

From: [Holly Manion](#)
To: [Lawson-Remer, Terra](#); [Anderson, Joel](#); [MontgomerySteppe, Monica](#); [Desmond, Jim](#); [Aquirre, Paloma x](#); [Potter, Andrew](#); [FGG, Public Comment](#); [Worlie, Paul](#); [Salazar, Maykent L](#); [Kazmer, Gregory](#); [Yuen, Jeffrey](#); [Henson, Eric](#); [McDonald, Hunter](#); [Lynch, Dahvia](#); [Harbert, Amy](#); [Slovick, Mark](#); [efhgtd@gmail.com](#); [Lorenzana, Bianca](#); [Montagne, Sarah](#); [mcquead@rsf-fire.org](#); [ashcraft@rsf-fire.org](#); [hillgren@rsf-fire.org](#); [malin@rsf-fire.org](#); [stine@rsf-fire.org](#); [Nicoletti, Vince](#)
Subject: [External] Vote "no" - Harmony Grove Village South.
Date: Wednesday, September 24, 2025 3:26:15 PM

Dear Chair Lawson-Remer and members of the Board,

I am a long-time resident of North County and live not far from Harmony Grove. I have lived through the numerous fires we've experienced over the years. Lives and property have been lost repeatedly, and, predictably, the next fire will come. The Harmony Grove Fire, the Del Dios Fire, and the Cocos Fire tore through our community, destroying homes, threatening lives, and leaving lasting scars on our neighborhood. We even lost a neighbor in the evacuation during the Harmony Grove fire.

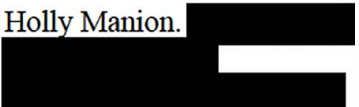
The prolonged and dangerous traffic delays during the 2014 Cocos Fire exposed the vulnerabilities in our community's two-lane road network. With climate change and the addition of hundreds of new homes, the potential for loss of life and property will only increase. Independent experts are predicting "catastrophic losses" based on an objective analysis of the current situation.

Many people who lost their homes in the Cocos Fire have yet to rebuild due to the many counties' restrictions meant to mitigate the risk of fire entrapment—yet a developer now wants to build 453 additional homes in the same high-risk area through a general plan amendment. Let's rebuild our neighbors' homes before we start putting more people at risk.

Not only is allowing this project to move forward irresponsible, but it appears that a billionaire from out of state is able to use his money to push this dangerous project forward by lobbying all of the special interest groups. We are the ones who live here and whose lives are being put in danger. We just saw the destruction in the Pacific Palisades and Eaton Fires - 31 people lost their lives due to exactly the conditions we are facing in Harmony Grove: limited evacuation infrastructure. The reality is that our situation will be more dire as we have fewer roads that are adequate for evacuation. Haven't we seen enough to say no to this GPA?

Please **vote no** on Harmony Grove Village South. We elected you to protect us - and our community's safety depends on your leadership now more than ever.

Sincerely,

Holly Manion. 

From: [Rita VZ](#)
To: [Lawson-Remer, Terra](#); [Anderson, Joel](#); [MontgomerySteppe, Monica](#); [Desmond, Jim](#); [Aguirre, Paloma x](#); [Potter, Andrew](#); [FGG, Public Comment](#); [Worlie, Paul](#); [LaVelle, Kyle](#); [Hayes, Andrew](#); [Yuen, Jeffrey](#); [Henson, Eric](#); [McDonald, Hunter](#); [Lynch, Dahvia](#); [Harbert, Amy](#); [Slovick, Mark](#); [efhgte@gmail.com](#); [Lorenzana, Bianca](#); [Montagne, Sarah](#); [mcquead@rsf-fire.org](#); [ashcraft@rsf-fire.org](#); [hillgren@rsf-fire.org](#); [malin@rsf-fire.org](#); [stine@rsf-fire.org](#); [Nicoletti, Vince](#)
Subject: [External] Prioritize Safety
Date: Wednesday, September 24, 2025 4:36:57 PM

Dear Members of the San Diego County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to you as a concerned resident regarding the proposed Harmony Grove Village South project. I urge you to reject this development, as it epitomizes urban sprawl that threatens to undo all the hard work the County has done on its Climate Action Plan and its efforts to limit sprawl and encourage infill.

The project is not served by transit and will increase the county's Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) as it is significantly higher than the County-wide average. And it will generate more GHGs than it is claiming it can offset. In addition, during the next wildfire, the potential for gridlock will pose a serious risk to the nearby communities. Independent experts have shown that, due to inadequate secondary egress, it poses a serious entrapment risk. This is absolutely unacceptable in view of the recent Palisades and Altadena evacuation catastrophes.

Increased VMT and driving distances will lead to greater carbon emissions, more sprawl and further contribute to climate change. The community itself is mostly rural, known for its wildlife, open space reserves, and natural beauty. We must protect areas like this from irresponsible developments that prioritize profit over public safety and ecological integrity.

Additionally, the site is listed as a Priority Conservation Area in the Multiple Species Conservation Area (MSCP) North draft. It is directly adjacent to lands supporting state and federal endangered least Bell's vireo, federally threatened coastal California gnatcatcher, the endangered Southwestern Willow flycatcher and near the Escondido Creek which supports the proposed federal threatened status Southwestern pond turtle.

The position of this project within the wildland urban interface (WUI) flies in the face of a wide body of research that shows that these are the communities that suffer the most losses during wildfire events. This community has already experienced the devastating effects of wildfires numerous times over the years (most recently, the Cocos Fire), with limited evacuation infrastructure.

I strongly urge you to consider the long-term implications of approving the Harmony Grove Village South project.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue.

Sincerely,

From: [Jessie Vinje](#)
To: [Anderson, Joel](#); [MontgomerySteppe, Monica](#); [Desmond, Jim](#); [Aguirre, Paloma x](#); [Lawson-Remer, Terra](#); [Potter, Andrew](#); [FGG, Public Comment](#); [Worlie, Paul](#); [LaVelle, Kyle](#); [Hayes, Andrew](#); [Yuen, Jeffrey](#); [Henson, Eric](#); [McDonald, Hunter](#); [Lynch, Dahvia](#); [Harbert, Amy](#); [Slovick, Mark](#); [efhgtr@gmail.com](#); [Lorenzana, Bianca](#); [Montagne, Sarah](#); [mcquead@rsf-fire.org](#); [ashcraft@rsf-fire.org](#); [hillgren@rsf-fire.org](#); [malin@rsf-fire.org](#); [stine@rsf-fire.org](#); [Nicoletti, Vince](#)
Subject: [External] Prioritize Safety and Limit Vehicle Traffic and Associated Noise
Date: Thursday, September 25, 2025 8:53:34 AM

Dear Members of the San Diego County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to you as a concerned resident of Escondido and environmentalist regarding the proposed Harmony Grove Village South project. I urge you to reject this development, as it epitomizes urban sprawl that threatens to undo all the hard work the County has done on its Climate Action Plan and its efforts to limit sprawl and encourage infill.

I live just east of Harmony Grove Village. The traffic is already a problem and I cannot imagine what it will be like with additional homes. The noise associated with the vehicles is already a problem and disrupts our evenings often. Very loud cars drive down Avenida del Diablo to access Harmony Grove. Heavy traffic and noise down this road were not problems 20 years ago, before the construction of Harmony Grove. Constructing more homes will make it almost unbearable from a traffic and noise standpoint for those of us that live on the eastern side of Harmony Grove.

Additionally, how will traffic be during a wildfire event? I recall being evacuated during the Cocos Fire and we were stuck in traffic trying to leave our home. Can you imagine what it would be like now that Harmony Grove has been built out? Can you imagine what it will be like with even more homes? People will die trying to evacuate their homes.

The project is not served by transit and will increase the county's Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) as it is significantly higher than the County-wide average. And it will generate more GHGs than it is claiming it can offset. In addition, during the next wildfire, the potential for gridlock will pose a serious risk to the nearby communities. Independent experts have shown that, due to inadequate secondary egress, it poses a serious entrapment risk. This is absolutely unacceptable in view of the recent Palisades and Altadena evacuation catastrophes.

Increased VMT and driving distances will lead to greater carbon emissions, more sprawl and further contribute to climate change. The community itself is mostly rural, known for its wildlife, open space reserves, and natural beauty. We must protect areas like this from irresponsible developments that prioritize profit over public safety and ecological integrity.

Additionally, the site is listed as a Priority Conservation Area in the Multiple Species Conservation Area (MSCP) North draft. It is directly adjacent to lands supporting state and federal endangered least Bell's vireo, federally threatened coastal California

gnatcatcher, the endangered Southwestern Willow flycatcher and near the Escondido Creek which supports the proposed federal threatened status Southwestern pond turtle.

The position of this project within the wildland urban interface (WUI) flies in the face of a wide body of research that shows that these are the communities that suffer the most losses during wildfire events. This community has already experienced the devastating effects of wildfires numerous times over the years (most recently, the Cocos Fire), with limited evacuation infrastructure (see above for my evacuation experience during the Cocos Fire).

I strongly urge you to consider the long-term implications of approving the Harmony Grove Village South project.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Jessica Vinje

From: [Annetta Wilson](#)
To: [Lawson-Remer, Terra](#); [Anderson, Joel](#); [MontgomerySteppe, Monica](#); [Desmond, Jim](#); [Aguirre, Paloma x](#); [Potter, Andrew](#); [FGG, Public Comment](#); [Worlie, Paul](#); [Hayes, Andrew](#); [Yuen, Jeffrey](#); [Henson, Eric](#); [McDonald, Hunter](#); [Lynch, Dahvia](#); [Harbert, Amy](#); [Slovick, Mark](#); [efhgtc@gmail.com](#); [Lorenzana, Bianca](#); [Montagne, Sarah](#); [mcquead@rsf-fire.org](#); [ashcraft@rsf-fire.org](#); [hillgren@rsf-fire.org](#); [malin@rsf-fire.org](#); [stine@rsf-fire.org](#); [Nicoletti, Vince](#)
Subject: [External] Don't Burn us! Stop Harmony Grove South! Vote No
Date: Thursday, September 25, 2025 10:23:28 AM

Hello Chair Lawson-Remer and board:

When my daughter moved into Harmony Grove, we saw that it was zoned for lower density due to the fire risk and lack of evacuation infrastructure. Adding hundreds of homes onto her dead end street is a disaster. Only one way out is not responsible.

She lives on a dead end road. She will be blocked in if there are hundreds more homes evacuating with only one way out and that road can even be blocked by flooding!

However, at a recent community meeting we learned that a developer was seeking to undo that zoning by adding another 453 homes in the brush covered area south of the Escondido Creek. This area is notoriously flammable and has only one way in and one way out. Incredibly, we learned that the county planners are recommending approving this project without a secondary access.

And on top of that, the fire chief, who we hold in much esteem, told us that the project doesn't actually meet today's safety standards without secondary access. "It would not pass today" are the exact words he said. It barely meets the 2018 standards from when the project first was voted on. I don't think I have to tell you that much has changed since 2018. We've seen close to 50,000 homes burn down all over California. We've seen hundreds of fatalities (many due to evacuation issues) and the state and local codes have tightened up considerably.

What we also learned in that same community meeting last week was that on one end of the valley, with HGV South built, 3500 vehicles will hit our narrow little roads all at once. The county never did a community-wide analysis (though we asked) of what the evacuation would look like under the fully built-out conditions, so the community had to raise funds to conduct their own study. It showed an almost-certainty of entrapment with 7 hours or more to evacuate the community (the fire arrival time is conservatively 1 to 2 hours).

The deputy chief at the very same meeting told us, in stark terms: "you better get used to sheltering in place because evacuation is not likely to be safe." That's sobering news because even the most fire-hardened homes burn down (45% burned down during Camp Fire and higher percentages in the Tubbs and Paradise fires). And closely spaced homes are the most at risk according to the extensive research done on California fire structure loss.

It is a terrible choice to make. This HGVS project will be the straw that breaks the camel's back. The next fire that comes through here will likely be before some of you retire. If you vote yes, you are owning whatever the consequences are.

Please vote no on this project or at the bare minimum enforce the secondary access requirement.

Sincerely,

Annetta Wilson

From: [Mike](#)
To: [Lawson-Remer, Terra](#); [Anderson, Joel](#); [MontgomerySteppe, Monica](#); [Desmond, Jim](#); [Aguirre, Paloma x](#); [Potter, Andrew](#); [FGG, Public Comment](#); [Worlie, Paul](#); [LaVelle, Kyle](#); [Hayes, Andrew](#); [Yuen, Jeffrey](#); [Henson, Eric](#); [McDonald, Hunter](#); [Lynch, Dahvia](#); [Harbert, Amy](#); [Slovick, Mark](#); [efhgtc@gmail.com](#); [Lorenzana, Bianca](#); [Montagne, Sarah](#); [mcquead@rsf-fire.org](#); [ashcraft@rsf-fire.org](#); [hillgren@rsf-fire.org](#); [malin@rsf-fire.org](#); [stine@rsf-fire.org](#); [Nicoletti, Vince](#)
Subject: [External] Reject Harmony Grove Village South
Date: Thursday, September 25, 2025 10:44:42 AM

Hello Chair Lawson-Remer and board: When we recently moved into Harmony Grove, we knew there was fire risk. The community has caught fire many times as you (should) know. Looking at the area zoning, we saw that it was zoned for lower density due to fire risk and lack of evacuation infrastructure. For that reason we felt the risk was acceptable. We know the importance to evacuate quickly and get out of harm's way at the earliest possible time. However, at a recent community meeting we learned a developer was seeking to undo that zoning by adding another 453 homes in the brush covered area south of the Escondido Creek. This area is notoriously flammable and has only one way in and one way out. Incredibly, we learned the county planners are recommending approving this project without a secondary access.

Also, the fire chief, told us that the project doesn't actually meet today's safety standards without secondary access. "It would not pass today" are the exact words he said. It barely meets the 2018 standards from when the project first was voted on. A lot has changed since 2018. We've seen close to 50,000 homes burn down all over California. We've seen hundreds of fatalities (many due to evacuation issues) and the state and local codes have tightened up considerably. What we also learned in that same community meeting last week was that on one end of the valley, with HGV South built, 3500 vehicles will hit our narrow little roads all at once. The county never did a community-wide analysis (though we asked) of what the evacuation would look like under the fully built-out conditions, so the community had to raise funds to conduct their own study. It showed an almost-certainty of entrapment with 7 hours or more to evacuate the community (the fire arrival time is conservatively 1 to 2 hours). The deputy chief at the very same meeting told us, in stark terms: "you better get used to sheltering in place because evacuation is not likely to be safe." That's sobering news because even the most fire-hardened homes burn down (45% burned down during Camp Fire and higher percentages in the Tubbs and Paradise fires). And closely spaced homes are the most at risk according to the extensive research done on California fire structure loss. It is a terrible choice to make. This HGVS project will be the straw that breaks the camel's back. The next fire that comes through here will likely be before some of you retire. If you vote yes, you are owning whatever the consequences are. Please vote no on this project or at the bare minimum enforce the secondary access requirement. Respectfully, Mike