

Ramirez, Angelica

Public Comment

#7

From: Mark Wilkinson <mwilkinson@sbtrails.org>
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2022 11:07 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: The Guadalupe to Santa Maria Levee Trail Study | May 17 Board of Supervisors Meeting
Attachments: Proposed-Levee-Trail-Comment-Letter.pdf



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.

To: Clerk of the Board,

Please find attached Trails Council's letter to the Board of Supervisors regarding the Guadalupe to Santa Maria Levee Trail Study.

Regards,



Mark Wilkinson
Executive Director

Santa Barbara County Trails Council

805.708.6173 | [website](#) | [facebook](#) | [twitter](#) | [instagram](#)



SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
Trails Council

Otis Calef
President

May 16, 2022

Dan Gira
Vice President

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

By email to sbcob@countyofsb.org

Paul Herning
Treasurer

Kevin Wallace
Secretary

RE: The Guadalupe to Santa Maria Levee Trail Study

Susan Keller

Dear Chair Hartmann and Supervisors:

Bob Nagy

Curt Cragg

I am writing on behalf of the Santa Barbara County Trails Council (Trails Council) regarding the future of the proposed Guadalupe to Santa Maria Levee Trail. We believe the recreational and active transportation benefits derived from the proposed levee trail project would be a positive contribution to the County's trail network. Furthermore, it will be an enormous benefit to the community of Guadalupe.

Natalie Hodges

Kerry Kellogg

George Amoon

We have extensive experience of resolving issues related to new trail development. Formed in 1967, the Trails Council is a broad-based trail advocacy, construction and maintenance organization consisting of hikers, trail runners, equestrians and mountain bikers. In addition to advocating for planning and construction of new trails, we help organize work parties to maintain existing trails. We have over 50 years of trail planning, design, construction and maintenance experience and have recently assisted with the construction of public trails in Carpinteria, Solvang, Orcutt, and along the Gaviota Coast.

We acknowledge that new trail projects require balancing the interests of the future trail users and the property and business owners that are located adjacent to the trail corridor. For this reason, we urge the County to move forward with a process that will result in a fair solution to adding a new recreational trail on the levee that is adjacent to existing farming operations. The same pros and cons that face the proposed Guadalupe to Santa Maria Levee Trail have been raised in many California communities and resolved through a cooperative process. We urge the Board of Supervisors to move forward and take the necessary steps to mitigate the concerns of all stakeholders and reach a viable compromise.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

Mark Wilkinson
Executive Director
mwilkinson@sbtrails.org

Ramirez, Angelica

From: Glenn Goldin <glenngoldin@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2022 10:15 AM
To: Lavagnino, Steve; Hart, Gregg; Supervisor Das Williams; sbcob
Subject: PLEASE EXTEND THE LEVEE TRAIL TO GUAD

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.

Dear County Supervisors,

My name is Glenn Goldin and I live and work in Santa Maria. I am a Special Education Teacher for the SMJUHSD's Transition Vocational Program. We serve 18 to 22 year old high school students with mild to moderate disabilities. I have discussed the project with my class and they all support it. There is no question that the extension of the Levee trail would be a terrific asset for all SM students, the general public

If the farmers have concerns, let's solve those problems together. Let's show that the community and the government can work together for the betterment of all.

Santa Maria needs more open space as there is a disproportionate investment in open space across our county. Residents in Santa Maria only have access to eight miles of trails over two options, while Santa Barbara residents can access over 130 miles of trails and 52 options. ONE HAS TO ASK- WHY DO WE IN SANTA MARIA GET TREATED LIKE SECOND CLASS CITIZENS? Sadly, only 17% of county open space located in the Santa Maria valley.

47% of Santa Maria residents live in areas with less than 3 acres of parks or open space per 1,000 residents. This project would double the miles of access to trails in Santa Maria.

There is fear that trail use on the proposed SM Levee Trail extension is incompatible with farming and will cause catastrophic economic harm to adjacent property. The reality on the ground in and around Santa Maria shows that to be completely wrong. Farms and trail use can co-exist and the levee trail can provide much needed recreation opportunities, AWAY FROM DANGEROUS vehicle traffic. A properly designed and monitored trail would cause no more harm than any of the current streets, bike lanes, pathways and sidewalks that are next to existing farms in our community.

I urge you to support the development of a public use levee trail connecting Santa Maria and Guadalupe.

Thank you,

Glenn Goldin

Special Education Teacher and Community Activist

437 E Camino Colegio

Santa Maria CA 93454

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