GREATER LAKE MATHEWS RURAL TRAILS ASSOCIATION

2995 Van Buren Blvd., A-13, PMB #117 Riverside, CA 92504

Tax Exempt Organization 501(c)(4)

FIN #31-1717410
Website: www.glmrta.com



RIVERSIDE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Ms. Cathy Bechtel
Riverside County Transportation Commission
P. O. Box 12008
Riverside, CA 92502-208

Mr. Tay Dam Federal Highway Commission 650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100 Sacramento, CA 95814-4708

The Greater Lake Mathews Rural Trails Association (GLMRTA) was formed in 1988for the purpose of working with the County and developers to promote riding and hiking trails and the equestrian lifestyle in our rural area. Currently, we have approximately 100 memberships, of which 60 percent are family memberships. Because of our focus on trails and horse keeping, this communication will refer to proposed trails and equestrian facilities within the subject draft EIR.

Our concerns are for the protection of parks, trails, and staging areas that will be crossed by the proposed Mid-County Parkway as follows:

- 1. The parkway will come close to the Harford Springs Reserve in Gavilan Hills. What are the plans for protecting the park which is home to many species of plants and animals, and is an area used frequently by horse back riders, hikers, and bicyclists?
- 2. There are regional and community trails on the Riverside County General Plan map that traverse the area from Mockingbird Canyon, Woodcrest, and Mead Valley up to Harford Springs Reserve and Gavilan Hills. What is planned for those trails to cross under the proposed parkway?
- 3. There are proposed staging areas for horse trailer parking on the Watt Development off the relocated Gavilan Road and on the Belle Meadows development adjacent to Lake Mathews Drive. These staging areas will provide access to the trails adjacent to Harford Springs Reserve and to the regional and community trails off Lake Mathews drive, respectively. What will be done to protect those staging areas from being eliminated because of the proposed parkway?

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Sincerely,

Mark Doty, President

Greater Lake Mathews Rural Trails Association