

Public Comment for BoS 4/13 Agenda Topic 23

1 message

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Attached is Public comment for 4/13 BoS Meeting agenda item #23 File # 21-0547

Regards, John Meyers Gilmore Vista ZOB Pollock Pines, CA

Zone BoS Letter 4-12-2021.docx

April 12, 2021

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Dear El Dorado County Supervisors:

I am reaching out to you as the ZoB Point of Contact for Gilmore Vista, a neighborhood of 42 homes in Pollock Pines. This neighborhood was established around 1960 as a private road. As more homes and side streets were added, Gilmore Vista became part of the Zone of Benefit system in the 1980s or early 1990s; a system that generally has served the Gilmore Vista residents well.

The El Dorado County supervisors who had the vision in the 1980s to establish the Zone of Benefit system made a bold move to bring the "Wild West" approach in many of these neighborhoods more in line with the uniform County standards for access, safety and maintenance.

Now El Dorado County rural neighborhoods face greater challenges of fire risk and aging populations, as well as increasingly higher expectations from homebuyers and newcomers to the County. This board should be taking active measures to build on the success of the Zone of Benefit system, and propose solutions to address the weaknesses.

Instead, today the Board considers a proposal that will ultimately move many of the 100 ZoBs further away from well-maintained roads, fire access and safety, and safe access during snow events. This proposal for outrageously high administrative fees that consume the majority of Zone revenues goes against forward progress. So does the proposal to dissolve Zones that don't meet financial requirements or serve the public interest, whatever that might mean.

My own home was built in 1961. For 60 years the owners of this home have paid the same property and sales taxes as our neighbors living along County maintained roads, in addition to paying HOA and later Zone of Benefit fees. Whatever developer situation that caused our road to not be part of the County Road system is now 60 years in the past. There are hundreds of roads in El Dorado County just like ours.

Today we ask the Board of Supervisors to drop this regressive proposal that will ultimately result in more private roads in El Dorado County. Instead we ask the Board to look at ways to make Zones of Benefit system more functional, or even transitions some of these roads to the County road network. This is the right path to solve the long-term needs of El Dorado County and its residents.

Regards,

John Meyers

Gilmore Vista HOA/Zone of Benefit