

Nina Royal
10110 Samoa Avenue
Tujunga, Ca 91042
Tel: 818-352-5504

December 31, 2003

Maya E. Zaitzevsky
Los Angeles City Planning Department
200 No. Spring St., Room 763
Los Angeles, Ca 90012

RECEIVED
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

JAN 16 2004

**ENVIRONMENTAL
UNIT**

Subject: DEIR No. ENV-2002-2481-EIR
Site Location 8000 La Tuna Cyn Rd.

Dear Ms. Zaitzevsky:

I am the current Safety Chairperson, as well as Treasurer Elect of the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council, Assistant Co-Chair of The Foothill Area Community Police Advisory Board (CPAB) and the Sunland-Tujunga Disaster Response Program Coordinator. Therefore, I am very concerned about the above referenced project and how it will affect our Foothill Communities.

189-1

My first request is that be no variances be allowed to the Foothill Scenic Corridor Specific Plan that has been passed and worked on by our community for the past 20 years, for that project. It would defeat the purpose of the plan, which is to protect our ecological system and quality of life

189-2

My second request is to see the report on Integrated Resources Plan from the L.A. Dept of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation. It has been mandated by the Mayors Office that all new community projects are to interface with this Agency with regard to waste water management, water conservation, landscaping to mitigate water reserve loss, recycling, beneficial use of storm water and economic impact of service cost. Also how it will impact sewer pipelines and treatment facilities. How is this additional service going to be paid for? Are all tax payers going to have to share the burden? There was a moratorium on building apartments in the Foothill area because of the over-burdened sewer system. Has that changed? I represent Sunland-Tujunga on the Steering Group for the Integrated Resources Plan (IRP), by the Dept. of Public Works. We are planning water requirements for the next 20 years. You can contact Amy Jones of the Wastewater Engineering Services Div. Tel: 323-342-6233 or Email: aljones@san.lacity.org, who can give you the contract person to interface with regarding the report that I am requesting.

189-3

The other concerns that I am addressing are:

Police Protection

This project is in the Foothill Area. I do not see any reports from the Captain Albanese or the Lead Officer in the area this project will affect. Downtown statistics are just that. According to the City Charter the plan is to bring and retrieve information at the local level in order to make an informed intelligent decision regarding community matters. We are lucky if "Downtown" personnel know where Sunland-Tujunga is or our

189-4

Re: DEIR NO. ENV-2002-2481-EIR

Geographic terrain. I have discussed this with the Officers that work our area on a daily basis. Their consensus is that it will have a significant impact on the protection services in the Foothill Area. Our response time is already 11.4 minutes. The new North Valley Station, which is scheduled (**Bond Issue 1989**) to **open next year (2004)**, will have to take officers from Foothill as well as other Valley Stations in order to open. There is no money for new hires in the foreseeable future and police resources will continue to be drained. This will further affect our safety. It took us years of petitioning to get adequate law enforcement coverage in this area. We were always shortchanged. We had one of the highest crime rates of all the Reporting Districts in the Foothill Area. The community worked hard together, became involved in community policing and we are finally getting our fair share. Because of that, we became one of the safest communities in the area. We want to keep it that way and not watch our hard work go down the drain. I think it is imperative that we have information supplied at the local level and list "the way things really are really going to be" rather than a their "wish list". We have to deal with it so it needs be included in the EIR.

189-4

FIRE PROTECTION

Again, they have the same financial problems as the LAPD. The LAFD has an insufficient amount of Paramedics and equipment. Same story, we were going to lose our Paramedics and had to petition save them. The current engine companies exceed the Fire Code maximum response distance of 1.5 miles and 2.0 miles for a truck company. The closest station #74 is 2.8 miles away and the winding roads are not easily accessible which will also increase response time.. The LAFP has deemed that the service rations and response times are inadequate and significant. Even with sprinkler systems, what about lose of life due to lack of timely medical emergency response? Where is the input from the local Fire Captains that are responsible for this area and what is their plan?

189-5

Because of the above mentioned reasons, Disaster Response will be very challenging. Emergency access roads do not appear to be adequate for emergency personnel and vehicles. When we had a "small" fire south of Foothill Blvd. on Haines Canyon approximately 2 years ago, it took 1-1/2 hours to navigate 6 blocks because of gridlock. This was 2 miles from the origin of the fire!

189-6

I am requesting that you sincerely consider these valid issues that I have addressed and include the answers to them in the DIER to be presented at another hearing.

189-7

Respectfully,



Nina Royal
Sunland-Tujunga
Email: NRoyal9259@aol.com
Tel: 818-352-5504

P.S. I am faxing this copy because of the deadline (I've been sick). I will follow up with mailed hard copy.

*C.C. Canyon Preservation
S.A.L.C.O.N.
COUNCIL - WENDY GREENGL*