

## Lenzi, Chelsea

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**From:** Randall Sunday <randysunday@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 07, 2017 12:50 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Fwd: Agenda Item 5, Nov. 7, 2017 & Preserving MORE MESA

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### **To the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors:**

40 years ago I passed through Santa Barbara and wondered how I had never heard of such a beautiful place. I lived in a few countries in Europe when I was younger and had family in Alaska and Mexico, so I had seen striking settings, but Santa Barbara was breathtaking. Through curious coincidences, I ended up moving here 25 years ago, back when there was still a stop light at the intersection of State and Hwy. 101. Now near my current home, Goleta seems overbuilt with hotels, apartments, and new housing, and I fear that we may have Orange County-level traffic and congestion soon enough. In the meantime, we have so much natural resources, and in particular, More Mesa to protect for the benefit of all our county residents.

I have just two points to make as part of my support of Agenda Item 5, mostly a wish to be sure and protect More Mesa. Firstly, *the Mesa is pristine and so rich in flora and fauna*. There are all kinds of birds, a variety of raptors, foxes, and I have even seen an immaculate bobcat in mid-day. It is always beautiful, whether it is wrapped in marine layer, or beneath overcast clouds or in the rain and wind, or on under a sunny blue cloudless sky. It is a limitless and ever changing palette with its own distinct seasons, and enchanting with a poignant beauty especially as much else of our natural landscape disappears. *Besides the vast open field with native plants and grasses, there are the stunning cliffs and the gorgeous beach below with some of the most mesmerizing vistas you can find on the entire West Coast, both looking seaward and back at the Camino Cielo ridge*. I return there most of all because *one can have real solace, peace and quiet, without highway noise or even the loudness of waves* crashing on the beach 100 feet below. It is a restful place to be.

Secondly, at More Mesa, you can have tranquility while walking, or just sitting and *being with nature while you are still within the greater city*. Its unique location is such that you don't have to go 30 minutes north or 30 minutes south, but can get there in 10 minutes and experience the respite of quiet and contemplative peace. *More Mesa is readily accessible from within the community*, and is one of the few soothing locales with similar views and natural resources in the county. More Mesa is a treasure and I feel we will regret if we sacrifice it, rather than share it with all of those who live in our county, those who will respect its beauty, and will appreciate the rare opportunity to experience nature so close up, and in our own back yard, so to speak. If we surrender this landscape there will not likely be a second chance. More Mesa is a special place and worthy of our protection. Please preserve More Mesa and leave it untouched except by the

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**From:** Van Wingerden, Cam on behalf of County Executive Office  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 07, 2017 12:53 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** FW: Please Support the Recommendations from the California Coastal Commission regarding Eastern Goleta Valley Community Plan

**Importance:** High

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**From:** Deborah Williams [<mailto:deborah1518@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 7, 2017 11:12 AM  
**To:** County Executive Office <[caoemail@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:caoemail@co.santa-barbara.ca.us)>  
**Subject:** Please Support the Recommendations from the California Coastal Commission regarding Eastern Goleta Valley Community Plan  
**Importance:** High

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I live in and own a home in Goleta, and I strongly urge you to support the recommendations from the California Coastal Commission regarding the Eastern Goleta Valley Community Plan. I join the Santa Barbara Urban Creeks Council and the More Mesa Preservation Coalition in urging the Board to protect Goleta's open spaces, watersheds, and wildlife habitats.

As you know, the California Coastal Commission, which must certify the Goleta Valley Community Plan the Plan, has recommended increased protections for rare wildlife and sensitive coastal habitats. These important wetlands, native grasslands, oak woodlands, and coastal creeks provide significant habitat for wildlife, including the extraordinary white-tailed kite, and need stronger protections from development and pollution.

Please:

- Increase buffers for environmentally sensitive habitats on More Mesa;
- Increase protections for chaparral, birds of prey, creeks, and habitats in the Goleta Valley area; and
- Increase prohibitions on coastal bluff development, including private staircases that jeopardize our beaches, bluff stability, and habitats.

My family and I chose to live in Goleta and Santa Barbara County because of the environment. Please take these actions to protect it, consistent with the California Coastal Commission recommendations.

I had planned on providing these comments this morning at your meeting, but am unable to attend the meeting this afternoon due to prior commitments. Thank you for making these written comments part of the record.

Sincerely

*Deborah Williams*  
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451 Barling Terrace, Goleta