

I appreciate the opportunity to voice my opposition to the proposed Safari Highlands residential development. I live at 3180 Ferncreek Lane in the Rancho San Paqual neighborhood. I share my neighbors concerns over the adverse impact this development will have on our quality of life, specifically the unmitigatable traffic congestion along Cloverdale and Rockwood roads and the devastating overcrowding of our school.

Of greater importance is the potential safety and environmental issues this development presents. During the Witch Creek fire the evacuation of this development was a very slow process because of road congestion. The doubling of the volume of evacuees during a similar event is potentially disastrous. The proposed use of the Safari Park access road sounds good but it is always gated and locked.

The area proposed for the entry road for the development between Rockwood Road and the developments entry gate goes through, what is now untouched Coastal brush land. This area is home to numerous endangered species as well as native plant life. This area was also part of the Multi Species Conservation lands set aside as mitigation for the 4S housing project in Rancho Bernardo. The City of Escondido was a signatory to that plan.

On a personal level I purchased this home 3 years ago based on its location adjacent to the T box for the 14 hole of Eagle Crest golf course and the pristine open space which starts about 20 feet off the back of my house. I did my due diligence and there was no development or roadway planned on that land. While I find the development to be ill conceived I am completely dumbfounded by the change in the originally planned entry road which reached the project entry gate by a road that went south and east of the Vista Monte housing area. The new proposed alignment will place a roadway, carrying approximately 6,000 trips per day, 200 feet off my bedroom wall. This road will also destroy the T box adjacent to my lot.

If this development is allowed to proceed as currently planned I will have no choice but to take legal action against the city. It is difficult for me to accept that the City of Escondido values the interests of an out of town developer, trying to build on property outside the city above the rights of its citizens.

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Sent from my iPad