

LAW OFFICE OF MARC CHYTILO, APC

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

January 10, 2020

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, California 93101

By email to sbcob@co.santa-barbara.ca.us

RE: 1/14/20 Closed Session Agenda; CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS (Government Code section 54956.8) Property: Assessor's Parcel Numbers 105-020-060, 105-020-061, 105-020-062, 105-020-063, 105-020-064, and 105-020-068, between Southpoint Estates and Clark Avenue/ Old Town Orcutt; and 105-020-041, at 775 E. Clark Ave, Orcutt (OASIS Property)

Honorable Supervisors,

This office represents Friends of Key Site 18, a group of Orcutt residents concerned about the land use and environmental implications of developing the OASIS property, which is designated Open Space in the Orcutt Community Plan (OCP). Environmental review of the OASIS Project, which includes an unprecedented abandonment of the County's commitment of these lands to open space, in addition to the physical development and amendments to County plans and policy, is currently underway.

Members of the community have raised significant concerns regarding the numerous significant environmental impacts of the OASIS Project, as reflected in comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Moreover, when the Project was proposed in 2015 County Staff recommended that the Planning Commission *not* accept the General Plan amendment for processing because, among other things, "removing the open space designation from the subject parcels is not consistent with good planning practices, or with the intent of the OCP." (5/21/15 Staff Memorandum to Planning Commission). In addition, the Draft EIR identified several facially feasible alternative locations for the OASIS Center including an Environmentally Superior Alternative location for the Project on County owned property in Santa Maria that would substantially reduce environmental impacts. It is important that the Board give thorough and thoughtful consideration to these and indeed all aspects of the OASIS Project, and hear from affected neighbors, before even considering, much less advancing or advising County negotiators concerning any real property transactions relating to these lands.

We respectfully request that the Board remove this item from the agenda and do not consider this item on the above captioned matter in closed session, and that Board members reserve judgement regarding any real property transaction until after the Final EIR is available, the Planning Commission makes its recommendation, and the Board can hear from the public and consider all aspects of this complex and controversial Project in open session.

Respectfully Submitted,

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For Friends of Key Site 18

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