

Katherine Douglas

Public Comment - Group 2

#4



**From:** Joshua Nahm <joshuanahm99@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 5, 2025 4:59 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Appeal to deny the appeal to the CPCA of the Mission Isla Vista Housing Development

**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.**

September 5, 2025

To the Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors,

My name is Joshua Nahm, and I was a student at UCSB from 2021 to 2023. I am writing to ask that you deny the appeal to the County Planning Commission Approval of the Mission Isla Vista Partners LP Housing Development and allow this project to be built.

The reason I am asking that this project be pushed through is because I believe Isla Vista needs more housing like this, as I have personally been impacted by the work of Mission Isla Vista and Jason and Holly Lomelino and community living overseen by this organization.

I genuinely think that Mission Isla Vista, the leadership of Jason and Holly Lomelino, and the housing that they've overseen have saved my life. They provided incredible community in a time of life where I was lost and lonely. I had really struggled in a social aspect at UCSB because I was a transfer student. This impacted my academic success and led me into a number of unhealthy coping mechanisms. I started to rely on substances to experience relief from the darkness of isolation. Had it not been for the proactive invitation into a loving community such as Mission Isla Vista, I truly do not believe I would've made it out of this dark period in my life. They gave me not only community to rely upon, but a mission to work towards; a mission of pulling others up and out of the same place of darkness that I was in. Jason and Holly have managed to build a community of people that look beyond themselves and into the needs of others and the community of Isla Vista.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Joshua Nahm  
UCSB Alum & past Isla Vista resident

**Katherine Douglas**

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**From:** Danny Tang <tang\_daniel@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 7, 2025 5:43 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Santa Barbara Needs Housing, Not NIMBY Objections

**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.**

Hello,

My name is Danny and I am a Santa Barbara resident writing to support the development of more housing in our community.

I recently read this article:

<https://www.noozhawk.com/isla-vista-resident-fighting-large-housing-proposal-over-safety-concerns/>

It's disappointing to see opposition based on personal convenience rather than the urgent need for housing. Concerns about dog walking and neighborhood comfort should not outweigh the reality that students, workers, and families are being priced out and displaced due to a lack of housing. Opposition like this is not about safety — it's about preserving personal comfort at the expense of others.

Santa Barbara needs more housing, and every project helps. I urge you to prioritize the broader community's needs over individual resistance rooted in self-interest.

Thank you,

Danny

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Pamela Elliott <elliottww@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 7, 2025 10:33 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Increased housing.

**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.

To whom it may concern:

It seems that the state has more power than the locals. The population of UCSB has increased over the past years. These are transients in our community and generally not responsible tenants. How is it that we increase demand on a limited supply of natural resources i.e. water? We now have brown outs of electricity because of the insistence on EV's and a reduction of natural gas usage. This is not sound governance.

Pam Elliott

**Katherine Douglas**

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**From:** Susan Whisenand <susanwhisenand44@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 7, 2025 5:11 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Supervisor s  
**Attachments:** Supervisor s.docx

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.

Please include this letter to supervisors regarding the Soutar Sueno appeal

Thank you,

Susan Whisenand

Sent from my iPad

Supervisors:

September 4, 2025

Please consider the health and safety impacts of the proposed development at 6737 Sueno in Isla Vista and other similar projects. Due to the existing, over capacity, number of cars in our community and the lack of pedestrian safety, this project and others of its size will create unsafe conditions for our citizens. As a long time resident, I navigate driving my car very slowly as there are always people walking in the middle of the street, often on headphones with no regard for cars. Many areas have no sidewalks.

Currently, cars park in red zones, block driveways, and fire hydrants. Accidents have occurred when corners are blocked by cars parking illegally. My neighbor, one morning, asked to borrow my car to take her husband to the emergency room as her driveway was blocked by a car.

As others have said, this project could produce 70-100 additional cars on a block that has only 77 spaces and is already above capacity. Cars from the project's residents will materially increase risks to existing Isla Vista residents.

As you go forward in approving, denying or asking for project modifications of this and other projects, please keep in mind the geographical size of Isla Vista, 0.55 to 0.595 square miles. Adding a projected 900 new cars, 450 new bedrooms (including ADUs) to the existing community is unsustainable for the future of Isla Vista.

As a community with several points of beach access, high pedestrian street access, over capacity parking with limited ingress, egress access, it would be advisable for an environmental impact report before moving this or other projects forward. Safety for all residents of Isla Vista should be of the highest priority, not that of overdevelopment at the expense of our community.

Susan Whisenand, PhD

6877 Del Playa, Isla Vista

**Katherine Douglas**

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**From:** Andy Do <andy.do24@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 7, 2025 9:04 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Mission Isla Vista Partners LP Housing Development

**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.**

To the Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors,

My name is Andy Do and I was a student at UCSB from 2007 to 2011. I am writing to ask that you deny the appeal to the County Planning Commission Approval of the Mission Isla Vista Partners LP Housing Development and allow this project to be built.

The reason I am asking that this project be pushed through is because I believe Isla Vista needs more housing like this, as I have personally been impacted by the work of Mission Isla Vista and Jason and Holly Lomelino and community living overseen by this organization.

Housing supply is incredibly constrained and unaffordable in Santa Barbara/ Isla Vista as it is, with demand far outstripping supply and fewer multifamily units being added. This project will go towards helping the city and County further meet its RHNA numbers. With higher interest rates and increasing construction costs, to say new development in California has been difficult is an understatement. This project can and wants to move forward and be developed in this challenging construction and real estate development climate when most other developers are sitting on the sidelines. The city and county should not be discouraging ANY type of development for great projects such as this as Santa Barbara County is already incredibly undersupplied. Please approve this as Santa Barbara needs all the housing it can get.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Andy Do

UCSB Alum & past Isla Vista resident

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Harry Reese <reese@arts.ucsb.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 8, 2025 11:49 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Soutar Appeal (Case NBo. 25APL-00010  
**Attachments:** Harry Reese-Soutar appeal-File 25-00783.pdf

**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.

Attn: Kathleen Volpi or appropriate staff,  
Please accept this attached letter from me in support of the Soutar's family's appeal of the County Planning Commission's decision to approve the Mission Isla Vista Partners LP Housing Development project.

If there are any problems with opening the document, please advise me.

Thank you

Harry Reese · Distinguished Professor Emeritus  
Department of Art · UC Santa Barbara

Turkey Press & Edition Reese  
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September 8, 2025

From: Harry Reese

To: Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors

Re: Soutar Appeal. File 25-00783.

Subject: Mission Isla Vista Partners LP Housing Development for 6737 Sueno Road, Isla Vista (the Applicant)

I submit this letter in support of the Soutar family's Appeal. My wife Sandra and I became permanent homeowners in 1977, across the street from the proposed development. In 2018, I retired from UC Santa Barbara, after teaching for 40 years. During that time I served as Chair of the Department of Art, and as Associate Dean of the College of Creative Studies. I participated in numerous Long Range Development Plans for the university community, served on Chancellor Yang's Isla Vista Commission, and on the Design Review Committee. Then, as now, housing was always the most important issue raised by students, staff, faculty, and visitors. Isla Vista is unique in many ways, especially in the tidal nature of its population. It is the only California beach town whose population goes down in the summer. It's also been expensively occupied by police, National Guard, and riot squads to contend with thousands of people blocking every street, driveway, entrance, and exit. Any formal consideration of new housing must squarely address the full context of the problems of parking, and the health, safety, and reasonable transit of its occupants. The Soutar Appeal graphically illustrates the deficiencies of the Applicant's development plan, and it suggests a better way.

Citing SB-330, the Applicant's proposal asks for exemptions that far exceed current zoning limits. At the same time it avoids responsibility for the automobiles, and, unwittingly, the transportation safety of its occupants. SB-330 clearly allows the County to scale back new housing plans when its elected officers believe conditions are not safe. There is no objective standard to determine which conditions are safe, and which are not. But exemptions from conventional parking requirements will not make Sueno Road safer for anyone. These exemptions will compound and exacerbate existing transit difficulties, congest the streets unnecessarily, and increase traffic danger for everyone, including pedestrians, bicyclists, skateboarders, scooters, and automobiles. The streets of Isla Vista have always been dangerous. Most East-West streets, like Sueno, have continuous sidewalks only on one side of the street. Pedestrians are forced to walk in the street, sharing the road and its hazards with automobiles, motorcycles, scooters, bicycles, and skateboards. When there are no sidewalks, tenants with or without on-site parking take to the street. There are two categories for anyone who rides a bicycle in Isla Vista: those who have already been in or witnessed a horrible accident, and those who will be involved in one soon. Throughout the six decades I have lived here, everyday Isla Vista bicycle traffic infractions have been underreported, or unknown, to the authorities. Slowly, over the years, streets were widened, traffic lights installed, streets illuminated, sidewalks constructed, and traumatized residents counseled only after shocking violent incidents became publicly known from local, regional, and national news. Do we have to wait for the next infamous tragedy for the County, UCSB, and property developers to create a working partnership that provides community parking structures, installs sidewalks on both sides of every street, and efficiently regulates inconsiderate bicycles, scooters, and skateboards that never pause at intersections?

In four separate letters opposing this development, I asked for the creation of an ad-hoc Isla Vista Area Planning & Development committee, to represent all the major stakeholders and review the full impact of this proposal and many others soon to follow. Isla Vista desperately needs its own viable Area Development Plan that truly provides safe, appropriate, and accountable housing without compromising the health and safety of residents, visitors, service providers, pedestrians, and emergency teams. Isla Vista Master Plans were discussed and amended for decades but never formally materialized. The Isla Vista Redevelopment Agency prioritized safe and responsible planning, adequate parking, and alternative transit partnerships. But it, too, never became operative. Everyone knows Isla Vistans experience major parking problems already. In addition to its residents, many UCSB students park wherever they want, outsiders fill the streets on weekends, party-crashers come and go in cars when lured by social media to impromptu events. Crowd control always begins with people in the streets and the regulation of vehicles. We all want to reduce the number of illegally parked and driven vehicles. We have to address the reasons so many cars are on our streets in the first place. Emergency strategies for police, fire fighters, and first responders are always frustrated by traffic congestion. Under SB-330, the Board of Supervisors can use their own understanding of what is safe and what is not to reject housing plans. I urge you to scale back the unsafe 6737 proposal, and postpone approval until the current and long-term parking and transit issues for all new proposed housing structures are studied, discussed, and mitigated.

Respectfully,



Harry Reese, Distinguished Professor Emeritus · Department of Art · UC Santa Barbara  
6746 Sueño Road · Isla Vista, CA 93117

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Andrew Detrick <1982dub@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 8, 2025 1:34 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** 6737 Sueño Appeal

**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.

My name is Andrew Detrick and I have been a member of the Isla Vista community for 30 years. For the past 11 years I have lived a few houses away from the proposed development at 6737 Sueño Road. In that time I have seen the number of cars in Isla Vista greatly increase, while the number of parking spots has decreased. Garages have been converted into living spaces. Driveways are occupied by more cars than before; tenants now share double or triple rooms. With off-street parking lost to these practices, residents are squeezed to compete for already limited street parking. Adding a massive development to our street will surely impact parking further. The proposed development would add 45 bedrooms, with only 21 on-site parking spots provided. The sheer number of cars that will be attached to this development will be an increased risk to the health and safety pedestrians, cyclists and other drivers: members of our community. On these grounds, I am asking that this project be denied.

**Katherine Douglas**

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**From:** Isaac Castro <californiacastro@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 8, 2025 2:52 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Recommendation to Deny Soutar Appeal

**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 Supervisors,

As a longtime Isla Vista resident, I urge you to deny the Soutars' appeal regarding the proposed [6737 Sueno Road](#) project. Our community faces a severe housing shortage. Rents are sky-high, overcrowding is unsafe, and students and families are running out of options.

This project is a step toward fixing that. It uses underutilized land, adds much-needed housing, including affordable units, and incorporates thoughtful design features like bike and car parking, rideshare access, and delivery space. Delaying it will not reduce congestion or improve safety; it will only preserve the status quo of overcrowded, unsafe, and overpriced housing.

Isla Vista cannot afford more delays. We need more homes, better options, and forward-looking solutions. Please help move this project forward and deny the Soutar appeal.

Sincerely,  
Isaac Castro, Ph.D.  
Isla Vista Resident

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Anna Roberts <aroberts@hfa.ucsb.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 8, 2025 3:38 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** 6737 Sueno Road

**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 Supervisors,

I share Pegeen Soutar's concerns about the proposed development of 6737. This stretch of Sueno Road is not the place to have a housing development the size of which Mr. St George proposes. I walk and bike down that street and fear the impact of this project will make it risky for me to do so in the future as well as other bikers and pedestrians. I understand the need for affordable housing, but it needs to be done in a safe and responsible way. This is definitely not how this project is being planned. I urge you to not allow this development to go through as proposed.

Thank you.

Anna Roberts

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ANNA ROBERTS

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