

JJRBG Meeting October 15, 2021
Written Public Comments Submitted via E-mail
Agenda Item V

1. Mark A. Keiser

I am a resident of Santa Clarita and I am against the use of Camps Scott and Scudder as a permanent location for Los Angeles County's convicted population of teens through mid-twenties being housed here. This is not workable with existing homes and schools so closely located. Why is your Subcommittee moving forward with this decision **without the input of local residents and those most likely to be impacted!** This is not transparency and possibly violates open government laws! I am opposed to any site close to residential neighborhoods and school when there are so many alternative locations from which to choose. PLEASE, please recommend a more remote location.

2. Michelle Mularky

I live closer than 1 mile to Camps Scott and Scudder. I am voicing my opposition to having these dated camps remodeled and used to house violent offenders convicted of serious crimes. This type of facility should be in a remote area away from homes and schools.

3. Scott Colley

I am writing in opposition to the Camps Scott and Scudder proposition. I oppose this proposed site. I live in close proximity to this location and have concerns about serious offenders living in close proximity to family neighborhoods and schools. The security of the proposed site is of particular concern. Please consider a more remote location to house serious offenders who are serving their time.

4. Brook

Apologies for those essays. Very frustrating to deal with me trying to advocate for the cause. I allowed my personal to be political and overall passionate. However, I made it simple from beginning, I havev ALOT, on my plate. I am a firm believer that words are useless if not contributed or put into political and business action. Goodluck with whatever the city, county, state choose to do. The people ONLY have so much power. I hope the people are valued more than the cost of taxdollars and crime.

5. Brian & Jammy Lemmons

As a local resident of Santa Clarita with a family of five, I am against the use of Camps Scott and Scudder as a permanent facility for convicted criminals. It is too close to my family and other neighborhoods and schools. I urge your subcommittee to seek a more remote location.

6. Judy Caban

I am writing to inform the Subcommittee that I am against the use of Camps Scott and Scudder as a permanent location for Los Angeles County's convicted population in the age group of teens through mid-twenties. This is not workable with existing homes and schools so close.

As a resident of 23+ years in this area of Santa Clarita, I am against having Camps Scott and Scudder used to house convicted felons, no matter their age. Families, children, schools, parks, and small business are not a match for housing criminals within walking distance. Seek a location that is remote.

I live closer than one mile to Camps Scott and Scudder. I am voicing my opposition to having these dated camps remodeled and used to house violent offenders convicted of serious crimes against persons. It just doesn't make sense. I urge you to use a remote location for your rehabilitative efforts and not place the residents and children of Santa Clarita in harms way. This is not workable especially with existing homes and schools so close.

7. Dennis P. Hunter

I'm writing in regards to agenda items IV and V. I'm opposed to using camps Scott and Scudder to house serious offenders. I live in a neighborhood within one mile of these facilities and am concerned for the safety of my family as well as others. In addition to the inherent safety concerns, another issue to think about is the fire risk in the area. What happens if the facilities need to be evacuated in an emergency and one or more offenders escape? This wouldn't bode well for the children and families living within walking distance. Please consider other facilities not in a residential setting. Thank you.

8. Jerold Durst

I am deeply opposed to house juveniles at the Camp Scudder or Camp Scott in Saugus Ca. I live a short distance from one and don't feel it a smart decision for placement. We already have the Peter Pitches Prison. We do not need to be a criminal dumping grounds for the county.

9. Tim and Joy Ory

How is it possible to implement SB823's legislative purpose "to protect society from the consequences of criminal activity" (Welfare and Institutions Code 1710 (b) 1) when evaluating sites next to residential neighborhoods to house the juvenile serious offender population? The answer is plain and simple - IT IS NOT.

Camps Scott and Scudder are within feet of an existing residential neighborhood. A new residential neighborhood of 375 homes within 700 feet East of the Camps is also approved for development. Residential neighborhoods exist to the North, South, and West, and are approved to the East. Just to the North are several equestrian centers and ranch properties with homes.

The Evaluation Criteria Locational Factors of the Score Card are NOT realistic when it comes to nearby residential neighborhoods and driving times. What is the basis behind the 1/4 mile factor? An escapee would be well within our neighborhood at 1/4 mile. The public perception is 1/4 mile

was used to ensure camps a breath away from residential neighborhoods where children play in their front yards remain under consideration.

How were the travel time criteria determined for distances? I suggest you drive from the Camps to the Community College near the I-5 and Valencia Blvd during the morning commute hours. In good conditions, it takes more than 20 minutes to reach the freeway on any given day. To commute from our residential area to downtown Los Angeles is easily over an hour during the morning commute and closer to 1.5 to 2 hours to return to the area.

The JJRBG funding is through an allocation from the State of California's General Fund. The bulk of the General Fund comes from individual income taxpayers. It is time for this Subcommittee to listen to the taxpayers and voters of Santa Clarita.

The spirit and intent of the legislation purpose to "protect society from the consequences of criminal activity" can be met through using a remote site for housing and rehabilitative programs for the incarcerated.

We urge the sale of the Camp Scott and Scudder property with net proceeds to be directed equally for victim services programs and intervention programs for youth and their families.

10. Julie Bystrom

I live on Shadow Valley Lane, less than 1 mile from the proposed prison camps. I am a victim of Rape and do not feel safe knowing you plan to house murderers and rapists in my neighborhood. I have teenage children living in my home less than 1 mile from this camp. A prison camp located in the middle of residents, schools and parks is unacceptable. How will my children or myself feel safe in this neighborhood with a maximum security prison housing violent criminals? We won't! Our neighborhood has the power shut off constantly due to wind or fire danger. They are building over 300 new homes in the lot adjacent to the camp. Currently, this is at a location that is on a 2 lane road. It literally empties right onto my street where I live. With all of the open space and vacant land in other areas not located in a neighborhood, why would you house violent criminals here. The property is not up to code and will cost a fortune to update it. How about you move it out to the middle of nowhere and not next to me or my kids! A more reasonable location is a must! Violent criminals should not be housed in a residential neighborhood that is in a flood and fire zone. Violent criminals regardless of their age should not be housed next to children and families! This is a horrible location for a prison!
Stop this now!

11. Sue Fischer

I am re-sending the email I sent last week as we still have no response of any kind. We the public are your constituents and deserve so much better. We pay our taxes and work hard to care for our homes and community. Your ignorance of our community and refusal to answer our questions is appalling.

Scudder and Scott were built over 30 years ago prior to the development of homes in the Saugus area. I was the third house to occupy this block. There was no Plum Canyon; it was a mountain. Corn fields and farms lined Bouquet Canyon. This is a growing neighborhood now and no place for a prison. It doesn't matter what type.

I have reviewed the Stoplight presentation and have comments and questions

- Public Access: From personal experience, as I live feet from the complex; it can take up to 45 minutes to get to the freeway. At the least it will take 25 minutes.
- Competing Use Factors: A plan for approximately 375 homes is approved. These homes will surround the camps and on the hill behind, as well as, look directly into the camps.
- Competing Use Factors: Prior to the formation of this committee a plan for Bouquet Canyon Road was established to realign and to facilitate the building of these homes. The homes and the realignment equals a much denser population surrounding this prison than originally known.
- Location Factors: Saugus High School is 2.7 miles. As a reminder; Saugus High had a shooting with deaths 2 years ago.
- Location Factors: Rosedell Elementary School is 1.7 miles, Arroyo Seco Middle School 3.2 miles
- Location Factors: A church sits directly across the rural road from the camps.
- Location Factors: Central Park (planned for a major expansion) 3.1 miles
- Location Factors: The Santa Clarita Sheriff: A new station is almost ready to open on Golden Valley Road and it is approximately 7 miles from the camps.
- Location Factors: There is no 1/4 mile buffer zone (or even close) between a Horseback Riding School on the property next door to the camps. There is a second Horseback Riding School next door to the School next to the camps. There is approximately 800 feet from the entrance to the camps and the home across the two lane rural road.
- Location Factors: Henry Mayo Newhall Hospital is the only hospital in Santa Clarita. It is approximately 6 miles from the camps. Their emergency room is constantly filled with inmates from Pitchess.
- Other Factors: The Santa Clarita Valley has grown faster than it's road development. Our traffic patterns struggle most times of the day. We are gridlocked on every road during rush hour and relative to school hours. Whether it be a rural road or a main thoroughfare, Santa Clarita has an undefined road system and not a grid-style, as in the SF Valley and Antelope Valley.

Specific Questions Waiting Response

- The Santa Clarita City Council requested an environmental impact study/CEQA. Has it begun? At what point is it near completion?
- What specifically are the zoning requirements for such a prison?
- What specifically are the zoning requirements for a prison near a school?
- Bouquet Canyon Road will be closed in parts and realigned. Are you aware of this? Are you aware of its implications of this area's growth in density?
- Is the Newhall Sheriff's Department aware of this possible development?
- Is the Newhall CHP aware of this possible development?
- Is Henry Mayo Newhall Hospital aware of this possible development?
- Have you read the traffic studies for the Santa Clarita Valley?

The impression from the handout is that the architect may have looked at Camps Scudder and Scott but has no detailed information about the area in which it sits. The previous use of this property is no longer viable considering its current neighborhood population and design.

I kindly ask that you respond to the public's questions and concerns.

12. Krista Newble

Why is Kirby not being considered a permanent site for DJJ youth ?

Why can't the small population at Kirby be moved to Kilpatrick (since it is a small group model anyway) And make Kirby the new DJJ spot ? Doesn't meet all the standards / requirements for these youth ?

The layout works .

It's in the community .

It has individual rooms .

It has a campus setting .

Theoretically you can separate youth who are " crime partners " .

13. Krista Newble

Who is going to be apart of these community town hall meetings that are being proposed for Laverne , Santa Clarita & Calabasas / Malibu ? Will you at some point include officers who actually work with these minors ?

Representation of people who ACTUALLY DO the work appears to be missing , across the board , from all of these meetings .

Will you also host a town hall for Sylmar?

These youth are currently being housed in that area and although this isn't a high end area to the magnitude as these other cities , they also deserve a conversation .