

November 29, 2008
18705 Yellow Brick Rd.
Perris, CA 92570

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RIVERSIDE COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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

Regarding Midcounty Parkway
Dear Administrators,

This letter concerns the section of the EIR/EIS about noise levels. Everyone wants to live in a quiet neighborhood. It almost ought to be listed in the UN's list of human rights. The right to sleep, to think, and to communicate without interrupting levels of noise is something all people should experience in their environment.

As I looked at the detailed maps in the EIR/EIS, I noticed that all the numbered yellow dots indicating survey sensors were in areas that already have very high levels of noise from traffic. Most projections in those areas expected a rise of 10 decibels. However, there were no sensors placed on the Gavilan Plateau section that has been designated as the county's preferred route.

The supervisors of Riverside Co. have time and time again held the line on keeping the Gavilan Plateau a rural area. **We thank them.** Our neighborhoods do indeed have a rural (30 decibels) level of noise where people can sleep with the windows open and hear birds sing. Raising the level to 60 – 70 decibels will destroy the quality that makes our homes desirable and valuable properties.

The report said that it must take into consideration the landforms. The neighborhoods on the plateau are small valleys surrounded by mountains. Our Idaleona area is an amphitheater. We can hear water splash in a pool a half a mile down the road. We hear the train whistle on the track next to the 91 freeway. The 60 decibel freeway noise of semi trucks will bounce around and be amplified for 24 hours a day making our peaceful valleys miserable places to live. The EIR/EIS fails to report or recognize this.

I also noticed that the chart listing the possibilities of sound walls to protect residents deemed most of them financially unfeasible. If this is true of the path where there is already a road, how much more so for a freeway that will be mostly suspended on bridges or mountaintops. The noise level question seems to make the entire parkway, especially the route through Gavilan Plateau, **UNFEASIBLE.**

It is a sad commentary that the usual answer to this situation by authorities is “if you don't like it, move.” Thousands upon thousands of Californians have indeed taken their money and residences to other states. This parkway will force many more to do so.

My questions are: **Will you redo the environmental noise section including the Gavilan Plateau before approving that path? Is there a policy concerning changing the environmental noise by more than 20 decibels? How will you keep our neighborhoods quiet?**

With respect to you and the white pelican,



June Scales, resident and taxpayer