

Public Utilities Board

A few years ago I looked out at the old abandoned golf course and thought , “what a great place to build a cross country course!” After dozens of meetings with many city officials and groups I finally convinced others of this. With the help of a compatriot of mine, Will Jacobsmeyer, who convinced the CIF that this was a great idea, but more importantly, this was CIF quality course, we brought cross country running to the Northside.

Coach Jacobsmeyer designed a course that utilized the outsides of the golf course in case we ever had to share it.

This year we are having 11 meets on this course. The biggest one is CIF preliminaries, previously held at the famous Mt. SAC course. Next year we have CIF finals too! In fact, the state CIF has asked Riverside to bid for the state championships, which are held in Fresno.

If Riverside plans this well, they could change this course into a fitness park that incorporates running and other fitness. We have parks dedicated to softball and soccer, why not other types of exercise. Let’s make Riverside the home of California RUNNING.

John Krick

La Sierra High School

Cross Country/AP Environmental Sci/Chemistry

Ference, Cathy

Item 9

From: Ference, Cathy
Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2015 5:07 PM
To: Andrew Walcker; Cole, Ron; darrell ament; David Austin; Jennifer O'Farrell; Justin Scott-Coe; Nick Ferguson; susan cash
Cc: Ference, Cathy; Renfro, Karen
Subject: FW: [External] OCT. 2, 2015 RPU BOARD MEETING:

Dear Board Chair Cash and Board Members,

I am forwarding this email as it is public comments relating to Item 9 of the RPU Board Agenda for October 2, 2015 meeting (tomorrow) from Ms. Karen Renfro.

I will also have hard copies at your desk in the morning and it will go into the Board packet as official public comment. See you then 😊

Cathy Ference

Sr. Admin Assistant to
Public Utilities General Manager
3750 University Avenue, 3rd Floor
Riverside, CA 92501
951-826-5197
951-826-2450 FAX
cference@riversideca.gov

From: Karen Renfro [<mailto:k.a.renfro7@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2015 4:50 PM
To: Ference, Cathy
Subject: [External] OCT. 2, 2015 RPU BOARD MEETING:

To: The Board of Directors of Riverside Public Utilities
From: Karen Renfro, Springbrook Heritage Alliance

RE: AGENDA ITEM #9

- The goal of Springbrook Heritage Alliance is to save the irreplaceable community treasures of the Springbrook Arroyo watershed, many of which are located within old La Placita-Spanish Town-Pellissier Ranch and Riverside's Northside neighborhood. All of these assets are threatened by current zoning and General Plan land use designations and the ambitions of industrial developers.
- The RPU has the ability to protect three of these assets: the Ab Brown Sports Complex, the CIF Cross Country Track on the former golf course, and Pellissier Ranch. The fourth, Springbrook Arroyo, is as we understand a waterway the RPU has something to do with. All of them contribute to the character of the neighborhood and are part of the neighborhood identity.
- The value of these properties to the people of the Springbrook Arroyo communities, including Riverside-Colton-Highgrove-Grand Terrace, cannot be calculated accurately only by short-term measures or in dollars and cents, but largely in long-term measures and Quality of Life issues.
- The criteria of "highest-and-best use", if limited to the potential of each property to generate revenue for local government and applied to RPU's Northside properties, would result in a false assessment of their actual value to the people of these communities and to the jurisdictions where they live and work and pay taxes.

- The full historical and cultural significance of the Northside to the people of the Springbrook Arroyo communities is not widely-known, and is, in fact, still being discovered. We have only recently learned that the area where the RPU's Northside properties are is located within the overlapping tribal boundaries of the Cahuilla, Tongva, Serrano and Luiseno peoples who regularly visited the hot sulphur springs that used to be there.
- These springs were considered sacred and if members of the various tribes met one another there, they did so in peace. Tom Patterson mentioned in one of his columns long ago that in 1870 the people who founded the Township of Riverside discovered native artifacts at the place we call "Elliotta Springs"-- the sacred hot sulphur springs that no longer flow. The site is unprotected and has never been excavated. The Cahuilla are known to have been around this area for 2,000 years, maybe longer. The Northside was a part of their lives. We don't have any reason to assume other evidence isn't buried in the ground on RPU properties.
- The highest and best use of RPU property in the Northside and Colton should be considered to be whatever protects the historical and cultural assets for future generations and enhances the Quality of Life for the neighborhood.
- It should not be assumed that there is no interest among local entrepreneurs and out-of-town investors in helping make our dream of the Springbrook Heritage Parklands & Walking Trails a reality, as historical sites and cultural venues are becoming more popular every day, and the Northside has a lot to offer.

We support the current use of the Ab Brown Sports Complex by AYSO-Region 47 and of the former PGA-certified Riverside Golf Course by the CIF Cross Country organization. It is our wish that they remain as long as they want, for both groups bring honor and trade to the Northside and the communities nearby.

Please consider that the La Placita-Spanish Town-Pellissier Ranch area of the Northside is dear to the hearts of many people, and not just because more than ten thousand call it home.

We look forward to the discussions of the Northside Specific Plan and your contribution to a desirable outcome.

k.a.renfro7@gmail.com

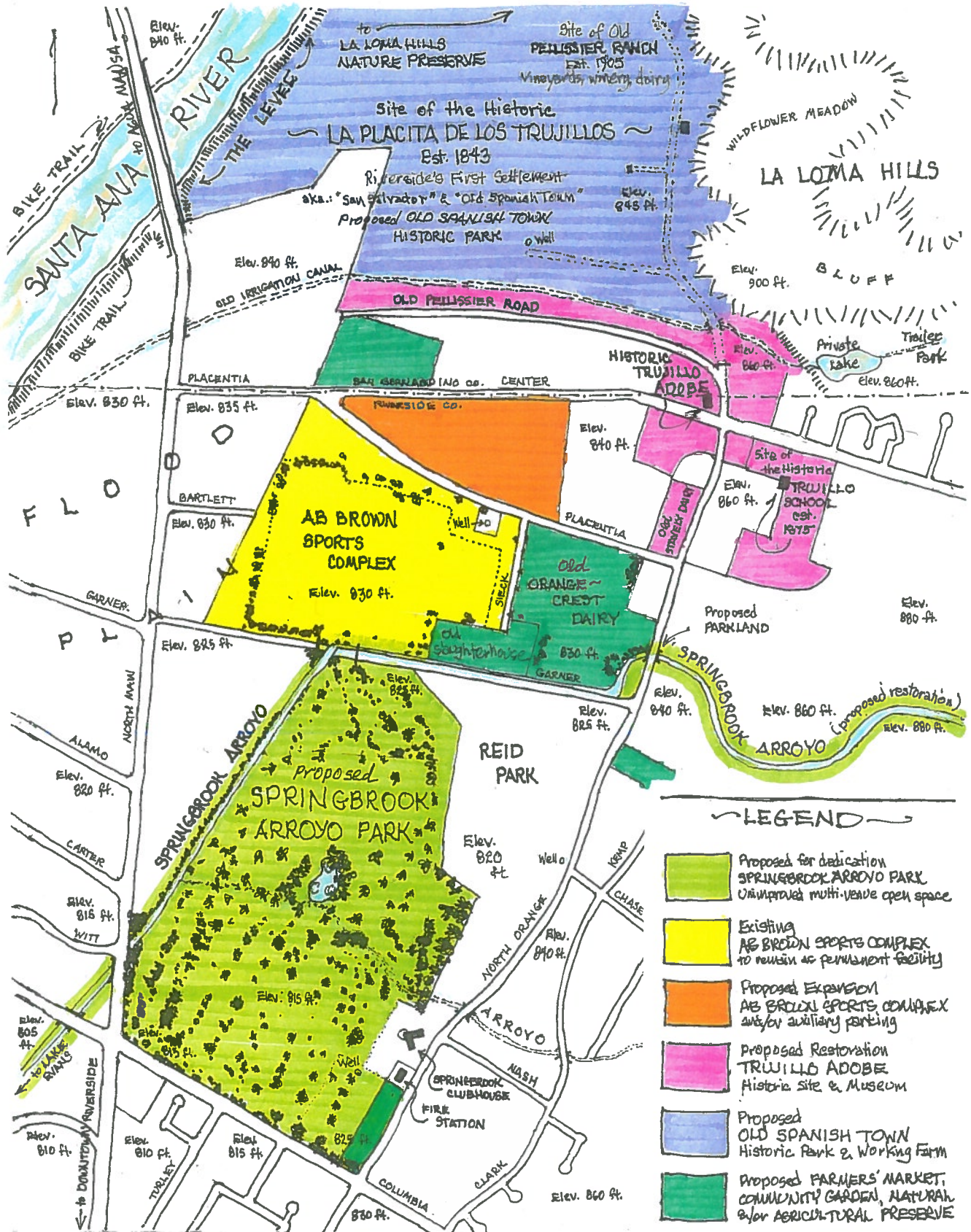
<https://www.facebook.com/SpringbrookHeritageAlliance>

TO: RPU Board
CC: RPU Officials
FROM: Springbrook Heritage Alliance
RE: Item # 9

- 1) F.V.I. Springbrook Heritage Parklands proposal map, outline & petition
- 2) This proposal is endorsed by:
Northside Improvement Association
Spanish Town Heritage Foundation
Friends of Blue Mountain
University Neighborhood Association

A Citizens' Proposal
by Springbrook Heritage Alliance
for

SPRINGBROOK HERITAGE PARKLANDS & WALKING TRAILS



Scale: 0 to 1/4 mile
Please note: Orange Street is the historical high-water mark for the flood plain.

Follow us on Facebook

SPRINGBROOK HERITAGE ALLIANCE · 2014
P.O. Box 745, Riverside CA 92502
springbrookheritagealliance@pbcc.com

Proposal for
SPRINGBROOK HERITAGE PARKLANDS & WALKING TRAILS
Riverside-Colton-Highgrove-Grand Terrace
California

*Phase I:
Establishment of the Parklands
& Stabilization of Land Use in Old Spanish Town*

- 1) **PROPOSED SPRINGBROOK ARROYO PARK: 129 acres, owned by City of Riverside**
Re-use of former LPGA-certified Riverside Golf Course as permanent public parkland
- a. Currently zoned for public facility and residential; rezone of residential necessary.
 - b. Currently under a three-year contract with RUSD for CIF-Cross Country local, regional and statewide competitions. We support the contract on a long-term renewable basis as a public benefit.
 - c. Our proposal calls for dedication of the entire 129 acres as a unique, unimproved, multi-venue urban open-space & arboretum to maximize its public benefits and allow park maintenance to be paid by permit-fees for approved uses (see below).
 - d. Site restoration & maintenance to be done by supervised volunteers wherever possible, including tree-care, replanting and pond-repair.
 - e. Existing and replacement trees to be maintained for their irreplaceable benefits to air quality, temperature reduction, water sequestering and wildlife habitat.
 - f. Existing fence to be repaired until funds can be raised privately for a 19th-century replica of greater strength to enhance security and value as a public parkland.
 - g. Minimal vehicle access roads, walking trails and parking areas to be paved with crushed granite to create a dust-free, permeable hard surface for all types of conveyances and foot-traffic while maintaining a natural-looking, rural historical landscape.
 - h. Our proposal calls for absolutely no amenities: no restrooms, no picnic tables, no drinking fountains, no benches, no barbecues, no playgrounds, no lighting, no water or electrical hook-ups, no loudspeakers, no camping accommodations, no concession stands, etc., to reduce costs and enhance its value as a natural setting and public benefit.
 - i. Radios, microphones, sound systems, night lighting, or other effects would be strictly prohibited at all times with no exceptions to enhance its benefit to the surrounding community.
 - j. No camping allowed except by special permit for approved organized activities (such as scouting, living history performances, historical re-enactments, pow-wows, or other low-impact cultural, educational & recreational events).
 - k. Park would be open to the public during daylight hours only when not in use by fee-paying organized groups. A "no noise after ten o'clock p.m." rule would be strictly enforced at all times to protect the quality of life for the surrounding community.
 - l. Onsite parking would be located within the perimeter fence for security purposes.
 - m. Offsite parking recommended to accommodate large events.
- 2) **EXISTING AB BROWN SPORTS COMPLEX: 55 acres, owned by City of Riverside**
Retain existing public facility for continued recreational use
- a. Currently zoned for public facility.
 - b. Currently under a one-year contract with AYSO for local, regional, state and national soccer competitions, and use by other sports organizations. We support the contract on a long-term renewable basis as a public benefit.
 - c. The beautifully-maintained playing fields and trees are an irreplaceable asset to the Northside community for their benefits to air quality, temperature reduction, water-sequestering and wildlife.
 - d. We oppose relocation or expansion of this sports facility to the Riverside Golf Course because it would diminish the value of both facilities as a public benefit.
 - e. We support continued use of the Ab Brown Sports Complex by the AYSO and other groups because of their contribution to the culture and quality of life for the Northside neighborhood, and we believe our proposal would be mutually-beneficial to both.

(more)

- 3) PROPOSED EXPANSION OF THE AB BROWN SPORTS COMPLEX: 25± acres, private ownership
Re-use of former farmland for public or private sports facility
- a. Former La Placita-Spanish Town-Pellissier Ranch property once used for alfalfa field.
 - b. Currently vacant and zoned for Business-and-Manufacturing Park (BMP).
 - c. Currently proposed as a site for a warehouse
 - d. We oppose both the current zoning and proposed warehouse as inappropriate to the area. A warehouse or other industrial operation at this location would cause harm to the nearby Trujillo Adobe, recreational use of the Ab Brown Sports Complex-Reid Park-and former Riverside Golf Course, small independent businesses, and the many residential streets in the Northside.
 - e. We also oppose the current zoning and the proposed warehouse because they are entirely incompatible with the short- and long-term goals of our Parklands proposal, including overall improvement of the quality of life for the people who live and work and volunteer and play in the Northside now.
 - f. We propose expansion of the Ab Brown Sports Complex onto this site because it is large enough to accommodate numerous playing fields as well as additional parking that might be used on a fee-for-permit basis for events at the proposed Springbrook Arroyo Park when not in use by the Ab Brown Sports Complex. Rezone necessary.
 - g. We propose raising funds from private sources to purchase this site.
 - h. We support a temporary moratorium on development in the Northside until a neighborhood Specific Plan is adopted and a rezone of inappropriately-zoned properties accomplished for the protection of the area's irreplaceable community assets and quality of life.
- 4) RESTORATION OF THE HISTORIC TRUJILLO ADOBE: held by Riverside County Parks
Built in 1845, dedicated as a State Historical Landmark in 1968 (RIV-009)
- a. Built by Lorenzo Trujillo, leader of the New Mexican pioneers who came here on foot by way of the Old Spanish Trail in 1842 to protect the ranchos from horse-rustlers and cattle-thieves. It is the oldest non-native dwelling in the city and county of Riverside.
 - b. Some of the pioneers joined Trujillo to settle on this side of the Santa Ana River in 1845, calling their village "La Placita de los Trujillos". It was the first non-native settlement in the city and county of Riverside.
 - c. The adobe is an irreplaceable historical treasure that has been allowed to deteriorate in recent years. If it not restored soon we will lose it altogether.
 - d. We support an immediate restoration by knowledgeable professionals working with the descendents of Lorenzo Trujillo.
 - e. His descendents have formed a non-profit organization to raise funds for this restoration and secure commitments from the County of Riverside and cities of Riverside and Colton that they will take immediate steps to protect the adobe from further damage and halt further threats caused by inappropriate land use on properties in their jurisdictions (Spanish Town Heritage Foundation dba Riverside Tamale Festival).
 - f. We support their efforts to achieve these goals.
 - g. Spanish Town Heritage Foundation also has a vision to make the restored Trujillo Adobe a focal point for a related museum, cultural learning center, reconstruction of the original Trujillo School, cantina, and other historical venues. We support that vision.
 - h. We propose the establishment of a Spanish Town Historical District on some or all of the former La Placita-Spanish Town-Pellissier Ranch, now artificially-divided under five separate jurisdictions: the counties of Riverside and San Bernardino, the cities of Riverside and Colton, and the Highgrove Community Services District.
 - i. We propose the original boundary as the ideal historic district: La Loma Hills Nature Center and La Loma Hills to the north, La Cadena Drive to the east, Columbia Avenue to the south, and the Santa Ana River to the west.
 - j. We support immediate action by these jurisdictions to help stabilize land use around the Trujillo Adobe and its environs.
- 5) PROPOSED OLD SPANISH TOWN HISTORIC PARK: 227 acres, owned by City of Riverside
Re-creation of the La Placita-Spanish Town-Pellissier Ranch as a working 19th-century farm
- a. Currently vacant, except for original well, canal, and ruins from Pellissier Ranch days.
 - b. Located within the Santa Ana River watershed and the proposed Spanish Town Historic District, not suitable for commercial, industrial, office, residential or utility

(more)

facility development.

- c. We support protection of this irreplaceable natural, scenic and historic site for its immeasurable value to the people of Riverside and San Bernardino counties.
- d. We propose the establishment of an authentic, working 19th-century farm depicting the various crops, livestock, farm implements, structures and conveyances used by the several generations of Trujillos up to and perhaps including the early period of Antoine Pellissier's acquisition of La Placita lands for his vineyards, winery, and dairy operations that commenced in 1905.
- e. We believe this would provide the Trujillo Adobe and museum operation with a supportive, contextual back-drop, offering the possibility of either extending that venue further or making it an independent enterprise. The potential for attracting a greater number of tourists year-round would increase the more the proposed historic park's authenticity expanded.
- f. The Trujillo Adobe restoration, museum operation and Spanish Town Historic Park would not duplicate the work of the Jensen-Alvarado Ranch, as the latter was the property of one family whose rank in society was high whereas La Placita-Spanish Town was a village occupied by many families each of whom owned their own farm. These are two separate and unrelated cultures.
- g. Spanish Town Historic Park would not only enhance the Trujillo Adobe operation, but stimulate related private-sector investment in the Northside, especially around the historic areas.

6) PROPOSED FARMER'S MARKET, COMMUNITY GARDENS & OTHER ENTERPRISES:

Private-sector investment in Spanish Town Historic District to protect Northside heritage

- a. All areas indicated on Parklands map are privately-owned except for the site shown at Columbia and Orange, which is owned by the City of Riverside.
- b. Almost all the privately-owned parcels are zoned BMP and Industrial, and all are currently vacant.
- c. None are suitable for BMP or Industrial because of their proximity to residential and recreational areas, and because they are located in the Santa Ana River watershed as well as the flood plain.
- d. We support a temporary moratorium on development in this area until adoption of a neighborhood Specific Plan is complete, our proposed Spanish Town Historic District is established, and necessary rezoning accomplished.
- e. We propose these measures as the best policy for protecting the Northside's Spanish Town heritage and stimulating beneficial private-sector development without use of public money or eminent domain.
- f. We support changes from the current inappropriate designations to categories that would allow a variety of agricultural, rural, small retail and restaurant, and other compatible small independent enterprises, including but not limited to:
 - Heirloom fruit-and-vegetable gardens
 - Nature center
 - Farm-to-table restaurant(s) serving authentic La Placita-Spanish Town-Pellissier Ranch cuisines (Cahuilla, Spanish Californian, New Mexican, Northern and Southern style country, Sonoran and Provencal)
 - Crafts & gift shops
 - Non-profit group office(s)
 - Pick-your-own seasonal produce (pumpkins, corn, watermelons, etc.)
- g. We propose a community garden with space for a local farmers' market and trading post along Orange Street between Columbia and the fire station. We believe there is enough room for parking, and to allow plenty of parking space for events at Springbrook Arroyo Park. As this property is owned by the City, all that would be required is a rezone to agricultural use or whatever is the appropriate designation. And this could be done immediately.
- h. We also support private-sector acquisition of already developed BMP and Industrial-zoned properties for conversion to uses more compatible to the Spanish Town Historical District.

7) PROPOSED RESTORATION OF SPRINGBROOK ARROYO & CREATION OF WALKING TRAILS

Re-establishment of Springbrook Arroyo as a central feature of Old Spanish Town

- a. Springbrook Arroyo currently under jurisdiction of city and county of Riverside.
- b. We support the restoration of some or all of this irreplaceable natural, cultural and historic feature for the benefit of the Santa Ana River watershed, area wildlife, and the people of Riverside, Colton, Highgrove and Grand Terrace.

(more)

- c. We request that the responsible authorities take immediate action to begin this work.
- d. We support the establishment of walking trails, paved only with crushed granite or left unpaved, along at least one side of the Arroyo from its origins in Pigeon Pass to its termination at the Santa Ana River.
- e. We support the establishment of additional walking trails, paved only with crushed granite or left unpaved, connecting the many places mentioned above. We oppose any design that is incompatible with the rural agricultural heritage of Old Spanish Town.
- f. We support establishing walking routes that include both our proposed walking trails and already paved public sidewalks. We encourage owners of property with enough frontage to make room for a walking trail along the roadside to participate in making this happen.

PLEASE NOTE:

Springbrook Heritage Alliance
endorses the following private organizations
and public agencies for working to save
the many irreplaceable community treasures
that contribute to our heritage:

Northside Improvement Association
Spanish Town Heritage Foundation/Riverside Tamale Festival
Friends of Blue Mountain
Colton Wildlands Conservancy
Protect Riverside
Santa Ana River Trust
Santa Ana Water Project Authority
Friends of Mt. Rubidoux
Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District
[list incomplete]

Springbrook Heritage Alliance
P.O. Box 745
Riverside, California 92502
(951)787-0617
irenelo92501@yahoo.com
[https://www.facebook.com/Springbrook Heritage Alliance](https://www.facebook.com/SpringbrookHeritageAlliance)

TO
**THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
 OF THE CITY OF RIVERSIDE:**

We, the undersigned citizens and taxpayers of the City of Riverside, hereby request that you act immediately to protect the irreplaceable community treasures of the Northside Neighborhood whose rural agricultural heritage goes back more than 177 years to the first non-native settlement in what is now the cities of Riverside and Colton.

We strenuously oppose the further destruction of these natural, cultural, agricultural and historical places by the introduction of incompatible industrial and commercial development in close proximity to existing residential, rural, retail and recreational land uses.

We wholeheartedly support the proposed Springbrook Heritage Parklands and Walking Trails plan by Springbrook Heritage Alliance that would not only protect these treasures but turn them into a cultural and economic asset that would set a precedent for family-friendly development in other at-risk neighborhoods. This plan calls for the following actions by Riverside City Council:

- 1) Dedication of the city-owned 129-acre former Riverside Golf Course in its entirety as a permanent, unimproved, multi-venue open-space park and urban arboretum to be called "Springbrook Arroyo Park";
- 2) Dedication of the existing city-owned 55-acre Ab Brown Sports Complex in its entirety at its present location as a permanent sports park;
- 3) Expansion of the Ab Brown Sports Complex onto the privately-owned 25+ acre site to the north (now proposed for a 308,000 sq. ft. warehouse) and dedication as public parkland with optional auxiliary parking;
- 4) Adoption of a resolution outlining further actions by the Council to facilitate Spanish Town Heritage Foundation's efforts to restore the 170-year old Trujillo Adobe and purchase as much of the undeveloped properties around it for their proposed museum and cultural learning center;
- 5) Dedication of the city-owned 227-acre historic La Placita and Pellissier Ranch site to be called "Old Spanish Town Historic Park" that will complement the Trujillo Adobe restoration and museum;
- 6) Adopt a resolution outlining further actions by the Council for the establishment of public and private Community Gardens, Farmer's Market, GrowRiverside Trading Post, Pick-Your-Own Heirloom Farm Produce Farms, Historic Cahuilla Craft Shops, Farm-to-Table Historical Restaurants, and other related operations on existing vacant and available properties;
- 7) Restoration of the Springbrook Arroyo, establishment of walking trails on at least one side of the arroyo from the city limits on the east to the Santa Ana River on the west, with other walking trails connecting the arroyo and the above parklands to one another as well as similar trails located outside the city limits.

To make Springbrook Heritage Parklands and Walking Trails a viable possibility, we ask that you act without delay to endorse this plan and take the additional steps necessary to accomplish it, including: a. impose a one-year moratorium on new development in the Northside; b. adopt a Northside Neighborhood Specific Plan reflecting the needs and aspirations of its residents and independent businesses to replace the Redevelopment Project Area Plan currently in the city's General Plan; and c. create a special Springbrook Heritage Parklands Fund to which contributions from private sources may be deposited so these goals may be accomplished without the use of eminent domain or causing an undue burden on the public treasury.

We believe that the proposed Springbrook Heritage Parklands and Walking Trails plan will be a benefit not only to the Northside Neighborhood and the community at large, but to the generations of Riversiders to come. Please refer to the map that accompanies our petition (shown on our Facebook page).

Thank you for considering our request.

1	Name <i>please print legibly</i>	Address number, street, apt.		WARD
	Signature	Zip Code	Telephone &/or e-mail	
2	Name <i>please print legibly</i>	Address number, street, apt.		WARD
	Signature	Zip Code	Telephone &/or e-mail	

Please return to:
SPRINGBROOK HERITAGE ALLIANCE
 P.O. Box 745, Riverside CA 92502
 (951)787-0617

Item 9

Balachandran, Girish

From: Morton, Sherry
Sent: Friday, October 02, 2015 8:01 AM
To: Balachandran, Girish; Ference, Cathy
Subject: FW: [External] Fw: Karen Doris Wright's public comments to the Riverside Board of Public Utilities and to Riverside City Council re RPU Board meeting on Oct 2 8:30 Item 9, Strongly against Economic Development of RPU's Properties in the Northside includi
Attachments: 20151002 Karen Doris Wright Comments to RPU Board about ITEM 9 against Economic Development of RPU Northside and Pellisier prop

Please see the below email with attachment regarding item for today's RPU Board meeting. I will be forwarding a second email after this one.

Sherry Morton, MMC
Assistant City Clerk/SCCCA Communications Coordinator
3900 Main Street
Riverside, CA 92522-0111
(951) 826-5557

-----Original Message-----

From: K Wright [mailto:twodogkd@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, October 02, 2015 7:41 AM
To: Morton, Sherry
Subject: [External] Fw: Karen Doris Wright's public comments to the Riverside Board of Public Utilities and to Riverside City Council re RPU Board meeting on Oct 2 8:30 Item 9, Strongly against Economic Development of RPU's Properties in the Northside includin...

Colleen,

I was not able to send this to Balachandran as I do not know his email. Could you forward my original message with the attachment to him as well

Much thanks.

Karen Doris Wright

--- On Fri, 10/2/15, K Wright <twodogkd@yahoo.com> wrote:

> From: K Wright <twodogkd@yahoo.com>
> Subject: Karen Doris Wright's public comments to the Riverside Board of Public Utilities and to Riverside City Council re RPU Board meeting on Oct 2 8:30 Item 9, Strongly against Economic Development of RPU's Properties in the Northside including Pellisier Ranch property just across into S.B. Colton, instead it should be kept largely as open space, Ab Brown Soccer Field should be retained and used as in the past, and Parks and Walkways and ideas of Springbrook Heritage Alliance accepted, as well as ideas by citizens Spanish Town in the Pellisier Ranch embraced.
> To: twodogkd@yahoo.com, "CC1 City Clerk Colleen J. Nicole MMC"
> <city_clerk@riversideca.gov>, "CC Andy Melendrez Riverside City
> Councilman Ward 2" <asmelendrez@riversideca.gov>, "CC Chris MacArthur
> Riverside City Council Ward 5" <cmacarthur@riversideca.gov>, "CC Diana

> Medina Legislative Field Representative to Riverside City Councilman
> Jim Perry Ward 6" <dmedina@riversideca.gov>, "CC Gary Geuss Riverside
> City Attorney" <geuss@riversideca.gov>, "CC Jim Perry City Councilman
> Ward 6" <jperry@riversideca.gov>, "CC John Burnard City Councilman
> Ward 7" <jburnard@riversideca.gov>, "CC Linda ODonnell aide to
> Councilman Soubirous Ward 3" <lodonnell@riversideca.gov>, "CC Mike
> Gardner Riverside City Councilman Ward 1" <mgardner@riversideca.gov>,
> "CC Mike Soubirous Riverside City Council Ward 3"
> <msoubirous@riversideca.gov>, "CC Nola Tainter Legislative Field
> Representative to Councilman Paul Davis Ward 4"
> <ntainter@riversideca.gov>, "CC Paul Davis Riverside City
Council Ward 4" <pdavis@riversideca.gov>, "CC Rusty Bailey Mayor of Riverside" <rbailey@riversideca.gov>, "CC1 Russo
Riverside City Manager" <jrusso@riversideca.gov>, eramirez@riversideca.gov, gbalachandran@riversideca.gov
> Cc: twodogkd@yahoo.com

> Date: Friday, October 2, 2015, 7:37 AM

>
>
>
>
>
>

> Date: Oct 2,
> 2015 8:30 RPU Board Meeting

>

> To:
> Riverside City Clerk, The Board of
> Directors of Riverside Public Utilities (Please Distribute I do not
> know

>

> names of RPU Board members, Clerk of RPU if there is such a
> position, Economic Development Staff,

>

> Riverside City Council, Others

>

> From: Karen Doris Wright,
> Riverside CA

> Regarding: Oct 2 RPU Board Agenda ITEM Number 9:

>

>

> Karen Doris Wright is
> STRONGLY AGAINST ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT of RPU's properties in the
> Northside and Pellisier Ranch the San Bernardino Community of Colton,
> and am strongly against the Real Estate interpretation/meaning of
> Highest and Best Use which connotates building whatever you can get
> the most money from with no regard to environmental impacts, loss of
> air quality, loss of quality of life, Loss of hundreds of mature trees
> that provide NEEDED AIR, loss of irreplaceable or almost impossible to
> replace habitats, lack of regard to some or part of this land being in
> the 100 year/500 year flood plain, lack of consideration of leaving
> land undeveloped to allow water to reach our aquifer, lack of
> consideration of additional flooding that will ensure if this land is
> developed, lack of consideration that THE EXISTANCE OF OPEN SPACE is
> what draws folks to live in and pay lots of money for small housing

> units in dense housing, lack of consideration that OPEN SPACE will
> increasingly be a premium that will define the City's where people
> will WANT TO LIVE, loss of Native American archeological sites both
> identified and not yet identified, loss of Riverside's historical site
> of the founding of Riverside, and that warehouses/overdevelopment/too
> much pavement will definitely drive citizens TO MOVE OUT OF RIVERSIDE
> for other communities which had Councils/Mayors with the VISION to
> RETAIN and or spend millions or billions to BUILD OUT HUNDREDS OF
> ACRES OF OPEN SPACES NEEDED BY RESIDENTS/VISITORS, loss of animal
> habitat, loss of parks/trails/spaces to garden, lack of inclusion of
> interested parties such as Native American Tribes, groups like RCRC, D,
> citizens from across Riverside, Soccer teams from across Riverside,
> and others from participating and defining what is the REAL HIGHEST
> AND BEST USE to CITIZENS OF RIVERSIDE which to all I know means
> retaining the open space, trees, air, parklands, arroyos, and fending
> off warehouses and other businesses that pollute the air with toxin
> substances that lead to cancers and other ills, ruin our roads, and
> which will drive out both existing residents and with keep visitors
> from coming to Riverside due to the negative environmental impacts of
> such developments.

>
> I
> strongly resent the lack of balance of those making these decisions
> which with a few exception are essentially all pro economic
> development folks, and already with specific outcomes and decisions
> such as for Pellisier Ranch to be DEVELOPED, and setting out all types
> of specifications such as using the REAL ESTATE worlds HIGHEST AND
> BEST USE, which will all result only in the outcomes of DEVELOPMENT.

>
> I strongly feel that more
> BALANCE should be put into the mix of what RIVERSIDE CITIZENS WANT,
> and that we should have more of a say and more weight than DEVELOPERS
> who could care less if we have clean air to breath, or if we have open
> space and trees to take walks in, or if we keep our historic areas and
> also respect the historic areas of the many Tribes in the surrounding
> areas whose people regularly traveled through the areas including some
> or all of the RPU properties, with I understand some artifacts found
> in the past.

>
> I strongly
> EMBRACED the positive effects of keeping the RPU properties including
> Ab Brown Sports Complex as it's current use by soccer teams from
> across the City of Riverside, the Old AB Brown Golf Course with all
> its Trees and habitat as open space with no economic development but
> instead running paths, outdoor event space on the unpaved ground,
> mature trees that benefit air quality by producing air and providing
> habitat for birds, leave the adjacent City Park as a City Park, and
> keep Pellieser Ranch undeveloped, save for some modest facilities as
> required and suggested by the Spanish Town Folks, with walkways,
> jogging paths between these parks, and arroyos, and historical
> structures

>

- > I strongly
- > encourage the City to immediately contact all Native American Tribes
- > that historically used or traveled through this area, to get updates
- > on those tribes uses in this area and their views on the City of
- > Riverside's plans to pave over, via Economic Development, their
- > historical artifacts that may be buried on any one of RPU's properties
- > in Riverside's Northside area or on the RPU owned Pellissier Ranch
- > located in San Bernardino County in the City of Colton just across
- > Riverside's Northside area border.
- >
- > I strongly
- > feel our open spaces should not be sold off for economic development,
- > in my mind because we have current and recent past Council who made
- > VERY BAD financial/and other decisions, including excessive salary
- > increases, wasteful spending etc --- such that our Council uses the
- > need for money (to pay off our now overwhelming debt and to support
- > additional unaffordable salary increases citizens cannot
- > afford) as an excess to DESTROY THE OPEN SPACES our COUNCILS LONG
- > PAST had the VISION TO SET ASISDE for FUTURE GENERATIONS. No our
- > CURRENT and recent past Councils have been SELLING OFF LANDS to cover
- > their very bad votes against citizens best interests, and not they
- > want to sell off more, and/or to pave some over to develop a sports
- > stadium (so they names can be emblazoned in bronze) to bring in MORE
- > TRAFFIC from Western Region sports folks, while at the same time
- > KICKING OUR CITIZENS SOCCER TEAMS off the AB BROWN SPORTS COMPLEX
- > Fields they have developed and cared for over the years.
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- > More Discussion on ITEM 9:
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- > Looking over Item Number (it seems very clear that the RPU is setting
- > out criteria to ensure development of Pellissier Ranch, and already
- > has determine and outcome of economic development, by using economic
- > development and land use criteria like "highest and best use" a phrase
- > which means what will make the MOST MONEY by developing a site and
- > which totally ignores the importance of OPEN SPACE and the need for
- > parks and for historical areas to be preserved, leaving land for water
- > to percolate into the soil, and the VALUE to the City for retaining
- > significant such areas for use by current and future residents.
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- > No one wants to move to a City with a legacy of excessive smog filling
- > lungs with toxic air (which will increase dramatically if the Moreno
- > Valley warehouse mega development is not stopped); of endless pavement
- > and chain stores that one sees everywhere and are not unique; a City
- > that used to be the City of Trees – but Riverside is quietly cutting
- > down many significant trees and wants to remove more in the Northside;
- > nor wants their children to play soccer across the street from a
- > warehouse facility with idling trucks polluting the air their children
- > will breath.
- > Council's actions, many of them are making Riverside a City to which
- > citizens will want to leave. Whereas embracing the WELL THOUGHT OUT
- > IDEAS such as parks and Spanish Town including farms and historial
- > sites of groups such as the Springbrook Heritage Alliance "to save

> the irreplaceable community treasures of the Springbrook Arroyo
 > watershed, many of which are located within old La Placita-Spanish
 > Town-Pellissier Ranch and Riverside's Northside neighborhood." I
 > strongly agree that All of these assets are threatened by current
 > zoning and General Plan land use designations and the ambitions of
 > industrial developers, and IGNORE the fact that these properties are
 > MORE VALUBLE over the long term, eg hundreds of years into Riverside's
 > and Coltons future, if left as largely open space as parks or
 > historical areas as envisioned by Springbrook Heritage Alliance and by
 > folks behind the Spanish Town proposal.

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> Ironically, the City is having the economic development arm, and
 > likely insiders who WANT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT putting together the
 > criteria and the designated outcome that can only be development,
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 > environmental groups such as RCRCD a small, government agency charged
 > with conserving the natural resources of portions of western Riverside
 > and San Bernardino Counties in Southern CA, and ignores the need to
 > retain these areas for habitat for endangered species and more.
 > Instead it seems the documents are packed only with criteria to ensure
 > development and that ignore the greater value to retain these spaces
 > as largely open space. Essentially, for the most part, the City has
 > decided to DEVELOP these sites to the extent it can do so, or so it
 > seems. There is some language to protect part of some of the
 > property but based on the my past experience with the City, I have no
 > faith that the City will not bulldoze over what protections exist for
 > some of this property, by the CRAZED I HAVE TO MAKE MONEY thinking of
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 > future salary increases and to pay for their excessive salaries
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> We did not vote in a Council to vote for excessive unaffordable
 > salaries, then to use their horrible and negligent decision making
 > processes/votes which on an ongoing basis are putting the City of
 > Riverside deeper and deeper into debt, then to use THE DEBT THEY and
 > their recent predesseros made as a basis and EXCUSE to SELL off OPEN
 > SPACE that remains. Riverside citizens with vision realize we MUST
 > PROTECT the open spaces in the Northside including AB BROWN SPORTS
 > PARK, OLD RIVERSIDE GOLF COURSE and the PARK that abuts AB BROWN PARK,
 > as well as Pellisier Ranch which was the ORIGINAL LOCATION WHERE
 > RIVERSIDE BEGAN even tho it is not just across the County line in S.B.
 > County in Colton. We have and NEED for peace of mind, for historical
 > purposes such as Spanish Town, for habitat for our winged and 4
 > footed, and for current and future residents, and to help generate AIR
 > to breath (a commodity which Riverside sorely lacks due to the
 > continued cutting down of mature trees) The City should note that
 > folks who DO LIVE IN AREAS OF EXTREMELY HIGH DENSITY HOUSING want to
 > be able to walk to nearby open spaces. No one wants to live in high
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 > housing and or high density businesses with no open space. Look to
 > New York and SF, places where folks want to live are NEAR OPEN SPACE,

- > Golden Gate Park, Central Park, Beaches. SF has spent many millions
- > or more restoring open space and habitat,
- > hundred(s) of acres along the water front and trying to open up space.
- > Riverside has open space that it does not have to spend millions to
- > regenerate, and it is a TREMENDOUS RESOURCE as it exists today.
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- > Instead of doing the RIGHT THING and protecting this area as citizens
- > want and NEED, the City seems to be putting development and business
- > interests FIRST, over the BEST INTERESTS of long time residents BOTH
- > LOCAL in the NORTHSIDE and CITY WIDE because those open spaces AB
- > BROWN SPORTS FIELD, the OLD RIVERSIDE GOLF COURSE, PELLISSIER RANCH are
- > CITY WIDE ASSETS, and City wide citizens should have a say in
- > retaining and protecting these assets.
- >
- > It seems to me that the City is stacking the deck, but various
- > specifications/criteria/.... Wherein the deck is tacked with
- > DEVELOPMENT/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INTERESTS, and by stating for the
- > PELLISSIER RANCH that IT MUST BE ECONOMICALLY DEVELOPED as a GIVEN.
- > WHERE IS THAT GIVEN? Who made that decision?
- > I don't believe the REAL ESTATED term "Highest and Best Use" should be
- > applied to what is best for the citizens of Riverside regarding these
- > properties. Leaving the space, essentially as open space, as parks,
- > as historical Spanish Town, as historical farm, as areas to grow
- > vegetables, leaving existing trees such as in Ab Brown Park that are
- > needed for habitat and for AIR, leaving historical sites used by or
- > local Native Americans, all these are more important to
- > urban/development SPRAWL that is rapidly gushing over every square
- > inch of the City of Riverside SHAME on our Mayor, Council, recent
- > Councils, paid staff who ignore what is BEST FOR THE FUTURE
- > GENERATIONS, and want to destroy habitats, archeological resources
- > (Native American sites and areas), hundreds of mature air producing
- > mature trees, the original site where Riverside was founded and pave
- > these areas over for economic gain.
- > We do NOT need a SPORTS PARK, warehouses, or commercial development on
- > the aforementioned locations. That is NOT what is best for the
- > QUALITY OF LIFE for current residents, future residents, animals.
- > We CANNOT LIVE WITHOUT AIR and with increasing pollution sources, and
- > trees being chopped down (hundreds of tiny twig new trees cannot equal
- > even a few of the old trees chopped down. It takes many years to
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- > providing variances to businesses to reduce unpaved areas.
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- > While the RPU should protect three of these assets: the Ab Brown
- > Sports Complex, the CIF Cross Country Track on the former golf course,
- > and Pellissier Ranch, it seems that all who signed on the Item 9
- > memorandum are PRO DEVELOPMENT and there is no balance provided to

- > REALLY CONSIDER that DEVELOPMENT/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT over every
- > square inch of land will destroy Riverside's Character, Air Quality,
- > Destroy Habitats, destroy archeological resources
- >
- > I do not see where Native Americans Tribes in the area were CONTACTED
- > as required. Were all tribes in the area contacted? What tribes
- > specifically were contacted? Where are their replies to that show
- > they were contacted? Has the City of Riverside CONTACTED for example
- > the Cahuilla and other tribes who lived in this area or for whom this
- > area was part of the area they used?
- >
- > Leaving these areas as open space with uses as specified by
- > Springbrook Heritage Alliance and the folks behind Spanish Town would
- > result in potential TOURSIT and Riverside as a destination location
- > for GOOD REASON, to see these historial, and natural environments, to
- > bicycle, hike, walk, learn about historic farming, settlement, to buy
- > locally grown foods, and more.
- >
- > Leaving areas natural would provide a REASON for folks to buy higher
- > density housing from which they could bicycle to these open spaces,
- > and run their dogs, and walk, breath in fresh air and more.
- > Healthy environments sell.
- >
- > Smog laden, toxic air, warehouses, busted up streets from heavy
- > trucks, chocking air with few mature trees, spells out a community
- > that people want to leave. That is what the Northside will be if
- > these areas are developed.
- > The Soccer fields now have fresh air, trees, gorgeous views of the
- > mountains and are used by citizens from across the city.
- >
- > Riverside Councilmen statements or suggestions that these soccer
- > fields can be replaced are ignorant and seem to cater to insiders, or
- > self interest to get their name on a place of some sports stadium with
- > no thought of the GROSS NEGATIVE IMPACT on THE CITY OF RIVERSIDE AS A
- > WHOLE, Gross loss of AIR QUAILITY, GROSS DETERIORATION OF QUALITY OF
- > LIFE for those in the Northside, GROSS LOSS of Ab Brown Sports field
- > that thousands of citizens over the years have worked to make the
- > magnificent treasure that it is.
- >
- > If Ab Brown Sports Field and/or the OLD RIVERSIDE GOLF COURSE both, or
- > either one, is DESTROYED and replaced with "economic
- > Development/sports stadium" it will be due to GREED, catering to
- > INSIDERS who plan to profit at the expense of the current and future
- > generations of the City of Riverside.
- >
- > I learned from Springbrook Arroyo Alliance folks that not all the
- > history of the area has been researched and documented. Have these
- > sites been addressed in proper archeological fashion with Native
- > oversite of the appropriate tribes? It seems that the City is
- > rushing to pave the area over before the full history and facts are
- > known and before the initial residents, such as Cahuilla, Luiseno,
- > Serrano, Tongva folks who visited this area are ALL CONTACTED, and

> areas already known to have artifacts fully documented.

>

> I do believe there is a requirement to SPECIFICALLY CONTACT EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THESE TRIBES. Again have they been contacted specifically for THIS PROCESS so they may provide updated facts about their history in this area? If so where are the documents in support of notifying them, and where are their responses?

>

> Riverside citizens NEED, WANT and DESERVE to have parklands, walking trails, bicycle, historical sites, and cultural venues, as well as the farm/gardening, educational venues, trees, animal habitats, and since we have those sites available we should TAKE CARE NOT TO DESTROY those historical sites, natural resources, areas for water to reach our aquifers, native historical site etc. for the sake of MONEY/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, because it costs MUCH MORE to REPLACE and RESTORE such habitats and open spaces, and nothing can restore historical/archeological sites bulldozed over/dug up and destroyed.

>

> I personally believe that the REAL highest and best use of RPU property in both Riverside's Northside and across the Riverside County line in the S.B. City of Colton should be considered to be whatever protects the historical and cultural assets for future generations, whatever protects the trees and habitats and open spaces needed for animals and for current and future generations for a place to go to see nature, breath fresh air, and clear their minds, and to enhances the Quality of Life for the Northside neighborhood, as well as other City residents who will enjoy visiting these open space areas, as well as visitors seeking open space venues for walking, exploring, learning about nature, Native Americans historical to these areas, the early settlers of the City of Riverside, the early ways of life such as farming, learn about growing plants and learning about Arroyos, watersheds, flooding (as the hundred year flood wiped out the original settlement) and so much more.

>

> I feel keeping RPU's property as open space, largely unpaved, keeping the trees, and uses such as specified by Springbrook Heritage Alliance, Spanish Town folks, Trujillo Abode folks is the very highest and best use, and will generated much more value in clean air, quality of life, healthy via walking, jogging, bicycling, running, eating healthy, educating folks, not just residents but folks from neighboring areas and visitors, including those bicycling from the Mountains to Ocean who may drop in on their bicycles.

>

> I also support the current use of the Ab Brown Sports Complex by AYSO-Region 47 and of the former PGA-certified Riverside Golf Course by the CIF Cross Country organization and I agree that they should remain as long as they want, for both groups bring honor and trade to the Northside and the communities nearby.

>

> Again I want to see the La Placita-Spanish Town-Pellissier Ranch area of the Northside be embraced and allowed to create a destination location for local Northside folks and other Riverside citizens as

- > well as folks from nearby areas. Historical, clean, trees that
- > produce fresh air. This is the Highest and Best use for the
- > Pellissier Ranch property and will all rain to reach the aquifer, and
- > will weather the 100 and 500 year floods. We need this area for
- > walking, breathing, growing plants, enjoying history of the original
- > Riverside settlement of the history of the Tribes who traveled through
- > and stayed in this area over the past thousands of years.
- >
- > I ask Riverside Public Utilities Board and the Riverside City Council
- > and the Economic Development Department to give us back the RPU
- > properties for the highest and best use of open space, trees, no
- > paving, historical, arroyos, plans as set out by Springbrook Heritage
- > Alliance, Spanish Town folks, Trujillo Adobe folks (this may be on
- > separate property, but it needs the RPU properties to be preserved),
- > and consult with Tribes in surrounding areas, other groups as
- > mentioned above that have an environmental focus of protecting
- > environments and habitats as part of the decision process as well as
- > citizens from across the City and beyond. These open spaces are
- > TREASURES that once lost will likely never be regained, and should be
- > SAVED for current and FUTURE GENERATIONS.
- >
- > Karen Doris Wright

Balachandran, Girish

From: Morton, Sherry
Sent: Friday, October 02, 2015 8:02 AM
To: Balachandran, Girish; Ference, Cathy
Subject: FW: [External] Karen Doris Wright's public comments to the Riverside Board of Public Utilities and to Riverside City Council re RPU Board meeting on Oct 2 8:30 Item 9, Strongly against Economic Development of RPU's Properties in the Northside including P
Attachments: 20151002 Karen Doris Wright Comments to RPU Board about ITEM 9 against Economic Development of RPU Northside and Pellisier prop

Sherry Morton, MMC
Assistant City Clerk/SCCCA Communications Coordinator
3900 Main Street
Riverside, CA 92522-0111
(951) 826-5557

-----Original Message-----

From: K Wright [mailto:twodogkd@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, October 02, 2015 7:38 AM
To: twodogkd@yahoo.com; Morton, Sherry; Melendrez, Andy; MacArthur, Chris; Medina, Diana; CC Gary Geuss Riverside City Attorney; Perry, Jim; Burnard, John; O'Donnell, Linda; Gardner, Mike; Soubirous, Mike; Tainter, Nola; Davis, Paul; Bailey, Rusty; Russo, John A.; Ramirez, Emilio; gbalachandran@riversideca.gov
Cc: twodogkd@yahoo.com
Subject: [External] Karen Doris Wright's public comments to the Riverside Board of Public Utilities and to Riverside City Council re RPU Board meeting on Oct 2 8:30 Item 9, Strongly against Economic Development of RPU's Properties in the Northside including Pe...

Date: Oct 2, 2015 8:30 RPU Board Meeting

To: Riverside City Clerk, The Board of Directors of Riverside Public Utilities (Please Distribute I do not know names of RPU Board members, Clerk of RPU if there is such a position, Economic Development Staff, Riverside City Council, Others

From: Karen Doris Wright, Riverside CA
Regarding: Oct 2 RPU Board Agenda ITEM Number 9:

Karen Doris Wright is STRONGLY AGAINST ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT of RPU's properties in the Northside and Pellisier Ranch the San Bernardino Community of Colton, and am strongly against the Real Estate interpretation/meaning of Highest and Best Use which connotates building whatever you can get the most money from with no regard to environmental impacts, loss of air quality, loss of quality of life, Loss of hundreds of mature trees that

provide NEEDED AIR, loss of irreplaceable or almost impossible to replace habitats, lack of regard to some or part of this land being in the 100 year/500 year flood plain, lack of consideration of leaving land undeveloped to allow water to reach our aquifer, lack of consideration of additional flooding that will ensure if this land is developed, lack of consideration that THE EXISTANCE OF OPEN SPACE is what draws folks to live in and pay lots of money for small housing units in dense housing, lack of consideration that OPEN SPACE will increasingly be a premium that will define the City's where people will WANT TO LIVE, loss of Native American archeological sites both identified and not yet identified, loss of Riverside's historical site of the founding of Riverside, and that warehouses/overdevelopment/too much pavement will definitely drive citizens TO MOVE OUT OF RIVERSIDE for other communities which had Councils/Mayors with the VISION to RETAIN and or spend millions or billions to BUILD OUT HUNDREDS OF ACRES OF OPEN SPACES NEEDED BY RESIDENTS/VISITORS, loss of animal habitat, loss of parks/trails/spaces to garden, lack of inclusion of interested parties such as Native American Tribes, groups like RCRCD, citizens from across Riverside, Soccer teams from across Riverside, and others from participating and defining what is the REAL HIGHEST AND BEST USE to CITIZENS OF RIVERSIDE which to all I know means retaining the open space, trees, air, parklands, arroyos, and fending off warehouses and other businesses that pollute the air with toxin substances that lead to cancers and other ills, ruin our roads, and which will drive out both existing residents and with keep visitors from coming to Riverside due to the negative environmental impacts of such developments.

I strongly resent the lack of balance of those making these decisions which with a few exception are essentially all pro economic development folks, and already with specific outcomes and decisions such as for Pellisier Ranch to be DEVELOPED, and setting out all types of specifications such as using the REAL ESTATE worlds HIGHEST AND BEST USE, which will all result only in the outcomes of DEVELOPMENT.

I strongly feel that more BALANCE should be put into the mix of what RIVERSIDE CITIZENS WANT, and that we should have more of a say and more weight than DEVELOPERS who could care less if we have clean air to breath, or if we have open space and trees to take walks in, or if we keep our historic areas and also respect the historic areas of the many Tribes in the surrounding areas whose people regularly traveled through the areas including some or all of the RPU properties, with I understand some artifacts found in the past.

I strongly EMBRACED the positive effects of keeping the RPU properties including Ab Brown Sports Complex as it's current use by soccer teams from across the City of Riverside, the Old AB Brown Golf Course with all its Trees and habitat as open space with no economic development but instead running paths, outdoor event space on the unpaved ground, mature trees that benefit air quality by producing air and providing habitat for birds, leave the adjacent City Park as a City Park, and keep Pellieser Ranch undeveloped, save for some modest facilities as required and suggested by the Spanish Town Folks, with walkways, jogging paths between these parks, and arroyos, and historical structures

I strongly encourage the City to immediately contact all Native American Tribes that historically used or traveled through this area, to get updates on those tribes uses in this area and their views on the City of Riverside's plans to pave over, via Economic Development, their historical artifacts that may be buried on any one of RPU's properties in Riverside's Northside area or on the RPU owned Pellisier Ranch located in San Bernardino County in the City of Colton just across Riverside's Northside area border.

I strongly feel our open spaces should not be sold off for economic development, in my mind because we have current and recent past Council who made VERY BAD financial/and other decisions, including excessive salary increases, wasteful spending etc --- such that our Council uses the need for money (to pay off our now overwhelming debt and to support additional unaffordable salary increases citizens cannot afford) as an excess to DESTROY THE OPEN SPACES our COUNCILS LONG PAST had the VISION TO SET ASISDE for FUTURE GENERATIONS. No our CURRENT and recent past Councils have been SELLING OFF LANDS to cover their very bad votes against citizens best interests, and not they want to sell off more, and/or to pave some over to develop a sports stadium (so they names can be emblazoned in bronze) to bring in MORE TRAFFIC from Western Region sports folks, while at the same time KICKING OUR CITIZENS SOCCER TEAMS off the AB BROWN SPORTS COMPLEX Fields they have developed and cared for over the years.

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No one wants to move to a City with a legacy of excessive smog filling lungs with toxic air (which will increase dramatically if the Moreno Valley warehouse mega development is not stopped); of endless pavement and chain stores that one sees everywhere and are not unique; a City that used to be the City of Trees – but Riverside is quietly cutting down many significant trees and wants to remove more in the Northside; nor wants their children to play soccer across the street from a warehouse facility with idling trucks polluting the air their children will breath. Council's actions, many of them are making Riverside a City to which citizens will want to leave. Whereas embracing the WELL THOUGHT OUT IDEAS such as parks and Spanish Town including farms and historial sites of groups such as the Springbrook Heritage Alliance "to save the irreplaceable community treasures of the Springbrook Arroyo watershed, many of which are located within old La

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Leaving areas natural would provide a REASON for folks to buy higher density housing from which they could bicycle to these open spaces, and run their dogs, and walk, breath in fresh air and more.
Healthy environments sell.

Smog laden, toxic air, warehouses, busted up streets from heavy trucks, choking air with few mature trees, spells out a community that people want to leave. That is what the Northside will be if these areas are developed.

The Soccer fields now have fresh air, trees, gorgeous views of the mountains and are used by citizens from across the city.

Riverside Councilmen statements or suggestions that these soccer fields can be replaced are ignorant and seem to cater to insiders, or self interest to get their name on a place of some sports stadium with no thought of the GROSS NEGATIVE IMPACT on THE CITY OF RIVERSIDE AS A WHOLE, Gross loss of AIR QUALITY, GROSS DETERIORATION OF QUALITY OF LIFE for those in the Northside, GROSS LOSS of Ab Brown Sports field that thousands of citizens over the years have worked to make the magnificent treasure that it is.

If Ab Brown Sports Field and/or the OLD RIVERSIDE GOLF COURSE both, or either one, is DESTROYED and replaced with "economic Development/sports stadium" it will be due to GREED, catering to INSIDERS who plan to profit at the expense of the current and future generations of the City of Riverside.

I learned from Springbrook Arroyo Alliance folks that not all the history of the area has been researched and documented. Have these sites been addressed in proper archeological fashion with Native oversight of the appropriate tribes? It seems that the City is rushing to pave the area over before the full history and facts are known and before the initial residents, such as Cahuilla, Luiseno, Serrano, Tongva folks who visited this area are ALL CONTACTED, and areas already known to have artifacts fully documented.

I do believe there is a requirement to SPECIFICALLY CONTACT EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THESE TRIBES. Again have they been contacted specifically for THIS PROCESS so they may provide updated facts about their history in this area? If so where are the documents in support of notifying them, and where are their responses?

Riverside citizens NEED, WANT and DESERVE to have parklands, walking trails, bicycle, historical sites, and cultural venues, as well as the farm/gardening, educational venues, trees, animal habitats, and since we have those sites available we should TAKE CARE NOT TO DESTROY those historical sites, natural resources, areas for water to reach our aquifers, native historical site etc. for the sake of MONEY/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, because it costs MUCH MORE to REPLACE and RESTORE such habitats and open spaces, and nothing can restore historical/archeological sites bulldozed over/dug up and destroyed.

I personally believe that the REAL highest and best use of RPU property in both Riverside's Northside and across the Riverside County line in the S.B. City of Colton should be considered to be whatever protects the historical and cultural assets for future generations, whatever protects the trees and habitats and open spaces needed for animals and for current and future generations for a place to go to see nature, breath fresh air, and clear their minds, and to enhances the Quality of Life for the Northside neighborhood, as well as other City residents who will enjoy visiting these open space areas, as well as visitors seeking open space venues for walking, exploring, learning about nature, Native Americans historical to these areas, the early settlers of the City of Riverside, the early ways of life such as farming, learn about growing plants and learning about Arroyos, watersheds, flooding (as the hundred year flood wiped out the original settlement) and so much more.

I feel keeping RPU's property as open space, largely unpaved, keeping the trees, and uses such as specified by Springbrook Heritage Alliance, Spanish Town folks, Trujillo Abode folks is the very highest and best use, and will generated much more value in clean air, quality of life, healthy via walking, jogging, bicycling, running, eating healthy, educating folks, not just residents but folks from neighboring areas and visitors, including those bicycling from the Mountains to Ocean who may drop in on their bicycles.

I also support the current use of the Ab Brown Sports Complex by AYSO-Region 47 and of the former PGA-certified Riverside Golf Course by the CIF Cross Country organization and I agree that they should remain as long as they want, for both groups bring honor and trade to the Northside and the communities nearby.

Again I want to see the La Placita-Spanish Town-Pellissier Ranch area of the Northside be embraced and allowed to create a destination location for local Northside folks and other Riverside citizens as well as folks from nearby areas. Historical, clean, trees that produce fresh air. This is the Highest and Best use for the Pellissier Ranch property and will all rain to reach the aquifer, and will weather the 100 and 500 year floods. We need this area for walking, breathing, growing plants, enjoying history of the original Riverside settlement of the history of the Tribes who traveled through and stayed in this area over the past thousands of years.

I ask Riverside Public Utilities Board and the Riverside City Council and the Economic Development Department to give us back the RPU properties for the highest and best use of open space, trees, no paving, historical, arroyos, plans as set out by Springbrook Heritage Alliance, Spanish Town folks, Trujillo Adobe folks (this may be on separate property, but it needs the RPU properties to be preserved), and consult with Tribes in surrounding areas, other groups as mentioned above that have an environmental focus of protecting environments and habitats as part of the decision process as well as citizens from across the City and beyond. These open spaces are TREASURES that once lost will likely never be regained, and should be SAVED for current and FUTURE GENERATIONS.

Karen Doris Wright