August 28, 2008

Dear Planning Commission Members:

We are contacting you in reference to the upcoming planning commission meeting/public hearing where the new General Plan and recommended alternatives from the EIR will be discussed. One of the most important pieces of the new plan, i.e. the Housing Element, will bring the greatest amount of change to the city and almost all of these changes will occur on the west side of the city. Therefore the Calabasas Westside Coalition has been very involved with the process of drafting the new Plan and we have a continued interest in which of the alternatives will be recommended to City Council by the Planning Commission and ultimately what the City Council implements.

As you are aware, according to the new General Plan, the west side of Calabasas is slated to absorb almost 100% of the RHNA low income housing designation. We strongly feel that the RHNA quota has been unfairly allocated and we ask you to make sure that the configuration of the low income housing is as palatable for west side residents as it can be.

In terms of the EIR recommendations and what should be recommended to City Council, we believe the best way to meet the RHNA numbers with significantly less environmental impacts and more community support would be as follows:

1. Change the Rancho Pet Kennel zoning to single family.
2. Rescind the plan to change City of Calabasas multi-family zoning from 1/16 per acre to 1/20 per acre.
3. Retain the Plan recommendation for Las Virgenes1 (Pontoppidan Property) to be single family.
4. Retain the Las Virgenes 2 (Messenger Property) Planned Development designation with 160 low to very low income units and commercial
5. Achieve the total required 223 low to very low income RHNA units by creating a Planned Development (PD) for the Driving Range site and assign 63 low to very low income units and commercial allocations as appropriate.

Thank you for your time and we look forward to seeing you at the meeting on 9/4.

Sincerely,

The Calabasas Westside Coalition

cc: Calabasas City Council