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Maya Zaitzevsky
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Dear Maya,

We have been living in the Verdugo Hills area for thirty years. We raised our four children in Tujunga, and intend on never leaving. We are dismayed after reading the EIR for the Canyon Hills Project. We feel that some of the information presented in the EIR is inaccurate at best. We consider ourselves to be a Resident Expert of the Sunland-Tujunga area after having lived here over thirty years. Offered on the EIR were alternatives to the proposed 280 home development. We strongly feel that Alternative A is the best alternative for the area and for the future generations of Angelenos to come. There should be NO development on this land.

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There are many inaccuracies stated in the EIR. The first lies in the Impact of Geology and Soils section of the report. Massive amounts of soil will have to be moved to accommodate the slopes of the terrain. The report found that there would be no threat to future homes in this area due to seismic activity. We would like to point out that the house we lived in during the 1994 Northridge earthquake suffered over \$20,000 in damages is less than two miles away from the proposed development site.

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The second error is in the Flora and Fauna section, page 16, paragraph 2. This paragraph makes the destruction of possibly hundreds of protected trees insignificant. When we first moved in to this area nature abounded. There were many vacant lots for our children to build tree houses and forts on. We have seen this area grow one house at a time. Recently, there have been grand housing developments that have invaded the lines of nature conserves. We believe this land would be better used to educate our children about nature and preserve the nature that is left in Los Angeles. If we rid ourselves of open space now our children and their children may never know the pure serenity of being in nature.

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The impact on animals has been understated. The threat to the animals that live in these hills is immense. The author of the report stated that he did not notice any tracts of mountain lion or bobcat. Could it possible be that he did not know where to look? Anyone who has lives in this area for a time can tell you that there is an actual corridor leading to the Tujunga Wash, and the animals have learned to travel in the early hours of the morning. We have not had the problems

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that other communities have had with wild cats. Perhaps this is because of the open space that currently exists. Develop houses on this area and trouble will be around the corner.

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A few more matters close to our hearts are those of the impact of artificial light and police protection. Many of the residents of Los Angeles have not had the luxury of seeing a star filled night by simply looking out of their own back door. Adding 280 houses with some 70 odd street lights to the development will take away that luxury from current residents, not to mention the traffic and population pollution that will come as well. The city prides itself on a 7 second response time for police calls. Except in the Foothill Division there is only one patrol car in this area at a time, and the response time average is about 14 seconds. That is twice of what it is suppose to be currently. Add another thousand people (not to mention any visitors) to the mix, and response time will take even longer. Do our tax paying citizens need to put their lives at risk so some out-of-state developer can get rich?

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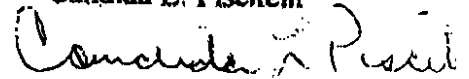
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We have seen this area grow from one where equestrians rode their horses on Foothill Blvd. Now, it is barely known that this is an equestrian community. This community has been a wonderful place to live. We have stayed here through the ups and downs. As we look upon our retirement years we hope that it will remain the community we fell in love with 30 years ago.

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Sincerely,

Candida L. Piscitelli



Anthony Piscitelli

