

LOS ANGELES CITY PLANNING DEPT.
MAYA E. ZAITZEVSKY
200 NORTH SPRING STR.
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

RE: ENV-2002-2481-EIR;
SCH #2002091018
CANYON HILLS PROJECT- DEIR COMMENTS

Sent by: MARGIE AND ANDY VOGEL
8255 OSWEGO, SUNLAND

RECEIVED
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEC 22 2003
ENVIRONMENTAL
UNIT

TO MAYA ZAITZEVSKY...

We have lived in Sunland for eleven years. Raising our family here makes us especially concerned with the directives of the Canyon Hills Whitebird Project and its subsequent DEIR report.

We are close to all our neighbors and feel to be important, contributing members of society and of this community in particular. We feel we make observant, vigilant and relatively objective 'citizen experts' due to our deep attention to our environment on behalf of our two children.

THE DEIR--- ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS:

Section pertaining to: SCHOOLS:

Logically, as parents of school aged children, we are especially mystified on the DEIR analysis claiming that the projects' new household would contain only 1 1/2 children per household. For one, the 1/2 of that grows up to be a full number himself. To that renders the DEIR inaccurate in just a few years. Plus, each household may actually have the normal 3-5 children. What was the DEIR number of 1 1/2 obtained from?

If the numbers appear to ALREADY be inaccurate, then the number of children attending the available schools is actually doubled the amount proposed.

Our schools are already overcrowded. We assume Verdugo High School would be the school used by the teenagers of these new project households. Verdugo High School has a known, but unacknowledge drop out rate of 45% by twelve graders. The reason is the overcrowding and tension related to this overcrowding. And since city/state funds are tight, then we would not see any improvement for years and years by the delay on construction of a new, additional high school.

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Section pertaining to: GARBAGE:

We are deeply concerned over the misrepresentation of the impact of millions of pounds of extra garbage requiring pick up and disposal. We see the DEIR is inconclusive on its findings about the impact this would have to our current dump site at BRADLEY pit, which services this and other surrounding areas.

Our trash services are already completely taxed and many trucks appears to be on their last legs of servibility. The DEIR gives impaired results on Garbage service and the impact the project's garbage service would have on the limited resources we have for pick up. Again, due to economic restrictions, the service we have currently, is as good as it gets. The millions of pounds of extra garbage to be picked up in the project would logically affect our current services, yet the DEIR fails to show evidence of any analysis pertaining to this issue.

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Section pertaining to: TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION:

The DEIR flatly fails to adequately address the issue of the impact of hundreds of extra vehicles that Foothill and surrounding streets would be subject to.

The danger of the excessive traffic over the already highly congested main Blvd. is the danger to our children who travel or walk or take the buses on this Major road through Sunland and Tujunga. This danger is NOT addressed by the DEIR. We feel it should be since the foot traffic on Foothill Blvd, by school children is in the hundreds.

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The DEIR is inconclusive on this issue, where more traffic naturally means more accidents, more danger to pedestrians and bicyclists and especially the school children.

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Section pertaining to: AESTHETICS:

We live here because we love it here and we feel this community is vital to our children's welfare and growth. We cannot emphasize the importance of the appreciation we take in our surroundings and the mountains which add incredible value to our lives.

The DEIR is extremely vague on its impact to that mountain/ridgeline view. We cannot imagine what a loss it would be to have 80 feet graded and flattened ridgeline. The scarring of ground preparation is beyond our ability to envision.....in a positive way.

The DEIR is remiss on the cumulative effects to this communities aesthetic values, once the ridgelines are altered. The value this community places on the views it possesses cannot be minimized or ignored. There is a commercial value attached to the aesthetic appearance of Sunland-Tujunga.

87-5

The DEIR clearly ignores this community's property values altering based on the unsightliness of ridgelines lined with two-story, one-story homes and the purity of the mountain, ridgesides being irrevocably destroyed.

87-6

We feel that the DEIR addresses Aesthetics as if it is an unimportant side note, of no consequence to the surrounding communities, to the property values of those communities or the personal appreciation the community has in its surroundings.

We would like the DEIR to better reflect sound judgement and sound conclusions based on thorough research and analysis. We ask that no zoning changes are approved or any law allowed to be changed to accommodate the Project. We have a glorious open community, with access to our surrounding mountains unimpeded and we sincerely wish the planning dept. consider our viewpoints on aesthetic values as they relate to our life values, property values and community values.

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We strongly recommend the Canyon Hills DEIR be re-issued. Please uphold the Scenic Plan, and the Community Plan as those reflect the aims and directions of this community.

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Thank you for listening to us.

Andy Vogel
Margie Vogel