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JAN 10 2007

Alyssa D'Amico
3307 Walnut Lane
Lafayette, CA. 94549

MORAGA PLANNING DEPT

*Received after
close of*

November 14, 2006

*comment
period.*

Lori Salamack
Planning Director
Moraga Planning Department
329 Rheem Blvd.
Moraga, CA. 94556

Dear Ms. Salamack,

I am writing to you today in regard to the proposed housing development in the Lamorinda area. When I first heard of the proposal, I was dismayed at the fact that anyone would want to destroy our beautiful Lamorinda area and its natural setting.

Having housing developments on the ridgeline of the Moraga hills will transform our natural and peaceful environment into a congested and unsightly architectural monstrosity that will trigger an ecological nightmare. First, I would like to point out that this is also a very dangerous project seeing as approval for 35 lots, instead of the 9-home maximum, is being requested. By including the extra 26 lots that are being requested, the "high risk" factors on the unstable site start to increase. These factors include sediment, erosion, landslides, and natural drainages.

Traffic is also going to be a nightmare and will affect everyone in the Lamorinda area. As you are most likely aware of, there are only a few ways to enter and exit Moraga. Moraga Road, Rheem, and Saint Mary's are the three main roads, and all three are only one-lane for the most part. As a driver, I have witnessed first hand the horrendous task of driving on these one-lane roads and waiting for an extensive amount of time in traffic. This is in the present time, though, and I can just imagine how awful driving in the Lamorinda area will be like if this housing development is built. Traffic will be backed up for hours and I believe that that is bad news for everyone in the community.

Finally, and most important in my mind, is the destruction of the wildlife habitats that will occur if this proposal is accepted. One of the ideas that has been proposed to solve the landslide problem is to fill the creek with the soil excavated from the ridgeline lots. This solution is not acceptable because it would mean the destruction of that creek and all the trees surrounding it. Not to mention, those trees and the creek are the habitats for many species of birds, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians including the threatened California red-legged frog. This then brings about the point that all threatened and endangered species should be protected and that any development that will disrupt a wildlife area and the habitats of the animals living in that space should be banned from

being built. I cannot stand the thought of not being able to see the wildlife around here anymore and I cannot just sit around and watch this beautiful and undisturbed area turn into an overcrowded and unattractive place to live.

Thank you for your time. I hope that you will consider my concerns and take them into account when you think about this project and how it is going to affect the community and all the surrounding nature.

Sincerely,

Alyssa D'Amico

Alyssa D'Amico
Student
Campolindo High School