

December 2, 2008

June Scales
18705 Yellow Brick Rd.
Perris, CA 92570

RCTC
4080 Lemon St., 3rd Floor
Riverside, CA 92501

Regarding Midcounty Parkway
Dear Administrators,

The midcounty parkway is supposed to “reduce congestion and maintain and enhance the quality of life in western Riverside County.” Western Riverside County must mean people who live in Palm Springs. Anyone who lives any further west is going to have the quality of his or her life greatly impaired if this parkway is built.

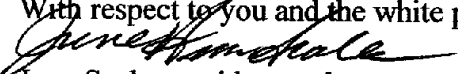
First, it will do nothing to reduce the local congestion. Only widening and improving the existing roads will do that. The RCTC should actually spend some money on taking care of the needs of the citizens instead of waiting for builders of projects to do the RCTC’s job. The traffic on Cajalco has greatly improved with only a few lights and lanes added. The completed project should handle the local traffic that will not have access to the parkway because of the few interchanges planned. Most of the traffic on VanBuren is not going to Long Beach, but to various places in the Riverside area. The parkway will not help that local problem.

Secondly, if the parkway comes up onto the Gavilan Plateau, commercial trucks will probably choose to use the old routes to save gas by not climbing the grades. If they do use it, the increased noise and pollution will indeed destroy the quality of life of thousands of residents who now live in the area. In order to save a few minutes, the RCTC is ruining what could be the most desirable place to live in Riverside Co. They see it as only an alley.

Thirdly, the parkway is a road to nowhere unless something is done about the snarl at the I-15 – 91 interchange. **Will a tunnel or double decked interchange be built BEFORE the parkway is finished?** If it is not complete, thousands of homes will have been destroyed or damaged, thousands of acres of irreplaceable wildlife habitat ruined, and an even greater traffic problem will have been created. Nothing should be approved and no construction should start until the major problem on the I-15 is solved first.

This rip and tear mentality for the sake of a few bucks is the antiquated paradigm that is destroying our planet. I feel sorry for the future generations that will have to live with the consequences of these destructive decisions.

With respect to you and the white pelican,


June Scales, resident and taxpayer