

August 17, 2022

Ref: Public Comment Agenda Item III

Good evening to all,

My name is Liberty Garcia, I am a concerned resident in the Saugus area in Santa Clarita. I specifically live on David Way (near Bouquet Cyn and Copper Hill), which is only about ½ mile away from Camp Joseph Scott and about a 12-minute walk from there. I moved here with my family in April 2021 seeking a nice, safe community where my children can walk to school, walk the dogs without a worry, and my cars would not be continuously broken into. We moved from a city that we lived in for 20 years, near a county hospital, a rehab house, and a juvenile hall center. I saw how that city deteriorated every year and finally made the decision to move to a safer place for me and my children. If I would have known back in April 2021 that there were plans of opening Camp Joseph Scott, I probably would not have purchased this home.

I am afraid of what might happen if Camp Joseph Scott opens to house juvenile offenders (that can range up to the age of 25) who have committed serious crimes such as murder, rape, robbery, arson, etc. Where would they be released.... out into our community?! What will then happen in our community? We continuously hear stories in the news of how a past convicted murderer or rapist has committed yet another horrible crime. For example, just in the past weeks we have been hearing about officer, Gardiel Solorio, who was killed while off duty during an attempted robbery by an 18yr old (currently on probation) and the getaway driver was a 17yr old. If Camp Joseph Scott opens, what are the plans to keep this community safe? I want to believe that this will continue to be a safe community for me and my teens, but would it really be?

Liberty Garcia,

Concerned nurse, business owner, mother