

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



9.11

During the oral communication section of the agenda for Tuesday, January 24, 2012, Barbara Bowers spoke on Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan and fire regulations.

**ATTACHMENTS FILED WITH
CLERK OF THE BOARD**

**AGENDA NO.
9.11**

Riverside County Board of Supervisors Meeting
January 24, 2012
Comments by Barbara Bowers
Of the Concerned Citizens of the Santa Rosa Plateau

Public Comments to be added to the Administrative Record for
Agenda Item 3.37 - Supervisor Buster & Supervisor Stone: Adoption of Ordinance
449.246.

Supervisor Bob Buster, you and Supervisor Jeff Stone were behind the 3 Moratorium's and Ridgeline Ordinance. You are now changing your position by putting Ordinance 449.246 on today's agenda to repeal all three Ordinances which placed a Building Moratorium on approximately 300+ properties in La Cresta and De Luz. The Concerned Citizens of the Santa Rosa Plateau (CCSRP) appreciate this reversal. We understand this is an election year and want to make sure that you do not support any moratoriums or additional ordinances in the future. Supervisor Buster, we want a commitment from you as our representative to resolve the following issues;

1. We have concerns about the MSHCP (Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan). We do not believe it's fair or based on science. It has been used to inhibit property owners from developing their private property with the intent to devalue it, then purchase for half fair market value. There are over 80 parcels in Tenaja that have fallen victim to the MSHCP and the accompanying Habitat Acquisition Negotiation Strategy (HANS) that you mandated on these landowners.
2. Fire Regulations that do nothing to prevent fires and only inhibit a property owners' ability to clear the fuel load by only allowing only the use of hand tools. We want fire regulations that make sense. We have a concern that the 80+ parcels in Tenaja that are owned by the Riverside Conservation Authority are fire hazards. They are not required to clear brush and properties next to these cannot get hazard insurance or build. A lot of these properties line roads in Tenaja. We all remember the fire that was accidently started a few years back in the Santa Ana Canyon off highway 91. It burned into Yorba Linda and Anaheim Hills. All because of a car that pulled over on the freeway. One spark was all it took alongside a freeway that did not have brush clearance. We don't want that to happen in Tenaja. Let's not forget the fire started on the Santa Rosa Ecological Preserve year before last. It jumped over Clinton Keith, the only road for the Fire department to get up here. We want clearance alongside the roads including Clinton Keith Road. Safety comes before conservation.
3. Supervisor Stone, you need to start reading the Ordinances drafted by your planning staff. They are poorly written, not based on science and as quoted by Commissioner John Petty, "I quite honestly am embarrassed over this ordinance, it's sloppily written". You need to be a little more concerned with issues in District 3 instead of creating an onerous permitting process for property owners in District 1. I hope we don't have a situation of one supervisor bullying another? I also understand Supervisor Stone, you were on the Board for the Riverside

*Oral
Comm.
01.24.2012*

Conservation Authority last year. I find it interesting that while you are supporting Ordinances that prohibit development and devalue private property you also sit on the board of the County Agency with the duty to amass a half million acres for conservation.

4. The CCSRP has a concern that by continuing to take properties out of the tax base by committing them to conservation is a recipe for bankruptcy. This half million acres that you are in the process of purchasing and putting into conservation will not be assessed for property taxes. That only increases the tax burden on neighboring property owners. You are bankrupting the County at a time when you need more funds, not less.
5. Adam Rush is Mayor for the brand new city of Eastvale. He is not a land planner and should have never drafted any ordinance. He is a politician. We want planners with civil, structural and architectural credentials, not politicians who scratch each others backs at our expense.
6. Streamline the mapping process - We want a commitment from you Supervisor Buster to streamline the mapping process. It's absurd for a property owner to spend over \$100,000 in fees and over 5 years to final a parcel map. I have clients that have gone bankrupt by complying with one ridiculous request after another.
7. We want recreational trails in the corridors The Conservation Authority purchased with public funds. We have documentation from a well respected biologist that horses do not harm the environment. These trails would also provide a fire break in these corridors that are laden with a high fuel load.
8. The CCSRP wants a commitment from you Supervisor Buster, our representative to work with us this year to resolve these issues. If you do not work with us we will replace you in June with a Supervisor who listens to his constituents.

Respectfully,

Barbara Bowers

Of the Concerned Citizens of the Santa Rosa Plateau

951-837-1277

Barbara Bowers

*Barbara Bowers, MBA
Bachelor of Science, Marketing*

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage
32675 Temecula Parkway Ste A, Temecula, CA 92592
Cell: 951-837-1277 Fax: 951-905-1135
Office: 951-696-9644
BarbaraBowers@TopProducer.com



www.BarbaraBowersRealty.com

**Riverside County Board of Supervisors
Request to Speak**

Submit request to Clerk of Board (right of podium),
Speakers are entitled to three (3) minutes, subject
Board Rules listed on the reverse side of this form.

SPEAKER'S NAME: Barbara Bowers

Address: 38865 Avenida La Costa
(only if follow-up mail response requested)

City: Murrieta Ca **Zip:** 92562

Phone #: (951) 837-1277

Date: 1-24-12 **Agenda #:** Oral Communications

PLEASE STATE YOUR POSITION BELOW:

Position on "Regular" (non-appealed) Agenda Item:

Support **Oppose** **Neutral**

Note: If you are here for an agenda item that is filed
for "Appeal", please state separately your position on
the appeal below:

Support **Oppose** **Neutral**

I give my 3 minutes to: _____

**Riverside County Board of Supervisors
Request to Speak**

Submit request to Clerk of Board (right of podium),
Speakers are entitled to three (3) minutes, subject
Board Rules listed on the reverse side of this form.

SPEAKER'S NAME: Nadir Cabral Lins

Address: 20759 Gabriella Lane
(only if follow-up mail response requested)

City: Murrieta **Zip:** 92562

Phone #: _____

Date: 1/24/2012 **Agenda #** Oral Communications

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_____ **Support** _____ **Oppose** _____ **Neutral**

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I give my 3 minutes to: Barbara Bowels