

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing to express our concerns over the proposed Safari Highlands Ranch Development. As the impact on the environment is studied, please take the following concerns into consideration.

This proposed area is the home to many wild species, both plant and animal. Some of these species are endangered. We have lived adjacent to this property for 42 years, and have been blessed to witness many of the animals that make this area their home. Foxes, deer, gnatcatchers, horned toads, rattlesnakes, mud swallows, coyotes, kangaroo rats, wild turkeys, roadrunners, quail, and mountain lions are just a few of the wild animals we have had the privilege of observing.

The undeveloped hills between our property and the Zoo Safari Park are a part of a unique and highly endangered habitat called coastal sage scrub. Native varieties of lilac, as well as manzanita, scrub oak, many species of wildflowers, and groves of beautiful Engelmann oaks are doomed to destruction if this housing development is allowed to replace this native plant and animal community.

San Diego County recently downgraded our rural property and the surrounding area to 40 acre minimum parcels. It doesn't make sense to cram 150 city sized lots directly adjacent to rural 40 acre zoning. High density housing causing urban sprawl in outlying areas is contrary to Escondido's general plan.

Thank you for taking our thoughts into consideration.

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