

LATE  
DIST

Relis, Mia

# Public Comment Group 5

**From:** Jeff Massey <jfemassey@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 14, 2019 3:40 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Mountain biker in support of budgetary funding for a Countywide Recreation Master Plan

**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 Board of Supervisors – I am writing today in support of budgetary funding for a Countywide Recreation Master Plan. As a resident of Santa Barbara County, I greatly value a healthy lifestyle that includes mountain biking and outdoor nature-based recreation. Santa Barbara County currently lacks trails designed specifically for mountain biking or trails appropriate for youth and beginning mountain bikers. Increasing trail access for cyclists in County Parks and Open Spaces would improve the quality of life in our community by providing additional venues for positive outdoor recreation in our public spaces. Thank you for your consideration.  
Respectfully,

Jeff Massey

**From:** Russell Douglas <RDouglas@SantaBarbaraCA.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 13, 2019 10:38 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** North County, Santa Barbara

**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.**

Hi,

My name is Russ Douglas and I live in Orcutt. I have been riding Mountain Bikes since 1996. I found that road biking is much more risky due to distracted drivers that run over bike riders all the time. I like to ride 5 ~ 8 hours a week and climbing Figueora Mt, Gaviota Ridge, Willow Springs, Miranda Pines are always a treat. We have a relatively new trail system near Rice Ranch Rd that we can ride to from our homes and is nice, but for those of us riders that crave rides like going up Arroyo Burro dirt road from Paradise Rd, to the "glass factory", then down to the Snyder Trail and back, or Upper Osos to Happy Hollow/Little Pine, and back down the Santa Cruz Trail. Or to the north at Montana De Oro, Questa Ridge... Here in Orcutt we have to drive to anything bigger than the "Elings Park sized" Orcutt Trails. Los Flores is close enough for us "endurance riders", and I have ridden there from my house at Bradley and Union Valley Rd many times, but Dominion Rd is very risky since it doesn't have a bike lane and with dually trucks, Oil Tankers, Gravel truck all are very un-nerving.

I have been riding in the Orcutt area since 2003. There were satisfying "un-official" trails that went up to the Orcutt radar ball, over to the ridge, south to the edge of Reghetti's land, and back to Solomon pk, but the oil company officials put up a 4 mile long cyclone fence several years back and removed all access. (This was the birth of the Orcutt Trails org.) I have explored all over the area for non-road access to Los Flores Park, (and to this day still use a few of them), so it is my request we start there in north county. I was in the Kalispel, Montana last year and they have built a nice running/biking/walking path about 20' off the highway, connecting Kalispel residents to the beautiful Flathead Lake recreation area in Somers, Montana some 20 miles to the south. I give Montana big kudos for making access to the lake, and a park trail system to the west leading to Foyes Lake, and more trails beyond. Very enjoyable!

If I could spell out a "wish list" it would be something like this, listed by priority:

- 1 – Access to Los Flores Ranch trails via an easement from Clark Ave, just past Presquile Winery, utilizing old oil field roads that go directly to Los Flores.
- 2 – A bike path to Los Alamos along HWY 101.
- 3 – Develop trails on the west side of HWY-135, accessible from the Orcutt Trails, and south of the HWY-1 above the golf course.  
The CCCMB club negotiators did a great job getting Johnson Ranch and Irish Hills connected together. Ideally a trail all the way to Point Sal would be great.
- 4 – Negotiate some access from Orcutt Hills, up to Solomon Pk, along the ridge to the south, then down the dirt road at the top of Solomon Grade, (I believe it is on the 4-Deer Ranch where the red barn was built across 101 of Los Flores west), to the west freeway access of Los Flores. Also there is a frontage rd from Los Flores that heads south to a half mile from Palmer Rd... It wouldn't take much to bridge the gap to Bell St and on to Los Alamos. (I can provide maps I have drawn and any other information regarding these areas).
- 5 – A trail system on the ridge above Twitchell Res., accessible from Santqa Maria

Willow Spring and Colson Canyon trails have some great potential for expanding their use. Most bike riders prefer a loop design rather than an out –n- back design. The top of Willow has several options to expand the trails into some

loops. Colson Canyon has a nice fire road access just past the camp site near the top. It wouldn't take much to carve a new trail that goes from the top of the ridge fire road and back down to the camp site. Also the Bear Canyon Connector trail is unusable for bikes and hikers. Even dirt bikes get stuck since the north fork splits to Buckhorn ridge and Autumn Rd. Land owners seem to have closed off access from the Bear Canyon connector to the top of the ridge at Autumn Rd. It will take some discussion.



*Thank you,*

*Russell Douglas*

(805) 680-3920 | [RDouglas@SantaBarbaraCA.gov](mailto:RDouglas@SantaBarbaraCA.gov)

Relis, Mia

---

**From:** M. McNeil <m.mcneilsb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 14, 2019 10:10 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Recreation Master Plan -Mountain Bikes-

**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 Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to you with hopes that you would consider budgetary funding for a countywide recreational master plan. Several members of our family are mountain bikers. Our ages range from 6 to 58. We are hoping that you would consider funding to develop a mountain bike specific trails in our area. We live in Santa Barbara County and ride frequently. The sport of mountain biking continues to grow every year and with this riders are sharing more trails with hikers. This can be challenging at times as we are all trying to use the same trail at the same time! Specific mountain bike trails would be wonderful and would be great if this could be included in the countywide recreational master plan.

Kind Regards,

Mike McNeil

The McNeil Family  
Santa Barbara, Ca