



Municipal Services Agency
Department of Transportation
Michael J. Penrose, Director

Steven Szalay, Interim County Executive
Paul J. Hahn, Agency Administrator

County of Sacramento

February 8, 2010

Re: Vineyard Road Bridge Replacement at Laguna Creek – Open House Comments

Dear Residents:

As requested, the following are all the written comments submitted by residents that attended the Vineyard Road Bridge Community Open House on February 4, 2010 (6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.) at Arnold Adreani Elementary School in the Vineyard Community of Sacramento.

[BEGIN COMMENTS]

Comment: Want to oppose the expansion of Vineyard to 4-lane roadway. Use Excelsior and Bradshaw to expand. Support expansion of Vineyard Bridge.

Comment: I oppose the widening of Vineyard Road. It is already built-up residential and there is no more expansion available. Widen Excelsior as it already goes through to Jackson Highway. Vineyard stops at Gerber, leave it alone.

Comment: This is wonderful that the bridge is on the docket! It is another narrow spot that is being addressed to match all the studies and plans that have been adopted. Please be sure I receive notices on all meetings so I have opportunity to provide a vote for the project.

Comment: I think improving the bridge is a good idea, but I am against widening Vineyard Road to a 4-lane road. Only residents who live in the community travel Vineyard and it does not need to be a thoroughfare.

Comment: Slide/move bridge north of proposed to allow for easy access for emergency vehicle the fields catch fire once or twice per year.

Comment: Concur with bridge replacement. Strongly object to widening Vineyard road to 4 lanes. Would rather see similar project that was done between Waterman Road and Bradshaw Road on Elk Grove Boulevard with single lane and roundabouts.

Comment: Pay attention to design at Clover Ranch equestrian/pedestrian/car entrance. For example, particular attention to the large horse trailers that will enter through that Clover Ranch entrance.



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Comment: I am incredibly concerned about the expansion of Vineyard Road into four lanes. Creation of a highway in a residential area where children walk to school is a recipe for disaster and complete nonsense. When Bradshaw is now 4-lanes and we have Grant Line Road and Sunrise available as an offset, it is a waste of taxpayer dollars and creates a hazard to children. It will increase crime and turn Vineyard into something it shouldn't be and could result in the death of children. I vehemently oppose the widening and hope that sense is knocked into our politicians.

Comment: I was excited to have the opportunity to learn about a project I knew nothing about. I was very disappointed to learn there wasn't a general info session. All the info I received tonight was bits and pieces and hear many people discussing inaccurate info because we didn't here the big plan all at once. It would have been more useful to have a 20-30-40 minute info session so we all heard the same info and then the 2nd half to ask specific questions at the various tables.

Comment: Have caution signs (N&S sides) before bridge that indicates peds may be on bridge. Could these signs be placed before bridge expansion occurs since that is several years away. Signs need to be placed far enough ahead for people to stop at 50-60 mph.

Comment: Please look into the timing of the light at the bridge. It could use a longer yellow and red period. Yellow to give SB cars more time to recognize that the light is changing (they typically run it) and more red to give time to ride over the bridge in the NB direction.

Comment: I received a card with the notification of a community open house regarding of the replacement of the Laguna Creek bridge on Vineyard Road. Since I am unable to attend that meeting on Feb. 4, I thought I would express my opinion via email to you. In my opinion, the bridge does not need to be replaced at this point in time. Traffic within the neighborhood flows just fine through there and so does the creek. With the county in such financial dire straights, it does not seem fiscally responsible to spend \$8.7 million dollars on something that does not need to be fixed. With the down turn in the housing market, it also seems unlikely that the vacant land lining Vineyard Road will be developed any time soon. If and when it is, it seems the developers should be responsible for any road improvements (although based on the other projects I've seen go on around us, the roads are always the last to be fixed, after everyone is total exasperated with the congestion).

As a comment on the way road construction has been in our neighborhood and the surrounding area, I have very little confidence in any of the construction schedules being adhered to. I use as examples the widening of and bridge replacement on Bradshaw Road between Florin and Calvine Road. That has been under construction for almost a year and according to your posted schedule, should be finished in September 2010. I doubt that will happen although since more cars use that route, maybe they'll make that. As for the improvement and water/sewer line replacement on Gerber Road east of Vineyard, that project was almost a year over schedule and a total inconvenience for the neighborhood with Gerber being closed for so long. I'm sure you are aware that there is only access to the neighborhoods from Vineyard via Calvine or Gerber. No

other roads cut through to the main roads. If you close Vineyard at the creek for construction, thousands of people will have to reroute just to get out of the area, let alone all the school buses.

Thank you for listening to my comments.

Comment: I can't be at the upcoming meeting, but wanted to present my thoughts to you. I'll keep it very brief but, hope you will take my views to heart.

- Given the huge cost of the new bridge it doesn't make sense to fix something that is not broken.
- The disruption to the school bus system will add to the commute and likely mean the pickup time will need to be earlier causing sleeper kids at school.
- By widening the street, traffic speeds will increase thus disturbing the residents who back up to or are near to Vineyard. I use to live next to Vineyard and moved because to the traffic noise and speeds. I can't imagine how loud it will be if they didn't have to slow down for the bridge.

Thank you.

[END OF COMMENTS]

A direct response will be provided to everyone who asked a question or made a suggestion about the proposed bridge replacement project.

Please note that your participation in upcoming County Planning Commission Meetings is encouraged and a future meeting will be scheduled with residents to discuss the issues associated with the General Plan designation of Vineyard Road as a 4-lane roadway. For General Plan questions/concerns, please contact David Defanti. For long transportation planning questions/concerns, please contact Dean Blank.

Sincerely,



Anthony Vob, Project Manager
Associate Civil Engineer
Dept. of Transportation Design

cc: Don Nottolli, Supervisor District 5
Michael Penrose, Director DOT
Dan Shoeman, Chief DOT Planning
Dean Blank, Principal Civil DOT Planning
David Defanti, Senior Planner, Planning and Community Development
Dave Franke, Chief DOT Design
Patrick Carpenter, Principal Civil DOT Design
John Jaeger, Senior Civil DOT Design



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County of Sacramento

February 17, 2010

Re: Vineyard Road Bridge Replacement at Laguna Creek – Comments

Dear Residents:

The following are additional written comments submitted since the Vineyard Road Bridge Community Open House on February 4, 2010 (6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.).

[BEGIN COMMENTS]

The following written comments are by residents that attended the Vineyard Road Bridge Community Open House at Arnold Adreani Elementary School in the Vineyard Community of Sacramento.

Comment: Don't want new bridge, want pedestrian bridge. Bridge Project not needed. Issue of pedestrians not being able to cross bridge could be solved with pedestrian bridge.

Comment: As a resident of the Vineyard area with 2 children who attend Arnold Adreani Elementary School, I am STRONGLY opposed to the proposal to extend and widen Vineyard Road. The expansion would result in significant traffic and noise impacts to local residents as well as a public safety hazard to the many children that cross Vineyard Road between Adreani Elementary and their homes. I DO NOT believe that public safety impacts to children crossing Vineyard to get to and from school can be fully mitigated with a traffic signal at Vineyard and Wildhawk West.

I hope that you will reconsider your proposal and consider the livelihood of the many residents of the Vineyard area by leaving Vineyard Road a two-lane road that begins at Calvine and ends at Gerber.

I appreciate your accepting my comments via email. I do work and cannot get time off to attend the 2/17 hearing (Planning Commission Meeting) at 4:30 pm .

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

The following written comments are by residents that were not able to attend the Vineyard Road Bridge Community Open House.



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Comment: We moved from Natomas to keep our neighborhood family simple and safe! The only thing we need and want is a wider bridge with a sidewalk! Do not extend or widen Vineyard Road!

Comment: Vineyard Road currently runs through a residential neighborhood. The housing developments on either side of Vineyard were not built to accommodate such a large road or the heavy flow of traffic that will result from the widening. Most of the streets crossing Vineyard have houses on them (versus the back fences of many houses) and already have a problem with people driving too fast on them. If Vineyard is widened, people will drive even faster on the streets leading to and from Vineyard. This will create an even larger problem in terms of danger to the children of the neighborhood. Additionally, many children walk to and from school. The increased traffic on Vineyard will make this more dangerous, not only in terms of fast moving cars, but also by increasing the number of people who travel through the neighborhood daily. This will cause an increase in opportunity for and an increase in the potential for child abductions.

Widening Vineyard to such a large street will not only create more problems than it will solve, it is unnecessary. With the widening of both Bradshaw Road and Grantline, we do not need Vineyard extended, nor do we need it widened.

Most of the people who live in the South Sacramento/Elk Grove area knew when they moved in that they would have only a few main arteries with which to drive north/south on. We are all fine with that, as that was one of the reasons for moving out here, versus another place in Sacramento.

Comment:

Please reconsider the widening of Vineyard Road. We strongly oppose the proposed plans and feel that tax dollars would be better spent elsewhere. There is no imminent need in this area, especially since Bradshaw Road is currently being expanded.


Comment: I am a resident in the Vineyard community. Like many people here, the main reason why we select to live in this community is that it is a nice quiet area with minimum passing traffic. With the Vineyard Road Widening project, it will create a lot of traffic on the main road of our community. This project will potentially destroy this community. I am sending this e-mail to show my concerns on this project. I hope that the county can reconsider this project for the goodness for this community. Below is my home address and phone number. Please feel free to contact me when necessary. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Comment: I don't like the idea of expanding the Vineyard Road because it will make our area more crowded and traffic. Also the road will be very close to our house. We just moved in the neighbor because we like the quiet.

[END OF COMMENTS]

Please note that your participation in upcoming County Planning Commission Meetings is encouraged and a future meeting will be scheduled with residents to discuss the issues associated with the General Plan designation of Vineyard Road as a 4-lane roadway. For General Plan questions/concerns, please contact David Defanti. For long transportation planning questions/concerns, please contact Dean Blank.

Sincerely,



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March 19, 2010

Re: Vineyard Road Bridge Replacement at Laguna Creek – Public Comments

Dear Residents:

The following are additional written comments submitted since the Vineyard Road Bridge Community Open House on February 4, 2010 (6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.).

[BEGIN COMMENTS]

The following written comments are by residents that attended the Vineyard Road Bridge Community Open House at Arnold Adreani Elementary School in the Vineyard Community of Sacramento.

Comment: We do NOT want Vineyard widened at all. If we want to make it safe for riders and walkers we should not be making it through or widening it to four lanes.

The bridge widening is understandable but does it have to be so ugly. Tearing out 6 redwood trees and raising it up so far will be hideous. The entrance for the fire access does not have to be so big and ugly. Let's try to work with what is there and leave as much nature as we can.

Comment: Planning Commission & County Staff:

My name is Tammy Trujillo. I am a community resident of the County unincorporated Vineyard area, and a member of the Vineyard Area Community Planning Advisory Council. I live at 8090 Vineyard Road, Sacramento. *I am writing to ask you to Modify the Transportation Plan of the Circulation Element, to prevent the widening and expansion of Vineyard Road.*

Presently Vineyard is a very adequate 2 lane road, 2 mile long road (bounded by Calvine and Gerber) that services entirely low density residential uses. I personally use this road every day. Driving this road every day, I can state with certainty that it is unnecessary to widen and extend this road.

Recently the County Department of Transportation hosted a neighborhood meeting to discuss widening the bridge at Vineyard Road, where it crosses Laguna Creek. Over 50 of my neighbors showed up to learn of the project. Although the meeting was primarily to discuss the bridge, it became obvious that most neighbors were primarily concerned about the proposed widening of our neighborhood road.



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I am attaching the County's record of those comments. From reviewing the comments it is apparent that the neighborhood is unified against any widening or expansion of the road.

I am personally all for road expansion. I think Sacramento needs better roads, arterials and expressways. But there are so many other roads that need to be widened now (not in 2030). The make-up of this neighborhood and the proposed expansion of nearby roads (Bradshaw and Excelsior) make widening Vineyard Road both a waste of money and detrimental to our neighborhood.

I was pleased to see that both Staff and the Planning Commission have been receptive to similar requests by residents (namely Dry Creek Road and Eagles Nest Road). Our neighbor pleads with you to include Vineyard Road with the other roads you have identified as not needing modification. Thank you for your representation of the residents and your consideration of this request.

The following written comments are by residents that were not able to attend the Vineyard Road Bridge Community Open House.

Comment: Thank you so much for keeping us informed on the Vineyard Road Widening Project. As a resident I strongly oppose this project. However, I am in favor of a pedestrian/bicycle crossing for the bridge or widening of the bridge only for safety reasons.

It is my opinion that if the road is widened and especially if the road is continued to Jackson Highway that this will have an adverse impact on property values, crime and safety. This neighborhood struggles with crime on a daily basis. It is a known fact that the responding Sheriffs responsible for this area are at best a minimum of 15 minutes away and that was before the recent layoffs. Therefore crime is easy. If we were to increase the amount of traffic through the area we are only increasing the probability of more crime with no increase in law enforcement personnel or law enforcement coverage. Widening the road would not improve emergency personnel response times. We are already struggling with low income housing projects and Florin Road influences. Lets not add to the problem.

Second, I believe our property values will further decrease. It is the rural feel and neighborly community that will be lost. Widening Vineyard Road would encourage large, commercial developments to infiltrate the area. I for one do not want commercial developments near my home.

In addition, as it is there are no bike paths. Therefore many folks walk and bike on Vineyard Road. To expand the road and open it up to the increase amount of traffic flow will only increase the probability of accidents involving bicyclists and pedestrians and cause a split in our community.

Further, many of our bus stops for the local school district are found on Vineyard road. Again, this project would endanger our children.

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Lastly, it is my understanding that Bradshaw Road and Sunrise Boulevard long range plans are to widen to six lanes through to Grantline Road. Grantline Road is also slated to be widened to six lanes with an overpass over the railroad tracks. With those plans in place where is the need to widen Vineyard?

I moved to this community for two reasons. First because it was in the County and not in the City of Elk Grove. Second, and most importantly, because it gave you that rural feeling. Part of that rural feeling has already been destroyed with the current improvements.

Please don't take our community away from us.

Due to scheduling I have been unable to attend the meetings. Therefore, please accept this letter in writing as my formal protest.

Comment: I am against expanding the vineyard to highway 50 because the increased traffic puts families and kids at too much of a risk. In our small neighbor, we have parents, grandparents, and kids walking across Vineyard Road to Arnold Adreani School. The increased traffic will just put them at risk. The danger will just multiply.

Families moved into this area for peace and quiet. We don't this small road turned into a major traffic hub to the freeway for folks to save 1 minute of commute; especially when you can just hop on Bradshaw to get to hwy 50.

Comment: Extending Vineyard Road is an absolutely total waste of taxpayer money. Excelsior goes thru to Jackson. Bradshaw, under constant improvement goes to Highway 50. If you have money to throw around—fill the potholes.

Comment: We are opposed to both widening and lengthening Vineyard. Vineyard is a minor thoroughfare through a rural area and creating a boulevard through this area is disruptive to both the residents and wildlife here.

Comment: I do appreciate your requesting and receiving comments from the residents of the Vineyard Road area with regard to the proposed expansion.

I have lived in this area for over 7 years, and am currently serving as the Wildhawk West Homeowners Group President and Neighborhood Watch Captain. I am not aware of anyone who lives off of Vineyard Road who is in favor of the proposed expansion.

This neighborhood is a quiet residential area and we want to keep it that way. It was not designed to accommodate a major thoroughfare. The buffer between the edge of the roadway and the back wall of the adjacent homes is not sufficient. The widening of Vineyard Road will only result in diminishing the quality of life for the residents of this area, which will far exceed any potential benefit of traffic flow.

We also have a concern with regard to the increased crime that will accompany the proposed expansion. There are only 3 Sheriff's deputies assigned to a very large area, a portion of which is a high crime area of South Sacramento. We no longer have a POP officer assigned to our area. Obviously the Sheriff's deputies are already spread extremely thin, and creating an environment of increased crime will negatively impact the residents of this area.

With the current expansion of Bradshaw Road and the proposed expansion of Grantline Road, there does not appear to be any reasonable need for expanding Vineyard Road. With the growing governmental deficits, it would appear that the money could be better spent elsewhere.

The residents of this area have a concern that you are only patronizing us in requesting our input on this project. I sincerely hope that is not the case and that you will seriously consider our requests and put our best interests ahead of all others since we are the ones most affected by this decision.

Comment: Thank You for keeping me abreast of the meetings involving changes to the infrastructure of the Vineyard area. I have forwarded your e-mails to all of the members in our voluntary homeowners association in Silver Springs.

Irrespective of the need for the bridge widening on Vineyard Road, I personally oppose the widening of Vineyard Road south of the creek to Calvin Road.

When the first three phases of Silver Springs were built in the early 1990s, Vineyard Road was hardly more than a trail. With the development of Silver Legends, Silver Meadows, and other developments, the residents of Silver Springs whose backyards abut Vineyard Road live with a great deal of traffic noise. This is partially due to the greatly increased number of vehicles traveling on Vineyard Road combined with the reverb of sound echoing from the sound walls located on the west side of Vineyard Road area.

Given the County's budget difficulties that it will face in the immediate and intermediate future, the widening of Vineyard Road south of the pedestrian bridge should not be a priority. Given the economic indicators for the foreseeable future, it is difficult to believe that many real estate developers will be fighting for the development rights to the Vineyard Road extension from Gerber to Florin Road.

Thanks again for keeping our community apprised of meetings pertinent to the Vineyard area.

Comment: Who is deciding on where the public money is to be spent? As of today, we are closing libraries in elementary, middle, and high schools, and wasting how many millions of dollars on a bridge that is perfectly fine? How many schools would be able to keep their libraries open with the \$8.7 MILLION?

Comment: We absolutely love living here in the Vineyard area. We've been here for over 10 years now and enjoy the quiet nature of the neighborhood. Making Vineyard a main artery to Jackson Hwy would destroy this serene atmosphere and put our children at higher risk for pedestrian or bicycle accidents with high volume motorists. Please **OPPOSE** the proposal of making Vineyard Road a highly traveled thruway. Please consider another alternative, perhaps from Gerber Road north where Vineyard has not been laid yet. At least this way this would spare current homeowners on Vineyard, and new homeowners that will eventually occupy the extended Vineyard Road (north of Gerber) in new subdivisions, will know exactly what they're buying into.

Comment: I am a resident of the Silver Spring area. I am writing to object the widening of the Vineyard Road. We want to keep our quiet neighborhood the way it is. Widening of the

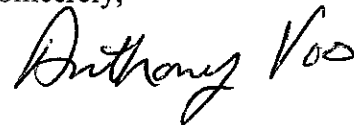
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Vineyard Road will bring more traffic, noises, and inevitably higher crimes to our area. I'd like to be informed of the progress and decision of this project. Please feel free to contact me via email or phone.

[END OF COMMENTS]

Please note that a future meeting will be scheduled with residents to discuss concerns associated with the General Plan designation of Vineyard Road as a 4-lane roadway. For General Plan questions/concerns, please contact David Defanti. For long range transportation planning questions/concerns, please contact Dean Blank.

Sincerely,



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