

de la Guerra, Sheila

Public Comment-Group 5

#1

From: Steve LeBard <admin@orcutt.biz>
Sent: Monday, December 6, 2021 3:49 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: OASIS Meeting Center Project Hearing December 7, 2021 - Letter in Support of the OASIS Project
Attachments: BOS MEETING 12-7-2021.pdf



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Dear Clerk of the Board,

Please accept my letter in support of the OASIS Meeting Center Project being heard on December 7, 2021 at the BOS Hearing Room in Santa Maria. Please see attached letter.

Please confirm that you received this email.

Thank you,
Steve LeBard
805-714-1165
email admin@orcutt.biz

December 6, 2021

County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: OASIS Meeting Center Project Hearing December 7, 2021 Departmental Agenda
Item #1 - OASIS Project in Support of Letter

Dear Supervisors:

I pray for your support for the much needed new OASIS Meeting Center. It has been over 6 years since the Planning Commission first gave their blessing for this project to move forward on June 11, 2015.

During this time OASIS has spent in excess of five hundred thousand dollars on architects, engineers and County Planning fees – all donated by Orcutt citizens passionate to see their dream fulfilled. One of those citizens was 4th District Supervisor Joni Gray. She was a driving force for this project.

Supervisor Gray left us unexpectedly on November 22, 2017. She served as 4th District Supervisor for 14 years, taught at Santa Maria High School and Hancock College and practiced law in Old Town Orcutt. She knew what was best for the Orcutt community and she knew that the new OASIS Meeting Center was a much needed and key element to the revitalization of historical Old Town Orcutt.

The Orcutt Community Plan was adopted in July of 1997 – it called for the revitalization of Historical Old Town Orcutt. Five years later, in 2002, a group of citizens got together and formed the Old Town Orcutt Revitalization Association "OTORA" – a 501C3 non-profit. I became the first President and was a Board member for over 10 years. During those years we worked closely with Supervisor Gray and now Mayor of Santa Maria, Alice Patino.

While serving as President for the Old Town Orcutt Revitalization Association I educated myself with the National Main Street Program and met with various leaders in the surrounding community.

One thing that struck me was Old Town Orcutt lacked a meeting place sufficient in size for the community to come together. We have assembled all of the other pieces of the puzzle for an amazing community but we do not have a meeting place that supports a community of 40,000 plus residents.

Seeing this need my family donated the property for the new OASIS Meeting Center. The architects designed this project to compliment the Old Town Orcutt community, creating a park like setting. It is the perfect location for the project. Santa Maria Times story, June 29, 2017 – The “Crowning Jewel of Orcutt” OASIS facility key to revitalization.

I am a disabled Vietnam Veteran and I have been an active member of the Marine Corps League, the American Legion, Post 534 in Old Town Orcutt and the Vietnam Veterans of America for many years. OASIS has worked with Veterans groups over the years in numerous ways. Veterans groups have used the OASIS facility as a meeting place in the past and I expect that there will be a need for these groups in the future. OASIS has always been there to support our Veterans.

In making your decision, please take into consideration that when South Point Estates was developed on part of Key Site 18 the County requirements for open space for the South Point Estates development should have been approximately 5 acres based on the actual and final build-out. Approximately 33 acres were put into open space. South Point Homeowners Association owns 16.37 acres, more than enough to support the 5 acres of open space requirement for their development. The OASIS project represents a building on less than one percent (15,900 sq ft) of Key Site 18's 39.73 acres (1,730,638.8 sq ft)

In closing, I hope that you will do everything in your power to help make this wonderful project become a reality. Please vote in support of this wonderful project.

Semper Fidelis,



Steve LeBard
5290 Gladewood Place
Orcutt, CA 93455

de la Guerra, Sheila

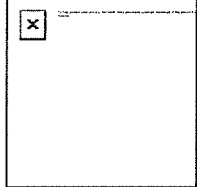
From: Doug Dougherty <SiveSivepro@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 6, 2021 4:20 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: OASIS Center
Attachments: Dougherty OASIS.pdf

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Please find attached comments regarding this project.

--

Doug Dougherty
Owner/Producer
(805) 704-0625



Dear Supervisors and Chairman Nelson,

My name is Doug Dougherty, a resident of Old Town Orcutt only a couple blocks away from the current senior center. In fact, you can see the facility from my kitchen window if looking between two of the houses across the street.

I am also the former CEO of OASIS, a position I held from roughly 2010 through 2020. So, I have been along for this entire journey, guiding it up each mountain we've had to face. I'm the one our members would ask, almost daily, if they would live to see the new OASIS Center, the dream they raised and donated what little money they had to give for. Unfortunately, I haven't been able to keep my promise to many of them over ten years.

I understand concern for any project that will change mostly undeveloped area. Especially in a community like Old Town Orcutt. We have built this community into an "oasis" in its own right. People come here from all over the world to have a good time. And they do, by the thousands. But even those changes we asked for to make this community better were once met with hostility and resistance... and later apologies.

OASIS brings over 60 years of great service in Old Town Orcutt to the table, having operated in the middle of three OUSD schools and across a parking lot from their main administrative building. Furthermore, the senior center is also across an only 30' wide residential street from four houses, and visible by hundreds more homes in this community. Never in my 10 years did we receive one (1) complaint of any kind, especially for noise or disturbances. In fact, the people in our neighborhood are all involved in the senior center, regardless of age. Their children volunteered and got intern credits with us. Ate at our monthly pancake breakfasts. Their parents used it as a polling location, or took a class there in the evenings through Hancock College. And grandparents call it their home away from home during the mornings and early afternoons, so they feel connected and valued in this busy world, while staying strong and fit.

Our membership can only be so patient, as time is not on their side. I can tell you the Board Members and staff (former staff included) have all taken a personal vow in their own way to make good on our broken promises to members over the years. I ask that you help us follow through and give OASIS the same chance you gave the members of the Old Town Orcutt Revitalization Association 10 years ago. Let this pillar of the community have a permanent home and allow it to bloom into a new OASIS.

Thank you for your consideration.

Doug Dougherty

de la Guerra, Sheila

From: Michelle Southwick <michelle@oasisorcutt.org>
Sent: Monday, December 6, 2021 4:59 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: One last addition!
Attachments: Scan_2021_12_06_16_58_43_651.pdf

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Thank you!

Michelle Southwick

Executive Director

(805) 937-9750 P

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(503) 314-7911 C



michelle@oasisorcutt.org | www.oasisorcutt.org

To: The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors

Re: Oasis Senior Center Facility

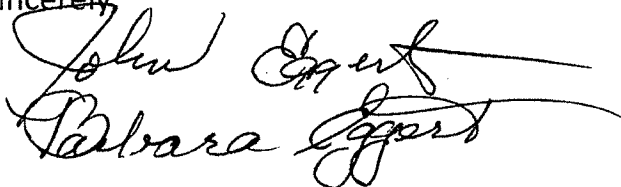
December 5, 2021

For many years the Oasis Senior Center has provided area mature adults with a gathering place to interact with old friends, and make new ones. Travel opportunities are offered. Many activities are available to keep mind and body sharp. Healthy meals are available. Many creative classes and events are planned and shared with the community.

Oasis is guided by a dedicated Board of Directors and hard-working staff intent upon providing an enriching, multi-faceted, friendly program.

As Oasis has grown, its facility has, unfortunately, fallen way behind the need. After many years of planning and fund raising, Oasis is ready for the next step – a new updated, expanded facility. We feel we have waited long enough. We urge your support to move forward to complete this much needed Senior Center as it adds to and enriches Santa Maria's future.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signatures of John and Barbara Eggert. The signature for John is written above the signature for Barbara. Both are in cursive script.

John and Barbara Eggert
2631 Lorencita Drive
Santa Maria, Ca 93455