



Carmichael Creek Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Est. 1986

P.O. Box 1902

Carmichael, CA 95609-1902

www.carmichaelcreek.org

Sept 17, 2009

The Members of the Board
Carmichael Recreation and Park District
5750 Grant Avenue
Carmichael, CA. 95608

Re: Sutter/Jensen Park Proposal

Dear Gentlepersons:

The purpose of this correspondence is to again formally set forth our strong opposition to the sale of any park land.

Sacramento County has time and again set forth its vision for the Carmichael area.

In 1975 the Carmichael Community Plan adopted by the Board of Supervisors states "...Carmichael's major asset as an attractive community are those portions of its residential areas which are sparsely populated and have substantial areas of private open space....In Carmichael the most significant natural resources are the natural stream courses, rolling terrain and major tree groves... It is of the greatest importance to ensure the continuation of this type of open space in Carmichael."

The Carmichael Creek Neighborhood Preservation Act of 1988 adopted by the County Board of Supervisors again acknowledges the semi-rural residential character of the neighborhoods and states that this character is to be preserved and protected. The County General Plan adopted by the Board of Supervisors in 1993 reiterated the preservation and protection of neighborhoods.

The Carmichael Community Action Plan was adopted by the County Board of Supervisors in 2006 as an Amendment to the 1975 Community Plan. The Action Plan was the culmination of several years of community input and the investment of resources and energy by the County. Among other things the Community Action Plan states that projects within semi-rural neighborhoods should be built using existing zoning to preserve neighborhood character and rezones are discouraged.

The Carmichael Recreation and Park Board is a dependent advisory board established within the confines of Sacramento County administration. As such the CRPD should in its actions be bound by the proscriptions the County has set forth over time regarding land use and planning. We believe the sale of park land flies in the face of the ordinances set forth above.

Additionally, we would direct the Board Members attention to the article of County Executive Terry Schutten which was published in the County's Supplement to the Sacramento Bee in January 2009. In his vision for the future Mr. Schutten so truly states "...The preservation of open space is important. Once land is developed it is almost impossible to return it to its original pristine condition.' He further notes that the County is the steward of 15,000 acres of open space and finally states as his vision "...we hope to keep that number growing."

If anyone acting on behalf of the Park District on this project is considering what their legacy might be, please rest assured that with great numbers of the local residents the legacy will be that the Park Board chose to sell park land and open space that has disappeared from our community forever.

We strongly urge the Board to reconsider the proposed sale of any park land.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Carmichael Creek Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Amanda Ness, President

Cc: Jack Harrison

Enclosure: January 2009 article of Terry Schutten