

LAW OFFICE OF MARC CHYTILO

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

October 19, 2015

County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

*By hand delivery and by email to
sbcob@co.santa-barbara.ca.us*

RE: Eastern Goleta Valley Community Plan; 10/20/15 Agenda, Item #1

Dear Chair Wolf and Board Members,

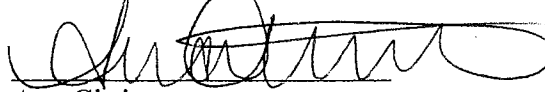
This office represents the San Marcos Foothills Coalition (SMFC), a community organization dedicated to preserving the unique resources present on the San Marcos Foothills Preserve property in the Eastern Goleta Valley planning area. SMFC supports adoption of the Eastern Goleta Valley Community Plan, which includes important measures to protect San Marcos Foothills Preserve as public open space and wildlife habitat and to delineate Atascadero Creek as a “greenway” and wildlife corridor connecting Goleta Slough to the San Marcos Foothills.

Rezoning San Marcos Foothills Preserve to Resource Management – 100-acre minimum (RMZ-100) - is critical to implementing the Trust for Public Lands’ intention that the Preserve will remain open space and wildlife habitat forever, and will not be converted or developed with potentially impactful structures and/or active recreational facilities. While the text of the proposed Plan identifies RMZ-100 zoning as appropriate, the Board Letter notes that the land use and zoning maps associated with the draft Plan “mistakenly depict the land use and zoning for two of the County-owned parcels (APN 059-020-053 and 059-020-055 totaling 3.32 acres) as Planned Development (PD-20) and Planned Residential Development (PRD-20) respectively.” (Board Letter, p. 7.) It is clear from documents created at the time that the Trust for Public Lands gifted the property to the County “for the preservation of open space and preserve biological, scenic, and archaeological resources on the property.” (See Board of Supervisors Agenda Letters, 1/9/2007 and 1/23/2007, Real Estate Services Folio # 003515; see also Letter, Aaron Friedland, TPL Regional Counsel, to Ronn Carlentine, 1/26/2007; Notice of Exemption, 12/19/2006). Zoning these lands to a designation that allows any development that is inconsistent with the stated intention of TPL’s gift of these lands would be highly inappropriate.

We request that the Board ensure that this mistake identified in the Board Letter is corrected, and that all parcels comprising San Marcos Foothills Preserve are designated RMZ-100 in the version of the Plan that the Board adopts.

Respectfully submitted,

LAW OFFICE OF MARC CHYTILO



Ana Citrin

Marc Chytilo

For San Marcos Foothills Coalition

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