

Sheila de la Guerra

Public Comment

A-25

**From:** Jimwitmer <jimwitmer@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 14, 2025 4:53 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Agenda item 25-00621 Colby Trail comments for agenda  
**Attachments:** Colby Trail.docx

LATE  
DIST

**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.**

Agenda item 25-00621

Subject: Concerns Regarding the Modification of the Colby Street Road and Trail Summerland

Dear Supervisors

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed modification of the Colby Trail. I believe these changes could have significant impacts on our community, and I would like to outline my main concerns:

1. **Emerson Street Diminishment:** I am concerned that the modification may lead to the diminishment of Emerson Street. Our community needs more streets that are wider and not smaller, to accommodate the growing population, the traffic, and the parking problem. Giving part of the street away would set a precedent and make the current problem worse.
2. **Loss of the Turnout:** The proposed changes could result in the disappearance of the turnout, which was created by the fire department and is essential for many delivery trucks and residents. This turnout is on the Colby Street Right of way and is a critical part of our infrastructure and should not be removed.
3. **Neighboring Lot Concerns:** I would also like to bring attention to the neighboring lot on Emerson Street owned by the Brills, which is relatively narrow (approximately 50 feet). The other neighboring lot (owned by Noble) is 75 feet. As proposed, the trail would be 5 feet from the Brill's bedroom. It would make more sense to put the trail on the Noble side, where it would be much less of a burden. Even if the Brills are not involved in this proposal, the burden on their property will last forever. At the least, it should be in the middle of the Right-of-Way, as it is drawn on the lower Colby Street trail.

This trail modification is being pushed through without any neighborhood or community input. This is the type of issue that is normally discussed at our monthly Citizens Association meetings where comments and ideas are exchanged. Instead, it seems this has all been done in secret. Phylis Noble is President of the Summerland Citizens Association and has had NO meetings during the two years she has been involved. People have asked why we no longer have meetings. We may have found the answer. This proposal will increase the Phylis Noble lot by 74%.

There should be a community meeting to get input on this project.

I urge you to consider these points carefully and to ensure that any modifications to the trail easement are in the best interest of our community.

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,

Jim Witmer  
2231 Calle Culebra PO Box 342  
Summerland, CA 93067

Subject: Concerns Regarding the Modification of the Colby Street Road and Trail

Agenda item: 25-00621

Dear Supervisors

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed modification of the Colby Trail. I believe these changes could have significant impacts on our community, and I would like to outline my main concerns:

1. Emerson Street Diminishment: I am concerned that the modification may lead to the diminishment of Emerson Street. Our community needs more streets that are wider and not smaller, to accommodate the growing population, the traffic and the parking problem. Giving part of the street away would set a precedent and make the current problem worse.
2. Loss of the Turnout: The proposed changes could result in the disappearance of the turnout, which was created by the fire department and is essential for many delivery trucks and residents. This turnout is on the Colby Street Right of way and is a critical part of our infrastructure and should not be removed.
3. Neighboring Lot Concerns: I would also like to bring attention to the neighboring lot on Emerson Street owned by the Brills, which is relatively narrow (approximately 50 feet). The other neighboring lot (owned by Noble) is 75 feet. As proposed, the trail would be 5 feet from the Brill's bedroom. It would make more sense to put the trail on the Noble side, where it would be much less of a burden. Even if the Bills are not involved in this proposal, the burden on their property will last forever. At the least, it should be in the middle of the Right-of-Way, as it is drawn lower Colby Street trail.

This trail modification is being pushed through without any neighborhood or community input. This is the type of issue that is normally discussed at our monthly Citizens Association meetings where comments and ideas are exchanged. Instead, it seems this has all been done in secret. Phylis Noble is President of the Summerland Citizens Association and has had NO meetings during the two years she has been involved. People have asked why we no longer have meetings. We may have found the answer. This proposal will increase the Phylis Noble lot by 74%.

There should be a community meeting to get input on this project. Maybe Roy Lee can help to organize it.

I urge you to consider these points carefully and to ensure that any modifications to the trail easement are in the best interest of our community.

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,

Jim Witmer

2231 Calle Culebra PO Box 342

Summerland, CA 93067

Attached are maps of the proposed change