



SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
Trails Council

October 16, 2015

Ms. Janet Wolf, Chair
Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Subject: East Goleta Valley Community Plan Update (EGVCP) - Foothill Trails

Dear Chair Wolf and Board Members:

The Santa Barbara Trails Council (Trails Council) requests the following targeted changes to the draft plan.

Trails Council Comment: Policy PRT-EGV-5.1 lacks sufficient energy and urgency to reflect the importance of trails to the community. We suggest the following edits similar to those accepted for the Gaviota Plan:

Policy PRT-EGV-5.1: ~~In compliance with applicable requirements,~~ The County shall actively pursue all opportunities for acquisition and development of public recreational trails, particularly those within the foothills. All opportunities for public recreational trails within the general corridors adopted by the Board of Supervisors as part of the Parks, Recreation and Trails (PRT) maps of the County Comprehensive Plan (and this Community Plan) shall be protected, preserved and provided for upon approval of any development, subdivision and/or permit requiring any discretionary review or approval, except as referenced in Agricultural Element Policy IA. In particular, all General Plan Amendments, Rezones and Conditional Use Permits shall be required to provide easements trail corridors where identified on the Parks, Recreation and Trails (PRT) maps of the County Comprehensive Plan (and this Community Plan) or where opportunities exist for new trail corridors or trail linkages.

Trails Council Comment: The County has substantial powers of exaction for General Plan Amendments, Rezones and Conditional Use Permits and incentives may not be required for such permit types.

Action PRT-EGV-5B: *The County shall review, address, and revise the Goleta Trails Implementation Study. In addition to any revisions necessary to update information contained in the current document, the revised implementation study shall investigate additional opportunities to add proposed trail corridors to the PRT map. The revised implementation study shall study and recommend to the Board of Supervisors incentives to encourage property owners to dedicate trail easements as determined to be feasible. The study shall consider opportunities to develop incentives appropriate for various project types. ~~including General Plan Amendments, Rezones, Conditional Use Permits, and subdivisions.~~ Incentives may include but are not limited to: tax reductions, benefit assessment districts, priority processing of applications, Development Impact Mitigation Fee discounts, and where appropriate, limited increases in development where consistent with resource protection and applicable general plan policies (e.g., additional parcels or residential units).*

The Trails Council greatly appreciates your consideration of these recommendations. Thank you for considering our input.

Sincerely,

Mark Wilkinson, Executive Director