

de la Guerra, Sheila General Public Comment

From: Melissa Cunningham <melissapaine07@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 15, 2022 11:05 AM
To: Meredith Hendricks; Alison Petro; malvarado@lacumbrewater.com;
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Subject: Modoc Multi-Use Path



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As a resident of Santa Barbara, an avid cyclist, walker, runner and outdoor enthusiast, I am writing in support of Alignment B for the Modoc multi-use path connection. There are so many reasons why this connection is important and must get built but I would like to focus on the conservation easement and why the path absolutely fits in with it.

The conservation easement allows for the removal of non-native plants and trees. **(Section 3d. Permitted Uses)** In fact, local environmental biologists suggested a far greater tree removal for a healthy environment, but the County is compromising to make it a win-win situation.

In the same section, the Conservation Easement also allows for the construction of trails. There is also already precedent for a paved path as 300 feet of the Obern trail is within the Preserve.

We need this trail because completes a long-standing plan that is widely supported by community members. It provides safe, ADA access for all users, it will not cause damage to the preserve - it will ultimately enhance it by providing new native plants and trees- and Alignment B is a compromise that will be the Best solution for everyone.

I urge the Santa Barbara Land Trust to grant the county the easement to take a small part of the path into the preserve and behind the canary palms so that those may be saved from being felled and we can have a continuous and safe path that all users can enjoy and have access to.

Thank you so much,
Melissa Cunningham

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