TO:  
Doug Smith, Chair  
David W. Louie, Vice Chair  
Laura Shell, Commissioner  
Elvin W. Moon, Commissioner  
Pat Modugno, Commissioner  

FROM:  
Richard Marshalian, Regional Planner  
Community Studies North Section  

SUBJECT:  
BAN ON DRIVE-THROUGH ESTABLISHMENTS IN ACTON CSD  
PROJECT NO. R2017-005014-(5)  
ADVANCE PLANNING NO. RPPL2017007836  
JULY 19, 2017 – AGENDA ITEM NO. 8  

Please find the attached materials and information that was not included in the Staff Memo submitted to you on July 6, 2017:

1. Additional correspondence received

MC:MK:RM  
07/13/17  

Attachment 1: Additional correspondences
Dear Supervisor Kathryn Barger,

ACTON CSD UPDATE - RESTAURANT DRIVE-THRU PROHIBITION

Project No. R2017-005014-(5) / Advance Planning Case No. RPPL2017007836

I am a long time resident of Acton and I strongly oppose the update to the Acton Community Standards District which would prohibit restaurants from having a drive-thru.

My family and I moved to Acton in 1995 and raised 4 wonderful children here. My husband and I were heavily involved in the Cub Scout and Boy Scout programs, where my son achieved the rank of Eagle. We love this town!

One thing lacking in Acton is a choice in dining establishments as well as the flexibility of using a drive-thru to order and pickup food at those establishments. I have Multiple Sclerosis, better known as MS, which greatly impairs my ability to walk. There are many others in the area that also have difficulty walking or other impairments where a drive-thru would be a convenient option. In addition, during the winters we may get snow and the temperatures are frequently near or below freezing. In the summer, temperatures remain well into the 90’s and frequently into the 100’s all day and all summer long as seen during the recent heat wave. All residents and visitors of Acton will appreciate a drive-thru during that kind of weather!

Prohibiting drive-thrus in Acton is denying the residents of and visitors to the wonderful town of Acton the choice and convenience we want and desire. Additional restaurants with drive-thrus, whether locally owned or part of a national chain, will not diminish the rural character Acton. It will not create traffic jams in Acton because people get off the freeway to get a bite to eat. Crime will not go up because someone is using a drive-thru to get a burger! Having the option of a drive-thru simply encourages more businesses to consider coming to Acton. More dining businesses means more employment opportunities. More dining establishments means more choices and convenience for all of us!

I implore you to direct the Department of Regional Planning and the Regional Planning Commission at the scheduled July 19 hearing to deny or drop the proposed amendment/update to the Acton CSD. Not doing so will:

- Cause unnecessary hardships to the physically impaired
- Limit choice to the residents and visitors of Acton
• Prevent additional employment opportunities for our young people of Acton that are just starting out
• Prevent new dining businesses from establishing in Acton due to unnecessary and burdensome restrictions and from the “not in my backyard” few residents

Thank you for listening and I look forward to more convenient dining choices in Acton.

Sincerely,

Geralyn Vander Vis

cc:
Richard Bruckner, Director of Regional Planning
Richard Marshalian, Regional Planner, Community Studies North Section