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Second District

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August 6, 2025

To:

Mayor and Members of the City Council
Planning Commission
City Manager Nathan Hamburger
City of Agoura Hills
30001 Ladyface Court
Agoura Hills, CA 91301

Subject: Urgent Need for Cross-Jurisdictional Collaboration and Evaluation of Evacuation Planning Concerns

Dear Mayor, Councilmembers, Planning Commissioners, and City Manager Hamburger,

As the Ventura County Supervisor representing District 2—which includes the community of Oak Park—I am writing to express serious and growing concerns shared by both myself and many Oak Park residents regarding the City of Agoura Hills' evacuation planning. Members of the Oak Park Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) have also voiced significant apprehension. These concerns are well documented in the numerous letters submitted for the Oak Park MAC meeting held on June 26, 2025. I urge you to give these letters the thoughtful and serious consideration they deserve.

Specifically, the public comment letters submitted by residents and organizations such as Save Open Space Santa Monica Mountains (SOS) and PRISMM outline significant apprehensions about the potential impacts of Agoura Hills' proposed developments on the evacuation safety of surrounding communities, particularly Oak Park. These letters, which are publicly available at the following links, provide thorough analysis and raise issues about evacuation capacity, traffic flow, topography, and regional emergency response limitations:

- [Agoura Hills Public Comment Letters](#)
- [PRISMM & SOS Comments](#)
- [SOS Santa Monica Letter](#)

Given our communities' shared geography and interconnected roadways, it is imperative that all jurisdictions in this high-risk fire area take a collaborative and regional approach to emergency planning. The safety of our residents should be paramount, and I urge your city to:

1. Thoroughly review and evaluate the concerns and evidence outlined in the above letters;
2. Engage directly with Ventura County agencies and Oak Park stakeholders to ensure regional evacuation planning is integrated and equitable;
3. Consider updated evacuation modeling that reflects the cumulative impacts of proposed developments on regional traffic and emergency access during a wildfire event.

I believe that through open dialogue, data-driven planning, and mutual cooperation, we can work toward solutions that prioritize the safety of all our residents—regardless of municipal boundaries.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. I look forward to your partnership and a continued conversation on how best to protect our communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. F. Gorell", followed by a horizontal line.

Jeff Gorell
Supervisor, Second District