

SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



FROM: Supervisor Buster

SUBMITTAL DATE: 6/29/04

SUBJECT: Santa Rosa Escarpment Protection Ordinance

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Protect the natural integrity and beauty of the Santa Rosa Escarpment by establishing improved grading, design, landscaping and building standards:

- Designate a Review Team from Planning, County Council, Building and Safety, Fire, Transportation, Flood Control and other pertinent departments to define Escarpment boundaries and major ridgelines and recommend policies for a new ordinance to protect views and watersheds, keep homes and structures off ridgelines, minimize grading, both for building and agriculture on steep Escarpment slopes, limit erosion, landslide potential and removal of natural vegetation, better enforce grading conditions, protect homes against fires, and ban scarring of the Escarpment from building new roads and driveways across its face. Consideration should also be given to early acquisition of sections of the Escarpment for the MSHCP.
- Request that the Team quickly inventory all land development applications within the Escarpment area which may affect the Escarpment and give a preliminary report to the Board in 30 days as to (1) whether interim measures are needed to gain the needed protection, and (2) outline the major provisions of an Escarpment protection ordinance and steps for its completion.

BACKGROUND: The Santa Rosa Escarpment is the main natural feature framing the Temecula, Murrieta and Wildomar areas. Its prominence and sweeping views of the valley floor makes it both extremely attractive to development and susceptible to permanent disfigurement. Several instances of over grading and obtrusive building have already occurred and serve as an unmistakable warning that the existing system of land use standards and controls does not deal properly with this special area.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bob Buster".

Bob Buster, Supervisor

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AGENDA NO.

3.44