

Dear Mr. Chair and Honorable Board of Supervisors,

My name is _____ and I am an equestrian who enjoys riding in the Santa Ynez Valley. I understand there is a proposal to expand the Equestrian Trail at Live Oak at Cachuma Lake to hikers in 2021, with a second expansion to allow mountain bikes at some later date.

I know of no public notification of the Trail expansion and would like to offer a resounding “NO” to any expanded use by hikers or mountain bikes on the trail until the equestrian public is included in discussions and the Expansion Project properly evaluated & noticed.

Live Oak is practically the only place in the Santa Barbara County Park System that has adequate parking and staging area for equestrians. Live Oak is a unique resource to equestrians as it provides a **truly safe**, natural environment that minimizes conflict with other users and allows equestrians' the ability to prepare for and ride safely.

Since we have the entire Los Padres National Forest open to all equestrians, hikers, mountain bikers as well as most City and County Parks open to hikers and mountain bikes, is there an **actual or perceived need** to have these trails open to other users? We know there is a track (trail) designed specifically for mountain bike at the main Cachuma Lake Recreation Area. Why not one have ONE trail for equestrian trail riders?

I want current equestrian uses to continue as they are.

Thank you for considering a transparent process that allows for community input before the trail expansion at Live Oak goes forward and for allowing this area to remain open for safe equestrian trail riding. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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Office of the Clerk of the Board
105 East Anapamu St., Rm 407
Santa Barbara CA 93101

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