21081.6 of the Public Resources Code, find that the Mitigation Monitoring Program is adequately designed to ensure compliance with the mitigation measures during project implementation; and
5. Find that the proposed change of zone are consistent with the goals, policies and programs of the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan, a component of the Los Angeles Countywide General Plan; and
6. Adopt Zone Change Case No. 2008-00004-(5) changing the zoning classification on the property as depicted on the attached Exhibit and described hereinabove.

I hereby certify that the foregoing was adopted by a majority of the voting members of the Regional Planning Commission of the County of Los Angeles on June 18, 2008.

Rosie O. Ruiz, Secretary
County of Los Angeles
Regional Planning Commission

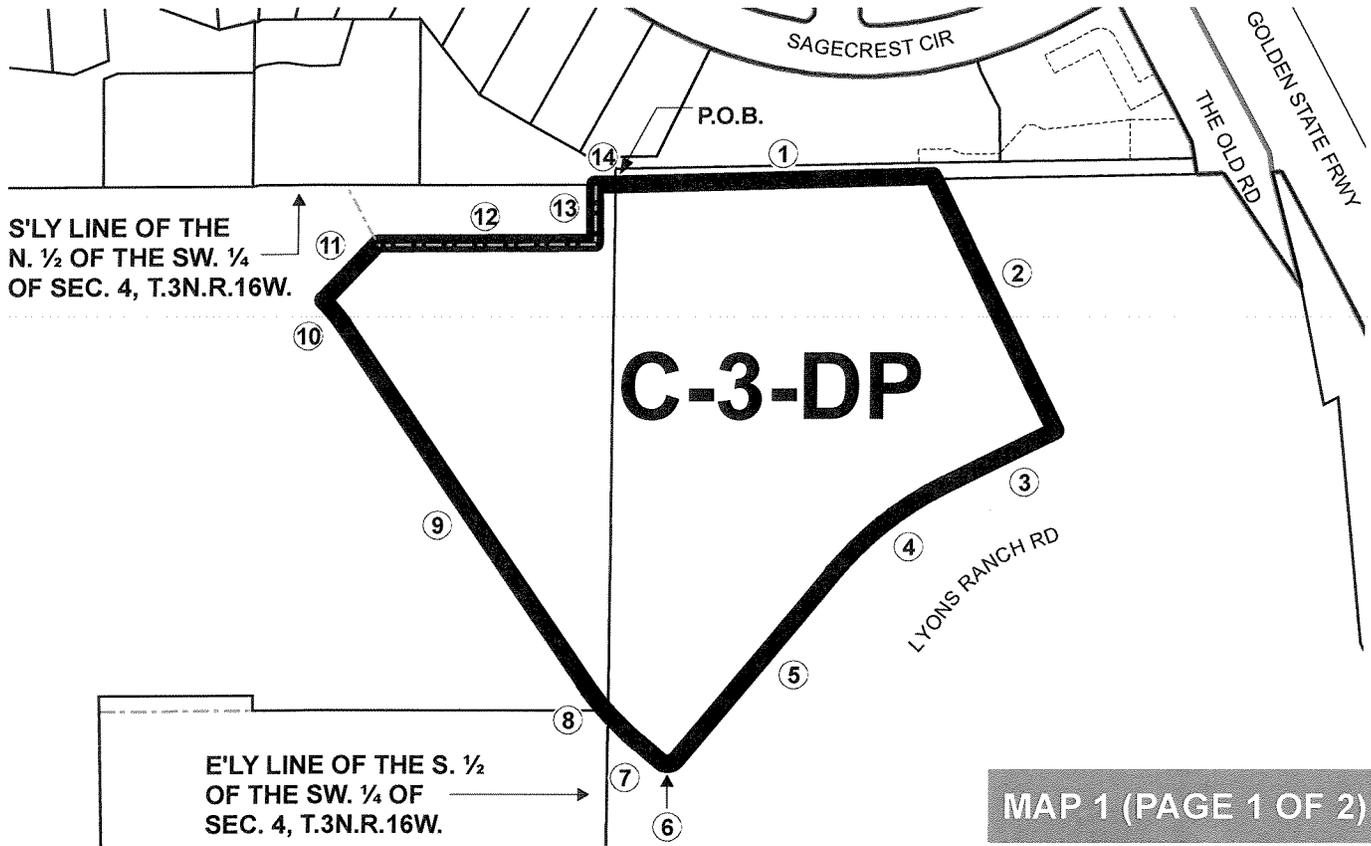
CHANGE OF PRECISE PLAN
NEWHALL ZONED DISTRICT

ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE: _____

ON: _____

ZONING CASE: **ZC 2008-00004 (5)**

AMENDING SECTION: 22.16.230 OF THE COUNTY CODE



MAP 1 (PAGE 1 OF 2)

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

ALL THAT PORTION OF THE S. 1/2 OF SEC. 4, T.3N.R.16W., SAN BERNARDINO MERIDIAN, IN THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE S'LY LINE OF THE N. 1/2 OF THE SW. 1/4 OF SAID SEC. 4 WITH THE E. LINE OF SAID SW. 1/4 OF SAID SEC. 4, SAID INTERSECTION ALSO BEING AT AN ANGLE POINT IN THE S'LY LINE OF LOT 35 OF TR43792 AS PER MAP RECORDED IN BOOK 1071 PAGES 42 THROUGH 48, INCLUSIVE OF MAPS IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER OF SAID COUNTY; THENCE ALONG THE N. LINE OF THE SW. 1/4 OF THE SE. 1/4 OF SAID SEC. 4,

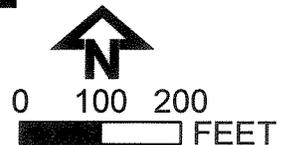
CONTINUE TO PAGE 2 OF MAP 1

DIGITAL DESCRIPTION: \ZCO\ZD_NEWHALL

THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
HAROLD V. HELSLEY, CHAIR
BRUCE W. McCLENDON, PLANNING DIRECTOR

LEGEND:

- PARCELS
- STREET / RIGHT OF WAY
- LOT LINE
- CUT/DEED LINE
- EASEMENT LINE
- ZONE CHANGE AREA



COUNTY ZONING MAP
246H117

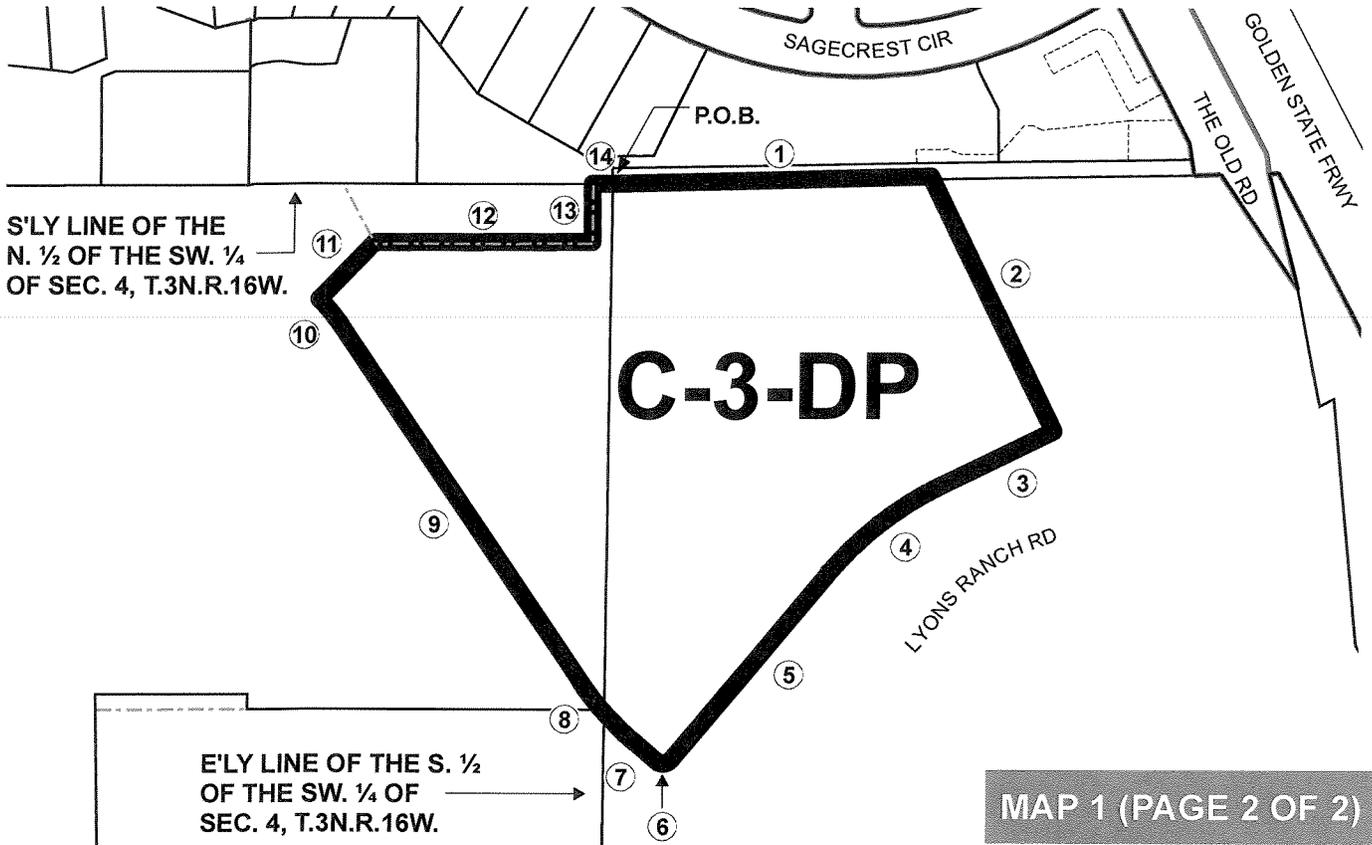
CHANGE OF PRECISE PLAN
NEWHALL ZONED DISTRICT

ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE: _____

ON: _____

ZONING CASE: **ZC 2008-00004 (5)**

AMENDING SECTION: 22.16.230 OF THE COUNTY CODE



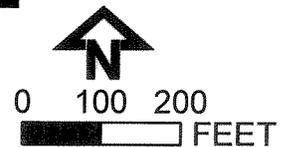
MAP 1 (PAGE 2 OF 2)

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 OF MAP 1

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| ①—N.88°48'07"E. 399.90' | ⑨—N.34°28'28"W. 541.88' |
| ②—S.26°07'39"E. 356.62' | ⑩—RADIUS: 230.00' |
| ③—S.63°52'21"W. 153.66' | CENTRAL ANGLE: 11°21'06" |
| ④—RADIUS: 432.00' | ARC DISTANCE: 45.57' |
| CENTRAL ANGLE: 24°19'32" | ⑪—N.44°10'26"E. 99.28' |
| ARC DISTANCE: 183.41' | ⑫—N.89°43'46"E. 275.00' |
| ⑤—S.39°32'49"W. 303.55' | ⑬—N.00°16'14"W. 75.00' TO |
| ⑥—RADIUS: 13.00' | THE S'LY LINE OF THE |
| CENTRAL ANGLE: 90°00'00" | N. 1/2 OF THE SW. 1/4 OF |
| ARC DISTANCE: 20.42' | SAID SEC. 4 |
| ⑦—N.50°27'11"W. 36.30' | ⑭—N.89°43'46"E. 25.21' TO |
| ⑧—RADIUS: 370.00' | THE POINT OF BEGINNING |
| CENTRAL ANGLE: 15°58'43" | |
| ARC DISTANCE: 103.19' | |

LEGEND:

- PARCELS
- STREET / RIGHT OF WAY
- LOT LINE
- CUT/DEED LINE
- EASEMENT LINE
- ZONE CHANGE AREA



COUNTY ZONING MAP
246H117

DIGITAL DESCRIPTION: \ZCOZD_NEWHALL

THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
HAROLD V. HELSLEY, CHAIR
BRUCE W. McCLENDON, PLANNING DIRECTOR

**DRAFT FINDINGS OF THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT CASE NO. 2005-00088-(5)**

1. The Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission ("Commission") conducted a noticed public hearing in the matter of Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5) on November 15, 2006 and June 18, 2008. Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5) was heard concurrently with Zone Change Case No. 2008-00004-(5), Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653, Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5) and Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5).
2. The applicant, D.R. Horton, is proposing a residential development of 93 single-family lots, one multi-family lot with 93 new attached senior condominium units within two buildings as well as five open space lots, six public facility lots, one park lot and one fire station lot on 234.8 gross acres.
3. A conditional use permit ("CUP") is required to ensure compliance with the requirements of nonurban hillside management, density-controlled development, development within an SEA, residential use in a commercial zone, and onsite project grading pursuant to Sections 22.24.100, 22.24.150, 22.28.210, 22.56.010, 22.56.205, 22.56.215 of the Los Angeles County Code ("County Code") as well as ensure compliance with the proposed Development Program ("DP") zoning pursuant to Section 22.40.040 of the County Code.
4. The subject site is located approximately 273 feet southwest of Sagecrest Circle, west of the Golden State ("I-5") Freeway and The Old Road between Calgrove Boulevard and Sagecrest Circle in Newhall Zoned District.
5. The irregularly-shaped property is 234.8 gross acres in size with slight to steeply sloping terrain. Approximately one-third of the subject property has zero to 25 percent slopes, one-third has 25 to 50 percent slopes, and one-third has slopes greater than 50 percent.
6. Access to the proposed development is provided by The Old Road, an 80-foot wide secondary highway as designated on the Los Angeles County Master Plan of Highways. The main access road serving the project will be 64-foot wide "A" Street with additional interior access provided by 64-foot collector streets, and 60-foot and 58-foot wide local streets.
7. The project site is currently zoned A-2-1 (Heavy Agriculture – One Acre Minimum Required Lot Area), A-2-2 (Heavy Agriculture – Two Acre Minimum Required Lot Area) and C-3 (Unlimited Commercial), which were established by Ordinance No. 7168 on July 5, 1957. The project proposes a zone change on 9.3 acres from A-2-1 and A-2-2 to C-3-DP (Unlimited Commercial – Development Program) over the senior multi-family Lot No. 94.

8. Surrounding zoning includes RPD-1-1.4U (Residential Planned Development – One Acre Minimum Required Lot Area – 1.4 Dwelling Units per Net Acre) and C-3 (Unlimited Commercial) to the north; City of Santa Clarita to the east; A-2-2 and R-R (Resort and Recreation) to the south; and A-2-2 to the west.
9. The subject property consists of four vacant lots. Surrounding uses include single-family residences to the north; I-5 Freeway and single-family residences (City of Santa Clarita) to the east; park and vacant property to the south; and vacant property to the west.
10. Zone Change Case No. 2008-00004-(5) is a related request to change the zoning on 9.3 acres of the subject property from A-2-1 and A-2-2 to C-3-DP for the senior condominium development. The Development Program (“DP”) designation will ensure that development occurring after rezoning will conform to approved plans and will ensure compatibility with the surrounding area. As applied in this case, the conditional use permit will restrict the development of the rezoned site to the proposed residential development as shown on the site plan marked “Exhibit A.” No other development will be permitted on the property unless a new conditional use permit (“CUP”) is first obtained.
11. Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653 is a related request to create 93 single-family lots, one multi-family lot with 93 new attached senior condominium units within two buildings as well as five open space lots, six public facility lots, one park lot and one fire station lot on 234.8 gross acres. One single-family lot is required to be eliminated due to density, for a maximum of 92 single-family lots.
12. Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5) is a related request to authorize removal of 162 oak trees (including 13 heritage oaks) and encroachment within the protected zone of 52 oak trees (including six heritage oaks).
13. Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5) is a related request to authorize a 50 percent density bonus associated with a senior citizen housing development along with modification of the maximum building height of 35 feet to 50 feet
14. The Exhibit “A” dated July 11, 2006, depict a residential development of 93 attached senior condominiums in two buildings, and 93 single-family lots in clustered design. The single-family lots range from approximately 9,350 square feet to 3.2 acres in size. Grading consists of 2,090,350 cubic yards of cut and fill (total of 4,180,700 cubic yards) to be balanced onsite. Also depicted is a fire station location along The Old Road as well as desilting basins, a private park and a 12-foot wide hiking and riding trail traversing the property. Open space consists of 167.6 acres (71.4 percent), including 123.6 acres of natural open space. The project also depicts access to offsite properties through two tap streets to the west,

and one tap street to the east. The senior multi-family lot also proposes a private recreational building, pool and spa, and will contain 172 parking spaces

15. The property is depicted in the Non-urban 2 ("N2") and Hillside Management ("HM") land use category of the Santa Clarita Valley Areawide Plan ("Plan"), a component of the Los Angeles Countywide General Plan ("General Plan"). Residential development is permitted within the N2 and HM land use categories. The proposed 186 dwelling units exceed the maximum 123 dwelling units permitted by the N2 and HM land use categories for residential development. However, the Plan supports a density bonus of up to 50 percent for the senior development for a maximum of 185 dwelling units. One single-family residential lot will be required to be eliminated at the time of final map recordation to comply with the Plan's maximum density. The property is also designated within two Significant Ecological Areas ("SEAs") (Lyon Canyon, and Santa Susana Mountains); the project proposes development within the boundaries of both SEAs.
16. The single-family residential portion of the project is consistent with the existing zoning classifications. Single-family residential development is permitted in the A-2 zone pursuant to Section 22.24.120 of the Los Angeles County Code ("County Code"). The applicant has requested a CUP to authorize a clustered design within three areas as a density-controlled development pursuant to Section 22.24.150 and 22.56.205 of the County Code, which reduces the lot sizes to less than the one acre and two acres required but maintains an average of one and two acres per lot throughout the project (excluding the fire station and senior multi-family portion of the development) and reserves the undeveloped portion of the project as permanent open space.
17. The multi-family senior condominium portion of the project is consistent with the proposed C-3-DP zoning classification as the applicant has requested a CUP to permit a residential use in a commercial zone pursuant to Section 22.28.210 of the County Code. The applicant has also requested a CUP to comply with the proposed DP zone to ensure that the development will comply with the proposed designs and exhibits as submitted to the Commission.
18. Of the project's 93 condominium units, the applicant proposes that all 93 dwelling units be set aside for seniors in perpetuity to qualify for the density bonus as applied for under the associated housing permit.
19. Twenty-four (24) comment letters were submitted to the Commission. Twenty (20) letters were in opposition to the project, with concerns related to lack of access being provided by this project to adjoining properties to the west and northwest, and a desire to retain horsekeeping abilities on the proposed single-family lots.

Concerns also include requests for reduction in project size to reduce impacts to the SEAs as well as a question regarding the provision of an adequate second means of access; and requests for fire station to be constructed as part of the project, and disclosure regarding fire danger. Changed circumstances due to the recent Wanger decision with respect to water supply; and request for project changes in order to preserve more oak trees for an adjacent wildlife corridor, including elimination of the "back portion" of the development, and provision of full monetary value of removed trees to the Los Angeles County Oak Tree Fund ("Oak Fund"), were also raised in written correspondence.

20. Four letters were received by the Commission with neutral comments regarding provision of water from the Valencia Water Company, and comments regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Report ("EIR") including recommended mitigation measures.
21. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the Commission heard a presentation from staff. Staff presented the proposed subdivision with the associated CUP, oak tree permit and housing permit. After opening the public hearing, the Commission also heard testimony from the applicant as well as the public.
22. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the applicant presented the history of their project including an original proposal with the City of Santa Clarita for a much larger development. A modified project was submitted by the applicant to the County of Los Angeles for processing, and was designed to be consistent with the General Plan as well as provide for dedication of open space, trails to be open to the public, and creation of a private park lot with tot lot and other amenities. The project will improve public safety by providing a fire station location as well as emergency access to properties further west of The Old Road. School district mitigation agreements have also been finalized with the Newhall and William S. Hart Union School Districts, and the project was designed to preserve significant natural resources with additional enhancement of habitat.
23. Ten (10) people testified during the November 16, 2006 public hearing: four representing the applicant, two in support of the project, and four in opposition. Those in support of the project addressed the project's provision of dirt trails, and offsite access to the southwest (as depicted on the tentative map). Additional issues raised during the public hearing in opposition to the project, included comments related to provision of senior housing elsewhere that is much closer to shopping, increased paving of land resulting in less recharge and loss of riparian habitat, insufficient information in the Draft EIR regarding water supply and presence of perchlorate, and preservation of additional oak trees within the project. Concerns also presented addressed the project's significant and

unavoidable impacts to seven factors in the Draft EIR, and recommendation for redesign to the Draft EIR's Alternative No. 4.

24. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the applicant responded that claims for offsite access via prescriptive easements have yet to be verified by the applicant, and while "not interested" in constructing additional roads, the applicant indicated their willingness to maintain access. The proposed market-rate senior housing will be for active seniors with onsite access to private recreational facilities, and within short distance to shopping locations. The impacts to the SEA are primarily from the debris basin lot, which would have been required with any alternative of the project. The applicant also indicated that the SEA Technical Advisory Committee ("SEATAC") confirmed that a debris basin is a compatible use with the SEA, and that the project was designed with up to 71 dwelling units with a single means of access in the southwest portion. Land is available on the property for onsite oak mitigation, and efforts will be focused where previous oak habitat exists or previously existed. The applicant also committed to placing no restrictions for horsekeeping on the property. Alternative No. 4 was considered by the applicant, but was determined to be infeasible based on the cost of acquiring and developing the property with high infrastructure costs. The project however was designed to provide benefits, including public access and a location for a fire station as well as maintaining the most sensitive habitat on the property as undisturbed.
25. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the Commission discussed the project and its impacts to oak trees and the SEA. The Commission discussed that while the project considers a large number of oak removals, including heritage oak trees, the property is within private ownership and project itself has benefits. The project has been mitigated to the extent feasible, and grading has been balanced onsite. Senior housing in this price range is needed, and shopping is available close to the development. The provision of offsite access via depicted tap streets allows for further development in private ownership, and with additional development comes a greater amount of open space dedication and contiguous open space.
26. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the Commission also expressed concerns with the development, including need for greater consideration of the tap streets and how they will affect future development. The project proposed is better than that previously proposed with the City of Santa Clarita, but further study of Alternative No. 4 was necessary to examine recharge, include a water supply assessment, and additional analysis in the Draft EIR regarding grading. A motion to continue the public hearing to a date certain to address these concerns was made, but did not pass.

27. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the Commission indicated that they felt there was sufficient information in all areas of the project, and that provision of tap streets allow for access to be resolved for landlocked parcels. The project was designed with consideration of economic constraints, and conversely Alternative No. 4 as indicated by the applicant, was infeasible. Fire sprinklers will be provided in the homes and the project was designed to comply with the maximum of 75 dwelling units on a single means of access with 71 homes.
28. After considering all testimony, the Commission closed the public hearing on November 16, 2006 and indicated their intent to approve Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653, Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5), Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5), and Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5); and directed staff to return with final documents for approval including the Final EIR. The Commission also directed the applicant to work with the offsite property owners ("Kantor and Speer parties") to resolve the access issues before final action.
29. After the close of public hearing on November 16, 2006, the applicant had worked over the course of more than 16 months with the Kantor and Speer parties in addressing concerns regarding provision of offsite access. The applicant, and Kantor and Speer parties discussed various potential access routes, with the applicant ultimately concluding conclusion of three options:
- Option 1: This access route would be through the subject property in the general vicinity of debris basin Lot No. 96 and through open space Lot No. 104. An access easement could be granted through the subject property, with environmental review, engineering design and ultimate construction the responsibility of the Kantor and Speer parties.
 - Option 2: Access rights may already exist along the northern property line of the subject property. ~~Through prescriptive easements however,~~ Access rights through prescriptive easements however, would have to be established through legal means by the Kantor and Speer parties, and can be done at any time separate independent from the subject project.
 - Option 3: This access route would be through the northern Larwin development, and lies outside the boundaries of the subject project. Negotiations on the terms of the access easement between Larwin and the Kantor and Speer parties were never finalized, and can be done at any time separate independent from the subject project. Engineering design and ultimate construction would be the responsibility of the Kantor and Speer parties.

30. Subsequent to the close of public hearing on November 16, 2006, the applicant was required to file an application for a zone change and amended CUP request to address the multi-family use in the existing A-2 zone. The zone change proposed changing the A-2-1 and A-2-2 zones to C-3-DP on 9.3 acres (senior multi-family Lot No. 94) of the subject property. The amended CUP includes the DP zone and request to permit a residential use in a commercial zone.
31. On May 7, 2008, the Commission heard a presentation from staff for discussion and possible action regarding the additional entitlements required to implement the project as originally presented. On May 7, 2008, the Commission re-opened the public hearing to consider the zone change and amended CUP request, and directed staff to prepare proper notice of the re-opened public hearing to be held on June 18, 2008.
32. During the June 18, 2008 public hearing, the Commission heard a presentation from staff as well as testimony from the applicant and the public.
33. During the June 18, 2008 public hearing, the Commission after considering all testimony, closed the public hearing and approved Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653.
34. As agreed to by the applicant, the project shall not restrict future horsekeeping activities on the property.
35. As agreed to by the applicant, provision of transportation options for the senior development shall be incorporated into the project.
36. The proposed project is required to comply with the development standards of the A-2, C-3 and C-3-DP zones pursuant to Sections 22.24.170, 22.28.220 and 22.40.070 of the County Code, except as otherwise modified herein and by Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5).
37. Pursuant to Section 22.56.205 of the County Code, all commonly owned areas within the density-controlled development shall be permanently reserved by homeowners association or other appropriate means or methods to ensure the permanent reservation and continued perpetual maintenance of required commonly owned areas. Open space Lot Nos. 102 and 103 shall be owned and maintained by the homeowners association. Open space Lot Nos. 104 through 107 shall be dedicated to a public agency to the satisfaction of Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning ("Regional Planning").
38. Pursuant to Section 22.56.205 of the County Code, all dwelling unit types shall be single-family residences. The density-controlled development covers the project

- site with exception of the senior multi-family Lot No. 94 and fire station Lot No. 95. All proposed residential lots are single-family.
39. Pursuant to Section 22.56.205 of the County Code, the location, separation and height of buildings shall be governed by conditions. By County Code provisions, the single-family dwelling units may reach a maximum height of 35 above grade, and may be located on the lot in compliance with applicable yard setbacks.
 40. Pursuant to Section 22.52.215 of the County Code, a minimum of 70 percent shall be provided as open space. The subject property is 234.8 acres in size, and provides 167.6 acres or 71.4 percent open space. Areas counted toward open space include undisturbed natural areas, graded slopes within private ownership, and unpaved portions of the debris basin and proposed park.
 41. The applicant has submitted a development progress schedule for the DP zone pursuant to Section 22.40.050 of the County Code.
 42. As a condition of approval of this grant, the permittee shall be required to comply with all applicable conditions for hillside management, SEA, DP, and density-controlled development as set forth in Sections 22.40.070, 22.56.205, and 22.56.215 of the County Code.
 43. An Initial Study was prepared for this project in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et. seq.) ("CEQA"), the State CEQA Guidelines, and the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines of the County of Los Angeles. The Initial Study identified potentially significant effects of the project on geotechnical, hydrology/water quality, hazards, noise, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, aesthetics, traffic, water and wastewater, schools, fire services, sheriff services, solid waste, utilities (electricity and natural gas), libraries, and parks and recreation. Based on the Initial Study and project revisions, a Final EIR has been prepared for this project. The Final EIR consists of the Draft EIR dated September 2006 and the Responses to Comments and identifies mitigation measures to be implemented as part of the project. The Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations ("Findings and SOC") are incorporated herein by this reference, as if set forth in full.
 44. The Commission reviewed and considered the Final EIR and found that it reflects the independent judgment of the County. As stated in the Final EIR and Findings of Fact and SOC, implementation of the project will result in specifically identified significant effects upon the environment. Except for adverse impacts upon aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, geology, noise, sheriff services (cumulative) and solid waste (cumulative), identified significant adverse effects can

be reduced to acceptable levels with the mitigation measures identified in the Final EIR and incorporated as conditions ~~in this vesting map~~ for this project.

45. With respect to the adverse effects upon aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, geology, noise, sheriff services (cumulative) and solid waste (cumulative), the Commission determined that the substantial benefits resulting from the project outweigh the potential unavoidable adverse effects and are acceptable based upon the overriding considerations set forth in the Findings and SOC.
46. A Mitigation Reporting and Monitoring Program ("MMP") consistent with the conclusions and recommendations of the Final EIR was prepared, and its requirements are incorporated into the conditions of approval for this project.
47. The MMP in conjunction with the Final EIR identified in detail how compliance with its measures adopted to mitigate or avoid potential adverse impacts to the environment is ensured.
48. This project has an impact on fish and wildlife resources. Therefore, the project is not exempt from California Department of Fish and Game fees pursuant to Section 711.4 of the California Fish and Game Code.
49. Approval of this subdivision is conditioned on the permittee's compliance with the attached conditions of approval as well as the conditions of approval for Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653, Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5), Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5) and the MMP.
50. The applicant has demonstrated the suitability of the subject property for the proposed use. Establishment of the proposed use at such location is in conformity with good zoning practice. Compliance with the conditions of approval will ensure compatibility with surrounding land uses and consistency with all applicable General Plan policies.
51. The location of the documents and other materials constituting the record of proceedings upon which the Commission's decision is based in this matter is the Department of Regional Planning ("Regional Planning"), 13th Floor, Hall of Records, 320 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California 90012. The custodian of such documents and materials shall be the Section Head of the Land Divisions Section, Regional Planning.

**BASED ON THE FOREGOING, THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
CONCLUDES:**

- A. That the proposed use with the attached conditions and restrictions will be consistent with the adopted Plan, a component of the General Plan;
- B. With the attached conditions and restrictions, that the requested use at the proposed location will not adversely affect the health, peace, comfort, or welfare of persons residing or working in the surrounding area, will not be materially detrimental to the use, enjoyment, or valuation of property of other persons located in the vicinity of the site, and will not jeopardize, endanger, or otherwise constitute a menace to the public health, safety or general welfare;
- C. That the proposed site is adequate in size and shape to accommodate the yards, walls, fences, parking and loading facilities, landscaping and other development features prescribed in Title 22 of the County Code, or as is otherwise required in order to integrate said use with the uses in the surrounding area;
- D. That the proposed site is adequately served by highways or streets of sufficient width and improved as necessary to carry the kind and quantity of traffic such use would generate, and by other public or private service facilities as are required;
- E. That the proposed project is located and designed so as to protect the safety of current and future community residents, and will not create significant threats to life and/or property due to the presence of geologic, seismic, slope instability, fire, flood, mud flow, or erosion hazard;
- F. That the proposed project is compatible with the natural, biotic, cultural, scenic and open space resources of the area;
- G. That the proposed project is conveniently served by neighborhood shopping and commercial facilities, can be provided with essential public services without imposing undue costs on the total community, and is consistent with the objectives and policies of the General Plan;
- H. That the proposed development demonstrates creative and imaginative design, resulting in a visual quality that will complement community character and benefit current and future community residents;
- I. That the requested development is designed to be highly compatible with the biotic resources present, including the setting aside of appropriate and sufficient undisturbed areas;

- J. That the requested development is designed to maintain water bodies, watercourses, and their tributaries in a natural state;
- K. That the requested development is designed so that wildlife movement corridors (migratory paths) are left in an undisturbed and natural state;
- L. That the requested development retains sufficient natural vegetative cover and/or open spaces to buffer critical resources from said requested development;
- M. That where necessary, fences or walls are provided to buffer important habitat areas from development;
- N. That roads and utilities serving the proposed development are located and designed so as not to conflict with critical resources, habitat areas or migratory paths; and
- O. That such development program provides necessary safeguards to ensure completion of the proposed development by the applicant forestalling substitution of a lesser type of development contrary to the public convenience, welfare or development needs of the area.

THEREFORE, THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

1. Certifies that the Final EIR was completed in compliance with CEQA and the State and County guidelines related thereto; certifies that it independently reviewed and considered the information contained in the Final EIR, and that the Final EIR reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the Commission as to the environmental consequences of the project; indicates that it certified the Final EIR at the conclusion of its hearing on the project and adopted the Findings of Fact, SOC and MMP, finding that pursuant to California Public Resources Code Section 21081.6, the MMP is adequately designed to ensure compliance with the mitigation measures during project implementation, found that the unavoidable significant effects of the project after adoption of said mitigation measures are as described in those findings; and determined that the remaining, unavoidable environmental effects of the project have been reduced to an acceptable level and are outweighed by specific health and safety, economic, social, and/or environmental benefits of the project as stated in the Findings of Fact and SOC; and
2. Approves Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5) subject to the attached conditions.

DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT CASE NO. 2005-00088-(5) Exhibit "A" Date: 7-11-2006

DRAFT CONDITIONS:

1. This grant authorizes the use of the 234.8-acre subject property for a residential development consisting of a maximum of 92 single-family units and 93 senior attached condominium units, as modified from the approved Exhibit "A" dated July 11, 2006, subject to all of the following conditions of approval.
2. Unless otherwise apparent from the context, the term "permittee" shall include the applicant and any other person, corporation, or entity making use of this grant.
3. This grant shall not be effective for any purpose until the permittee, and the owner of the subject property if other than the permittee, have filed at the office of the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning ("Regional Planning") their affidavit stating that they are aware of, and agree to accept, all the conditions of this grant and that the conditions have been recorded as required by Condition No. 6, and until all required monies have been paid pursuant to Condition Nos. ~~7, 9 and 44~~ 9 and 57.
4. If any provision of this grant is held or declared to be invalid, the permit shall be void and the privileges granted hereunder shall lapse.
5. Notice is hereby given that any person violating a provision of this grant is guilty of a misdemeanor. Notice is further given that the Regional Planning Commission or Hearing Officer may, after conducting a public hearing, revoke or modify this grant, if it finds that these conditions have been violated or that this grant has been exercised so as to be detrimental to the public health or safety or so as to be a nuisance.
6. Prior to the use of this grant, the terms and conditions of the grant shall be recorded in the office of the Los Angeles County Recorder. In addition, upon any transfer or lease of the subject property during the term of this grant, the permittee shall promptly provide a copy of the grant and its terms and conditions to the transferee or lessee, as applicable, of the subject property.
7. The subject property shall be developed and maintained in full compliance with the conditions of this grant and any law, statute, ordinance or other regulation applicable to any development or activity on the subject property. Failure of the permittee to cease any development or activity not in full compliance shall be a violation of these conditions.
8. If inspections are required to ensure compliance with the conditions of this grant, or if any inspection discloses that the property is being used in violation of any condition of this grant, the permittee shall be financially responsible and shall reimburse Regional Planning for all inspections and for any enforcement efforts

necessary to bring the subject property into compliance. Inspections shall be made to ensure compliance with the conditions of this grant as well as adherence to development in accordance with the approved site plan on file. The amount charged for inspections shall be the amount equal to the recovery cost at the time of payment (currently \$150.00 per inspection).

9. Within 5 days of the approval date of this grant, the permittee shall remit processing fees payable to the County in connection with the filing and posting of a Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21152 of the Public Resources Code for Project No. TR53653-(5), which includes Zone Change Case No. 2008-00004-(5), Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653, Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5), Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5) and Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5). The project impacts fish and wildlife and in order to defray the cost of wildlife protection and management, the permittee is responsible for the payment of fees established by the California Department of Fish and Game pursuant to Section 711.4 of the Fish and Game Code. The current fee amount is **\$2,656.75**. No land use project subject to this requirement is final, vested or operative until the fee is paid.
10. The permittee shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the County, its agents, officers, and employees from any claim, action, or proceeding against the County or its agents, officers, or employees to attack, set aside, void or annul this permit approval, which action is brought within the applicable time period of Government Code Section 65009 or any other applicable limitation period. The County shall notify the permittee of any claim, action or proceeding and the County shall reasonably cooperate in the defense.
11. In the event that any claim, action, or proceeding as described above is filed against the County, the permittee shall within 10 days of the filing pay Regional Planning an initial deposit of \$5,000.00 from which actual costs shall be billed and deducted for the purpose of defraying the expense involved in the department's cooperation in the defense, including but not limited to, depositions, testimony, and other assistance to the permittee or permittee's counsel. The permittee shall also pay the following supplemental deposits, from which actual costs shall be billed and deducted:
 - a. If during the litigation process, actual costs incurred reach 80 percent of the amount of deposit, the permittee shall deposit additional funds sufficient to bring the balance up to the amount of the initial deposit. There is no limit to the number of supplemental deposits that may be required prior to completion of the litigation; and
 - b. At the sole discretion of the permittee, the amount of an initial or supplemental deposit may exceed the minimum amounts defined herein.

The cost for collection and duplication of records and other related documents will be paid by the permittee in accordance with Section 2.170.010 of the Los Angeles County Code ("County Code").

12. This grant shall expire unless used within two years after the recordation of the final map for Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653. In the event that Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653 should expire without the recordation of a final map, this grant shall terminate upon the expiration of the tentative map. Entitlement to the use of the property thereafter shall be subject to the regulations then in effect.
13. No grading permit shall be issued prior to final map recordation, unless otherwise authorized by the Director of Regional Planning ("Director of Planning").
14. The subject property shall be graded, developed and maintained in substantial compliance with the approved vesting tentative tract map. An amended tentative tract map approved for Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653 may, at the discretion of the Director of Planning, constitute a revised Exhibit "A." All revised plans require the written authorization of the property owner.
15. All development shall comply with the requirements of Title 22 of the County Code (Zoning Ordinance) and of the specific zoning of the subject property unless specifically modified by this grant, as set forth in these conditions, including the approved Exhibit "A," or a revised Exhibit "A" approved by the Director of Planning.
16. Submit a copy of the project Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions ("CC&Rs") and maintenance agreements and covenants to Regional Planning for review and approval. The CC&Rs shall include all of the project conditions, and include language that those conditions required to be in the CC&Rs may not be amended or eliminated by the homeowners association without approval from the Director of Planning.
17. The development of the subject property shall comply with all requirements and conditions approved for Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653, Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5) and Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5).
18. The permittee or successor in interest, shall provide a minimum of 167.6 acres or 71.4 percent open space, which includes natural, undisturbed areas; graded slopes; park; trail; and unpaved debris basin area.
19. The permittee shall dedicate open space Lot Nos. 104 through 107 to a public agency to the satisfaction of Regional Planning. The dedication shall contain language requiring that access for emergency purposes shall not be prohibited over said open space lots.
20. The permittee shall provide for the ownership and maintenance of recreation Lot No. 102 and open space Lot No. 103 by the homeowners' association to the satisfaction of Regional Planning.

21. The permittee shall provide in the CC&Rs a method for the continuous maintenance of the common areas within multi-family Lot No. 94, including the driveway and the lighting system along all walkways, to the satisfaction of Regional Planning.
22. The permittee shall reserve in the CC&Rs the right for all residents within senior multi-family Lot No. 94 to use the driveways for access and the guest parking spaces throughout the multi-family lot.
23. The permittee shall provide in the CC&Rs that at least 93 dwelling units within multi-family Lot No. 94 shall be reserved for senior citizens in perpetuity.
24. The permittee shall grant an easement for access and utilities as necessary, to offsite properties known collectively as Assessor's Parcel Number ("APN") 2826-022-022, 2826-022-023, and 2826-022-024 ("offsite properties"), to a width necessary, including slopes, for a 28-foot wide access driveway through the subject property in the general vicinity of debris basin Lot No. 96 and or to Lot No. 104, prior to recordation of the associated tract map. The permittee shall submit draft documents for Regional Planning review and approval prior to recordation and grant of easement. Engineering and construction of the access shall be the responsibility of the recipients.
25. As agreed to by the applicant, horsekeeping activities that comply with all County requirements, shall not be prohibited within the development. Include language in the CC&Rs and provide a draft copy of the CC&Rs to Regional Planning for review and approval.
26. This project is approved as density-controlled development in which the areas of the proposed lots may be averaged to collectively conform to the minimum lot area requirements of the A-2-1 (Heavy Agriculture – One Acre Minimum Required Lot Area) and A-2-2 (Heavy Agriculture – Two Acres Minimum Required Lot Area) in accordance with Section 22.56.205 of the County Code.
27. All commonly owned areas within the density-controlled development, shall be permanently reserved as open space. Such reservation shall be by establishment of a homeowners association, maintenance district or other appropriate means or methods to ensure the permanent reservation and continued perpetual maintenance of required commonly owned areas.
28. As a means to further ensure the permanent reservation of commonly owned areas, no dwelling unit shall be sold, conveyed or otherwise alienated or encumbered separately from an undivided interest in any commonly owned areas comprising a part of such development. Such undivided interest shall include either an undivided interest in the commonly owned areas or a share in the corporation or voting membership in an association owning the commonly owned areas.

29. All dwelling units within the density-controlled development (entire property except multi-family Lot No. 94 and fire station Lot No. 95) shall be single-family residences.
30. Prior to the issuance of any grading and/or building permit, site plans covering the development shall be submitted to and approved by the Director of Planning indicating that the proposed grading and/or construction:
 - a. complies with the conditions of this grant and the standards of the zone; and
 - b. is compatible with hillside and SEA resources.
31. No structure shall exceed 35 feet in height, except for chimneys and rooftop antennas, except for the main residential structures within multi-family Lot No. 94 which shall not exceed 50 feet in height. Prior to any issuance of any building permit, a site plan including exterior elevations and major architectural features shall be submitted to and approved by the Director of Planning, as a revised Exhibit "A," to ensure compliance.
32. A minimum of two covered automobile parking spaces for each single family residential lot shall be provided and continuously maintained and developed to the specifications listed in Section 22.52.1060 of the County Code. The required parking spaces shall be continuously available for vehicle parking only and shall not be used for storage, automobile repair, or any other unauthorized use.
33. A minimum of 172 automobile parking spaces, as depicted on the approved Exhibit "A" (dated July 11, 2006) or on an approved revised Exhibit "A", shall be provided and continuously maintained on multi-family Lot No. 94, developed to the specifications listed in Section 22.52.1060 of the County Code. The required parking spaces shall be continuously available for vehicular parking only and shall not be used for storage, automobile repair, or any other unauthorized use. Continual availability and maintenance of required parking spaces shall be provided for in the CC&Rs.
34. All utilities shall be placed underground. Prior to the issuance of any building permit, the permittee shall provide evidence that contractual arrangements have been made with the local utilities to install underground all new facilities necessary to furnish services in the proposed development.
35. All structures shall comply with the requirements of the Division of Building and Safety of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works ("Public Works").
36. Detonation of explosives or any other blasting device or material is prohibited unless required permits have been obtained and adjacent property owners have been notified.

37. All grading and construction on the subject property and appurtenant activities, including engine warm-up, shall be restricted to the hours between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., and Saturday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Sunday or holiday operations are prohibited. All stationary construction noise sources shall be sheltered or enclosed to minimize adverse effect on nearby residences and neighborhoods. Generator and pneumatic compressors shall be noise protected in a manner that will minimize noise inconvenience to adjacent residences.
38. The permittee shall implement a dust control program during grading and construction to the satisfaction of the Director of Planning and the Director of Public Works.
39. All material graded shall be sufficiently watered to prevent excessive amounts of dust during the construction phase. Watering shall occur at least twice daily with complete coverage, preferably in the late morning and after construction or grading activities is done for the day. All clearing, grading, earth moving or excavation activities shall cease during periods of high wind (i.e. greater than 20 mph average over one hour) to prevent excessive amounts of dust.
40. The permittee shall, upon commencement of any grading activity allowed by this grant, diligently pursue all grading to completion.
41. No construction equipment or vehicles, including construction crew's personal vehicles, shall be parked or stored on any existing public or private streets.
42. The permittee shall obtain all necessary permits from Public Works and shall maintain all such permits in full force and effect as required throughout the life of this permit.
43. All construction and development within the subject property shall comply with the applicable provisions of the ~~Uniform~~ Building Code and the various related mechanical, electrical, plumbing, fire, grading and excavation codes as currently adopted by the County.
44. All structures, walls and fences open to public view shall remain free of extraneous markings, drawings, or signage. These shall include any of the above that do not directly relate to the use of the property, or that do not provide pertinent information about the premises. The only exceptions shall be seasonal decorations or signage provided under the auspices of a civic or non-profit organization.
45. In the event any such extraneous markings occur, the permittee shall remove or cover said markings, drawings, or signage within 24 hours of such occurrence. Paint utilized in covering such markings shall be of a color that matches, as closely as possible the color of the adjacent surfaces.

46. The permittee shall utilize water-saving devices and technology in the construction of this project consistent with the ordinances and County Building and Plumbing Codes.
47. The property shall be developed and maintained in compliance with all applicable requirements of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health ("Public Health"). Adequate water and sewage disposal facilities shall be provided to the satisfaction of said department.
48. If during construction of the project, soil contamination is suspected, construction in the area shall stop, and appropriate health and safety procedures shall be implemented to the satisfaction of Public Health. If it is determined that contaminated soils exist, remediation shall be conducted to the satisfaction of Public Health and the California Regional Water Quality Control Board.
49. Prior to the issuance of any building permit, the permittee shall demonstrate compliance with State Seismic Hazard Safety laws to the satisfaction of Public Works.
50. Prior to the issuance of any grading permit, the project design shall provide for the filtering of flows to capture contaminants originating from the project site to the satisfaction of and approval by Public Works.
51. The permittee shall comply with the Standard Urban Stormwater Mitigation Plan requirements to the satisfaction of Public Works.
52. During construction, all large-size truck trips shall be limited to off-peak commute periods.
53. During construction, the permittee shall obtain a Caltrans transportation permit as necessary for any transportation of heavy construction equipment and/or materials which requires the use of oversized-transport vehicles on state highways.
- ~~54. Prior to the issuance of any grading or building permit, a site plan shall be submitted to and approved by the Director of Planning indicating that the proposed construction and associated grading complies with the conditions of this grant and the standards of the zone.~~
55. All graded slopes (cut and fill) shall be revegetated. Prior to the issuance of any grading or building permit, three copies of a landscape plan, which may be incorporated into a revised Exhibit "A," shall be submitted to and approved by the Director of Planning. The landscape plan shall show size, type, and location of all plants, trees, and sprinkler facilities, including all landscaping and irrigation. Watering facilities shall consist of a permanent water-efficient irrigation system, such as "bubblers" or drip irrigation, and shall use reclaimed water.

In addition to the review and approval by the Director of Planning, the landscaping plans will be reviewed by the staff biologist of Regional Planning and the Los Angeles County Forester and Fire Warden ("Forester and Fire Warden"). Their review will include an evaluation of the balance of structural diversity (e.g. trees, shrubs and groundcover) that could be expected 18 months after planting in compliance with fire safety requirements. No invasive species are permitted.

The landscaping plan must show that landscaped areas shall contain minimum 75 percent locally indigenous species, including trees, shrubs and ground covering. However, if the permittee demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Director of Planning that compliance with this requirement is not possible due to County fire safety requirements, then the Director of Planning may determine that a lower percentage of such planting shall be required. In those areas where the Director of Planning approves a lower percentage, the amount of such required locally indigenous vegetation shall be at least 50 percent. The landscaping will include trees, shrubs and ground covering at a mixture and density determined by the Director of Planning and the Forester and Fire Warden. Fire retardant plants shall be given first consideration.

Timing of Planting. Prior to the issuance of grading or building permits for any development, the permittee shall submit a landscaping phasing plan for the landscaping associated with the construction to be approved by the Director of Planning. This phasing plan shall establish the timing and sequencing of the required landscaping, including required plantings within six months and expected growth during the subsequent 18 months.

56. Record a covenant with the County agreeing to comply with the required environmental mitigation measures in the Mitigation Monitoring Program ("MMP"). Prior to recordation, submit a copy of the covenant to the Director of Planning for review and approval.
57. The environmental mitigation measures are incorporated herein by reference and made conditions of this grant. As a means of ensuring the effectiveness of the mitigation measures, the permittee shall submit annual mitigation monitoring reports to the Director of Planning for approval, until such time as all mitigation measures have been implemented and completed. Additional reports shall be submitted as required by the Director of Planning.
58. Within 30 days of the approval of this grant, the permittee shall deposit the sum of **\$3,000.00** with Regional Planning to defray the cost of reviewing the permittee's reports and verifying compliance with the Mitigation Monitoring Program. The permittee shall retain the services of a qualified Environmental/Mitigation Monitoring Consultant, subject to the approval of the Director of Planning, to ensure that all applicable mitigation measures are implemented and reported in the required MMP.
59. Except as otherwise modified herein, the permittee shall comply with all of the following permit conditions for Development Program zoning:

- a. No building or structure of any kind except a temporary structure used only in the developing of the property according to the program shall be built, erected, or moved onto any part of the multi-family Lot No. 94;
- b. No existing building or structure which under the program is to be demolished shall be used;
- c. No existing building or structure which, under the program, is to be altered shall be used until such building or structure has been so altered;
- d. All improvements shall be completed prior to the occupancy of any structures within multi-family Lot No. 94; and
- e. Where one or more buildings in the projected development are designated as primary buildings, building permits for structures other than those so designated shall not be issued until the foundations have been constructed for such primary building or buildings.

DRAFT
FINDINGS OF THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
FOR OAK TREE PERMIT CASE NO. 2005-00039-(5)

1. The Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission ("Commission") conducted a noticed public hearing in the matter of Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5) on November 15, 2006 and June 18, 2008. Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5) was heard concurrently with Zone Change Case No. 2008-00004-(5), Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653, Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5), and Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5).
2. The subject site is located approximately 273 feet southwest of Sagecrest Circle, west of the Golden State ("I-5") Freeway and The Old Road between Calgrove Boulevard and Sagecrest Circle in Newhall Zoned District.
3. The irregularly-shaped property is 234.8 gross acres in size with slight to steeply sloping terrain. Approximately one-third of the subject property has zero to 25 percent slopes, one-third has 25 to 50 percent slopes, and one-third has slopes greater than 50 percent.
4. Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5) is a request to authorize removal of 162 oak trees (including 13 heritage oaks) and encroachment within the protected zone of 52 oak trees (including six heritage oaks).

The applicant submitted an Oak Tree Report as prepared and amended by Interface Management Services (arborist: Doug Nickles) and Trees, etc., a division of RDI and Associates, Inc., the consulting arborist, dated September 2006, that identifies and evaluates 1,395 oak trees on the subject property.
5. The applicant proposes to remove 162 oak trees and encroach into the protected zone of 52 oak trees. The proposed removals and encroachments are due to potential impacts from construction and development of the property including debris basins, roads, and grading.
6. The Los Angeles County Forester and Fire Warden ("Forester"), has reviewed the Oak Tree Report and determined that the document is accurate and complete as to the location, size, condition and species of the oak trees on the site. The Forester has recommended approval of the requested oak tree removals, subject to recommended conditions of approval, including replacement of oak tree removals at a rate of 2:1 (and 10:1 for heritage oaks) for a total of 428 mitigation oak trees.
7. Zone Change Case No. 2008-00004-(5) is a related request to change the zoning on 9.3 acres of the subject property from A-2-1 (Heavy Agriculture – One Acre

Minimum Required Lot Area) and A-2-2 (Heavy Agriculture – Two Acre Minimum Required Lot Area) to C-3-DP (Unlimited Commercial – Development Program) for the senior multi-family Lot No. 94. The Development Program (“DP”) designation will ensure that development occurring after rezoning will conform to approved plans and will ensure compatibility with the surrounding area. As applied in this case, the conditional use permit will restrict the development of the rezoned site to the proposed residential development as shown on the site plan marked “Exhibit A.” No other development will be permitted on the property unless a new conditional use permit (“CUP”) is first obtained.

8. Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653 is a related request to create 93 single-family lots, one multi-family lot with 93 new attached senior condominium units within two buildings, five open space lots, six public facility lots, one park lot and one fire station lot on 234.8 gross acres. One single-family lot is required to be eliminated due to density, for a maximum of 92 single-family lots.
9. Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5) is a related request to ensure compliance with the requirements of nonurban hillside management; density-controlled development; development within an SEA, DP overlay zone, and residential use in a commercial zone; and onsite project grading.
10. Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5) is a related request to authorize a 50 percent density bonus associated with a senior citizen housing development along with modification of the maximum building height of 35 feet to 50 feet
11. Access to the proposed development is provided by The Old Road, an 80-foot wide secondary highway as designated on the Los Angeles County Master Plan of Highways. The main access road serving the project will be 64-foot wide “A” Street with additional interior access provided by 64-foot collector streets, and 60-foot and 58-foot wide local streets.
12. Twenty-four (24) comment letters were submitted to the Commission. Twenty (20) letters were in opposition to the project, with concerns related to lack of access being provided by this project to adjoining properties to the west and northwest, and a desire to retain horsekeeping abilities on the proposed single-family lots. Concerns also include requests for reduction in project size to reduce impacts to the SEAs as well as a question regarding the provision of an adequate second means of access; and requests for fire station to be constructed as part of the project, and disclosure regarding fire danger. Changed circumstances due to the recent Wanger decision with respect to water supply; and request for project changes in order to preserve more oak trees for an adjacent wildlife corridor, including elimination of the “back portion” of the development, and provision of full

monetary value of removed trees to the Los Angeles County Oak Tree Fund ("Oak Fund"), were also raised in written correspondence.

13. Four letters were received by the Commission with neutral comments regarding provision of water from the Valencia Water Company, and comments regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Report ("EIR") including recommended mitigation measures.
14. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the Commission heard a presentation from staff. Staff presented the proposed subdivision with the associated CUP, oak tree permit and housing permit. After opening the public hearing, the Commission also heard testimony from the applicant as well as the public.
15. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the applicant presented the history of their project including an original proposal with the City of Santa Clarita for a much larger development. A modified project was submitted by the applicant to the County of Los Angeles for processing, and was designed to be consistent with the General Plan as well as provide for dedication of open space, trails to be open to the public, and creation of a private park lot with tot lot and other amenities. The project will improve public safety by providing a fire station location as well as emergency access to properties further west of The Old Road. School district mitigation agreements have also been finalized with the Newhall and William S. Hart Union School Districts, and the project was designed to preserve significant natural resources with additional enhancement of habitat.
16. Ten (10) people testified during the November 16, 2006 public hearing: four representing the applicant, two in support of the project, and four in opposition. Those in support of the project addressed the project's provision of dirt trails, and offsite access to the southwest (as depicted on the tentative map). Additional issues raised during the public hearing in opposition to the project, included comments related to provision of senior housing elsewhere that is much closer to shopping, increased paving of land resulting in less recharge and loss of riparian habitat, insufficient information in the Draft EIR regarding water supply and presence of perchlorate, and preservation of additional oak trees within the project. Concerns also presented addressed the project's significant and unavoidable impacts to seven factors in the Draft EIR, and recommendation for redesign to the Draft EIR's Alternative No. 4.
17. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the applicant responded that claims for offsite access via prescriptive easements have yet to be verified by the applicant, and while "not interested" in constructing additional roads, the applicant indicated their willingness to maintain access. The proposed market-rate senior

housing will be for active seniors with onsite access to private recreational facilities, and within short distance to shopping locations. The impacts to the SEA are primarily from the debris basin lot, which would have been required with any alternative of the project. The applicant also indicated that the SEA Technical Advisory Committee ("SEATAC") confirmed that a debris basin is a compatible use with the SEA, and that the project was designed with up to 71 dwelling units with a single means of access in the southwest portion. Land is available on the property for onsite oak mitigation, and efforts will be focused where previous oak habitat exists or previously existed. The applicant also committed to placing no restrictions for horsekeeping on the property. Alternative No. 4 was considered by the applicant, but was determined to be infeasible based on the cost of acquiring and developing the property with high infrastructure costs. The project however was designed to provide benefits, including public access and a location for a fire station as well as maintaining the most sensitive habitat on the property as undisturbed.

18. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the Commission discussed the project and its impacts to oak trees and the SEA. The Commission discussed that while the project considers a large number of oak removals, including heritage oak trees, the property is within private ownership and project itself has benefits. The project has been mitigated to the extent feasible, and grading has been balanced onsite. Senior housing in this price range is needed, and shopping is available close to the development. The provision of offsite access via depicted tap streets allows for further development in private ownership, and with additional development comes a greater amount of open space dedication and contiguous open space.
19. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the Commission also expressed concerns with the development, including need for greater consideration of the tap streets and how they will affect future development. The project proposed is better than that previously proposed with the City of Santa Clarita, but further study of Alternative No. 4 was necessary to examine recharge, include a water supply assessment, and additional analysis in the Draft EIR regarding grading. A motion to continue the public hearing to a date certain to address these concerns was made, but did not pass.
20. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the Commission indicated that they felt there was sufficient information in all areas of the project, and that provision of tap streets allow for access to be resolved for landlocked parcels. The project was designed with consideration of economic constraints, and conversely Alternative No. 4 as indicated by the applicant, was infeasible. Fire sprinklers will be provided in the homes and the project was designed to comply with the maximum of 75 dwelling units on a single means of access with 71 homes.

21. After considering all testimony, the Commission closed the public hearing on November 16, 2006 and indicated their intent to approve Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653, Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5), Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5), and Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5); and directed staff to return with final documents for approval including the Final EIR. The Commission also directed the applicant to work with the offsite property owners ("Kantor and Speer parties") to resolve the access issues before final action.
22. After the close of public hearing on November 16, 2006, the applicant had worked ~~over the course of more than 16 months~~ with the Kantor and Speer parties in addressing concerns regarding provision of offsite access. The applicant, and Kantor and Speer parties discussed various potential access routes, with the applicant ultimately ~~concluding~~ conclusion of three options:
- Option 1: This access route would be through the subject property in the general vicinity of debris basin Lot No. 96 and through open space Lot No. 104. An access easement could be granted through the subject property, with environmental review, engineering design and ultimate construction the responsibility of the Kantor and Speer parties.
 - Option 2: Access rights may already exist along the northern property line of the subject property. ~~Through prescriptive easements however,~~ Access rights through prescriptive easements however, would have to be established through legal means by the Kantor and Speer parties, and can be done at any time ~~separate~~ independent from the subject project.
 - Option 3: This access route would be through the northern Larwin development, and lies outside the boundaries of the subject project. Negotiations on the terms of the access easement between Larwin and the Kantor and Speer parties were never finalized, and can be done at any time ~~separate~~ independent from the subject project. Engineering design and ultimate construction would be the responsibility of the Kantor and Speer parties.
23. Subsequent to the close of public hearing on November 16, 2006, the applicant was required to file an application for a zone change and amended CUP request to address the multi-family use in the existing A-2 zone. The zone change proposed changing the A-2-1 and A-2-2 zones to C-3-DP on 9.3 acres (senior multi-family Lot No. 94) of the subject property. The amended CUP includes the DP zone and request to permit a residential use in a commercial zone.

24. On May 7, 2008, the Commission heard a presentation from staff for discussion and possible action regarding the additional entitlements required to implement the project as originally presented. On May 7, 2008, the Commission re-opened the public hearing to consider the zone change and amended CUP request, and directed staff to prepare proper notice of the re-opened public hearing to be held on June 18, 2008.
25. During the June 18, 2008 public hearing, the Commission heard a presentation from staff as well as testimony from the applicant and the public.
26. During the June 18, 2008 public hearing, the Commission after considering all testimony, closed the public hearing and approved Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653.
27. As agreed to by the applicant, the project shall not restrict future horsekeeping activities on the property.
28. As agreed to by the applicant, provision of transportation options for the senior development shall be incorporated into the project.
29. The necessary drainage improvements for soil erosion control will be designed in accordance with the standards of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works as a condition of approval of the associated vesting tentative tract map.
30. The proposed project is required to comply with the development standards of the A-2, C-3 and C-3-DP zones pursuant to Sections 22.24.170, 22.28.220 and 22.40.070 of the County Code, except as otherwise modified herein and by Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5).
31. An Initial Study was prepared for this project in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et. seq.) ("CEQA"), the State CEQA Guidelines, and the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines of the County of Los Angeles. The Initial Study identified potentially significant effects of the project on geotechnical, hydrology/water quality, hazards, noise, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, aesthetics, traffic, water and wastewater, schools, fire services, sheriff services, solid waste, utilities (electricity and natural gas), libraries, and parks and recreation. Based on the Initial Study and project revisions, a Final EIR has been prepared for this project. The Final EIR consists of the Draft EIR dated September 2006 and the Responses to Comments and identifies mitigation measures to be implemented as part of the project. The Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations ("Findings and SOC") are incorporated herein by this reference, as if set forth in full.

32. The Commission reviewed and considered the Final EIR and found that it reflects the independent judgment of the County. As stated in the Final EIR and Findings of Fact and SOC, implementation of the project will result in specifically identified significant effects upon the environment. Except for adverse impacts upon aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, geology, noise, sheriff services (cumulative) and solid waste (cumulative), identified significant adverse effects can be reduced to acceptable levels with the mitigation measures identified in the Final EIR and incorporated as conditions ~~in this vesting map~~ for this project.
33. With respect to the adverse effects upon aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, geology, noise, sheriff services (cumulative) and solid waste (cumulative), the Commission determined that the substantial benefits resulting from the project outweigh the potential unavoidable adverse effects and are acceptable based upon the overriding considerations set forth in the Findings and SOC.
34. A Mitigation Reporting and Monitoring Program ("MMP") consistent with the conclusions and recommendations of the Final EIR was prepared, and its requirements are incorporated into the conditions of approval for this project.
35. The MMP in conjunction with the Final EIR identified in detail how compliance with its measures adopted to mitigate or avoid potential adverse impacts to the environment is ensured.
36. This project has an impact on fish and wildlife resources. Therefore, the project is not exempt from California Department of Fish and Game fees pursuant to Section 711.4 of the California Fish and Game Code.
37. Approval of this subdivision is conditioned on the permittee's compliance with the attached conditions of approval as well as the conditions of approval for Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653, Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5), Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5) and the MMP.
38. The applicant has demonstrated the suitability of the subject property for the proposed use. Establishment of the proposed use at such location is in conformity with good zoning practice. Compliance with the conditions of approval will ensure compatibility with surrounding land uses and consistency with all applicable General Plan policies.
39. The location of the documents and other materials constituting the record of proceedings upon which the Commission's decision is based in this matter is the Department of Regional Planning ("Regional Planning"), 13th Floor, Hall of

Records, 320 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California 90012. The custodian of such documents and materials shall be the Section Head of the Land Divisions Section, Regional Planning.

BASED ON THE FOREGOING, THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION CONCLUDES:

- A. That construction of the proposed land use will be accomplished without endangering the health of any remaining trees on the property that are subject to Chapter 22.56, Part 16, of the Los Angeles County Code;
- B. That the proposed removal of the oak trees will not result in soil erosion through the diversion or increased flow of surface waters which cannot be satisfactorily mitigated;
- C. That in addition to the above facts, that the removal of up to 74 oak trees and the encroachment of 71 oak trees is necessary for development reasons as continued existence of the trees at the present location frustrates the planned improvements or proposed use of the subject property to such an extent that a) alternative development plans cannot achieve the same permitted density or the cost of such alternative would be prohibitive; or b) Placement of such trees precludes the reasonable and efficient use of such property for a use otherwise authorized;
- D. That the proposed removal and encroachment of the oak trees will not be contrary to or in substantial conflict with the intent and purpose of the oak tree permit procedure.

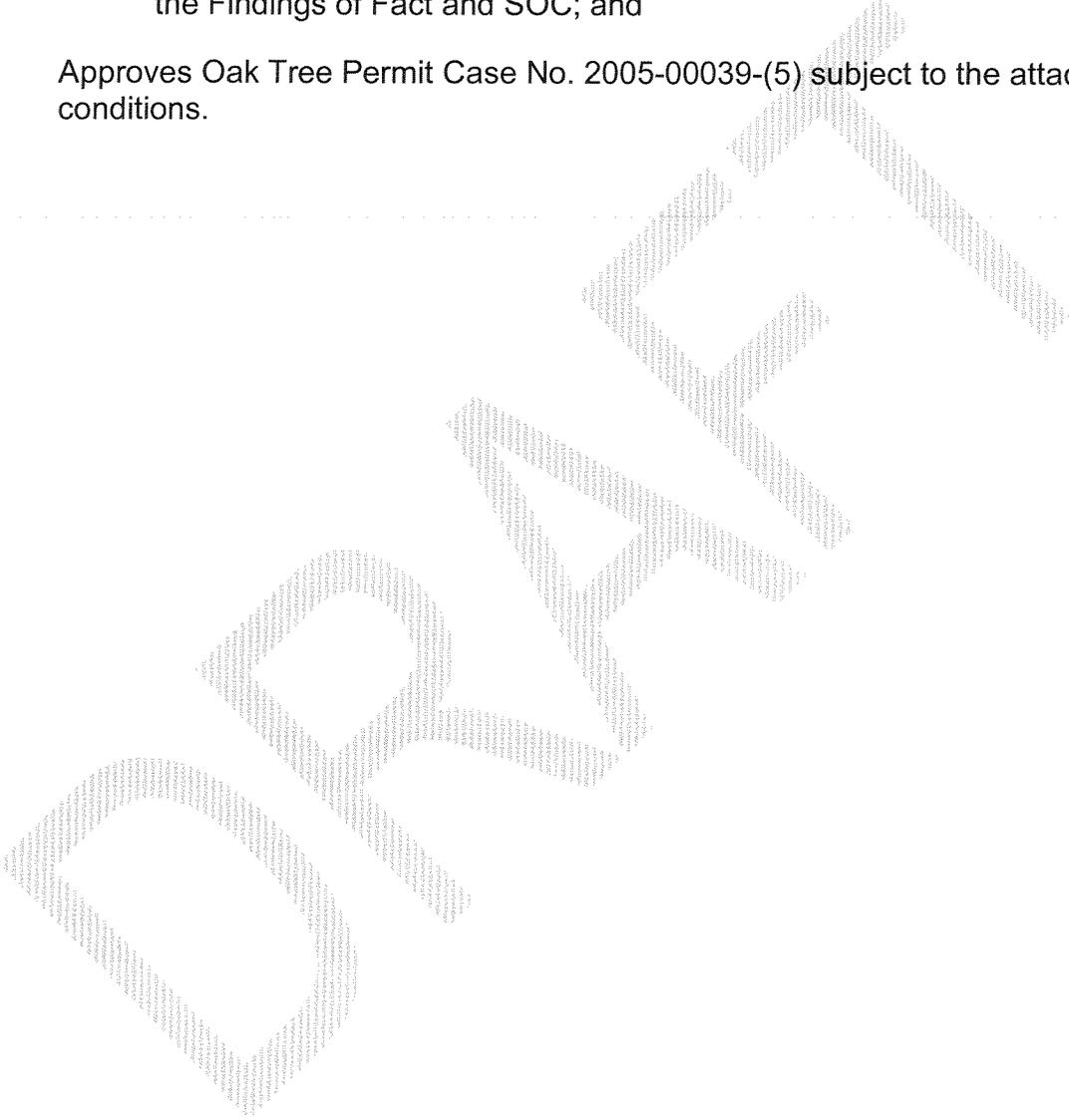
THEREFORE, the information submitted by the applicant and presented at the public hearing substantiates the required findings for an oak tree permit as set forth in Section 22.56.2100 of the Los Angeles County Code (Zoning Ordinance).

THEREFORE, THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

1. Certifies that the Final EIR was completed in compliance with CEQA and the State and County guidelines related thereto; certifies that it independently reviewed and considered the information contained in the Final EIR, and that the Final EIR reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the Commission as to the environmental consequences of the project; indicates that it certified the Final EIR at the conclusion of its hearing on the project and adopted the Findings of Fact, SOC and MMP, finding that pursuant to California Public Resources Code Section 21081.6, the MMP is adequately designed to ensure compliance with the mitigation

measures during project implementation, found that the unavoidable significant effects of the project after adoption of said mitigation measures are as described in those findings; and determined that the remaining, unavoidable environmental effects of the project have been reduced to an acceptable level and are outweighed by specific health and safety, economic, social, and/or environmental benefits of the project as stated in the Findings of Fact and SOC; and

- 2. Approves Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5) subject to the attached conditions.



**DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING
OAK TREE PERMIT CASE NO. 2005-00039-(5)**

DRAFT CONDITIONS:

(Questions relating to these conditions should be addressed to the Forestry Division, Prevention Bureau of the Los Angeles County Forester and Fire Warden ("Forester") at 323-890-4330.)

1. This grant authorizes the removal of 162 trees of the Oak genus identified on the applicant's site plan and Oak Tree Report, subject to all of the following conditions of approval. This grant also authorizes encroachment within the protected zone of 54 trees of the Oak genus also identified on the applicant's site plan and Oak Tree Report.
2. Unless otherwise apparent from the context, the term "permittee" shall include the applicant and any other person, corporation, or other entity making use of this grant.
3. This grant shall not be effective until the permittee and the owner of the property if other than the permittee, have filed at the office of the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning ("Regional Planning") an affidavit stating that they are aware of, and agree to accept, all of the conditions of this grant and that the conditions have been recorded as required by Condition No.4 and until all required monies have been paid pursuant to Condition No. 9 and 10.
4. Prior to the use of this grant, the terms and conditions of the grant shall be recorded in the office of the Los Angeles County Recorder. In addition, upon any transfer or lease of the subject property during the term of this grant, the permittee shall promptly provide a copy of the grant and its terms and conditions to the transferee or lessee, as applicable, of the subject property.
5. If any provision of this grant is held or declared to be invalid, the permit shall be void and the privileges granted hereunder shall lapse.
6. The subject property shall be developed, maintained and operated in full compliance with the conditions of this grant and any law, statute, ordinance, or other regulation applicable to any development or activity on the subject property. Failure of the permittee to cease any development or activity not in such full compliance shall be a violation of these conditions.
7. All requirements of the Zoning Ordinance and of the specific zoning of the subject property must be complied with unless specifically modified by this grant, as set forth in these conditions or shown on the approved plans.
8. No oak tree shall be removed until the permittee has obtained all permits and approvals required for the work which necessitates such removal.
9. Within five days of the approval date of this grant, the permittee shall remit processing fees payable to the County in connection with the filing and posting of a

Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21152 of the Public Resources Code for Project No. TR53653-(5), which includes Zone Change Case No. 2008-00004-(5), Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653, Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5), Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5) and Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5). The project impacts fish and wildlife and in order to defray the cost of wildlife protection and management, the permittee is responsible for the payment of fees established by the California Department of Fish and Game pursuant to Section 711.4 of the Fish and Game Code. The current fee amount is **\$2,656.75**. No land use project subject to this requirement is final, vested or operative until the fee is paid.

10. The permittee shall, prior to commencement of the use authorized by this grant, deposit with the Los Angeles County Fire Department ("Fire Department") a sum of \$600.00. Such fee shall be used to compensate the Forester \$100 per inspection to cover expenses incurred while inspecting the project to determine the permittee's compliance with these conditions of approval.

The above fees provide for one initial inspection of temporary fencing (required to secure the protected zone of the remaining Oak trees), prior to the commencement of construction and five subsequent annual inspections until the conditions of approval have been met. The Director of Regional Planning ("Director of Planning") and the Forester shall retain the right to make regular and unannounced site inspections.

11. The term "Oak Tree Report" refers to the report on file by Interface Management Services and Trees, etc., the consulting arborists, dated September 2006.
12. Before commencing work authorized or required by this grant, the consulting arborist shall submit a letter to the Director of Planning and the Forester stating that he or she has been retained by the permittee to perform or supervise the work, and that her or she agrees to report to the Director of Planning and Forester any failure to fully comply with the conditions of this grant. The arborist shall prepare a schedule of construction activities wherein the arborist will be present on the project site to ensure compliance with the conditions of this grant. The arborist shall also submit a written report on permit compliance upon completion of the work required by this grant. The report shall include a diagram showing the exact number and location of all mitigation trees planted as well as planting dates.
13. All individuals associated with the project as it relates to the Oak resource shall be familiar with the Oak Tree Report, Oak Tree Map, Mitigation Planting Plan and Conditions of Approval. The permittee shall arrange for the consulting arborist or a similarly qualified person to maintain all remaining Oak trees on the subject property that are within the zone of impact as determined by the Forester for the life of the Oak Tree Permit or the Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653.
14. The permittee shall install temporary chain-link fencing, not less than four feet in height, to secure the protected zone of the remaining Oak trees on site as necessary. The fencing shall be installed prior to grading or tree removal, and shall

not be removed without approval of the Forester. The term "protected zone" refers to the area extending five feet beyond the dripline of the Oak tree (before pruning), or 15 feet from the trunk, whichever is greater.

15. The permittee shall keep copies of the Oak tree report, Oak tree map, mitigation planting plan and conditions of approval on the project site and available for review. If the conditions of approval are not present on site during a monitoring inspection of an active project, the Forester will give an immediate "Stop Work Order." This will be administered both verbally and in writing. The "Stop Work Order" will be rescinded after the conditions of approval are present on the site and all employees associated with the project are fully aware of these conditions.
16. In addition to the work expressly allowed by this permit, remedial pruning intended to ensure the continued health of a protected Oak trees or to improve its appearance or structure may be performed. Such pruning shall include the removal of deadwood and stubs and medium pruning of branches two inches in diameter or less accordance with the guidelines published by the national Arborist Association. Copies of these guidelines are available from the Forestry Division of the Fire Department. In no case shall more than 20 percent of the tree canopy of any one tree be removed.
17. Except as otherwise expressly authorized by this grant, the remaining Oak trees shall be maintained in accordance with the principles set forth in the publication, Oak Trees: Care and Maintenance, prepared by the Forestry Division of the Fire Department, a copy of which is enclosed with these conditions.

MITIGATION TREES:

18. The permittee shall provide mitigation trees of the Oak genus at a rate of two to one (2:1) trees for 149 trees for a total of 298 15-gallon trees.

The permittee shall provide mitigation trees of the Oak genus at a rate of ten to one (10:1) trees for 13 heritage oak trees for a total of 130 24-inch (24") box trees. In addition, the permittee shall provide mitigation trees of the Oak genus at a rate of two to one (2:1) for any tree specified above that dies as a result of the approved encroachment.

19. Each non-Heritage Oak mitigation tree shall be at least a 15-gallon specimen in size and measure one inch or more in diameter one foot above the base. Free form trees with multiple stems are permissible; the combined diameter of the two largest stems of such trees shall measure a minimum of one inch in diameter one foot above the base.

Each Heritage Oak mitigation tree shall be at least a twenty-four inch (24") box specimen in size and measure two inches or more in diameter one foot above the base unless otherwise specified by the Forester. Free form trees with multiple stems are permissible; the combined diameter of the two largest stems of such trees

shall measure a minimum of two inches in diameter one foot above the base or as deemed appropriate by the Forester.

20. This total of 428 mitigation trees shall consist of indigenous varieties of *Quercus agrifolia* or *Quercus lobata* depending on which species of tree was removed or lost due to its permitted encroachment. The seed shall be grown from a local seed source and be of high-quality.
21. The permittee shall plant one acorn of the *Quercus agrifolia* variety for each mitigation tree planted. The acorns shall be planted at the same time as and within the watering zone of each mitigation tree.
22. All required mitigation trees shall be planted within one year of the permitted oak tree removals. Additional mitigation trees shall be planted within one year of the death of any tree which results from permitted encroachment. Mitigation trees shall be planted on-site in locations approved by the project arborist in consultation with the Forester. In circumstances where on-site planting is shown to be infeasible, the mitigation trees may be planted at an off-site location approved by the Forester, or a contribution to the County of Los Angeles Oak Forest Special Fund may be made in the amount equivalent to the Oak resources loss. The contribution shall be calculated by the consulting arborist and approved by the Forester according to the most current edition of the International Society of Arboriculture's "Guide for Plant Appraisal".
23. The permittee shall properly maintain each mitigation tree and shall replace any tree failing to survive due to lack of proper care and maintenance with a tree meeting the specifications set forth above. The five-year maintenance period will begin upon receipt of a letter from the permittee or consulting arborist to the Director of Planning and the Forester indicating that the mitigation trees have been planted. The maintenance period of the trees failing to survive five years will start anew with the new replacement trees. Subsequently, additional monitoring fees shall be required.
24. The project arborist shall inspect all mitigation trees on a quarterly basis for two years after completion of construction. The arborist's observations shall be reported to the Forester, including any loss of trees.
25. All mitigation oak trees planted as a condition of this permit shall be protected in perpetuity by the Los Angeles County Oak Tree Ordinance, once the trees have survived the required maintenance period.
26. Prior to the planting of the trees, the biologist/arborist for the permittee shall determine planting sites, prepare planting plans and specifications, and a monitoring program, all of which shall be approved by the Forester and Director of Planning.
27. All work on or within the protected zone of an oak tree shall be performed by or under the supervision of the consulting arborist.

28. Trenching, excavation, or clearance of vegetation within the protected zone of an oak tree shall be accomplished by the use of hand tools or small hand-held power tools. Any major roots encountered shall be conserved to the extent possible and treated as recommended by the consulting arborist.
29. Installation of fencing around the perimeter of the properties shall be of wrought iron or wood post type construction wherever the fencing passes within 10 feet of any oak trunk. No block walls or other type of fence or wall construction which requires substantial trenching for foundations shall be located within ten feet of any oak tree in order to limit damage caused by such types of construction.
30. Encroachment within the protected zone of any additional tree of the Oak genus on the project site is prohibited. If the applicant encroaches or removes an Oak tree not specified in the Oak Tree Report all work must stop immediately. A new Oak Tree Report, which accurately identifies the project conditions must be submitted for approval through the permitting process. The applicant will be responsible to pay all associated fees for the new Oak Tree Permit.
31. No planting or irrigation system shall be installed within the dripline of any oak tree that will be retained.
32. Utility trenches shall not be routed within the protected zone of an oak tree unless the serving utility requires such locations.
33. Equipment, materials and vehicles shall not be stored, parked, or operated within the protected zone of any oak tree. No temporary structures shall be placed within the protected zone of any oak.
34. Any violation of the conditions of this grant shall result in immediate work stoppage or in a Notice of Correction depending on the nature of the violation. A time frame within which deficiencies must be corrected will be indicated on the Notice of Correction.
35. Should any future inspection disclose that the subject property is being used in violation of any condition of this grant, the permittee shall be held financially responsible and shall reimburse the Forestry Division of the Fire Department for all enforcement efforts necessary to bring the subject property into compliance. The Director of Planning and the Forester shall retain the right to make regular and unannounced site inspections.
36. Notice is hereby given that any person violating a provision of this grant is guilty of a misdemeanor. Notice is further given that the Regional Planning Commission or Hearing Officer may, after conducting a public hearing, revoke or modify this grant, if the Commission or Hearing Officer finds that these conditions have been violated or that this grant has been exercised so as to be detrimental to the public health or safety or as to be a nuisance.

37. The permittee shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless Los Angeles County ("County"), its agents, officers, and employees from any claim, action or proceeding against the County, or its agents, officers, or employees to attack, set aside, void or annul this permit approval, which action is brought within the applicable time period of Government Code Section 65009 or any other applicable limitation period. The County shall notify the permittee of any such claim, action, or proceeding and the County shall reasonably cooperate in the defense.

38. In the event that any claim, action, or proceeding as described above is filed against the County, the permittee shall within ten days of the filing pay Regional Planning an initial deposit of \$5,000.00, from which actual costs shall be billed and deducted for the purpose of defraying the expense involved in the department's cooperation in the defense, including but not limited to, depositions, testimony, and other assistance to permittee or permittee's counsel. The permittee shall also pay the following supplemental deposits, from which actual costs shall be billed and deducted:

- a. If during the litigation process, actual costs incurred by the department reach 80 percent of the amount on deposit up to the amount of the initial deposit. There is no limit to the number of supplemental deposits that may be required prior to completion of the litigation.
- b. At the sole discretion of the permittee, the amount of an initial or supplemental deposit may exceed the minimum amounts defined herein.

The cost for collection and duplication of records and other related documents will be paid by permittee in accordance with Section 2.170.010 of the Los Angeles County Code.

41. The environmental mitigation measures are incorporated herein by reference and made conditions of this grant. As a means of ensuring the effectiveness of the mitigation measures, the permittee shall submit annual mitigation monitoring reports to the Director of Planning for approval, until such time as all mitigation measures have been implemented and completed. Additional reports shall be submitted as required by the Director of Planning.

42. This grant shall expire unless used within two years after the recordation of a final map for Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653. In the event that Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653 should expire without the recordation of a final map, this grant shall terminate upon the expiration of the tentative map. Entitlement to the use of the property thereafter shall be subject to the regulations then in effect.

43. This grant shall terminate upon the completion of the authorized oak tree removal and the completion of all required mitigation and monitoring to the satisfaction of the Forester and Regional Planning.

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FINDINGS OF THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
FOR HOUSING PERMIT CASE NO. 2006-00001-(5)

1. The Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission ("Commission") conducted a noticed public hearing in the matter of Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5) on November 15, 2006 and June 18, 2008. Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5) was heard concurrently with Zone Change Case No. 2008-00004-(5), Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653, Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5), and Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5).
2. Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5) is a request to authorize a 50 percent density bonus associated with a senior citizen housing development along with modification of the maximum building height of 35 feet to 50 feet
3. The subject site is located approximately 273 feet southwest of Sagecrest Circle, west of the Golden State ("I-5") Freeway and The Old Road between Calgrove Boulevard and Sagecrest Circle in Newhall Zoned District.
4. The irregularly-shaped property is 234.8 gross acres in size with slight to steeply sloping terrain. Approximately one-third of the subject property has zero to 25 percent slopes, one-third has 25 to 50 percent slopes, and one-third has slopes greater than 50 percent.
5. Access to the proposed development is provided by The Old Road, an 80-foot wide secondary highway as designated on the Los Angeles County Master Plan of Highways. The main access road serving the project will be 64-foot wide "A" Street with additional interior access provided by 64-foot collector streets, and 60-foot and 58-foot wide local streets.
6. The project site is currently zoned A-2-1 (Heavy Agriculture – One Acre Minimum Required Lot Area), A-2-2 (Heavy Agriculture – Two Acre Minimum Required Lot Area) and C-3 (Unlimited Commercial), which were established by Ordinance No. 7168 on July 5, 1957. The project proposes a zone change on 9.3 acres from A-2-1 and A-2-2 to C-3-DP (Unlimited Commercial – Development Program) over the senior multi-family Lot No. 94.
7. Surrounding zoning includes RPD-1-1.4U (Residential Planned Development – One Acre Minimum Required Lot Area – 1.4 Dwelling Units per Net Acre) and C-3 (Unlimited Commercial) to the north; City of Santa Clarita to the east; A-2-2 and R-R (Resort and Recreation) to the south; and A-2-2 to the west.
8. The subject property consists of four vacant lots. Surrounding uses include single-family residences to the north; I-5 Freeway and single-family residences (City of

Santa Clarita) to the east; park and vacant property to the south; and vacant property to the west.

9. Zone Change Case No. 2008-00004-(5) is a related request to change the zoning on 9.3 acres of the subject property from A-2-1 (Heavy Agriculture – One Acre Minimum Required Lot Area) and A-2-2 (Heavy Agriculture – Two Acre Minimum Required Lot Area) to C-3-DP (Unlimited Commercial – Development Program) for the senior condominium development. The Development Program (“DP”) designation will ensure that development occurring after rezoning will conform to approved plans and will ensure compatibility with the surrounding area. As applied in this case, the conditional use permit will restrict the development of the rezoned site to the proposed residential development as shown on the site plan marked “Exhibit A.” No other development will be permitted on the property unless a new conditional use permit (“CUP”) is first obtained.
10. Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653 is a related request to create 93 single-family lots, one multi-family lot with 93 new attached senior condominium units within two buildings, five open space lots, six public facility lots, one park lot and one fire station lot on 234.8 gross acres. One single-family lot is required to be eliminated due to density, for a maximum of 92 single-family lots.
11. Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5) is a related request to ensure compliance with the requirements of nonurban hillside management; density-controlled development; development within an SEA, DP overlay zone, and residential use in a commercial zone; and onsite project grading.
12. Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5) is a related request to removal of 162 oak trees (including 13 heritage oaks) and encroachment within the protected zone of 52 oak trees (including six heritage oaks).
13. The Exhibit “A” dated July 11, 2006, depict a residential development of 93 attached senior condominiums in two buildings, and 93 single-family lots in clustered design. The single-family lots range from approximately 9,350 square feet to 3.2 acres in size. Grading consists of 2,090,350 cubic yards of cut and fill (total of 4,180,700 cubic yards) to be balanced onsite. Also depicted is a fire station location along The Old Road as well as desilting basins, a private park and a 12-foot wide hiking and riding trail traversing the property. Open space consists of 167.6 acres (71.4 percent), including 123.6 acres of natural open space. The project also depicts access to offsite properties through two tap streets to the west, and one tap street to the east. The senior multi-family lot also proposes a private recreational building, pool and spa, and will contain 172 parking spaces

14. The property is depicted in the Non-urban 2 (“N2”) and Hillside Management (“HM”) land use category of the Santa Clarita Valley Areawide Plan (“Plan”), a component of the Los Angeles Countywide General Plan (“General Plan”). Residential development is permitted within the N2 and HM land use categories. The proposed 186 dwelling units exceed the maximum 123 dwelling units permitted by the N2 and HM land use categories for residential development. However, the Plan supports a density bonus of up to 50 percent for the senior development for a maximum of 185 dwelling units. One single-family residential lot will be required to be eliminated at the time of final map recordation to comply with the Plan’s maximum density. The property is also designated within two Significant Ecological Areas (“SEAs”) (Lyon Canyon, and Santa Susana Mountains); the project proposes development within the boundaries of both SEAs.
15. The single-family residential portion of the project is consistent with the existing zoning classifications. Single-family residential development is permitted in the A-2 zone pursuant to Section 22.24.120 of the Los Angeles County Code (“County Code”). The applicant has requested a CUP to authorize a clustered design within three areas as a density-controlled development pursuant to Section 22.24.150 and 22.56.205 of the County Code, which reduces the lot sizes to less than the one acre and two acres required but maintains an average of one and two acres per lot throughout the project (excluding the fire station and senior multi-family portion of the development) and reserves the undeveloped portion of the project as permanent open space.
16. The multi-family senior condominium portion of the project is consistent with the proposed C-3-DP zoning classification as the applicant has requested a CUP to permit a residential use in a commercial zone pursuant to Section 22.28.210 of the County Code. The applicant has also requested a CUP to comply with the proposed DP zone to ensure that the development will comply with the proposed designs and exhibits as submitted to the Commission.
17. Of the project’s 93 condominium units, the applicant proposes that all 93 dwelling units be set aside for seniors in perpetuity to qualify for the density bonus as applied for under the associated housing permit.
18. Twenty-four (24) comment letters were submitted to the Commission. Twenty (20) letters were in opposition to the project, with concerns related to lack of access being provided by this project to adjoining properties to the west and northwest, and a desire to retain horsekeeping abilities on the proposed single-family lots. Concerns also include requests for reduction in project size to reduce impacts to the SEAs as well as a question regarding the provision of an adequate second means of access; and requests for fire station to be constructed as part of the

project, and disclosure regarding fire danger. Changed circumstances due to the recent Wanger decision with respect to water supply; and request for project changes in order to preserve more oak trees for an adjacent wildlife corridor, including elimination of the “back portion” of the development, and provision of full monetary value of removed trees to the Los Angeles County Oak Tree Fund (“Oak Fund”), were also raised in written correspondence.

19. Four letters were received by the Commission with neutral comments regarding provision of water from the Valencia Water Company, and comments regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Report (“EIR”) including recommended mitigation measures.
20. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the Commission heard a presentation from staff. Staff presented the proposed subdivision with the associated CUP, oak tree permit and housing permit. After opening the public hearing, the Commission also heard testimony from the applicant as well as the public.
21. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the applicant presented the history of their project including an original proposal with the City of Santa Clarita for a much larger development. A modified project was submitted by the applicant to the County of Los Angeles for processing, and was designed to be consistent with the General Plan as well as provide for dedication of open space, trails to be open to the public, and creation of a private park lot with tot lot and other amenities. The project will improve public safety by providing a fire station location as well as emergency access to properties further west of The Old Road. School district mitigation agreements have also been finalized with the Newhall and William S. Hart Union School Districts, and the project was designed to preserve significant natural resources with additional enhancement of habitat.
22. Ten (10) people testified during the November 16, 2006 public hearing: four representing the applicant, two in support of the project, and four in opposition. Those in support of the project addressed the project’s provision of dirt trails, and offsite access to the southwest (as depicted on the tentative map). Additional issues raised during the public hearing in opposition to the project, included comments related to provision of senior housing elsewhere that is much closer to shopping, increased paving of land resulting in less recharge and loss of riparian habitat, insufficient information in the Draft EIR regarding water supply and presence of perchlorate, and preservation of additional oak trees within the project. Concerns also presented addressed the project’s significant and unavoidable impacts to seven factors in the Draft EIR, and recommendation for redesign to the Draft EIR’s Alternative No. 4.

23. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the applicant responded that claims for offsite access via prescriptive easements have yet to be verified by the applicant, and while "not interested" in constructing additional roads, the applicant indicated their willingness to maintain access. The proposed market-rate senior housing will be for active seniors with onsite access to private recreational facilities, and within short distance to shopping locations. The impacts to the SEA are primarily from the debris basin lot, which would have been required with any alternative of the project. The applicant also indicated that the SEA Technical Advisory Committee ("SEATAC") confirmed that a debris basin is a compatible use with the SEA, and that the project was designed with up to 71 dwelling units with a single means of access in the southwest portion. Land is available on the property for onsite oak mitigation, and efforts will be focused where previous oak habitat exists or previously existed. The applicant also committed to placing no restrictions for horsekeeping on the property. Alternative No. 4 was considered by the applicant, but was determined to be infeasible based on the cost of acquiring and developing the property with high infrastructure costs. The project however was designed to provide benefits, including public access and a location for a fire station as well as maintaining the most sensitive habitat on the property as undisturbed.
24. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the Commission discussed the project and its impacts to oak trees and the SEA. The Commission discussed that while the project considers a large number of oak removals, including heritage oak trees, the property is within private ownership and project itself has benefits. The project has been mitigated to the extent feasible, and grading has been balanced onsite. Senior housing in this price range is needed, and shopping is available close to the development. The provision of offsite access via depicted tap streets allows for further development in private ownership, and with additional development comes a greater amount of open space dedication and contiguous open space.
25. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the Commission also expressed concerns with the development, including need for greater consideration of the tap streets and how they will affect future development. The project proposed is better than that previously proposed with the City of Santa Clarita, but further study of Alternative No. 4 was necessary to examine recharge, include a water supply assessment, and additional analysis in the Draft EIR regarding grading. A motion to continue the public hearing to a date certain to address these concerns was made, but did not pass.
26. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the Commission indicated that they felt there was sufficient information in all areas of the project, and that provision of tap streets allow for access to be resolved for landlocked parcels. The project was

designed with consideration of economic constraints, and conversely Alternative No. 4 as indicated by the applicant, was infeasible. Fire sprinklers will be provided in the homes and the project was designed to comply with the maximum of 75 dwelling units on a single means of access with 71 homes.

27. After considering all testimony, the Commission closed the public hearing on November 16, 2006 and indicated their intent to approve Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653, Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5), Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5), and Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5); and directed staff to return with final documents for approval including the Final EIR. The Commission also directed the applicant to work with the offsite property owners ("Kantor and Speer parties") to resolve the access issues before final action.
28. After the close of public hearing on November 16, 2006, the applicant had worked over the course of more than 16 months with the Kantor and Speer parties in addressing concerns regarding provision of offsite access. The applicant, and Kantor and Speer parties discussed various potential access routes, with the applicant ultimately concluding conclusion of three options:
- Option 1: This access route would be through the subject property in the general vicinity of debris basin Lot No. 96 and through open space Lot No. 104. An access easement could be granted through the subject property, with environmental review, engineering design and ultimate construction the responsibility of the Kantor and Speer parties.
 - Option 2: Access rights may already exist along the northern property line of the subject property. ~~Through prescriptive easements however,~~ Access rights through prescriptive easements however, would have to be established through legal means by the Kantor and Speer parties, and can be done at any time separate independent from the subject project.
 - Option 3: This access route would be through the northern Larwin development, and lies outside the boundaries of the subject project. Negotiations on the terms of the access easement between Larwin and the Kantor and Speer parties were never finalized, and can be done at any time separate independent from the subject project. Engineering design and ultimate construction would be the responsibility of the Kantor and Speer parties.
29. Subsequent to the close of public hearing on November 16, 2006, the applicant was required to file an application for a zone change and amended CUP request to address the multi-family use in the existing A-2 zone. The zone change

proposed changing the A-2-1 and A-2-2 zones to C-3-DP on 9.3 acres (senior multi-family Lot No. 94) of the subject property. The amended CUP includes the DP zone and request to permit a residential use in a commercial zone.

30. On May 7, 2008, the Commission heard a presentation from staff for discussion and possible action regarding the additional entitlements required to implement the project as originally presented. On May 7, 2008, the Commission re-opened the public hearing to consider the zone change and amended CUP request, and directed staff to prepare proper notice of the re-opened public hearing to be held on June 18, 2008.
31. During the June 18, 2008 public hearing, the Commission heard a presentation from staff as well as testimony from the applicant and the public.
32. During the June 18, 2008 public hearing, the Commission after considering all testimony, closed the public hearing and approved Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653.
33. As agreed to by the applicant, the project shall not restrict future horsekeeping activities on the property.
34. As agreed to by the applicant, provision of transportation options for the senior development shall be incorporated into the project.
35. The proposed project is required to comply with the development standards of the A-2, C-3 and C-3-DP zones pursuant to Sections 22.24.170, 22.28.220 and 22.40.070 of the County Code, except as otherwise modified herein and by Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5).
36. An Initial Study was prepared for this project in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et. seq.) ("CEQA"), the State CEQA Guidelines, and the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines of the County of Los Angeles. The Initial Study identified potentially significant effects of the project on geotechnical, hydrology/water quality, hazards, noise, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, aesthetics, traffic, water and wastewater, schools, fire services, sheriff services, solid waste, utilities (electricity and natural gas), libraries, and parks and recreation. Based on the Initial Study and project revisions, a Final EIR has been prepared for this project. The Final EIR consists of the Draft EIR dated September 2006 and the Responses to Comments and identifies mitigation measures to be implemented as part of the project. The Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations ("Findings and SOC") are incorporated herein by this reference, as if set forth in full.

37. The Commission reviewed and considered the Final EIR and found that it reflects the independent judgment of the County. As stated in the Final EIR and Findings of Fact and SOC, implementation of the project will result in specifically identified significant effects upon the environment. Except for adverse impacts upon aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, geology, noise, sheriff services (cumulative) and solid waste (cumulative), identified significant adverse effects can be reduced to acceptable levels with the mitigation measures identified in the Final EIR and incorporated as conditions ~~in this vesting map~~ for this project.
38. With respect to the adverse effects upon aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, geology, noise, sheriff services (cumulative) and solid waste (cumulative), the Commission determined that the substantial benefits resulting from the project outweigh the potential unavoidable adverse effects and are acceptable based upon the overriding considerations set forth in the Findings and SOC.
39. A Mitigation Reporting and Monitoring Program ("MMP") consistent with the conclusions and recommendations of the Final EIR was prepared, and its requirements are incorporated into the conditions of approval for this project.
40. The MMP in conjunction with the Final EIR identified in detail how compliance with its measures adopted to mitigate or avoid potential adverse impacts to the environment is ensured.
41. This project has an impact on fish and wildlife resources. Therefore, the project is not exempt from California Department of Fish and Game fees pursuant to Section 711.4 of the California Fish and Game Code.
42. Approval of this subdivision is conditioned on the permittee's compliance with the attached conditions of approval as well as the conditions of approval for Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653, Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5), Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5) and the MMP.
43. The applicant has demonstrated the suitability of the subject property for the proposed use. Establishment of the proposed use at such location is in conformity with good zoning practice. Compliance with the conditions of approval will ensure compatibility with surrounding land uses and consistency with all applicable General Plan policies.
44. The location of the documents and other materials constituting the record of proceedings upon which the Commission's decision is based in this matter is the Department of Regional Planning ("Regional Planning"), 13th Floor, Hall of

Records, 320 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California 90012. The custodian of such documents and materials shall be the Section Head of the Land Divisions Section, Regional Planning.

BASED ON THE FOREGOING, THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION CONCLUDES:

- A. That the requested use is consistent with the General Plan;
- B. That the requested use at the location will not:
 - a. Adversely affect the health, peace, comfort, or welfare of persons residing or working in the surrounding area;
 - b. Be detrimental to the use, enjoyment, or valuation of property of other persons located in the vicinity of the site; or
 - c. Jeopardize, endanger, or otherwise constitute a menace to the public health, safety, or general welfare;
- C. That the proposed site is adequate in size and shape to accommodate the yards, walls, fences, parking and loading facilities, landscaping and other development features prescribed in this Title 22, or as is otherwise required in order to integrate said use with the uses in the surrounding area;
- D. That the proposed site is adequately served:
 - a. By highways or streets of sufficient width, and improved as necessary to carry out the kind and quantity of traffic such use would generate; and
 - b. By other public or private service facilities as are required;
- E. That the proposed project at the location proposed has been designed to be complementary to the surrounding area in terms of land use patterns and design;
- F. That the proposed project will assist in satisfying housing needs, and is viable in terms of continuing availability to meet such housing needs; and
- G. That modification of the maximum building height is necessary to make the housing units economically feasible; and do not have a specific adverse impact upon public health and safety or the physical environment or on any real property that is listed in the California Register of Historical Resources, and for which there is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the specific adverse impact.

THEREFORE, THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

1. Certifies that the Final EIR was completed in compliance with CEQA and the State and County guidelines related thereto; certifies that it independently reviewed and considered the information contained in the Final EIR, and that the Final EIR reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the Commission as to the environmental consequences of the project; indicates that it certified the Final EIR at the conclusion of its hearing on the project and adopted the Findings of Fact, SOC and MMP, finding that pursuant to California Public Resources Code Section 21081.6, the MMP is adequately designed to ensure compliance with the mitigation measures during project implementation, found that the unavoidable significant effects of the project after adoption of said mitigation measures are as described in those findings; and determined that the remaining, unavoidable environmental effects of the project have been reduced to an acceptable level and are outweighed by specific health and safety, economic, social, and/or environmental benefits of the project as stated in the Findings of Fact and SOC; and
2. Approves Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5) subject to the attached conditions.

DRAFT CONDITIONS:

1. This grant authorizes the use of the 234.8-acre subject property for a residential development consisting of a maximum of 92 single-family units and a 93-unit senior housing project, including a density bonus of 62 units, as depicted on the approved Exhibit "A" dated July 11, 2006, subject to all of the following conditions of approval.
2. Unless otherwise apparent from the context, the term "permittee" shall include the applicant and any other person, corporation, or entity making use of this grant.
3. This grant shall not be effective for any purpose until the permittee, and the owner of the subject property if other than the permittee, have filed at the office of the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning ("Regional Planning") their affidavit stating that they are aware of, and agree to accept, all the conditions of this grant and that the conditions have been recorded as required by Condition No. 6, and until all required monies have been paid pursuant to Condition Nos. 7 and 17.
4. If any provision of this grant is held or declared to be invalid, the permit shall be void and the privileges granted hereunder shall lapse.
5. Notice is hereby given that any person violating a provision of this grant is guilty of a misdemeanor. Notice is further given that the Regional Planning Commission or Hearing Officer may, after conducting a public hearing, revoke or modify this grant, if it finds that these conditions have been violated or that this grant has been exercised so as to be detrimental to the public health or safety or so as to be a nuisance.
6. Prior to the use of this grant, the terms and conditions of the grant shall be recorded in the office of the Los Angeles County Recorder. In addition, upon any transfer or lease of the subject property during the term of this grant, the permittee shall promptly provide a copy of the grant and its terms and conditions to the transferee or lessee, as applicable, of the subject property.
7. Within 5 days of the approval date of this grant, the permittee shall remit processing fees payable to the County in connection with the filing and posting of a Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21152 of the Public Resources Code for Project No. TR53653-(5), which includes Zone Change Case No. 2008-00004-(5), Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653, Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5), Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5) and Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5). The project impacts fish and wildlife and in order to defray the cost of wildlife protection and management, the permittee is responsible for the payment of fees established by the California Department of Fish and Game pursuant to Section 711.4 of the Fish and Game Code. The current fee amount is

\$2,656.75. No land use project subject to this requirement is final, vested or operative until the fee is paid.

8. The permittee shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the County, its agents, officers, and employees from any claim, action, or proceeding against the County or its agents, officers, or employees to attack, set aside, void or annul this permit approval, which action is brought within the applicable time period of Government Code Section 65009 or any other applicable limitation period. The County shall notify the permittee of any claim, action or proceeding and the County shall reasonably cooperate in the defense.
9. In the event that any claim, action, or proceeding as described above is filed against the County, the permittee shall within 10 days of the filing pay Regional Planning an initial deposit of \$5,000.00 from which actual costs shall be billed and deducted for the purpose of defraying the expense involved in the department's cooperation in the defense, including but not limited to, depositions, testimony, and other assistance to the permittee or permittee's counsel. The permittee shall also pay the following supplemental deposits, from which actual costs shall be billed and deducted:
 - a. If during the litigation process, actual costs incurred reach 80 percent of the amount of deposit, the permittee shall deposit additional funds sufficient to bring the balance up to the amount of the initial deposit. There is no limit to the number of supplemental deposits that may be required prior to completion of the litigation; and
 - b. At the sole discretion of the permittee, the amount of an initial or supplemental deposit may exceed the minimum amounts defined herein.

The cost for collection and duplication of records and other related documents will be paid by the permittee in accordance with Section 2.170.010 of the Los Angeles County Code ("County Code").

10. This grant shall expire unless used within two years after the recordation of the final map for Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653. In the event that Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653 should expire without the recordation of a final map, this grant shall terminate upon the expiration of the tentative map. Entitlement to the use of the property thereafter shall be subject to the regulations then in effect.
11. The subject property shall be graded, developed and maintained in substantial compliance with the approved tentative tract map. An amended tentative tract map approved for Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653 may, at the discretion of the Director of Planning, constitute a revised Exhibit "A." All revised plans require the written authorization of the property owner.
12. All development shall comply with the requirements of Title 22 of the County Code (Zoning Ordinance) and of the specific zoning of the subject property unless

specifically modified by this grant, as set forth in these conditions, including the approved Exhibit "A," or a revised Exhibit "A" approved by the Director of Planning.

13. Submit a copy of the project Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions ("CC&Rs") and maintenance agreements and covenants to Regional Planning for review and approval. The CC&Rs shall include all of the project conditions, and include language that those conditions required to be in the CC&Rs may not be amended or eliminated by the homeowners association without approval from the Director of Planning.
14. The development of the subject property shall comply with all requirements and conditions approved for Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653.
15. Record a covenant with the County agreeing to comply with the required environmental mitigation measures in the Mitigation Monitoring Program. Prior to recordation, submit a copy of the covenant to the Director of Planning for approval.
16. The environmental mitigation measures are incorporated herein by reference and made conditions of this grant. As a means of ensuring the effectiveness of the mitigation measures, the permittee shall submit annual mitigation monitoring reports to the Director of Planning for approval, until such time as all mitigation measures have been implemented and completed. Additional reports shall be submitted as required by the Director of Planning.
17. Within 5 days of the approval of this grant, the permittee shall deposit the sum of **\$3,000.00** with Regional Planning to defray the cost of reviewing the permittee's reports and verifying compliance with the Mitigation Monitoring Program ("MMP"). The permittee shall retain the services of a qualified Environmental/Mitigation Monitoring Consultant, subject to the approval of the Director of Planning, to ensure that all applicable mitigation measures are implemented and reported in the required MMP.
18. The following housing permit conditions shall apply:
 - a. As agreed to by the applicant, ninety-three (93) condominium units shall be reserved for senior citizens in perpetuity; and
 - b. The permittee shall submit for review and approval by County Counsel a deed restriction, covenant or similar document running with the land for the benefit of the County of Los Angeles, suitable for recordation, that complies with all pertinent federal, state and local housing laws, to ensure the continuing availability of the 93 total multi-family units to senior citizens in perpetuity. The document shall contain remedies for violations of the covenant including but not limited to monetary penalties. The approved document shall be recorded in the office of the Los Angeles County Recorder prior to or concurrently with the recordation of the final map for Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653.

19. As agreed to by the applicant, a transportation program for residents shall be provided by the development. Submit a copy of the program for Regional Planning review, and include language in the CC&Rs to Regional Planning for review and approval.



DRAFT
FINDINGS OF THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
FOR VESTING TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 53653

1. The Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission ("Commission") conducted a noticed public hearing in the matter of Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653 on November 15, 2006 and June 18, 2008. Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653 was heard concurrently with Zone Change Case No. 2008-00004-(5), Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5), Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5) and Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5).
2. Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653 proposes a residential development of 93 single-family lots, one multi-family lot with 93 new attached senior condominium units within two buildings, which includes a 62-unit density bonus for the reservation of at least half of the proposed condominium units for seniors in perpetuity, as well as five open space lots, six public facility lots, one park lot and one fire station lot on 234.8 gross acres. One single-family lot is required to be eliminated due to density, for a maximum of 92 single-family lots.
3. The subject site is located approximately 273 feet southwest of Sagecrest Circle, west of the Golden State ("I-5") Freeway and The Old Road between Calgrove Boulevard and Sagecrest Circle in Newhall Zoned District.
4. The irregularly-shaped property is 234.8 gross acres in size with slight to steeply sloping terrain. Approximately one-third of the subject property has zero to 25 percent slopes, one-third has 25 to 50 percent slopes, and one-third has slopes greater than 50 percent.
5. Access to the proposed development is provided by The Old Road, an 80-foot wide secondary highway as designated on the Los Angeles County Master Plan of Highways. The main access road serving the project will be 64-foot wide "A" Street with additional interior access provided by 64-foot collector streets, and 60-foot and 58-foot wide local streets.
6. The project site is currently zoned A-2-1 (Heavy Agriculture – One Acre Minimum Required Lot Area), A-2-2 (Heavy Agriculture – Two Acre Minimum Required Lot Area) and C-3 (Unlimited Commercial), which were established by Ordinance No. 7168 on July 5, 1957. The project proposes a zone change on 9.3 acres from A-2-1 and A-2-2 to C-3-DP (Unlimited Commercial – Development Program) over the senior multi-family lot Lot No. 94.
7. Surrounding zoning includes RPD-1-1.4U (Residential Planned Development – One Acre Minimum Required Lot Area – 1.4 Dwelling Units per Net Acre) and C-3

(Unlimited Commercial) to the north; City of Santa Clarita to the east; A-2-2 and R-R (Resort and Recreation) to the south; and A-2-2 to the west.

8. The subject property consists of four vacant lots. Surrounding uses include single-family residences to the north; I-5 Freeway and single-family residences (City of Santa Clarita) to the east; park and vacant property to the south; and vacant property to the west.
9. Zone Change Case No. 2008-00004-(5) is a related request to change the zoning on 9.3 acres of the subject property from A-2-1 and A-2-2 to C-3-DP for the senior condominium development. The Development Program ("DP") designation will ensure that development occurring after rezoning will conform to approved plans and will ensure compatibility with the surrounding area. As applied in this case, the conditional use permit will restrict the development of the rezoned site to the proposed residential development as shown on the site plan marked "Exhibit A." No other development will be permitted on the property unless a new conditional use permit ("CUP") is first obtained.
10. Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5) is a related request to ensure compliance with the requirements of nonurban hillside management; density-controlled development; development within an SEA, DP overlay zone, and residential use in a commercial zone; and onsite project grading.
11. Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5) is a related request to authorize removal of 162 oak trees (including 13 heritage oaks) and encroachment within the protected zone of 52 oak trees (including six heritage oaks).
12. Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5) is a related request to authorize a 50 percent density bonus associated with a senior citizen housing development along with modification of the maximum building height of 35 feet to 50 feet.
13. The vesting tentative tract map and exhibit map dated July 11, 2006, depict a residential development of 93 attached senior condominiums in two buildings, and 93 single-family lots in clustered design. The single-family lots range from approximately 9,350 square feet to 3.2 acres in size. Grading consists of 2,090,350 cubic yards of cut and fill (total of 4,180,700 cubic yards) to be balanced onsite. Also depicted is a fire station location along The Old Road as well as desilting basins, a private park and a 12-foot wide hiking and riding trail traversing the property. Open space consists of 167.6 acres (71.4 percent), including 123.6 acres of natural open space. The project also depicts access to offsite properties through two tap streets to the west, and one tap street to the east. The senior multi-family lot also proposes a private recreational building, pool and spa, and will contain 172 parking spaces.

14. The property is depicted in the Non-urban 2 (“N2”) and Hillside Management (“HM”) land use category of the Santa Clarita Valley Areawide Plan (“Plan”), a component of the Los Angeles Countywide General Plan (“General Plan”). Residential development is permitted within the N2 and HM land use categories. The proposed 186 dwelling units exceed the maximum 123 dwelling units permitted by the N2 and HM land use categories for residential development. However, the Plan supports a density bonus of up to 50 percent for the senior development for a maximum of 185 dwelling units. One single-family residential lot will be required to be eliminated at the time of final map recordation to comply with the Plan’s maximum density. The property is also designated within two Significant Ecological Areas (“SEAs”) (Lyon Canyon, and Santa Susana Mountains); the project proposes development within the boundaries of both SEAs.
15. The single-family residential portion of the project is consistent with the existing zoning classifications. Single-family residential development is permitted in the A-2 zone pursuant to Section 22.24.120 of the Los Angeles County Code (“County Code”). The applicant has requested a CUP to authorize a clustered design within three areas as a density-controlled development pursuant to Section 22.24.150 and 22.56.205 of the County Code, which reduces the lot sizes to less than the one acre and two acres required but maintains an average of one and two acres per lot throughout the project (excluding the fire station and senior multi-family portion of the development) and reserves the undeveloped portion of the project as permanent open space.
16. The multi-family senior condominium portion of the project is consistent with the proposed C-3-DP zoning classification as the applicant has requested a CUP to permit a residential use in a commercial zone pursuant to Section 22.28.210 of the County Code. The applicant has also requested a CUP to comply with the proposed DP zone to ensure that the development will comply with the proposed designs and exhibits as submitted to the Commission.
17. Of the project’s 93 condominium units, the applicant proposes that all 93 dwelling units be set aside for seniors in perpetuity to qualify for the density bonus as applied for under the associated housing permit.
18. Twenty-four (24) comment letters were submitted to the Commission. Twenty (20) letters were in opposition to the project, with concerns related to lack of access being provided by this project to adjoining properties to the west and northwest, and a desire to retain horsekeeping abilities on the proposed single-family lots. Concerns also include requests for reduction in project size to reduce impacts to the SEAs as well as a question regarding the provision of an adequate second

means of access; and requests for fire station to be constructed as part of the project, and disclosure regarding fire danger. Changed circumstances due to the recent Wanger decision with respect to water supply; and request for project changes in order to preserve more oak trees for an adjacent wildlife corridor, including elimination of the "back portion" of the development, and provision of full monetary value of removed trees to the Los Angeles County Oak Tree Fund ("Oak Fund"), were also raised in written correspondence.

19. Four letters were received by the Commission with neutral comments regarding provision of water from the Valencia Water Company, and comments regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Report ("EIR") including recommended mitigation measures.
20. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the Commission heard a presentation from staff. Staff presented the proposed subdivision with the associated CUP, oak tree permit and housing permit. After opening the public hearing, the Commission also heard testimony from the applicant as well as the public.
21. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the applicant presented the history of their project including an original proposal with the City of Santa Clarita for a much larger development. A modified project was submitted by the applicant to the County of Los Angeles for processing, and was designed to be consistent with the General Plan as well as provide for dedication of open space, trails to be open to the public, and creation of a private park lot with tot lot and other amenities. The project will improve public safety by providing a fire station location as well as emergency access to properties further west of The Old Road. School district mitigation agreements have also been finalized with the Newhall and William S. Hart Union School Districts, and the project was designed to preserve significant natural resources with additional enhancement of habitat.
22. Ten (10) people testified during the November 16, 2006 public hearing: four representing the applicant, two in support of the project, and four in opposition. Those in support of the project addressed the project's provision of dirt trails, and offsite access to the southwest (as depicted on the tentative map). Additional issues raised during the public hearing in opposition to the project, included comments related to provision of senior housing elsewhere that is much closer to shopping, increased paving of land resulting in less recharge and loss of riparian habitat, insufficient information in the Draft EIR regarding water supply and presence of perchlorate, and preservation of additional oak trees within the project. Concerns also presented addressed the project's significant and unavoidable impacts to seven factors in the Draft EIR, and recommendation for redesign to the Draft EIR's Alternative No. 4.

23. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the applicant responded that claims for offsite access via prescriptive easements have yet to be verified by the applicant, and while "not interested" in constructing additional roads, the applicant indicated their willingness to maintain access. The proposed market-rate senior housing will be for active seniors with onsite access to private recreational facilities, and within short distance to shopping locations. The impacts to the SEA are primarily from the debris basin lot, which would have been required with any alternative of the project. The applicant also indicated that the SEA Technical Advisory Committee ("SEATAC") confirmed that a debris basin is a compatible use with the SEA, and that the project was designed with up to 71 dwelling units with a single means of access in the southwest portion. Land is available on the property for onsite oak mitigation, and efforts will be focused where previous oak habitat exists or previously existed. The applicant also committed to placing no restrictions for horsekeeping on the property. Alternative No. 4 was considered by the applicant, but was determined to be infeasible based on the cost of acquiring and developing the property with high infrastructure costs. The project however was designed to provide benefits, including public access and a location for a fire station as well as maintaining the most sensitive habitat on the property as undisturbed.
24. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the Commission discussed the project and its impacts to oak trees and the SEA. The Commission discussed that while the project considers a large number of oak removals, including heritage oak trees, the property is within private ownership and project itself has benefits. The project has been mitigated to the extent feasible, and grading has been balanced onsite. Senior housing in this price range is needed, and shopping is available close to the development. The provision of offsite access via depicted tap streets allows for further development in private ownership, and with additional development comes a greater amount of open space dedication and contiguous open space.
25. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the Commission also expressed concerns with the development, including need for greater consideration of the tap streets and how they will affect future development. The project proposed is better than that previously proposed with the City of Santa Clarita, but further study of Alternative No. 4 was necessary to examine recharge, include a water supply assessment, and additional analysis in the Draft EIR regarding grading. A motion to continue the public hearing to a date certain to address these concerns was made, but did not pass.
26. During the November 16, 2006 public hearing, the Commission indicated that they felt there was sufficient information in all areas of the project, and that provision of

tap streets allow for access to be resolved for landlocked parcels. The project was designed with consideration of economic constraints, and conversely Alternative No. 4 as indicated by the applicant, was infeasible. Fire sprinklers will be provided in the homes and the project was designed to comply with the maximum of 75 dwelling units on a single means of access with 71 homes.

27. After considering all testimony, the Commission closed the public hearing on November 16, 2006 and indicated their intent to approve Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653, Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5), Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5), and Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5); and directed staff to return with final documents for approval including the Final EIR. The Commission also directed the applicant to work with the offsite property owners ("Kantor and Speer parties") to resolve the access issues before final action.
28. After the close of public hearing on November 16, 2006, the applicant had worked over the course of more than 16 months with the Kantor and Speer parties in addressing concerns regarding provision of offsite access. The applicant, and Kantor and Speer parties discussed various potential access routes, with the applicant ultimately concluding conclusion of three options:
- Option 1: This access route would be through the subject property in the general vicinity of debris basin Lot No. 96 and through open space Lot No. 104. An access easement could be granted through the subject property, with environmental review, engineering design and ultimate construction the responsibility of the Kantor and Speer parties.
 - Option 2: Access rights may already exist along the northern property line of the subject property. ~~Through prescriptive easements however,~~ Access rights through prescriptive easements however, would have to be established through legal means by the Kantor and Speer parties, and can be done at any time separate independent from the subject project.
 - Option 3: This access route would be through the northern Larwin development, and lies outside the boundaries of the subject project. Negotiations on the terms of the access easement between Larwin and the Kantor and Speer parties were never finalized, and can be done at any time separate independent from the subject project. Engineering design and ultimate construction would be the responsibility of the Kantor and Speer parties.
29. Subsequent to the close of public hearing on November 16, 2006, the applicant was required to file an application for a zone change and amended CUP request

to address the multi-family use in the existing A-2 zone. The zone change proposed changing the A-2-1 and A-2-2 zones to C-3-DP on 9.3 acres (senior multi-family Lot No. 94) of the subject property. The amended CUP includes the DP zone and request to permit a residential use in a commercial zone.

30. On May 7, 2008, the Commission heard a presentation from staff for discussion and possible action regarding the additional entitlements required to implement the project as originally presented. On May 7, 2008, the Commission re-opened the public hearing to consider the zone change and amended CUP request, and directed staff to prepare proper notice of the re-opened public hearing to be held on June 18, 2008.
31. During the June 18, 2008 public hearing, the Commission heard a presentation from staff as well as testimony from the applicant and the public.
32. During the June 18, 2008 public hearing, the Commission after considering all testimony, closed the public hearing and approved Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653.
33. As agreed to by the applicant, the project shall not restrict future horsekeeping activities on the property.
34. As agreed to by the applicant, provision of transportation options for the senior development shall be incorporated into the project.
35. The proposed project is required to comply with the development standards of the A-2, C-3 and C-3-DP zones pursuant to Sections 22.24.170, 22.28.220 and 22.40.070 of the County Code, except as otherwise modified by Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5) and Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5).
36. The proposed subdivision and the provisions for its design and improvement are consistent with the goals and policies of the Plan, a component of the General Plan. The project increases the supply and diversity of housing and promotes the efficient use of land through a more concentrated pattern of urban development.
37. The site is physically suitable for the type of development and density being proposed, since the property has adequate building sites to be developed in accordance with the County grading ordinance, has access to a County-maintained street, will be served by public sewers, will be provided with water supplies and distribution facilities to meet anticipated domestic and fire protection needs, and will have flood hazards and geologic hazards mitigated in accordance with the requirements of Los Angeles County Department of Public Works.

38. The design of the subdivision and the type of improvements will not cause serious public health problems, since sewage disposal, storm drainage, fire protection, and geologic and soils factors are addressed in the conditions of approval.
39. The design of the subdivision and the proposed improvements will cause substantial environmental damage or substantial and avoidable injury to fish or wildlife or their habitat. The subject property is located within two Significant Ecological Areas, and does contain any stream courses or high value riparian habitat.
40. The design of the subdivision provides for future passive or natural heating or cooling opportunities as feasible.
41. The division and development of the property in the manner set forth on this map will not unreasonably interfere with the free and complete exercise of public entity and/or public utility rights-of-way and/or easements within this map, since the design and development as set forth in the conditions of approval and on the tentative tract map, provide adequate protection for any such easements.
42. Pursuant to Article 3.5 of the Subdivision Map Act, the proposed subdivision does not contain or front upon any public waterway, river, stream, coastline, shoreline, lake or reservoir.
43. The discharge of sewage from this land division into the public sewer system will not violate the requirements of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board pursuant to Division 7 (Commencing with Section 13000) of the California Water Code.
44. The housing and employment needs of the region were considered and balanced against the public service needs of local residents and available fiscal and environmental resources when the project was determined to be consistent with the General Plan.
45. This tract map has been submitted as a "vesting" tentative map. As such, it is subject to the provisions of Sections 21.38.010 through 21.38.080 of the County Code.
46. An Initial Study was prepared for this project in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et. seq.) ("CEQA"), the State CEQA Guidelines, and the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines of the County of Los Angeles. The Initial Study identified potentially significant effects of the project on geotechnical, hydrology/water quality, hazards, noise, air quality, biological resources, cultural

resources, aesthetics, traffic, water and wastewater, schools, fire services, sheriff services, solid waste, utilities (electricity and natural gas), libraries, and parks and recreation. Based on the Initial Study and project revisions, a Final EIR has been prepared for this project. The Final EIR consists of the Draft EIR dated September 2006 and the Responses to Comments and identifies mitigation measures to be implemented as part of the project. The Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations ("Findings and SOC") are incorporated herein by this reference, as if set forth in full.

47. The Commission reviewed and considered the Final EIR and found that it reflects the independent judgment of the County. As stated in the Final EIR and Findings of Fact and SOC, implementation of the project will result in specifically identified significant effects upon the environment. Except for adverse impacts upon aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, geology, noise, sheriff services (cumulative) and solid waste (cumulative), identified significant adverse effects can be reduced to acceptable levels with the mitigation measures identified in the Final EIR and incorporated as conditions in this vesting map for this project.
48. With respect to the adverse effects upon aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, geology, noise, sheriff services (cumulative) and solid waste (cumulative), the Commission determined that the substantial benefits resulting from the project outweigh the potential unavoidable adverse effects and are acceptable based upon the overriding considerations set forth in the Findings and SOC.
49. A Mitigation Reporting and Monitoring Program ("MMP") consistent with the conclusions and recommendations of the Final EIR was prepared, and its requirements are incorporated into the conditions of approval for this project.
50. The MMP in conjunction with the Final EIR identified in detail how compliance with its measures adopted to mitigate or avoid potential adverse impacts to the environment is ensured.
51. This project has an impact on fish and wildlife resources. Therefore, the project is not exempt from California Department of Fish and Game fees pursuant to Section 711.4 of the California Fish and Game Code.
52. Approval of this subdivision is conditioned on the subdivider's compliance with the attached conditions of approval as well as the conditions of approval for Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5), Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5), Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5) and the MMP.

53. The location of the documents and other materials constituting the record of proceedings upon which the Commission's decision is based in this matter is the Department of Regional Planning ("Regional Planning"), 13th Floor, Hall of Records, 320 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California 90012. The custodian of such documents and materials shall be the Section Head of the Land Divisions Section, Regional Planning.

THEREFORE, THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION:

1. Certifies that the Final EIR was completed in compliance with CEQA and the State and County guidelines related thereto; certifies that it independently reviewed and considered the information contained in the Final EIR, and that the Final EIR reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the Commission as to the environmental consequences of the project; indicates that it certified the Final EIR at the conclusion of its hearing on the project and adopted the Findings of Fact, SOC and MMP, finding that pursuant to California Public Resources Code Section 21081.6, the MMP is adequately designed to ensure compliance with the mitigation measures during project implementation, found that the unavoidable significant effects of the project after adoption of said mitigation measures are as described in those findings; and determined that the remaining, unavoidable environmental effects of the project have been reduced to an acceptable level and are outweighed by specific health and safety, economic, social, and/or environmental benefits of the project as stated in the Findings of Fact and SOC; and
2. Approves Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653 subject to the attached conditions and recommendations of the Los Angeles County Subdivision Committee.

DRAFT CONDITIONS:

1. The subdivider shall conform to the requirements of Title 21 of the Los Angeles County Code ("County Code") (Subdivision Ordinance). Also, conform to the requirements of Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5), Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5), Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5) and the Mitigation Monitoring Program.
2. Except as otherwise specified in Condition No. 3 and by Conditional Use Permit No. 2005-00088-(5) and Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5), the subdivider shall conform to the applicable requirements of the A-2-1 (Heavy Agriculture – One Acre Minimum Required Lot Area), A-2-2 (Heavy Agriculture – Two Acre Minimum Required Lot Area) and C-3 (Unlimited Commercial) zones as well as proposed C-3-DP (Unlimited Commercial – Development Program) zone.
3. In accordance with Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5) and Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5), this land division is approved as a density-controlled development in a nonurban hillside management area, in which the areas of the proposed lots may be averaged to collectively conform to the minimum lot area requirements of the A-2-1 and A-2-2 zone. If multiple final maps are recorded, the average area of all lots shown on each final unit map and all previously recorded final unit maps shall comply with the minimum lot area requirements of the A-2-1 and A-2-2 zone. This land division is also approved with including a senior housing development with component of modification to maximum permitted building height of 35 feet to allow a 50-foot high building height, for the two main residential buildings, in accordance with Section 22.56.202 of the County Code.
4. Recordation of the final map is contingent upon the effectuation of an ordinance by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, changing the zoning of 9.3 acres of the subject property within multi-family Lot No. 94 from A-2-1 and A-2-2 to C-3-DP.
5. The subdivider shall submit a copy of the project Conditions, Covenants and Restrictions ("CC&Rs") and any covenants or maintenance agreements as proposed, to the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning ("Regional Planning") for review and approval.
6. The subdivider shall submit evidence that the conditions of the associated Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5), Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5) and Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5) have been recorded.

7. The subdivider shall record a covenant with the County of Los Angeles agreeing to comply with the required environmental mitigation measures. Prior to recordation, the subdivider submit a draft copy of the covenant to the Director of Regional Planning (“Director”) for review and approval.
8. Permission is granted to adjust lot lines to the satisfaction of Regional Planning.
9. The subdivision shall provide at least 40 feet of street frontage at the property line for each lot fronting on a cul-de-sac and knuckle and at least 50 feet of street frontage at the property line for all other lots, except for flag lots. The subdivision shall provide approximately radial lot lines for each lot.
10. The subdivider shall show The Old Road, “A” Street, “B” Street, “C” Street, “D” Street, “E” Street, “F” Street, and “G” Street as dedicated streets on the final map.
11. The subdivider shall show “H” Street and “I” street as future streets on the final map.
12. The subdivider shall place a note or notes on the final map, to the satisfaction of Regional Planning, that a portion of this subdivision (Lot No. 94) is approved as a condominium project for a total of 93 residential units whereby the owners of the units of air space will hold an undivided interest in the common areas, which will in turn provide the necessary access and utility easements for the units.
13. The subdivider shall provide in the CC&Rs a method for the continuous maintenance of the common areas within multi-family Lot No. 94, including the driveway and the lighting system along all walkways, to the satisfaction of Regional Planning.
14. The subdivider shall reserve in the CC&Rs the right for all residents within senior multi-family Lot No. 94 to use the driveways for access and the guest parking spaces throughout the multi-family lot.
15. The subdivider shall provide in the CC&Rs that at least 93 dwelling units within multi-family Lot No. 94 shall be reserved for senior citizens in perpetuity.
16. The subdivider shall dedicate to the County of Los Angeles on the final map, the right to prohibit the construction of any structures on the open space areas as depicted on the open space exhibit as individual open space lots (Lot Nos. 103 through 107), and shall record “Open Space-Building Restriction Area” over those open space lots on the final map.
17. The subdivider shall dedicate open space Lot Nos. 104 through 107 to a public agency to the satisfaction of Regional Planning. The dedication shall contain language requiring that access for emergency purposes shall not be prohibited over said open space lots.

18. The subdivider shall provide for the ownership and maintenance of recreation Lot No. 102 and open space Lot No. 103 by the homeowners' association to the satisfaction of Regional Planning.
19. The subdivider shall number all open space lots on the final map and provide access, a minimum of 15 feet in width, to each open space lot to the satisfaction of Regional Planning.
20. Permission is granted to create additional open space lots to the satisfaction of Regional Planning.
21. The subdivider shall grant an easement for access and utilities as necessary, to offsite properties known collectively as Assessor's Parcel Number ("APN") 2826-022-022, 2826-022-023, and 2826-022-024 ("offsite properties"), to a width necessary, including slopes, for a 28-foot wide access driveway through the subject property in the general vicinity of debris basin Lot No. 96 and or to Lot No. 104, prior to recordation of the associated tract map. The subdivider shall submit draft documents for Regional Planning review and approval prior to recordation and grant of easement. Engineering and construction of the access shall be the responsibility of the recipients.
22. Prior to final map approval, the subdivider shall submit an amendment to the approved vesting tentative map, to depict the elimination of one single-family lot and depict the location of the easement to the offsite properties with all other necessary associated changes to the satisfaction of Regional Planning and Los Angeles County Subdivision Committee ("Subdivision Committee").
23. No grading permit shall be issued prior the recordation of a final map, unless the Director determines that the proposed grading conforms to the conditions of this grant and the conditions of Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5), Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5) and Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5).
24. The subdivider shall provide slope planting and an irrigation system in accordance with the Grading Ordinance. The subdivider shall include conditions in the tract's CC&Rs which would require continued maintenance of the plantings for lots having planted slopes. Prior to final map approval, the subdivider shall submit a draft copy of the document to be recorded, to Regional Planning.
25. Prior to the issuance of a grading and/or building permit, the subdivider shall submit three copies of a landscape plan which may be incorporated into a revised site plan. The landscape plans shall be approved by the Director as required by Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5) prior to any work on the property.

26. Per Section 21.32.195 of the County Code, the subdivider shall plant or cause to be planted at least one tree of a non-invasive species within the front yard of each residential lot. The location and the species of said trees shall be incorporated into a site plan or landscape plan. Prior to final map approval, the site/landscaping plan shall be required to be approved by the Director, and the subdivider shall post a bond with Los Angeles County Department of Public Works ("Public Works") or submit other verification to the satisfaction of Regional Planning, to ensure the planting of the required trees.
27. The subdivider shall plant or cause to be planted at least 69 trees of a non-invasive species within the multi-family residential Lot No. 94 in addition to the required front yard tree. The location and the species of said trees shall be incorporated into a site plan or landscape plan. Prior to final map approval, the site/landscaping plan shall be required to be approved by the Director, and the subdivider shall post a bond with Los Angeles County Department of Public Works ("Public Works") or submit other verification to the satisfaction of Regional Planning, to ensure the planting of the required trees.
28. Within five days of tentative map approval, remit processing fees (currently \$2,656.75) payable to the "County of Los Angeles" in connection with the filing and posting of a Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21152 of the California Public Resources Code and Section 711 of the California Fish and Game Code to defray the costs of fish and wildlife protection and management incurred by the California Department of Fish and Game. No project subject to this requirement is final, vested or operative until the fee is paid.
29. The mitigation measures set forth in the "Project Mitigation Measures Due to Environmental Evaluation" section of the Draft Environmental Impact Report ("EIR") for the project are incorporated by this reference and made conditions of Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 53653. Comply with all such mitigation measures in accordance with the attached Mitigation Monitoring Program ("MMP"). After completion of the appeal period, record a covenant and agreement, and submit a copy to Regional Planning for approval, agreeing to the mitigation measures imposed by the Draft EIR for this project. As a means of ensuring the effectiveness of the mitigation measures, the subdivider shall submit mitigation monitoring reports to Regional Planning as frequently as may be required by the department. The reports shall describe the status of the subdivider's compliance with the required mitigation measures.
30. ~~Upon completion of the appeal period,~~ Within 30 days of approval, deposit the sum of \$3,000.00 with Regional Planning in order to defray the cost of reviewing the subdivider's reports and verifying compliance with the information contained in the reports required by the MMP.
31. The subdivider shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the County, its agents, officers, and employees from any claim, action or proceeding against the County or

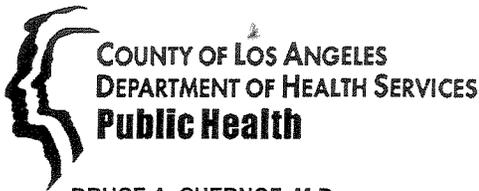
its agents, officers, and employees to attack, set aside, void or annul this tract map approval, or related discretionary approvals, whether legislative or quasi-judicial, which action is brought within the applicable time period of Government Code Section 65499.37 or any other applicable limitation period. The County shall promptly notify the subdivider of any claim, action or proceeding and the County shall cooperate fully in the defense.

32. In the event that any claim, action, or proceeding as described above is filed against the County, the subdivider shall within ten days of the filing pay Regional Planning an initial deposit of \$5,000.00 from which actual costs shall be billed and deducted for the purpose of defraying the expense involved in the department's cooperation in the defense, including but not limited to, depositions, testimony, and other assistance to subdivider, or subdivider's counsel. The subdivider shall also pay the following supplemental deposits, from which actual costs shall be billed and deducted:

- a. If during the litigation process, actual costs incurred reach 80 percent of the amount on deposit, the subdivider shall deposit additional fund to bring the balance up to the amount of the initial deposit. There is no limit to the number of supplemental deposits that may be required prior to completion of the litigation.
- b. At the sole discretion of the subdivider, the amount of an initial or supplemental deposit may exceed the minimum amounts defined herein.

The cost for collection and duplication of records and other related documents will be paid by subdivider according to Section 2.170.010 of the County Code.

Except as modified herein above, this approval is subject to all those conditions set forth in Conditional Use Permit Case No. 2005-00088-(5), Oak Tree Permit Case No. 2005-00039-(5) and Housing Permit Case No. 2006-00001-(5); the attached MMP; and the attached reports recommended by the Subdivision Committee, which also consists of members of the Public Works, Fire Department, Department of Parks and Recreation, and Public Health.



BRUCE A. CHERNOF, M.D.
Acting Director and Chief Medical Officer

FRED LEAF
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

JONATHAN E. FIELDING, M.D., M.P.H.
Director of Public Health and Health Officer

Environmental Health
ARTURO AGUIRRE, Director

Bureau of Environmental Protection
Mountain & Rural/Water, Sewage & Subdivision Program
5050 Commerce Drive, Baldwin Park, CA 91706-1423
TEL (626)430-5380 · FAX (626)813-3016
www.lapublichealth.org/eh/progs/envirp.htm



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September 7, 2006

RFS No. 06-0022820

Tract No. 53653

Vicinity: Santa Clarita

Tentative Tract Map Date: July 11, 2006 (4th Revision)

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health has no objection to **Vesting Tentative Tract Map 53653** and the map is cleared for public hearing. The following conditions still apply and are in force:

1. Potable water will be supplied by the **Valencia Water Company**, public water system, which guarantees water connection and service to all lots. A "will serve" letter has been received and approved.
2. Sewage disposal will be provided through the public sewer and wastewater treatment facilities of the **Los Angeles County Sanitation District #32** as proposed.
3. Water wells that may be discovered on the property must be properly decommissioned.
4. Any existing septic systems on the property must be completely emptied of effluent and destroyed by a licensed contractor.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at (626) 430-5380.

Respectfully,

Becky Valenti, EPH.S. IV
Mountain and Rural/Water, Sewage, and Subdivision Program

June 7, 2008

Ms. Susan Tae
Dept. of Regional Planning

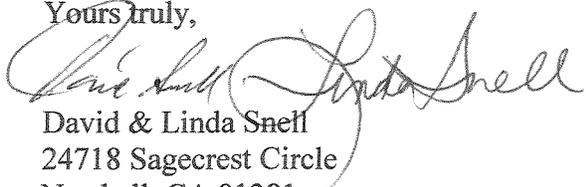
Dear M. Tae,

We do not need more urban sprawl in the Santa Clarita Valley. I would venture to say that in the last 10 years there has been 30,000+ homes and families added to the area along with thousands of commercial fronts. What we need is infrastructure improvements not more sprawl. Nothing has been done to improve I-5 and the massive amounts of traffic it handles. The new diamond lane only makes it worse. The freeway has become a parking lot in the last 10 years with many more accidents and SIG alerts. When the next quake comes and the freeway bridges come down again the chaos will be unparalleled. The secondary roads in the area are clogged and very busy. We are facing major water shortages in our area and statewide. More homes will only make matters worse. Also, we do not need more new homes in the area to dilute and bring down existing real-estate values. This new development would only be the beginning of the destruction of the one remaining virgin area of beautiful oak covered hills, and the miraculous Santa Susana mountain range. This property would serve the public much better as a major park than just the beginning of more destructive sprawl.

We are strongly opposed to the continued unchecked and unwarranted development of the Santa Clarita Valley. We need improved infrastructure, less traffic, less congestion and less chaos. Please do not approve this project.

Thank you for your time and attention in this important matter.

Yours truly,


David & Linda Snell
24718 Sagecrest Circle
Newhall, CA 91381

