

JJRBG Meeting November 1, 2021
Written Public Comments Submitted via E-mail
Agenda Item V

1. Helene McElmurray

I am writing again to express my strong objection to the consideration of altering Camp Scudder and Scott into a max prison. In what universe does it make sense to place this kind of criminal element smack dab in the middle of multiple family neighborhoods? This is to say nothing of the schools located in close proximity and the flood and fire zone this facility is located in.

It is time that money, convenience, etc. is NOT placed above the needs of the citizens who will be directly impacted by such a misguided consideration. These roles you play in our county's government are based on a responsibility to serve the public and the public's best interests and safety. That obligation should supersede any and all other considerations.

With respect, it's time that our tax-paid representatives start REPRESENTING those citizens who pay the bills and abide by the law and not those who have broken it or the political interests of the state or other persons.

Please stand up for the citizens you serve and discard any consideration of Camp Scudder Scott for this project. Protect our family neighborhoods, our elementary and high schools, our evacuation routes, etc.

2. Tim and Joy Ory

On June 11, 2021, a social media post on "Next Door" exposed the County's intent to place the serious offender population at Camps Scott/Scudder in Santa Clarita. In discussions with neighbors, most do not use social media and are still unaware of the County's intent.

The Board's action of July 27, 2021 approved a substitute motion to require determination of a suitable site recommendation by the JJCC-JJRBG. To date, the County has NOT notified or sought input from residents, or collaborated with City's where potential sites are located. What is the County's intent? Moving forward without community input and collaboration with local cities prior to site determination is reckless.

During the October 25, 2021 meeting of the JJCC-JJRBG, Chair Adam Bettino spoke in response to several who called during public comments and raised the issue of the lack of community engagement. He commented in response that we (meaning Probation staff or the Subcommittee) are working with Supervisor Barger's Office.

Let's think about this openly:

- Is community engagement ONLY being planned in Supervisory District 5, Barger's District? How will residents be notified?
- What about community engagement in other districts?
- Does this mean, the permanent site selection has been predetermined?
- Will the elected LA County Board of Supervisors merely take turns grandstanding, then bless this item when it is scheduled before them?

We remain opposed to the use of Camps Scott/Scudder for the purpose of housing the serious offender population. Camp Scott is the only facility being considered that is in a determined flood plain, and both Santa Clarita Camps are in a fire hazard zone with a history of evacuations. Scott/Scudder are within 600 feet of residential areas, unlike Page/Afflerbaugh and Los Padrinos.

The JJCC-JJRBG October 7, 2021 meeting documents include the Facility Detail Report of the County's consultant GGA/DLR. After reviewing this document and comparing the sites, it is obvious Camps Scott and Scudder are NOT SUITABLE for the intended purpose:

Criteria	Scott/Scudder	Page/Afflerbaugh	Los Padrinos
Locational Proximity to Residential Development	600 feet*	1 mile	1 neighborhood w/no distance reported
Proximity to Family and Urban Center	45.2 miles	34.6 miles	14.9 miles
Proximity to Vocational Schools	6 and 42 miles	8, 12, and 39 miles	14 miles
Potential Fire/Flood Hazard	High fire**, within flood plain	High fire, Undetermined Flood	No factors
Single Room Housing	12	Would need to be constructed	ALL - may convert 1 building for homeless housing
Proximity to Staff Residences	Orange - 8 hour shifts if reopened	Yellow - 3 on 4 off shifts	Green - 8 hour shifts
Adaptation Cost	Lower end	Mid range	Mid range

*7/20/2021 City of Santa Clarita correspondence

** High fire is added to this table, it is not reflected in the GGA/DLR Detail Report

The JJCC-JJRBG Subcommittee's Snapshot of 60 Recent Commitments reveals the "LA Model" can be best implemented by using Camps Page/Afflerbaugh and Los Padrinos as the permanent site(s). Los Padrinos also has the availability of single rooms and no fire risk. If it is true that visitation of family and friends, and educational opportunities are essential components of the "LA Model", stand by these essentials. We urge you to recommend a location that better serves the needs of the serious offender population, their families, probation employees and service providers. Discontinue consideration of Camps Scott and Scudder.

3. Carla Salamat

I am strongly opposed to the proposed prison facility that is being recommended. This facility is within 600 feet of a well established and safe neighborhood. It poses a risk to the elementary schools and neighborhoods in the Santa Clarita Valley. Additionally is it the furthest location to the Family and Urban Center. It is also located in a high fire and food area. This would put the inmates safety at risk. After surviving several fires in this area, I can attest to how difficult it is to exit the area and get to safety. Bouquet Canyon was jammed with cars, large animal carriers, etc..... We do not need any additional stress on the infrastructure of this area. Additionally, I am wondering why you would put money into an area that has so many safety risks. Please reconsider this facility. It is not in the best interest of all parties involved...inmates and community.

4. Chelsea Tresieras

I am strongly opposed to the proposed prison facility that is being recommended on Bouquet Canyon Road in Santa Clarita. This facility is within 600 feet of a well established and safe neighborhood. It poses a risk to the elementary schools and neighborhoods in the Santa Clarita Valley.

Additionally is it the furthest location to the Family and Urban Center. It is also located in a high fire and food area. This would put the inmates safety at risk. After surviving several fires in this area, I can attest to how difficult it is to exit the area and get to safety. Bouquet Canyon was jammed with cars, large animal carriers, etc. We do not need any additional stress on the infrastructure of this area. Why would you put money into an area that has so many safety risks?

Please reconsider this facility. It is not in the best interest of all parties involved...inmates and community.

5. Denis Marxen

I am opposed to making Camps Scott/Scudder a secure facility for serious youth offenders. The youth to be housed here are convicted of crimes that include murder, rape and arson. These camps are within 600 feet of a residential area and a fire zone. I live across the road from Camps Scott and Scudder and am well aware of the fire danger as I have had my homeowners insurance cancelled due to being in a fire zone. I have been evacuated on very short notice due to the wind shifting during a fire that appeared to be of no concern to my neighborhood. Your own report documents this fact yet somehow the camps are still on your "short list."

6. Michael and Dawn Scalzo

On June 11, 2021, a social media post on "Next Door" exposed the County's intent to place the serious offender population at Camps Scott/Scudder in Santa Clarita. In discussions with neighbors, most do not use social media and are still unaware of the County's intent.

The Board's action of July 27, 2021 approved a substitute motion to require determination of a suitable site recommendation by the JJCC-JJRBG. To date, the County has NOT notified or sought input from residents, or collaborated with City's where potential sites are located. What is the County's intent? Moving forward without community input and collaboration with local cities prior to site determination is reckless.

During the October 25, 2021 meeting of the JJCC-JJRBG, Chair Adam Bettino spoke in response to several who called during public comments and raised the issue of the lack of community engagement. He commented in response that we (meaning Probation staff or the Subcommittee) are working with Supervisor Barger's Office.

We remain opposed to the use of Camps Scott/Scudder for the purpose of housing the serious offender population.

1. Camp Scott/Scudder is closer to multiple residential neighborhoods and schools, than Page/Afferlerbaugh and Los Padrinos.
2. Camp Scott/Scudder is farther in proximity to Family and Urban Centers, than Page/Afferlerbaugh and Los Padrinos.
3. Camp Scott/Scudder is in a high Fire/Flood fire zone, with active wildfires every fire season and only one road in and out of the local area.
4. Camp Scott/Scudder are within the City of Santa Clarita which lacks mental health resources and has only one hospital which is full most of the year.
5. Camp Scott/Scudder is within LA County Sherriff jurisdiction. The Sherriff recently declared an imminent threat to the public due to lack of resources.

The JJCC-JJRBG October 7, 2021 meeting documents include the Facility Detail Report of the County's consultant GGA/DLR. After reviewing this document and comparing the sites, it is obvious Camps Scott and Scudder are NOT SUITABLE for the intended purpose.

The JJCC-JJRBG Subcommittee's Snapshot of 60 Recent Commitments reveals the "LA Model" can be best implemented by using Camps Page/Afferbaugh and Los Padrinos as the permanent site(s). Los Padrinos also has the availability of single rooms and no fire risk. If it is true that visitation of family and friends, and educational opportunities are essential components of the "LA Model", stand by these essentials. We urge you to recommend a location that better serves the needs of the serious offender population, their families, probation employees and service providers. Discontinue consideration of Camps Scott and Scudder.

7. 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 and fire danger. Getting fire insurance was close to impossible due to the extreme fire danger in our area. We are surrounded by dry brush! 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 that is on a two lane road. Violent criminals regardless of their age should not be housed next to children and families and schools. There are two elementary schools within 1-2 miles from this location! This is a horrible location for a prison!
Stop this now!