



City of San Clemente City Manager

George Scarborough, City Manager
Phone: (949) 361-8322 Fax: (949) 361-8283
scarboroughg@san-clemente.org

REC'D SEP 23 2009

September 21, 2009

Jessica Wroten
Seabreeze Management Company, Inc.
39 Argonaut
Aliso Viejo, CA 92656

Subject La Pata Extension Environmental Review

Dear: Ms. Wroten,

As you may know, the La Pata Extension project is currently in an extensive environmental review. The lead agency for the project is the County of Orange. A number of alignments have been identified in the Environmental Review process. The City and the County have identified a preferred alternative alignment that provides the best solution to insure the least impact to the Forester Ranch community from light and noise from the La Pata Extension. Both the County and the City want to avoid serious consideration of alignments that would move the La Pata Extension closer to the Forester Ranch community. However, Caltrans is insisting on serious consideration of alignments that would move the La Pata Extension closer to the Forester Ranch community in order to reduce the cost of construction and avoid conflict with existing utilities.

We would encourage the Forester Ranch Homeowners Association to formally communicate to Caltrans its opposition to any alignment that would move the La Pata Extension closer to the Forester Ranch community. We have enclosed a suggested letter to the Caltrans District Director for your consideration.

Sincerely,


George Scarborough
City Manager

July 8, 2009

Cindy Quon, District Director
Caltrans, District 12
3337 Michelson Drive
Suite 380
Irvine, CA 92612-8894

Subject: La Pata Gap Closure Environmental Process

Dear Ms. Quon:

The undersigned represent the Board of the Forster Ranch Master Association I Community of the City of San Clemente. As representatives of the Board, we have been involved with the La Plata Gap Closure project.

Several years ago, the County initiated studies of various alignment alternatives. Among the alternatives were several proposals that crossed the power-line corridor into the Forester Ranch open space area. At that time, all practical alignments were reviewed by the County. Our community was given the opportunity to comment on the various alignment proposals and reviewed presentations by County and City staff. As Forster Ranch homeowners, we strongly objected to any alignment that resulted in crossing our Forster Ranch community open space property and coming near to our homes. The County Master Plan alignment was and has always been on the east side of the power line corridor closer to the Talega Community Development. The alignment crossed the power-line corridor at the very southern tip, away from the Forster Ranch community.

We understand the County has renewed its efforts to complete the environmental work for the La Pata Gap Closure project. Being considered in the environmental document as the "proposed project" is an alignment east of the power line corridor, away from our open space property and homes. This alignment is consistent with recorded right-of-way offers of dedication for Forster Ranch.

While we have not seen the environmental documents, we are concerned that further detailed environmental analysis of the previously studied alternative alignments may be included as practical alternatives. They are not practical alternatives. They were considered and rejected by the community and City of San Clemente many years ago.

We fully support efforts to process the environmental document. However, the only practical alignment acceptable to the Forster Ranch community is one that maintains the alignment east of the power-line corridor away from Forster Ranch open space and the community.

Thank you for your attention to and understanding of this matter.