

December 15, 2003

Los Angeles City Planning Department
Maya E. Zaitzevsky
200 North Spring Street, Room 763
Los Angeles, CA 90012

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CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEC 22 2003
ENVIRONMENTAL
UNIT

**Re: Case No. ENV-2002-2481-EIR
Council District 2
State Clearinghouse Number: 2002091018
Sunland-Tujunga-Shadow Hills-Lake View Terrace-East La Tuna Canyon
Community Plan Area & the Sun Valley-La Tuna Canyon Community Plan
Areas
Project Address: 8000 La Tuna Canyon Road**

After reviewing the above noted EIR on-line as well as attending a meeting in October 2003 hosted by the Whitebird Development Group, we state the following concerns and strongly oppose the above referenced project.

The EIR inadequately identifies and analyzes the environmental impacts and how they can be reduced or avoided. There is actually quite a bit more wildlife that exists in this project location than the EIR indicates; wildlife that once again will be threatened by a housing project of this magnitude. The wildlife we speak of and know exists, includes: Coyote, Deer, Hare/Rabbit, Raccoon, Skunk, a wide variety of birds and of course, California's beloved Oak Trees. Both my husband and I have lived in Shadow Hills for 5 years and in the general Sunland-Tujunga-Shadow Hills-La Tuna Canyon area for 10 years. We have hiked the foothills, biked the trails and have seen the wildlife and beauty of these foothills directly. We currently reside at 10254 Sunland Boulevard in Shadow Hills, this is the main artery for this entire area, as there is only one way in and one way out, on Sunland Boulevard, which becomes Foothill. This project will increase traffic tremendously, thus causing more pollution, noise pollution, accidents; traffic jams and also creates a negative quality of living in these areas. According to the EIR, only one signal light has been proposed by the project, and that is to be placed at the La Tuna Canyon location. This by no means is anywhere near a significant amount of effort in providing both public safety and alternative methods of properly flowing traffic in and around the project area. All of the people that will not only reside in these new homes, but visitors, as well as the builders, contractors, trucks that will need to come in and out, will be congesting Sunland Boulevard as well as La Tuna Canyon. All of the supermarkets, drug stores, retails stores, restaurants, post office, cable companies, water and power, etc., are all located on Sunland/Foothill Boulevard and because of this fact, this new project brings a problem of traffic congestion and again an issue of safety as all the people directly involved in the project will be heading to Sunland Boulevard for all their shopping and every day living needs.

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Importantly, there is no police station located in or near the proposed project area, nor adequate fire stations. With a project of this magnitude, adding more than likely thousands more people to come to this location, the inadequacy of police and fire is definitely a concern and one in which we all need to address. Obviously, we need more of these services to be in place, physically in place, before a project of this magnitude even begins.

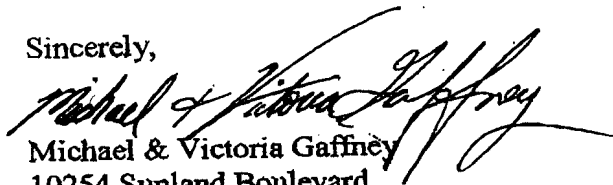
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Overall, we see this project as a threat to the public's safety, a threat to the environment and a threat to the quality of life we all enjoy now. We do not want to see this project succeed. If it were to succeed, we would like to see only half of the proposed homes built and all of our concerns addressed and fulfilled, including not removing Oak Trees as they are still on the endangered list and are protected under law.

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Thank you for the opportunity to voice our concerns about this proposed project. We strongly urge you to take our noted concerns, facts and opinions seriously and act upon them accordingly.

Sincerely,



Michael & Victoria Gaffney
10254 Sunland Boulevard
Shadow Hills, CA 91040
(818) 951-0481