

Kim Carone, Chair
Andrew Steudle, Vice Chair
Debbie Allsup, Councilmember
Maria Jehs, Councilmember
Karen Reyna, Councilmember



Knightsen Town Advisory Council

*The Knightsen Town Advisory Council serves as an advisory body to the
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors.*

October 28, 2020

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
c/o Clerk of the Board
1025 Escobar Street, 1st Floor
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: Proposed Knightsen Wetlands Restoration Project

Honorable Board of Supervisors,

At the August 18, 2020 Knightsen Town Advisory Council ("KTAC") meeting, the board received a presentation by Abby Fateman from the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy on a proposed project within the Knightsen community called the Knightsen Wetlands Restoration Project ("Project"). After the presentation concluded, the board requested this item return for the September meeting to deliberate if a position should be taken by KTAC on the proposed project.

At the September 15, 2020 meeting, Lea Castleberry from the Office of Supervisor Diane Burgis opened the item and recapped the presentation of August 18, 2020. She explained how the Project being considered was still in the concept phase and not a defined project, and that as Ms. Fateman stated; that there are still many studies, data development and investigations that need to take place before a final project is proposed. She also noted that the community will have the opportunity to review the studies and provide input before the Project is fully developed. Ms. Castleberry also relayed the concerns that Supervisor Burgis had with our board taking a position on the Project while the project development was on-going and not currently defined.

We then opened our meeting to Public Comment where we received comments and concerns from both residents and attendees at the meeting regarding the Project. The identity of those individuals who spoke during Public Comment and whether they are residents or not, along with, their comments are noted below:

(continued)

Roger Cuddle – lives on Byron Highway, feels that the Irrigation District caused the flooding and that there is no flooding problem right now. He is requesting more research and facts regarding flooding. - Resident

Mark Whitlock – The board should not vote on a project that is still being defined. – Non-Knightsen Resident

Gil Sommerhalder – Property should be kept as farmland. - Resident

Paul Kunkel – Feel that waiting until a project is defined will make it impossible to oppose and asks that a vote be taken to oppose the Project- Resident

Mr. Galloway – Has lived in Knightsen since 1956 and sees no benefit to the people. - Resident

James Dean – What is the purpose of the project; seems like more negatives than positives. - Resident

Anne Marie – No support for this project; no benefit to the community and serious risks. - Resident

Al Bello – Lived in Knightsen for 82 years and nothing but falsified documents. - Resident

Sandra Maxfield – Resident for 20 years and a Hydrologist by profession. She believes that the design influence is negative since the information is false and does not see good judgement being used in science. - Resident

Dave Burnell – Oppose Wetlands; because he lives across from the project location and is opposed because he believes he will be adversely affected by it; it is too risky and is worried about septic tanks and wells. - Resident

Ms. Bollinger – Lives on Delta Road and wishes to stop the project before it goes farther, believes there is not enough information and too many risks. Also feels that KTAC should listen to residents who do not support the project. - Resident

Mike Slocum – wants people's voices heard. - Resident

Carolyn Steen – Agrees with previous comments. Lives on Eagle Lane. Concerns – traffic, road impacts, parking, septic and well concerns and impacts to flood insurance. - Resident

Marabelle Ortum- Lives on Delta next to the Project and is opposed to the project; wants her voice heard and the project to end. She just learned about the project today and is very concerned. - Resident

Evelyn – Against project. Nature not water. - Resident

Lloyd Galloway – Is Mr. Nunn involved in this project? - Resident

Our board made the motion to follow the Supervisor's recommendation and not take a position on this proposed project, but to send a letter to the Board of Supervisors sharing the above public comments regarding the Project with the Board.

**Office of Supervisor Diane Burgis
3361 Walnut Blvd., Ste 140
Brentwood, CA 94513
(925) 252-4500**

Thank you for accepting our letter and reviewing the comments from those who took the time to address our board.

Sincerely,



Kim Carone, Chair

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