



PROMOTING CONSERVATION AND
HABITAT RESTORATION ALONG THE GAVIOTA COAST

July 30, 2010

David Hill
President

Chairwoman Janet Wolf and Members of the Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, California 93101

Caryl Collins
Secretary

Subject: California Coastal Commission Suggested Modifications
to the Land Use Development Code

Board of Trustees

Michael Benedict

Dear Chairwoman Wolf and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

Mark Chaconas

Caryl Collins

Thank you for continuing your decision on the subject of the California Coastal Commission staff's suggested modifications to Santa Barbara County's Land Use Development Code until the Coastal Commission's staff report was released.

John Deily

David Hill

The Coastal Ranches Conservancy continues to feel that the Coastal Commission staff's suggested modifications to your LUDC will have a negative impact on the long-term viability of ranching in general and specifically to the detriment of environmentally beneficial projects.

Kim Kimbell

Science Advisor

Sue Benech-Field

It is clear that the Coastal Commission staff does not understand the practical implications that their suggested modifications will have on ranching in Santa Barbara County.

Trustees Emeriti

Doug Campbell

We understand that County staff has tried to develop compromise language and while the efforts of County staff are appreciated, we feel that these issues are too important to recommend alternative language on almost a weekly basis, in the absence of a meaningful public review process.

Fos Campbell

Luella Connelly

Jack Staplemann

The Board of Supervisors should not agree to these modified amendments without the full public participation and community outreach that your local regional plan updates provide. These substantial amendments to the Local Coastal Plan should be first presented, discussed and receive broad public support at the community level, within each region these efforts are taking place, before they are debated by the Board of Supervisors and the Coastal Commission.

Monte Ward

Nancy Ward

Larry Williamson

The Coastal Commission can propose their policy changes through a legitimate public process after the local community plan updates take place for Summerland, Goleta, Isla Vista, and Gaviota, which are all currently in process.

We encourage your Board to request that the Coastal Commission accept the LUDC for what it is, a reformatting project that includes minor clarifications, clean-ups and corrections, and the amendments to the County and Montecito's LUDC adopted by the County in 2008.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these important matters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David L. Hill". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David Hill, President
Coastal Ranches Conservancy