

Happy N Ranch

Gary & Lisa Novatt
500 HWY 101
Buellton, CA 93427

6/15/16

Dear Supervisor Wolf,

On behalf of my husband, Gary, and I, we are writing to ask that you vote not to approve the Sierra Grande Rural Recreation Project, aka zip line, on June 21st 2016 unless the entrance/exit for this commercial project is moved back to the original location off HWY 101 in Buellton.

The new proposed entrance/exit now off HWY 246 in Buellton is not a viable or safe alternative for zip line traffic. The HWY 246 proposed entrance/exit would involve using a private rural road with an Arizona Crossing that goes through (not over) the Santa Ynez River. While the Arizona Crossing was built for the heaviest of farming equipment and vehicles, it was not built for commercial traffic. The drive over portion of the Crossing is 13 feet wide with no guard rails. It is one car at a time, one direction at a time. It was built for the few families that live on the South side of the Santa Ynez River in that particular location. It was not designed or built for commercial traffic. See photographs attached.

Entering and exiting off or onto HWY 246 can be difficult and dangerous during certain parts of the day. Since it is a hwy and there are no yield signs, vehicles must wait until there is a break in traffic to proceed to the center median if traveling West. There are no turn lanes coming into 650 HWY 246, just the center median. Negotiating one's turn to go West on the HWY can be intimidating, especially for young drivers.

It has been said at the last 2 meetings that I have attended, that the zip line is for the kids of the Valley because they need "somewhere" to go. Respectfully I disagree, our Valley is blessed with a cornucopia of clubs, organizations, sports, music and many other activities for our youth. Just to name a few: Buellton Recreation, Solvang Recreation, 4-H, FFA, National Charity League, Karate Studio, Dance Studios, Junior Lifeguard Youth Church Groups, Sports Leagues and the Stuart C. Gildred Family YMCA.

In closing I don't believe other aspects of this project have been addressed appropriately such as the noise impact on the neighboring properties, impact on the river and an outside entity to record the incoming traffic of the zip line instead of self recording as proposed by Stu Gildred. Thank you for your consideration of these matters.

Sincerely,

Lisa and Gary Novatt