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Green Valley Nursery Application - March 27th

1 message

Jenny <jdfam10@yahoo.com>

Wed, Mar 26, 2014 at 12:41 PM

To: "tom.dougherty@edcgov.us" <tom.dougherty@edcgov.us>

My name is Jenny Diel and my parents currently live at 2557 Shadowfax Lane and we are local residents of El Dorado Hills for the last 12 years. Their names are Henry and Betty Bernard and they have lived there over over 5 years. This is their retirement home.

The reason why I am writing this letter is because in the future my husband and our son will eventually reside at the home located on Shadowfax Lane. We are there daily as my son stays with his grandparents after school while we are at work. We also visit on weekends and so you could say that this is our second home.

We reviewed the application and Green Valley Nursery's request to have 7 necessary requirements waived. I was asked by my parents to write a letter but they may have already done so. Here are our overall concerns with their request to waive the items.

All of the neighbors on Shadowfax have known the nursery to be operating for over 3 years without a permit at all. They have illegally graded the property and have interfered with the intermittent stream flow. My parent's land backs up to the southeast corner of their lot, there the nursery has thrown debris, pots, wood, trash, etc. There is now a back up of water that sits at the property line where it once flowed free. Mosquitos are a bigger problem since last year. They burn on "no burn" days directly behind their property as well and I have personally had to walk over and ask them to stop. My mother also has very bad asthma, so when this occurs, she is forced to stay inside. We have seen the results of their improper grading across and near the stream. Major flooding has occurred on Shadowfax Lane which is deteriorating. The large trucks that are pulling into Shadowfax is also a big concern. That is a private road and it can not handle the weigh of large transport trucks. At times they have come all the way down Shadowfax to turn around.

The issue of the pumpkin patch and tree farm are a big concern as well. During the drought, he allowed people to park at the nursery to walk to the lake and had signs all over advertising this. Of course, this ultimately spilled onto Shadowfax Lane. Trash was left everywhere, people parked all the way down near our homes and drove to the end to turn around at the cul-de-sac. This went on for over two weeks.

Now with the idea of the expansion, pumpkin patch and tree farm. This will create even more problems. Where will the people park? Where will they go to the bathroom? What happens in an emergency and or fire breaks out? Where will the big trucks enter and exit from-they never use the middle island.

These are all huge concerns for everyone. We are aware that the Devorss' have asked for a waiver on 7 major requirements. After seeing all of the reports and first hand experience of the negative impact this has had so far and the concern of future problems, we feel that all requirements should be met before giving the go ahead on any future expansion of Green Valley Nursery.

We feel that everyone has a right to do business and contribute to their community in a positive way. As being local business owners ourselves, we feel strongly about that. We all give back to our community too. But at the same time, every business owner should adhere to the legal process of filing for proper permits and licenses just like everyone else in the community that want to have their own business. To think that you can just move to an empty spot in EDH, set up shop and do business for years without a license or be questioned makes us wonder.

We feel that it's important that they respect the local community right in their own backyard and follow the rules. The 7 requirements given to them in order to proceed are not excessive. They have been doing business for years in that location without paying their fair share and in the meantime, they have created an environmental issue in our area that raises serious concerns for the future.

3/26/2014

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Thank you for your time,

Jenny and John Diel
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