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ENVIRONMENTAL
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December 27, 2003

Ms. Maya Zaitzevsky, Project Coordinator
City of Los Angeles Department of Planning
200 N. Spring Street, Room 763
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Ms. Zaitzevsky:

I am writing to respond to the Canyon Hills Project EIR, Case no: ENV-2002-2481-EIR. I have lived in this area, owned and ridden horses there for many years. I have found the following statements to be inconsistent with facts known to me as a long time resident of the community.

116-1

IV - G. LAND USE (179k)

The DEIR misstates the interaction with "K" district for horses, A1 zone vs A1-K, minimum required lot sizes for equine keeping. Many of the proposed lots described are under the minimum square footage required for horse keeping.

116-2

The proposed "Upzoning" of 748 acres from Minimum Residential to Low Residential would destroy or at the very least seriously compromise the established rural/equestrian lifestyle of the area. The additional population density would severely limit equestrian activities and access. The proposed "Three Acre Equestrian Park" to mitigate this is woefully inadequate and inaccessible to most residents as a result of the increased housing density.

116-3

The entire proposed project is in an area classified as "Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone". Given the current state budgetary crisis there is no expectation that increased services would be available to the area, thereby overextending resources available to protect the existing community. Due to the narrow roadway in many areas it is already difficult to access the area with emergency vehicles. The plan makes no allowance for this situation.

116-4

V. GENERAL IMPACT CATEGORIES (63k)

A1 (Agricultural) zoning is misrepresented regarding agricultural activities. While there are no commercial agriculture concerns, one of the purposes of RA1 is to allow for horses, goats, chickens and other livestock that are common in the area and an important part of life there.


116-5

This project will also likely increase pressure for larger scale commercial development either nearer to the project site or within the existing "Foothill Corridor". This will result in increased negative impacts to the surrounding community by way of traffic and noise in the narrow "foothill corridor". Much of the existing roadway is narrow and twisting. We already have safety concerns that are certain to be worsened by the additional traffic.

116-6

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Maureen Gibson

Cc: LA City Council Planning and Land Use Committee – Council Members: Ed Reyes, Tony Cardenas, Jack Weiss, and Council Member Wendy Greuel