


SUTTERS

P O I N T E
OWNERS ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 800997 • Santa Clarita, CA • 91380

28 July 2021

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 W. Temple St
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Regarding: Opposition to Camps Scott/Scudder Juvenile Facility

We are the Board of Directors representing the development known as Sutter's Pointe in Saugus. Our development consists of 92 homes with the one and only entrance being less than two miles from the entrance of the Scott/Scudder facility.

Our homeowners are hardworking middle-class families that have put their entire livelihoods into building a community that has a safe and wholesome environment. We are a mini-melting pot of what makes our country great. We come from all walks of life and all races, ethnicities and cultures. We came here, in most part, due to the low crime statistics published by multiple sources year after year.

It has come to our attention that without community involvement or environmental impact report, a group known as the Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant (JJRBG) Subcommittee has arbitrarily made a recommendation to relocate all violent juvenile offenders from their current locations within Los Angeles County to the Scott/Scudder facility in our little community of Saugus/Santa Clarita. The Scott/Scudder facility was designed and built in 1958 to house non-violent youth offenders. A lot has changed in the 50+ years since it was built. Now there are homes within 800 feet of the facility and a valley-wide population of 213,000 people.

Since it appears the JJRBG subcommittee has done little or no research on the demographic or topographic specifics of their decision, we'd like to point out some important obstacles to this plan.

Our area is known to be at high risk for fire and flood. We are also very near the San Andres Earthquake Faultline. We mention these potential natural disaster possibilities because we are aware and live with the potential evacuation issues every day. In fact, most of us pay higher insurance costs due to these designations. The geography of our valley limits the number of throughfare roads making emergency evacuation a very real challenge. This would be even more difficult with the added burden of violent youth offenders being escorted at the same time.

We mentioned the lack of major throughfares in our community. This means we will have a great deal of additional traffic due to inmate visitors and inmate transportation. Please come out to our little development and see how difficult it is to travel Bouquet Canyon at any time of day. We have had several accidents just trying to exit our tract. The added hazard of numerous busses transporting the offenders and vehicle traffic from inmate visitors would be extremely dangerous.

We have had the Scott/Scudder facility in our neighborhood for many years and have lived harmoniously with those incarcerated. They have been low level offenders serving time for less serious crimes. We are not a heartless community saying "not in our backyard". What we are saying is this level of felony criminals is unacceptable living so close to our homes and families. We are also fearful of the criminal element we will be exposed to by some these felons' visitors.

The Scott/Scudder facility was never intended for high level offenders such as murderers and rapists. The cost to the county to bring the security of Scott/Scudder into compliance as a totally secured facility would be astronomical. It is our understanding that there were other locations considered but for reasons unknown, were scraped. **Camps Munz/Mendenhall, located on Lake Hughes Road is completely devoid of large residential communities. This seems to be an ideal location.** We are told Camp Holton in Sylmar was also considered as well as at least one other location. Why were all of these alternatives scraped in favor of Camps Scott/Scudder? There are over 10 million residents in Los Angeles County and only 213,000 residents in Santa Clarita. Why was our community, with roughly 3% of the Los Angeles population, chosen to shoulder this burden?

We look forward to hearing back from this committee or the Board of Supervisors so that we can proactively work together to resolve this issue.

Our contact information is
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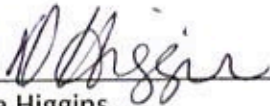
Cc: Santa Clarita City Council



Irv Busenitz



Dale Finch



Debbie Higgins



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