

Jacqueline Onicano
Planning and Building Services Manager
County of Monterey
168 W. Alisal St., 2nd Floor
Salinas, CA 93901
Re: Rancho Canada Project Comments

To Whom It May Concern:

As a resident of Riverwood Community off Rio Road, I am very, very concerned about the impact of the Rancho Canada Project upon the residents of this community. I have two major concerns: increased traffic, lack of water resources and increased risk of flooding.

- 1) The traffic is already very congested on Highway 1 during the week as it is and this project would make the traffic horrendous at certain times of the day. As it is, I have to carefully time my travels into Monterey during the week. I believe the developers have stated that there will be an offset of car trips because of the loss of golfers' car trips, but I believe those golfers will still be elsewhere in Carmel Valley, golfing and driving their cars.
- 2) There is only one way for residents of Carmel, Carmel Valley and the South Coast to get to Monterey and that is via Highway 1. What would we do, Heaven forbid, if there was a tsunami? Thousands of us would be trapped. The same if the dam upstream were to fail and the river suddenly flood. There is no way the residents would be able to evacuate the Valley floor safely. My understanding is that the Office of Emergency Management has not been part of this planning process and I believe they must be or Monterey County could be faced with a crisis down the road.
- 3) The Carmel Valley flood plain is a ticking time bomb and the massive movement of dirt that this project would require certainly makes this area more vulnerable to disaster. The bowl that Riverwood sits in would become even deeper.
- 4) Where is the water coming from? They say that the water used to irrigate the golf courses would simply be shifted over to homes but there is one huge, huge difference: **When there is a flood, water to golf courses can be limited but you can't cut off water to 280 homes.**

I am a single working woman and my home in Riverwood is my only asset. I fear that my only asset will loss much of its value if this project comes to fruition and that would be a huge negative impact on my future because I am counting on the increase of value of my home to help fund my later years. I love the bucolic nature of Carmel Valley and this project would effectively destroy that, as well.

Sincerely,
Patricia Ward
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