

JJRBG Meeting September 7, 2021
Written Public Comments Submitted via E-mail
Agenda Item III

1. Tim and Joy Ory

Members,

We are submitting written comments in relation to Items III and IV a., and b. Please understand we are not able to identify the specific agenda item as there are no posted documents beyond the agenda for public access for this meeting. A voice message was left August 26, 2021, but no return call was received. Please acknowledge receipt of this communication.

We identify as stakeholders within the community of Saugus, City of Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County District 5. Our home is a stone's throw and easy walking distance to Camps Scott and Scudder. These Camps are located within close proximity to many residential homes, several small businesses, schools, with public transportation access right across the street from the Camp facilities. Recently, a new residential development has also been approved for the area. We take pride in our neighborhood and have resided in Saugus for almost 32 years, we have raised our family here, in a safe environment.

In considering a Score Card for facilities to house the State's serious offender male population and meet their needs we urge you to seek and acknowledge that the **impact to the surrounding community is equally important** and should be a component for your program for the violent offenders. Our community consists of families with children, an aging population, small businesses, teachers and parents, the City of Santa Clarita, public transportation providers, and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office. Security is not just an issue for those to be inside the camps, but also for the safety of the surrounding residential community, businesses, and schools as well. Additional concerns must be addressed in regard to evacuation due to natural occurrences as the location in Bouquet Canyon experiences wild fires, and flooding of the Creek. The impact of additional traffic for the Bouquet Canyon Corridor should also be studied.

We expect a level of safety in our homes and the surrounding community. The serious offenders should be located in an area that will be suitable for the success of your program and not risk the level of safety to those of surrounding communities. The Santa Clarita Camps are not an appropriate location in our view and we suggest the existing Pitchess Honor Ranch be used.

We expect transparency and accountability on the part of your Committee and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. The opportunity to have our concerns addressed. To proceed without considering the local community creates a liability for your Committee and the County of Los Angeles. These liabilities trickle down to the taxpayers.

With your report due to the County, we have not been notified of any outreach attempts to gain our input. We urge transparency in this process and that input is sought from the potentially impacted communities.

Please consider using the County's property tax database to perform notification mailings of the outreach to seek input of the local communities. This would be a similar notification as what is done for proposed Zoning issues.

Also, how will Megan's Law will be addressed when it comes to placing violent sex offenders nearby residential neighborhoods and schools?

In closing, we urge a comprehensive review with input from the community.