

de la Guerra, Sheila

Public Comment-Group 3

From: Kendra O'Connor <sbunnys@me.com>
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2023 4:07 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Departmental Item #3 Housing Element Update comments
Attachments: Housing Element comments.pdf

Categories: Public Comment



#3

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Williams & Members of the Board,

As a lifelong resident of the Eastern Goleta Valley, I urge you to direct Planning & Development to re-evaluate some potential housing sites they have included in the sixth cycle Housing Element Update. It seems as if current planners have forgotten, or weren't involved in, the hard work community stakeholders, planners and previous members of your board, put into the Eastern Goleta Valley Community Plan update. Several sites were rezoned for high density housing such as the MTD and TATUM properties. This was done specifically to save our urban agricultural lands, stay out of the Wildland Urban Interface and preserve recreational land and trails. Slating development on every parcel of urban AG as well as the addition of St Vincents and the Glen Annie Golf Course is a slap in the face of those who fought to keep these lands protected.

Eastern Goleta Valley Agricultural lands are prime and they fall completely within the Airport Flight Approach Zone. Other housing built within flight approach zones have shown to sow much divisiveness between residents and the Santa Barbara Airport, which continues to expand. The Airport has plans for even more frequent early morning and late night flights. These flights disrupt the quality of life as well as the safety of residents. High density development should not be built in flight approach zones. Most importantly, urban agriculture should be preserved to the greatest extent feasible, as these land provide our local vegetables and landscapes.

Other inappropriate sites included in the Housing Element Update are St Vincents as well as the Glen Annie Golf Course. The San Marcos Pass/ Eastern Goleta Valley Community Wildfire Protection Plan discourages new development in designated High Fire Hazard areas which both St Vincents East and West parcels are in. These parcels have slopes of over 30%, contain a watershed canyon, are impacted by sundowner winds, have a history of fire activity and have no access to public or multimodal methods of transportation. Surrounded by busy highways on two sides, these sites are inappropriate for any development let alone high density housing.

Lastly, the County is working on its Recreational Master Plan. The draft of this plan mentions the importance of local public recreational facilities, specifically local golf courses. With the demise of Ocean Meadows (which is becoming housing), Glen Annie Golf Course is the last affordable public 18 hole course in the area. The loss of this much used and beloved golf course would be devastating to the community, especially local youth.

When evaluating sites please direct your planning department to take the time to consider rezones already approved, the addition of hundreds of ADUs, redevelopment of commercial properties to multi use and county owned sites that could accommodate higher density development. Agriculture, fire safety and recreation are values which encompasses the true nature of the Eastern Goleta Valley. We should work together for a future of responsible development that protects what we value the most.

Sincerely,

Kendra Duncan O'Connor
Eastern Goleta Valley

de la Guerra, Sheila

From: John Douglas <jed805@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2023 6:59 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Housing Element Update comment

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

SB County Supervisors:

I urge you to take strong steps to support the building of substantial affordable workforce housing for folks who work here in Santa Barbara, but cannot afford to live here due to the housing market.

Parents who work in Santa Barbara but are forced to live far away miss so many of the important school and after-school sports, performing arts, and other extra-curricular activities of their kids because of long commutes. Please support people who work here performing so many essential duties and want to live in the community in which they work.

Thanks for considering my views.

John E. Douglas
Santa Barbara

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