

Lew Stone
901 Andover Drive, Burbank, CA 91504
818.843.4209

December 19, 2003

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

RECEIVED
DEC 30 2003
CITY PLANNING
DIVISION OF LAND

Dear Ms. Zaitzevsky:

This letter is written in opposition to the conclusions of the Draft EIR for the Canyon Hills Project, specifically those cited in Section IV.I "Transportation." The statement on Page I-42, "Therefore the small increase in traffic on this portion of La Tuna Canyon related to the project should not materially increase the type of accidents that occurred along that stretch of road prior to 1997." This comment is the result of flawed research and historical perspective.

51-1

I have been a resident of the neighboring community of Burbank for over 40 years. The Project borders on the city boundary of Burbank. I am an avid road and mountain bike rider. The ride through La Tuna Canyon has always been hazardous. The DEIR fails to discuss the narrow to non-existent shoulders, rendering the road extremely hazardous to bike riders. The report fails to mention the accidents in this category and the fatal accident involving a vehicle vs. bicyclist in the late 1980's. The "small increase in traffic" statement is an insult to anyone with a normal level of intelligence. The threat posed by this residential development will dramatically affect the area's traffic.

A second problem with the DEIR, "Traffic" Section, is the failure to mention the Verdugo Mountain trailheads located along La Tuna Canyon. These trailheads are used by both hikers and mountain bikers. Principally on weekends, there are a significant number of vehicles that park in "turnout" areas and access the Verdugo Mountains (especially the Hostettler Trailhead). With increased traffic, merging onto La Tuna Canyon will undoubtedly be more dangerous. There is absolutely no mention of this within the section. This is a significant oversight.

51-2

I urge you to deny this project as currently proposed.

Sincerely,



Lew Stone