DATE: August 6, 2020

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: District Manager

SUBJECT: Consideration of Support for the Rim of the Valley Corridor Preservation Act — Supplemental Information

Attached for your review please find correspondence received subsequent to the preparation and distribution of the staff report regarding the Rim of the Valley Corridor Preservation Act scheduled for the August 6, 2020 Board Meeting.

Dan Paranick
District Manager
Greetings,
I am writing to express my support of making the Simi Hills a part of our National Parks.
I grew up in Simi Valley, attended school in the Simi Valley Unified School District, and after a decade away, returned to make Simi Valley my home again. I grew up hiking the local trails with my dad, and have enjoyed the many beautiful trails around our fine city.
Allowing our Simi Hills to become a part of the National Park System would bring federal resources to protect and maintain the amazing green belt that surrounds our city and brings me so much joy. Especially recently, I have been grateful to be able to explore nature in my own backyard, as my inclination to travel has been postponed due to the current pandemic. By making Simi Hills a part of the National Parks, we would be able to protect them from those who may want to encroach on this beautiful area and make it private property, only to be enjoyed by the few.
Thank you for your time. Please consider adding our Simi Hills to the National Park system.
Thank you,
Darla Eden
(resident since 1987)
I believe it is in the best interest of the National Park Service to maintain the Rim of the Valley in Southern California as it is a historic landmark unparalleled by any ecological region in the country.

Jonathan Cohen
Good afternoon,

I think a national park in our backyard would be a great asset to our local community. Once I heard that this was even an opportunity I knew I had to get involved and email RSRPD!

Best,

Marissa Renyer
I am in support of Rom of the Valley
Hi,
I totally support the D or C plan. It's super important to me that we protect our open spaces!
Thanks,

Cindy Gray
RND Enterprises
818-341-2112 ex 12
661-510-4138 cell
www.rndcable.com
ISO9001:2015 | AS9100D | ITAR Registered
Hi,
I support the D or C plan. I feel it's important to protect our open spaces.
thank you,
Cindy
Dear Rancho Simi Recreation and Park Board Members.

Please support the Rim of the Valley campaign. It is good for Simi Valley and good for its residents. I am an avid mountain biker and trail user and I am highly in favor of this project. Additionally, the mountain biking community at large supports this project, e.g. CORBA and other organizations.

Thank you,

Cammie Brinkman
232 Shady Hills Ct.
Simi Valley, CA 93065
To Whom it May Concern,

I want you to know as a community member you have my complete support in making a portion of the Simi Valley Hills a National Park - Rim of the Valley. It will maintain the beautiful landscape we currently live in, but also provide education and cultural longevity to our area. We have so much to offer just in the Simi Valley area of this proposed statute. The former Santa Susana stage coach trail, wonderful native american sites, historical Strathern Park, and the recently discovered mammoth.

Thank you for helping to make this possible.

Sincerely,
Traci Hammerquist
Simi Valley Resident
DATE: August 6, 2020
TO: Board of Directors
FROM: District Manager
SUBJECT: Consideration of Support for the Rim of the Valley Corridor Preservation Act – Supplemental Information #2

Attached for your review please find correspondence received subsequent to the preparation and distribution of the staff report regarding the Rim of the Valley Corridor Preservation Act scheduled for the August 6, 2020 Board Meeting.

Dan Paranick
District Manager
The map shown in the agenda packet for item appears to place the entire community of Oak Park within the extended national park. If that is true, then I strongly oppose the Act. It would impair the ability of the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District to operate and maintain developed parks within the community. It might also place a cloud over the titles to our homes.

--

David E. Ross

Oak Park, CA 91377
I support the Rim of the Valley.
Thank you,
Kim May

Simi Valley, Ca 93066

--
Kim May
Hello,

I am writing to support the Rim of the Valley proposal for expanding the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area.

Thank you very much,

Rabbi Joshua Brumbach
Oak Park, CA
Hi,

As a cyclist and hiker, I would like to voice my support for the Rim of the Valley project. I hope cyclists will not be excluded. As a resident of the North San Fernando Valley, it is difficult to find legal trails to ride on. LA County dirt has been off limits to cyclists. I love riding on the Santa Monica Mtn trails but would really like to have somewhere closer to home. I think it’s important also to preserve the environment for wildlife and to have a place where people enjoy nature.

Thank you for your involvement in this,

Joanne Richards

Sent from my iPad
I want you to know that I support keeping Simi Valley beautiful. I am worried about all the construction and home building.
Lori Martinez
Resident for 25 years

Sent from my iPad
I support the rim project.

Thank you, Jack Nosco
Hello Boardmembers,

I am contacting you as a lifetime resident of Simi Valley and a national parks superfan, to request your support of the Rim of the Valley Corridor Preservation Act. Having worked for the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area for a number of years, I can tell you that personally, the very thought of our Valley's inclusion in its potential future expansion is thrilling. I ask us to picture this:

Simi Valley would be the northern boundary of the national park and a hub for backpacking, mountain biking, and other outdoors activities. We could advocate for a Visitor Center to be located right here in our town, with visitors from around the world trying to get their stamp in their parks passport books. Backpackers would be coming over the mountain to look for a place to rest. We have massive potential for ecotourism and a boon to our local economy.

But before then, I want to address some common misconceptions:
- One, the legislation specifically outlines that eminent domain cannot be used
- Two, the legislation does not automatically federalize all open spaces on its map. Instead, it just allows the park to expand through donation or purchasing from a willing buyer in those areas in the future. It's why it's taken over 30 years for the park to even get as big as it has now. Other local or state authorities could still take that land or hold it.
- Three, the national park is a mosaic of local, state, and federal land. It does not attempt to overtake local authority. Look at the City of Malibu or Calabasas, whose cities are engulfed in the park's boundaries. All local authority is maintained. The legislation protects local authority.

Thank you,

Ryan Valencia
I’m been an avid mountain biker, living in the Conejo Valley, for the last 27 years and I fully support The Rim of the Valley. We need to protect and preserve our mountains & wildlife for generations to come.

Tamara Napier
Newbury Park, CA

That which does not kill us makes us stronger! (Friedrich Nietzsche)

Sent from my iPad
Folks:

I just want to express my strong support for the inclusion of Rim of the Valley to our National Parks System. This is a beautiful and special area and deserves protection so many may enjoy it in the future. Thank you.

Very Respectfully,

Rick Ladd
Simizen
Hello all,

I'm not going to pretend that I understand every nuance of this Rim of the Valley proposal. It seems non-controversial and generally positive at the surface level. Who doesn't want to protect our land? I surely do! However, I worry that if I were to peel back the layers of this proposal, I might find some unsavory secrets.

I cannot accept any proposal that incorporates toxic Santa Susana Field Lab land. To do so would not only be negligent but sinister as well. I noticed in the "Modern Hiker" article that "Space Age" sites were included in the noteworthy characteristics of the land, along with Native American cultural sites. All this sounds interesting and worthy of protection. However, I don't think it is right to mention "Space Age" sites without detailing the nuclear meltdown that occurred there. To ignore/ hide that information would be an abdication of your duties as elected officials sworn in to project and serve the people of this community. The public should know what happened there--the whole truth. It is also worth mentioning that the cultural sites near the SSFL land are toxic, and the push to make them official cultural sites without the proper clean-up (as per NASA's 2010 promise to do so), would also be an abdication of duty because NASA could use it as yet another excuse to not clean up the land. Again, cultural sites and protecting the land and honoring our space history sounds great, but not at the cost of our people's health.

Please do the right thing and select a proposal that does not include SSFL land. We need to push back against NASA and force them to clean up their mess and fulfill their promises, not forgo their responsibility. We have a beautiful city that definitely deserves and needs protection. But it can't be surface level protection. We must peel back the layers, and see that some of our land is sick, and hurting, and needs to be cleaned and reckoned with before it can be fully enjoyed by its people.
I look forward to hiking safely in our gorgeous hills! Good luck reaching a consensus.

Thank you for your time,
Kathryn Plyler