From: Duron, Heidi - LUS
To: Toothaker, Sarah; Biggs, Lupe
Subject: Fw: Church of the Woods proposed project
Date: Tuesday, October 13, 2020 9:35:32 AM

From: Amanda Frye <amandafrye6@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2020 9:33 AM
To: COB - Internet E-Mail; Rutherford@bos.sbcounty.gov; Rutherford, Janice; Rahhal, Terri; Duron, Heidi - LUS; Nievez, Tom; Lovingood, Robert; Rowe, Dawn; Hagman, Curt; Supervisor Gonzales
Subject: Church of the Woods proposed project

Amanda Frye
12714 Hilltop Drive
Redlands, CA 92373
(909) 794-9526
Amandafrye6@gmail.com

October 13, 2020
Regarding: Church of the Woods proposed project

Dear San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors and Planning Officials:

When people speak of **BAD FOREST Management** and **MISMANAGEMENT** in our local, state and National Forests, the blame starts with county approval of inappropriate and bad projects. President Trump and others have blamed the recent California forest fires on mismanagement and part of the finger pointing and blame starts with approval of bad and impropriate projects that destroy the natural forest for built projects such as the proposal from CHURCH of the WOODS. This proposed project is a bad project and approval is gross mismanagement and reckless. The **Church of the Woods** proposed **project** should be **rejected.**

There is a difference between holding a religious service in the unbuilt natural forest canopy, which some consider a sanctuary built by G-d, versus destroying the forest woodlands which is blaspheme and does irreversible damage to the forest. There are many built sites that could be purchased, leased or rebuilt for a structural church compound and parking lot if the Church of the Woods desires a built structure for services. Why didn't the Church of the Woods purchase the white elephant Arrowhead Springs Resort which was sold for a fraction of what it would take to build this proposed white elephant destructive project?

Private land ownership does not mean that the land can be destroyed nor does it give religious group or any other entity the right to destroy the valuable forest for selfish desires. Private land ownership of forest lands does not allow for the old growth trees to be destroyed nor everything on the land destroyed while impacting the surrounding lands and destroying an important part of San

Bernardino County. There are rules, laws and considerations for land use which is why this project should not be allowed. You the Board of Supervisors are the gateway to maintaining San Bernardino County for the future generations while preventing more irreversible damage to our county.

The **air quality** in San Bernardino County has grown **worse** since I moved here twenty-six years ago. My children and husband have moderate to severe asthma and now I am plagued with breathing problems related to the pollution. Old growth forest help make the air better processing pollutants and providing oxygen. The trees help protect run off, maintain watersheds, prevent landslides and floods that surrounding areas. The forest were reserved for preservation and conservation not destruction.

"Climate change poses a major risk to the stability…ability to sustain the American economy."- **-**Commodity Futures Trading Commission Task Force.

No matter; personal or political beliefs, we must face climate change **reality** with **negative economic impacts**, physical, biological impacts, fires, water shortage, etc. The recent Apple and El Dorado Fires have kept our county and forests burning with air polluted to unhealthy levels since July. I have watched our mountain landscape burn from our living room window all summer. The air has limited outdoor activity in our mountain and foothill communities which is has tripled the COVID burden and burn-out and **decreased sales tax revenue**.

Allowing acres of old growth forest to be destroyed and replaced with built structures and asphalt will create a **heat sink** in the middle of our California mountain and National forest with temperatures **rising 30 to 45 degrees F**(Fahrenheit) as documented by scientific juried research. This heat sink will have a tremendous impact to our already damaged forest far beyond the increase in surface and canopy temperatures. This heat sink will have obvious and notable effects such as an Increase in surrounding forest death, severe fires, higher heat in our mountain communities. How much **water** does the proposed project take and use?

San Bernardino County has replaced orchards, dairies, groves, ranch lands with hideous money draining structures while paving over prime agriculture lands disrupting and destroying a agricultural economy for pollution and empty warehouses. Mountain tourism is one sustaining business sector that San Bernardino County should prize not destroy.

San Bernardino County economic health and financial future depends on your decisions today. Please **do not allow** the Church of the Woods proposed **project**. **Our mountain landscape, and forest are tourism and economic assets**. In the surrounding area, there are already many built sites, structures that can be repurposed and rebuilt for a built physical church building. Entities can be found to purchase/conserve the old growth forest land if necessary.

Allowing the Church in the Woods to destroy old growth woods and forest lands for built structures and asphalt is a bad project for San Bernardino County and mismanagement of our forest and county. The cost is far beyond the loss of irreplaceable trees and habitat. The cost is an economic disaster that will plague San Bernardino County for years to come. The increase in temperature for that and neighboring areas would yield to dreadful impacts to tourism. No one comes to the

mountains and forest to see more traffic and buildings. People come to the San Bernardino County mountains and forests to see nature, forest, snow, while they play, spend money and escape the city, traffic and pollution that plague the valleys below. **Destroying the forest destroys the tourism economy and tax dollars** for San Bernardino County.

Please do that responsible thing, **reject the Church of the Woods proposed project** for the present and future of San Bernardino County.

Sincerely,
Amanda Frye

From:	Duron, Heidi - LUS
To:	Toothaker, Sarah; Biggs, Lupe
Subject:	Fw: VOTE NO on Church of the Woods project!
Date:	Tuesday, October 13, 2020 9:00:52 AM

From: Laurie Knoot <l.knoot@att.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2020 8:59 AM
To: Duron, Heidi - LUS
Subject: VOTE NO on Church of the Woods project!

Dear Ms Duron,
I am asking you to VOTE NO on The Church of the Woods project (Sonrise), Rimforest.
The proposed site will negatively impact our traffic. The 18 is the only road that services all of the Mountain Communities. Everyday there are so many accidents on the 18, 138, 330 and connecting roads. These roads are challenging for most drivers, and become scary even for residents when there is fog, wind, rain or snow.
Our communities saw last winter on Thanksgiving, how a severe snowstorm compromised the local resident's ability to leave or return to our homes. I picked up my children from Ontario Airport and it took us 4 hours to go home in Lake Arrowhead!! It was a $%#@ storm! One snowplow slid off the road and the other was stuck in bumper to bumper traffic with the rest of us! We were lucky because the 18 was closed shortly after we got home.
Adding a church to attract 100's of people will severely compromise emergency evacuation safety in a natural disaster!! Along with weather and earthquakes, our fire season is now year round.
I have heard it will involve 7 traffic lights!!!! We only have 2 on the entire mountain (minus Big Bear). Is this project really that important, that this is necessary????
They do not have enough members to warrant such a large church. It's impossible for them to predict if they will have more church attendees.
The residents will have to pay to use their outdoor facilities, it doesn't benefit our community.
It will end up being another vacant, unfinished project up here, another eyesore!! But, before they understand their project will fail, they will ruin our mountain by clear cutting 17 acres of beautiful forested Little Bear Watershed and disrupt a county identified wildlife corridor.
Just look at the proposed Blue Jay Hotel Complex Site, the trees were cut down without a permit and now it's an eyesore. Where was the County of San Bernardino when this was happening????
There has to be a point where San Bernardino County uses good judgment vs greed when allowing a new development. Please do not allow this to happen!!
Sincerely,
Laurie Knoot

28018 West Shore Rd
Lake Arrowhead, Ca

From: Duron, Heidi - LUS
To: Toothaker, Sarah; Biggs, Lupe
Subject: Fw: PLEASE VOTE NO
Date: Tuesday, October 13, 2020 8:30:22 AM
Attachments: IMG_7084.jpg

From: Terry Drewry <terrydrewry@outlook.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 11, 2020 12:16 PM
To: Rutherford, Janice
Cc: Duron, Heidi - LUS
Subject: PLEASE VOTE NO

Please vote NO on the Church of the Woods proposed project (Sonrise). No water pollution. No new traffic congestion. No destroying forest and wild animal habitat. Please.
Church of the Woods needs to find a less destructive way to do good.
Theresa Drewry, Lake Arrowhead homeowner, almost 13 years.

Terry

From: Duron, Heidi - LUS
To: Toothaker, Sarah; Biggs, Lupe
Subject: Fw: Church of the woods land development
Date: Tuesday, October 13, 2020 8:29:31 AM

From: Dave Rubin <ladavetq7@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 12, 2020 8:34 AM
To: Rutherford, Janice
Cc: Duron, Heidi - LUS; Linda Rubin
Subject: Church of the woods land development

Please vote NO on this development.

Thanks,

Dave Rubin
Crestline

Sent from my iPad

From:	Kate Neiswender
To:	Nievez, Tom; Rahhal, Terri; Duron, Heidi - LUS
Subject:	OPPOSITION -- Church of the Woods Project
Date:	Monday, January 20, 2020 3:02:35 PM
Attachments:	County-Planning-1-23-20.pdf

Please provide copies to the Planning Commissioners. I am sending the original by mail. Thanks

Kate Neiswender
Law Office of K.M. Neiswender
PO Box 1225
Blue Jay CA 92317
909.744.9723
cel 805 320-2520

From: trysta Schwenker
To: Nievez, Tom
Subject: Vote No on Church of the Woods project "Sonrise"
Date: Monday, August 24, 2020 3:34:08 PM

I have lived on the Mountain for 34 years. The beauty and peace of this area are very special to me. When I heard of the project "Sonrise" my first reaction was anger that our beautiful wilderness was to be disrupted for what is essentially a private religious group's expansion. After seeing the plan size and scope of the project I am even more appalled. The congestion, increase of drain on scarce water resources especially to water and maintain the multiple large game fields, all to enlarge a church of a denomination I do not belong to nor care to attend is not what I have paid taxes for. This project will cause unnecessary traffic disruption on an already crowded Rt 18, the disruption will make evacuation in case of emergency even more difficult for all of us. We will pay more for needed upgrades of services caused by the increase of traffic and use that the project entails. It will also cause unavoidable pollution issues, not only for the locals but for our waters and forest. Our environment up here is already under stress from pollution as well as climate change induced drought and we should be concentrating on supporting the wilderness rather than tearing it up to create more traffic and building and usage. Many of the letters in support of the project I read in the environmental statement stress the beauty of the mountains and the nice air... which they will be adversely impacting with this project.

One of the things I have enjoyed over the years is the nearness of wildlife in the mountains. Many local species are already under threat from overcrowding and lack of territory. This project will adversely affect the area by removing a large section of habitat from a suffering population. This is not a community project for the betterment and enjoyment of the entire community, but a private school and facilities for Church of the Woods to generate income. These fields and meeting places will only be available to the public when not in use by Church of the Woods and their affiliates. The present recreational facilities are more than adequate for the needs of our community with no pressing need to increase them. The public should not have to suffer for the expansionist desires of a few. Please vote No on this disruptive project.

Trysta Schwenker
31021 Wild Oak Dr
Running Springs, Ca 92382

From:	Bruce Daniels
To:	Nievez, Tom
Subject:	FW: Church of the Woods relocation to Rimforest
Date:	Saturday, May 2, 2020 5:23:01 PM
Attachments:	image003.jpg image001.jpg image002.png image004.jpg image005.jpg image006.png image007.jpg image008.jpg image009.jpg image010.jpg image011.jpg image012.png image013.png image014.png image015.png image016.jpg image017.jpg image018.png image019.jpg image020.png image021.jpg
Importance:	High

Hi Tom,

I hope you and your family are dealing with our COVID-19 health crisis.

Regarding the proposed Church of the Woods relocation to Rimforest, I have read the County EIR, attended the Planning Commission public hearing and emailed Supervisor Rutherford and Lewis Murray my enclosed comments. I am unaware of any formal position taken by her, Church of the Woods, Lake Arrowhead MAC, Mountain Rim Fire Safe Council, Lake Arrowhead Chamber of Commerce, CalFire/CHP or County Fire regarding its potential impact on State Route 18 as an evacuation route. In addition, Caltrans has approved installing a series of traffic signals there. If this issue has been addressed, I would appreciate knowing their positions and receiving a copy of their comments. To date I have receive no response from any organization or agency regarding this matter of utmost importance.

I look forward to your response.

All the best!

Bruce C. Daniels
Telephone: (909) 867 5879

* * *

February 7, 2020
Honorable Janice Rutherford, Supervisor
County of San Bernardino
385 N. Arrowhead Avenue, Fifth Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92415

Draft Revised Environmental Impact Report
SCH No. 2004031114
Church of The Woods Project

Dear Supervisor Rutherford:

The County Planning Commission unanimously approved the Church of the Woods (COTW) draft Environmental Impact Report (DREIR) and conditional use permit. Several hundred Church of the Woods parishioners with seemingly good intentions have spent over $1,000,000 proposing to replace a natural cathedral with their temple, paving our forest floor, a virtual national park enjoyed by thousands of residents and over six million visitors annually, many of whom are from your district down the Hill. Based on the following observations, I appeal to you to schedule a Board of Supervisors hearing regarding this monumental decision requesting more time to comprehensively include and analyze identified impacts. The Lake Arrowhead and the Rim of the World communities deserve a complete and accurate exchange of information during the review and approval process. You have ably demonstrated support for local self-determination and transparency, yet little is known about affected County departments and local organization analysis. Neither have your Municipal Advisory Councils been involved despite having available a full array of resources including Caltrans, CHP, County Fire, County Sheriff, San Bernardino National Forest and Edison.

I spoke against the DREIR but was impressed by the good intentions expressed by the pastor and his congregation. He said that the existing church site is incompatible with the residential neighborhood. It is important to meet and confer with COTW to determine whether a mutual accommodation can be made with the objective of abandoning the property and seeking another suitable site. I am committed to this effort.

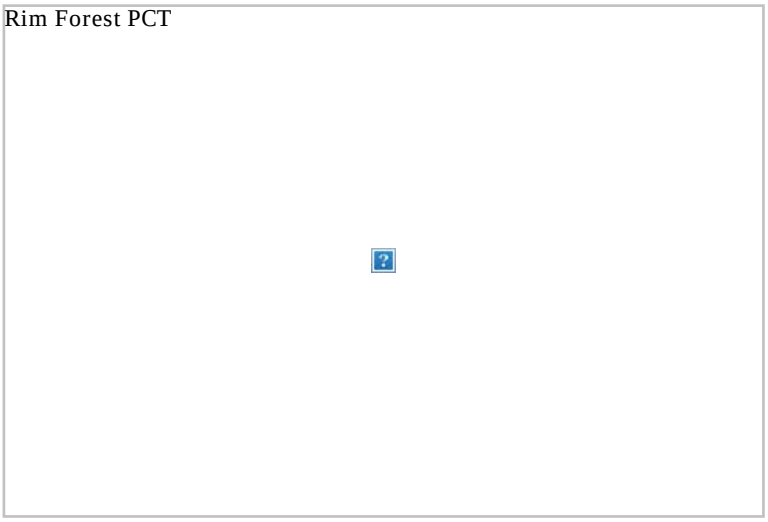
If implemented, such action will desecrate and endanger Rim of the World security, quality of life, environment and economy by further obstructing a monumentally important evacuation route and Scenic Byway, exposing our paradise into another Paradise, CA apocalypse. I attended a joint Lake Arrowhead/Crest Forest Municipal Advisory Council meeting you hosted introducing County Fire Chief Dan Munsey. You presented a team of federal, state and local resources, yet I received no response to my question regarding evacuation routes. Having lived near Paradise and as a former Riverside County Department Director responsible for its fire protection master plan, I am profoundly concerned that County Fire, CalFire or Caltrans did not address the urgent necessity of Highway 18 as a regional evacuation artery. I am troubled that at the Planning Commission public hearing the County expressed having no influence over Caltrans plans to install traffic signals. Yet the Lake Arrowhead community proved otherwise causing Caltrans to remove a traffic signal at the junction of SH 189 and 173 in front of Lake Arrowhead Village; only recently exemplified by consensus over the recent diversion of federal airline routes and urging County support for revitalizing SkyPark.

After 16 years of costly stalemate, County approval of the Church of the Woods DREIR has resulted in extending an avoidable and divisive state of siege, effectively trespassing on inappropriately-zoned land use and proposing to inflict severe wounds on rare pristine forested riparian habitat providing a window to Rimforest, the source of Little Bear Creek, and access to Arrowhead Lake via creek-side trails, village promenades and a County-designated wildlife corridor. You are aware that unlike the San Gabriel Mountains, the San Bernardinos are blessed with alpine villages as a gateway to our national forest, serving substantially more visitors than Yosemite National Park. As privileged stewards of our land, we are obliged refrain from despoiling our precious remaining resources. The combined Church of the Woods development/County Flood Control storm drain delivers a one-size-fits-all land-use value to an area where blue skies, clean air and a relaxed natural environment draw residents and tourists to a community embraced by a natural refuge. This demands considering other suitable sites that will enhance our environment, economy and quality of life.

As a 36-year resident volunteer working with our school district on an intermountain trail, former city manager, private County redevelopment consultant for adjacent Twin Peaks, elected chairman of the Rim of the World Recreation Park District and AYSO Board member, I find it incomprehensible that the County failed to comply with its own Lake Arrowhead Community Plan or conducted comprehensive and specific planning given the highly significant cumulative impacts identified in its Caltrans ATP plan. Neither was the San Bernardino National Forest Management Plan nor its 1998 draft intermountain trail plan adequately addressed. Lake Arrowhead, County, San Bernardino National Forest and the local organizations including church groups are collaborating to establish a world class intermountain trail connecting with the Pacific Crest Trail. Rimforest/Blue Jay and Little Bear Creek have been identified as one of five major venues for developing an intermountain trail endorsed by the Lake Arrowhead Chamber of Commerce. Addressed in the Lake Arrowhead Community Plan and Caltrans Active Transportation Program (ATP) plan, the County endorsed both via its Board of Supervisors, San Bernardino County Transportation Authority, your Municipal Advisory Council and County Service Area 70-D1. The San Bernardino National Forest in 1998 drafted an intermountain trail plan that was presented at the *Fall Rendezvous* conference in Lake Arrowhead sponsored by the County.

Harrison "Buzz" Price, noted Walt Disney attractions consultant, was the keynote speaker at the 1998 *Fall Rendezvous Conference* held in Lake Arrowhead (transcript available). He identified the development of an intermountain trail as a first priority.

Rim Forest PCT

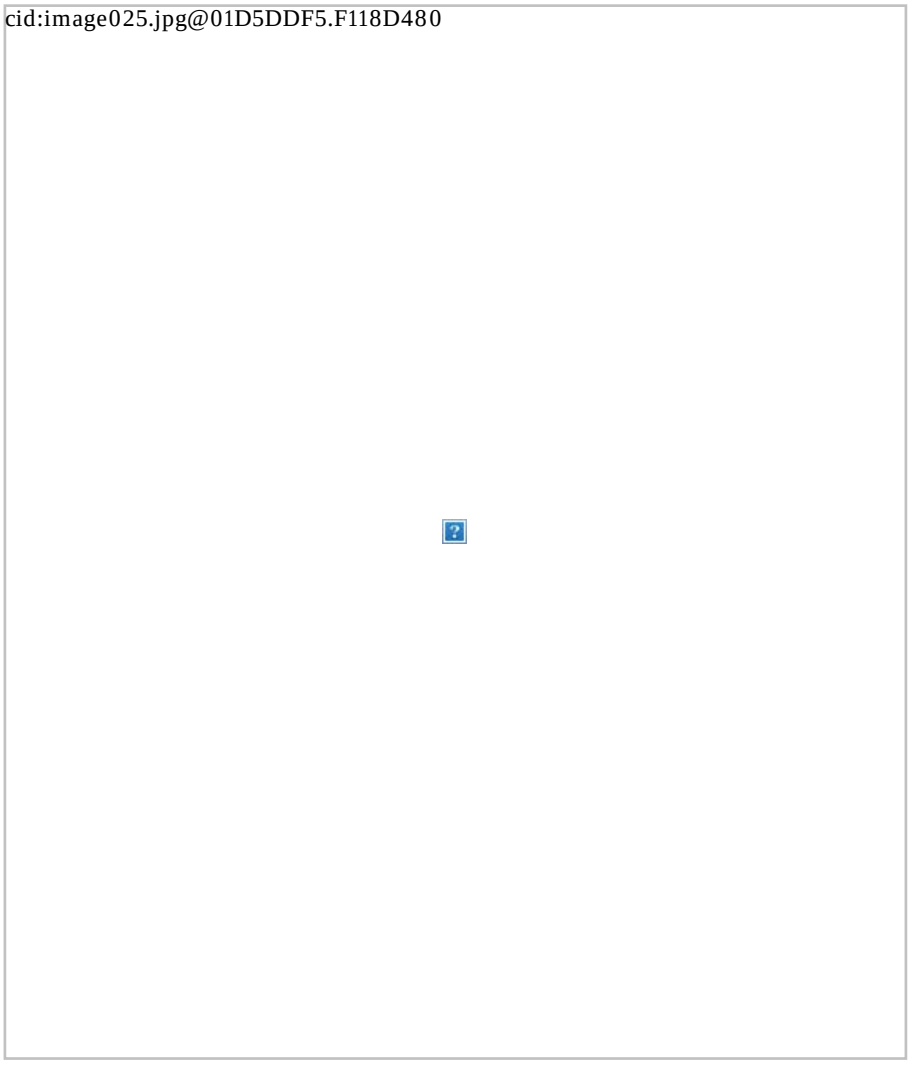


A draft intermountain trail proposes to connect Rim of the World villages and attractions east-west with the internationally acclaimed Pacific Crest Trail serving the back county north-south from Mexico through Big Bear to the San Gabriel Mountains north to Canada. Existing user-generated trails, including those in the Blue Jay/Rimforest area, are proposed to join U.S. Forest Service designated trails funded, upgraded and monitored by the local community and outside resources.
The San Bernardino National Forest manages the Dogwood Campground Trail near Rim of the World High School connecting with Daley Canyon Road and Blue Jay Village. An intermountain trail/promenade is waiting to re-discover an abused and neglected Little Bear Creek trail that would connect with adjacent Strawberry Creek.

The Caltrans Active Transportation Program (ATP) Plan approved by the Rim of the World Recreation & Park District, County, and San Bernardino County Transportation Agency (formerly SANBAG) set the stage for a local coalition to develop, manage and maintain an intermountain trail, including related village revitalization and safe routes to schools. However, County safe routes to schools, revitalization and habitat conservation plans *do not include Rim of the World*. A coalition has been formed resulting in the establishment of the Rim of the World Trails Alliance. The ATP Plan identifies major “activity nodes”(recreational centers, and activity centers) within the Blue Jay/Little Bear Creek region of Lake Arrowhead that includes Rim of the World High School as part of the County's Lake Arrowhead Community Plan Area.

The proposed Church relocation competes with local park & recreation and educational institutions. Having received County financial support, The Rim of the World Recreation and Park District is a resource with headquarters located in Rimforest near the source of Little Bear Creek. The District has been involved in trail development as evidenced by funding the National Children’s Forest Exploration Trail in Running Springs. Furthermore, Rim of the World School District administrative offices are located in Blue Jay straddling Little Bear Creek located near Rim of the World High School and U.S. Forest Service Dogwood Campground.

Prior to any major development in the Rim Forest/Blue Jay area, the Lake Arrowhead region should conduct a specific plan that addresses its special eco-tourism and community residential elements. While the San Bernardino Mountain communities benefit from an updated County community plan, only the City of Big Bear Lake has a Mountain specific plan from which Rim of the World villages and attractions can draw valuable lessons. Largely implemented, its Village Specific Plan boundary excludes Knickerbocker Creek, a County flood control channel comparable to Little Bear Creek and a most valuable asset.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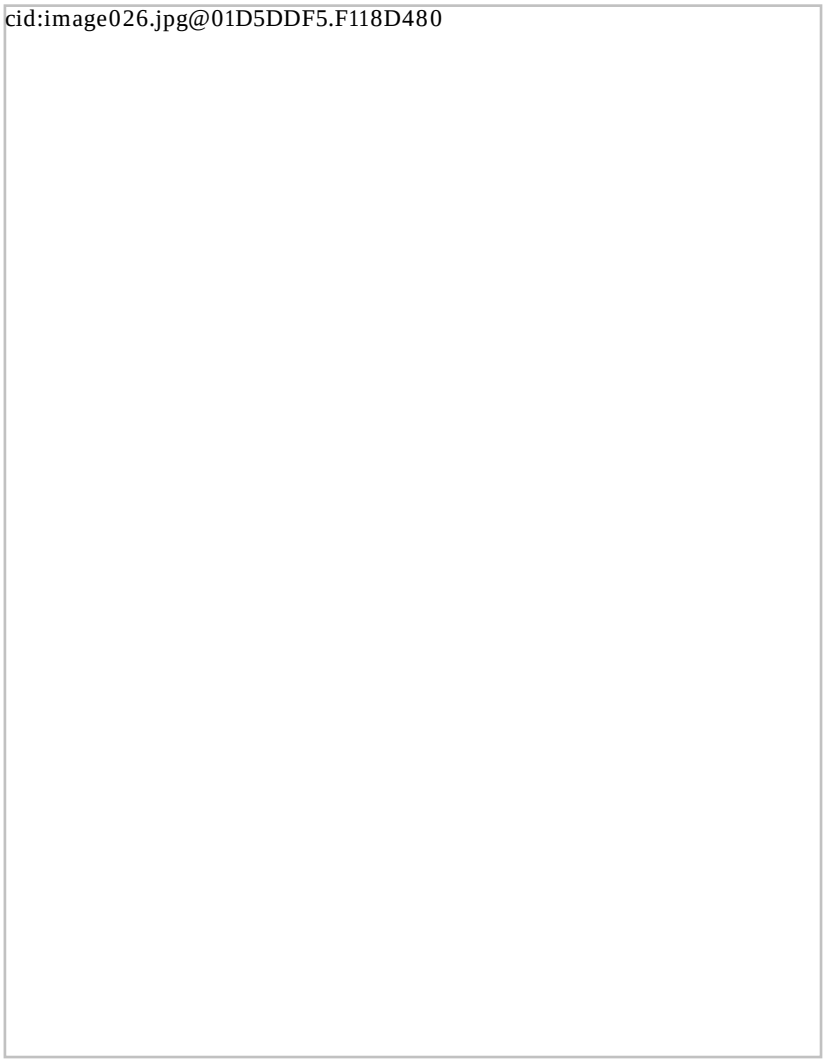
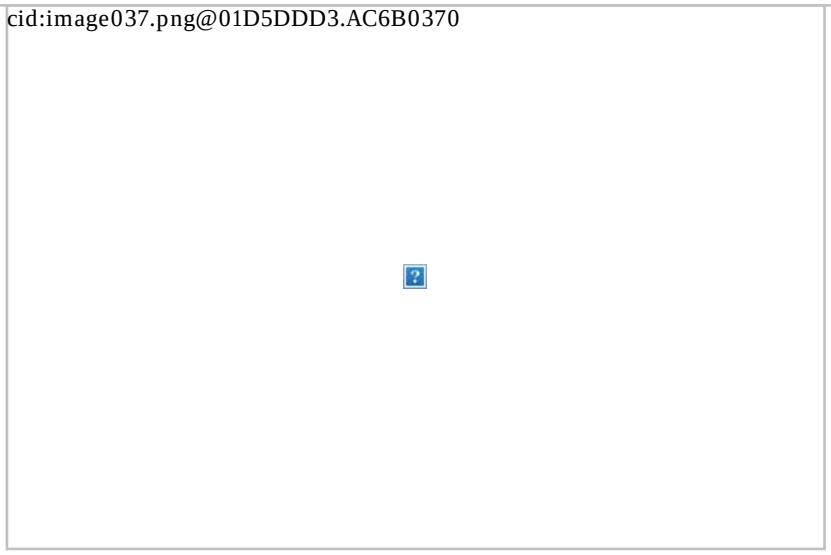
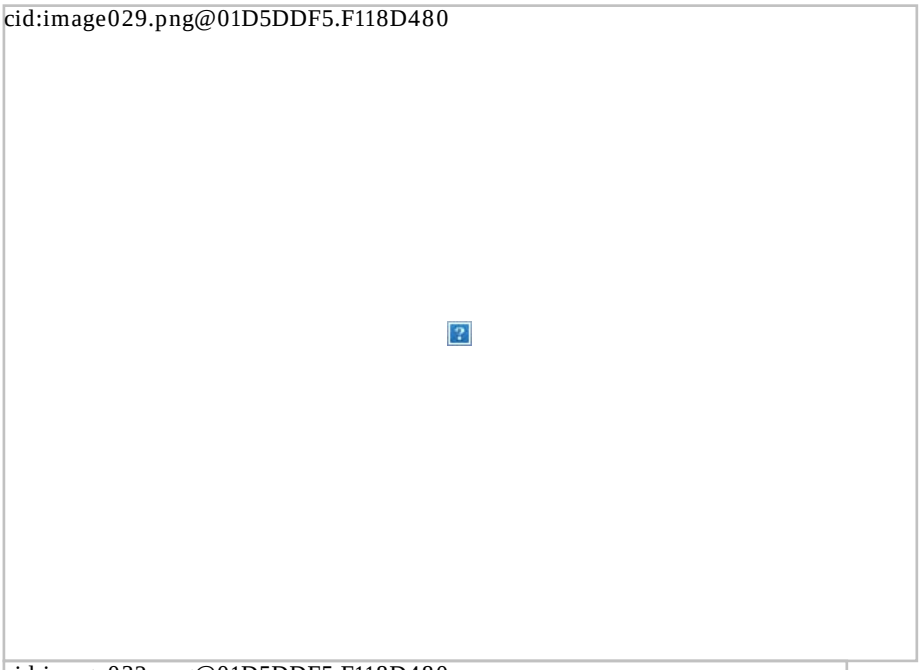


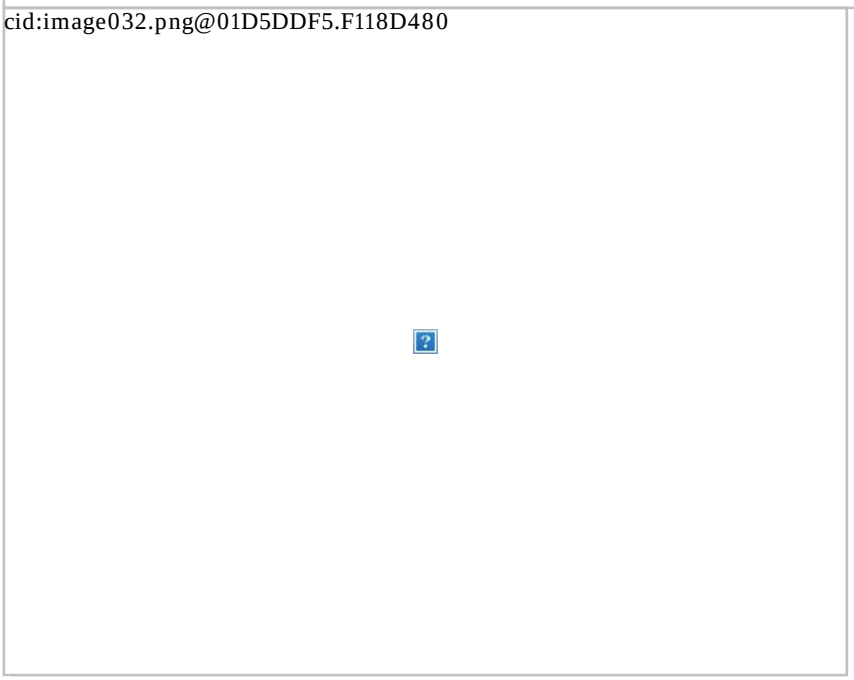
With the correlative Strawberry Creek controversy now embroiled in litigation and national attention, it is important to resolve this controversy now where *all* of God's creatures can benefit. Having purchased the church property for a much needed storm drain affecting the County Road Yard and County Library downstream while served by the Twin Peaks Sheriff substation and fire station, any exposure of the County to investigations and litigation regarding appearances of conflict of interest should be avoided.

The late eminent Lake Arrowhead water expert Ralph Wagner makes recommendations for adjacent and affected Strawberry Creek, which reciprocally should apply to Little Bear Creek.



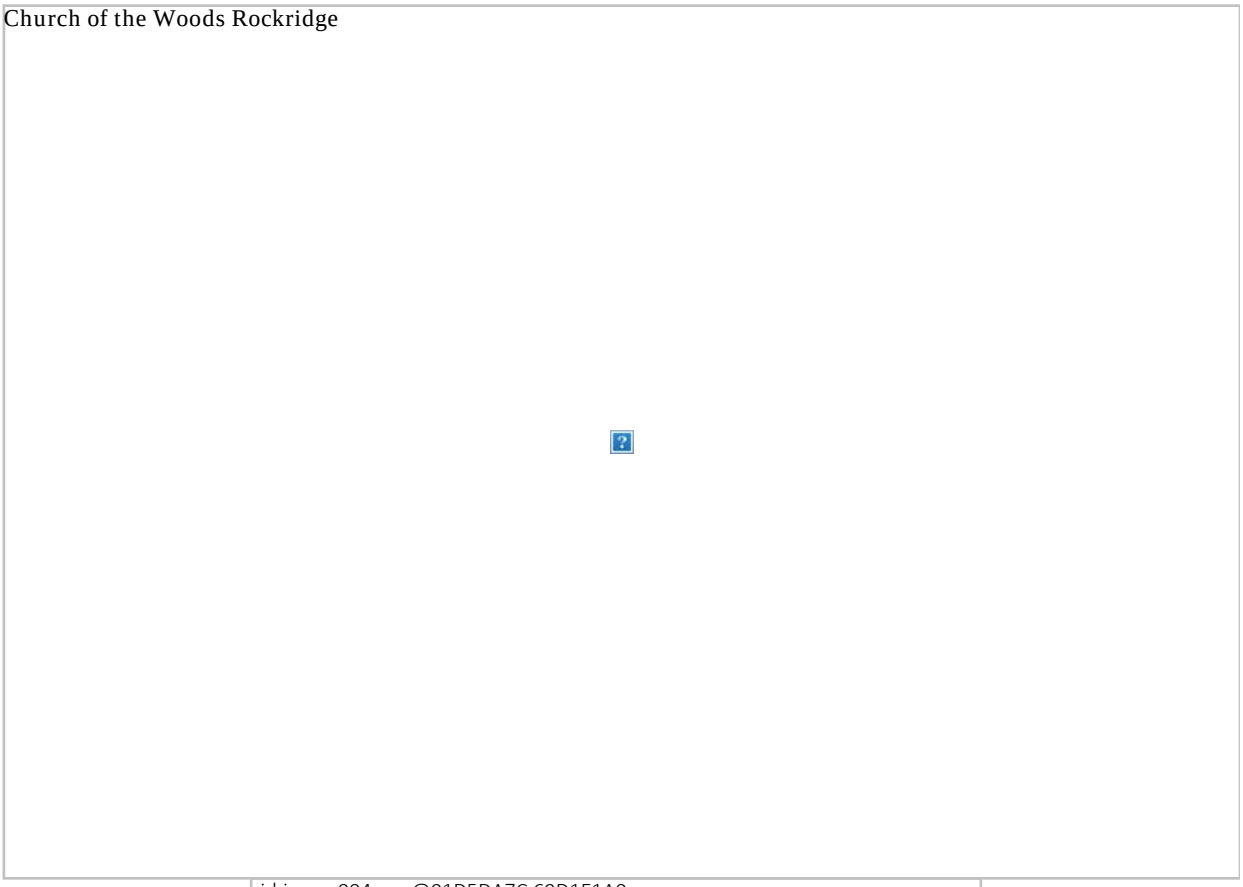
MONEY *DOES GROW* ON TREES! via tourism-related jobs and business opportunities in real estate, construction, retail, restaurants, lodging and average daily school attendance. Short-sighted gains result in damaging consequences. The Rim of the World, which includes Rimforest, was identified by the San Bernardino National Forest as a site for an intermountain trail. The National Geographic identifies the "Rim of the World Scenic Byway" as one of the top road trips for vacationers. Cruising this spectacular panoramic state highway draws more than 6 million tourists seeking a refuge as the Inland Empire with a population of 4.6 million people (16th largest market in the nation) as well as the international destination of Los Angeles with over 42 million residents and visitors.





County Flood Control is addressing the issue of preventing another Rimforest landslide by installing a lined channel replacing Little Bear Creek. However, this can be accomplished by naturalizing stream flow complementing the environment while avoiding incurring major restoration expense later. Los Angeles County learned this hard lesson having to naturalize the Los Angeles River spending *$453,000,000 after* lining it as a flood control channel. Lake Arrowhead, including Blue Jay and Rimforest, prides itself on its forested waterways as a economic and recreation benefit for tourists and residents alike. Having served as an economic and redevelopment specialist for the City of Big Bear Lake responsible for implementing its Village Specific Plan, I observed that the adjacent Knickerbocker Creek County flood control channel like Little Bear Creek lacks naturalization, a costly mistake adversely affecting tourism and recreation. Furthermore, Church of the Woods and Rockridge developments along Little Bear Creek ignore the adverse environmental and economic impacts that a specific plan and comprehensive review would address.

Church of the Woods Rockridge



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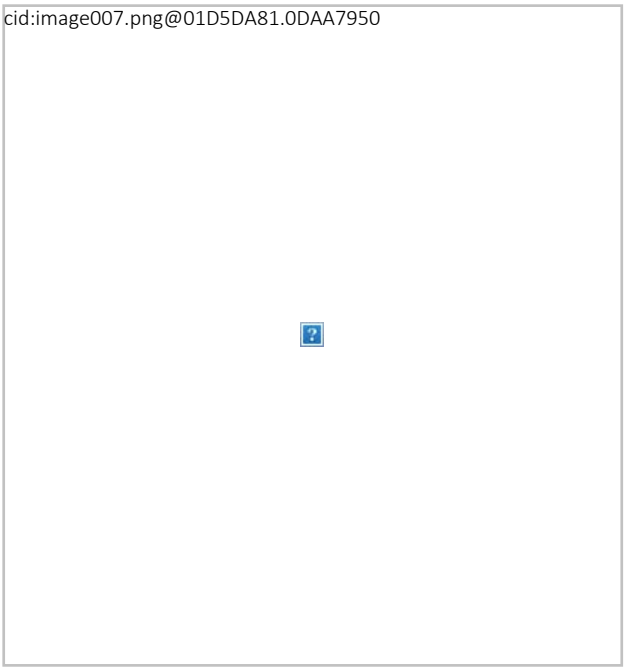
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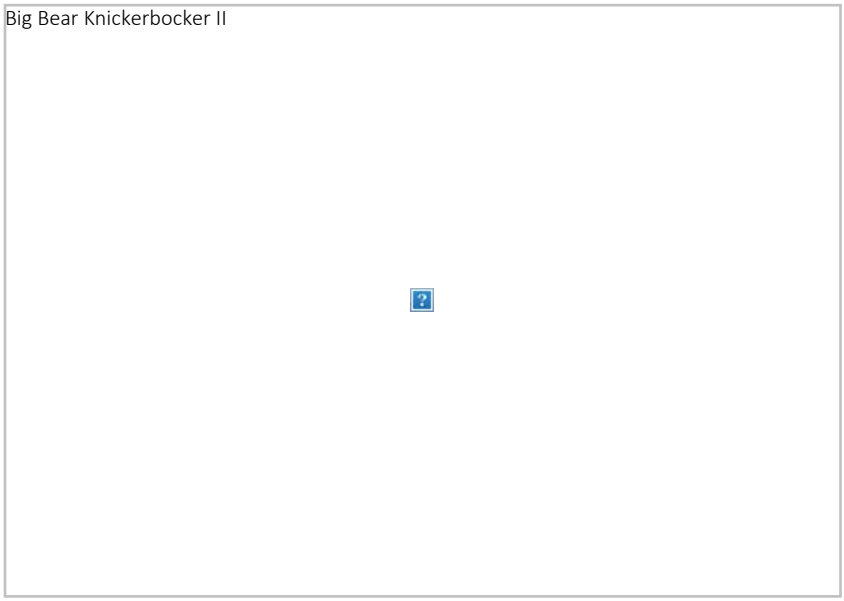
Big Bear Knickerbocker II

Respectfully,

Bruce Cort Daniels
P.O. Box 3137
Running Springs, CA 92382

From: Matthew Clevenger
To: Nievez, Tom
Subject: Stop the Sonrise Mega Church!!!!
Date: Wednesday, July 1, 2020 7:44:13 PM

I am writing you to implore that you stop the permitting of the potential mega church in the unincorporated Mountain area of San Bernardino county. As a resident, real estate agent, and food and beverage industry worker in the area I understand there could be many benefits to myself personally. However, my concern is with the impact that would have on traffic, the local environment, and the overall atmosphere that our quite Mountaintown affords us. We have more than enough church is up here to satisfy the lovely Christian community that we do have in the Lake Arrowhead area. We do not need a mega church bringing people up here that are not full timers. We have seen the impact during Covid at what people who do not have an investment property in full-time living up here. We have seen the trash that they have left, the diapers on the side of the highway, the food, the dead animals that are run over, the birds that I have a witness being shot by some of these people. We are already experiencing many new changes in our mountain environment such as the air planes that are flying over and have not yet been rerouted. We do not need more people up here destroying our lovely mountain area. I have encouraged all of my friends, Family, neighbors, coworkers, clients and associates all over the mountain to email you so please expect a flood of emails encouraging you to pull the permits for this project.

With great concern for my home and the environment,

Matt Clevenger

From:	Beverly Henry
To:	Rutherford, Janice
Cc:	heidi.deron@lus.sbcounty.gov; Nievez, Tom
Subject:	Opinion, Church of the Woods Project
Date:	Sunday, September 20, 2020 3:15:27 PM

Dear Supervisor Rutherford,

Good day to you and Happy Fall Season!

I am writing to you today on behalf of myself and my husband, Lawrence, to briefly let you know that we believe that the supervisors who care for San Bernardino County should **Not** put forth the Church of the Woods project.

We searched and searched for a peaceful place to retire, in a small, quiet community, and in 2007, we found that special place in Lake Arrowhead. We've read about this project every now and then. But recently, with all the noise being made in hopes of denying this project, we started paying attention to what this project really means to us. It was startling to read that this project has been in front of y'all since **2003**. This fact, along with the full explanation of what it would actually take to bring this project to fruition, is very disturbing. You have to wonder why it is that the people behind this project fail to understand the impact to our community, our forest, our wildlife, and many other already spread-thin resources, to say the least.

Supervisor, do we really need yet another faith-based conglomerate to take over our little mountain communities? Don't we already have enough churches, auditoriums, gymnasiums, outdoor sporting and concert facilities? Any way you look at it, Lake Arrowhead and its surrounding communities is either a resort or a mountain community. To allow this project to be brought to fruition would destroy our dream escape from city living with yet even more people, noise, traffic, pollution, crime...everything we don't want to be a part of and why we spent our retirement money to get away from.

Please, please do not allow this conglomerate to ruin our communities and forest, and all that entails.

Respectfully,
Beverly Henry
Blue Jay, California

From:	Amanda Frye
To:	COB - Internet E-Mail; Rutherford@bos.sbcounty.gov; Rutherford, Janice; Rahhal, Terri; Duron, Heidi - LUS; Nievez, Tom; Lovingood, Robert; Rowe, Dawn; Hagman, Curt; Supervisor Gonzales
Subject:	Church of the Woods proposed project
Date:	Tuesday, October 13, 2020 9:33:48 AM

Amanda Frye
12714 Hilltop Drive
Redlands, CA 92373
(909) 794-9526
Amandafrye6@gmail.com

October 13, 2020
Regarding: Church of the Woods proposed project

Dear San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors and Planning Officials:

When people speak of **BAD FOREST Management** and **MISMANAGEMENT** in our local, state and National Forests, the blame starts with county approval of inappropriate and bad projects. President Trump and others have blamed the recent California forest fires on mismanagement and part of the finger pointing and blame starts with approval of bad and impropriate projects that destroy the natural forest for built projects such as the proposal from CHURCH of the WOODS. This proposed project is a bad project and approval is gross mismanagement and reckless. The **Church of the Woods** proposed **project** should be **rejected.**

There is a difference between holding a religious service in the unbuilt natural forest canopy, which some consider a sanctuary built by G-d, versus destroying the forest woodlands which is blaspheme and does irreversible damage to the forest. There are many built sites that could be purchased, leased or rebuilt for a structural church compound and parking lot if the Church of the Woods desires a built structure for services. Why didn't the Church of the Woods purchase the white elephant Arrowhead Springs Resort which was sold for a fraction of what it would take to build this proposed white elephant destructive project?

Private land ownership does not mean that the land can be destroyed nor does it give religious group or any other entity the right to destroy the valuable forest for selfish desires. Private land ownership of forest lands does not allow for the old growth trees to be destroyed nor everything on the land destroyed while impacting the surrounding lands and destroying an important part of San Bernardino County. There are rules, laws and considerations for land use which is why this project should not be allowed. You the Board of Supervisors are the gateway to maintaining San Bernardino County for the future generations while preventing more irreversible damage to our county.

The **air quality** in San Bernardino County has grown **worse** since I moved here twenty-six years ago. My children and husband have moderate to severe asthma and now I am plagued with breathing problems related to the pollution. Old growth forest help make the air better processing pollutants and providing oxygen. The trees help protect run off, maintain watersheds, prevent landslides and floods that surrounding areas. The forest were reserved for preservation and conservation not destruction.

"Climate change poses a major risk to the stability…ability to sustain the American economy."-
-Commodity Futures Trading Commission Task Force.

No matter; personal or political beliefs, we must face climate change **reality** with **negative economic impacts**, physical, biological impacts, fires, water shortage, etc. The recent Apple and El Dorado Fires have kept our county and forests burning with air polluted to unhealthy levels since July. I have watched our mountain landscape burn from our living room window all summer. The air has limited outdoor activity in our mountain and foothill communities which is has tripled the COVID burden and burn-out and **decreased sales tax revenue**.

Allowing acres of old growth forest to be destroyed and replaced with built structures and asphalt will create a **heat sink** in the middle of our California mountain and National forest with temperatures **rising 30 to 45 degrees F**(Fahrenheit) as documented by scientific juried research. This heat sink will have a tremendous impact to our already damaged forest far beyond the increase in surface and canopy temperatures. This heat sink will have obvious and notable effects such as an Increase in surrounding forest death, severe fires, higher heat in our mountain communities. How much **water** does the proposed project take and use?

San Bernardino County has replaced orchards, dairies, groves, ranch lands with hideous money draining structures while paving over prime agriculture lands disrupting and destroying a agricultural economy for pollution and empty warehouses. Mountain tourism is one sustaining business sector that San Bernardino County should prize not destroy.

San Bernardino County economic health and financial future depends on your decisions today. Please **do not allow** the Church of the Woods proposed **project**. **Our mountain landscape, and forest are tourism and economic assets**. In the surrounding area, there are already many built sites, structures that can be repurposed and rebuilt for a built physical church building. Entities can be found to purchase/conserve the old growth forest land if necessary.

Allowing the Church in the Woods to destroy old growth woods and forest lands for built structures and asphalt is a bad project for San Bernardino County and mismanagement of our forest and county. The cost is far beyond the loss of irreplaceable trees and habitat. The cost is an economic disaster that will plague San Bernardino County for years to come. The increase in temperature for that and neighboring areas would yield to dreadful impacts to tourism. No one comes to the mountains and forest to see more traffic and buildings. People come to the San Bernardino County mountains and forests to see nature, forest, snow, while they play, spend money and escape the city, traffic and pollution that plague the valleys below. **Destroying the forest destroys the tourism economy and tax dollars** for San Bernardino County.

Please do that responsible thing, **reject the Church of the Woods proposed project** for the present and future of San Bernardino County.

Sincerely,

Amanda Frye

From:	Liz Greeban
To:	Nievez, Tom
Subject:	NO on Church of the Woods!
Date:	Saturday, October 10, 2020 5:09:19 AM

Hi Tom!

I grew up in lake Arrowhead and recently moved back after spending time in Orange County. I came back to live in my childhood home to escape the congestion, crowds, and destruction of the city. Pease do not let Church of the woods bring that destruction up here! We do not need to destroy more forest and add more signals in order to provide religious based services. There are plenty of spaces already developed that could be used for that. Our mountain is so tiny and this damage would be irreversible. It is not fair to the residents who love it just the way it is, BECAUSE it is just the way it is. My childhood was enchanted because of how tiny and protected the mountain is. A growing number of my childhood friends are moving back up here to escape the city and it's constant development to provide a stable environment for their children. These kinds of projects undermine the very RARE setting that makes our mountain unique. We do not need to further develop the mountain!

Please do not allow the goals of a few to impact the whole community.

NO on Church of the Woods project!

Please and thank you,

Liz

From:	Henry Frye
To:	Rutherford@bos.sbcounty.gov; Rutherford, Janice; Rahhal, Terri; Duron, Heidi - LUS; Nievez, Tom; Lovingood, Robert; Rowe, Dawn; Hagman, Curt; Supervisor Gonzales
Subject:	Comments regarding Church of the Woods Project
Date:	Thursday, October 15, 2020 9:22:36 AM
Attachments:	ChurchoftheWoodsOct2020AppealsCommentFrye.docx

Dear planning commissioners,

Please see the attached letter for comments regarding the proposed Church of the Woods Project.

Best regards,

Henry Frye

From:	COB - Internet E-Mail
To:	Rowe, Dawn; BOS District Secretaries
Cc:	Hernandez, Leonard - CAO; Blakemore, Michelle; Alexander-Kelley, Penny; Rahhal, Terri; Duron, Heidi - LUS; Nievez, Tom; Brizzee, Bart; Searles, Jason; Michl, Susan (CAO); Andrade, Eva; Toothaker, Sarah; Biggs, Lupe; Monell, Lynna
Subject:	FW: Church of the Woods
Date:	Wednesday, October 14, 2020 1:48:20 PM
Attachments:	image001.png

Good afternoon:

Attached below please find email correspondence received by the Clerk of the Board on 10/13/20 from Dean Stufkosky regarding Church of the Woods. A public hearing on this subject is currently scheduled for Tuesday, October 20, 2020.

Donna A. Young
Executive Secretary III
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
Phone: 909-387-3848
Fax: 909-387-4554
385 North Arrowhead Avenue, 2nd Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0130

SBCounty Logo

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www.SBCounty.gov

-----Original Message-----
From: Dean <deanstuf@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2020 9:24 PM
To: Supervisor Hagman <Supervisor.Hagman@bos.sbcounty.gov>; Supervisor Gonzales <SupervisorGonzales@sbcounty.gov>; Supervisor Lovingood <SupervisorLovingood@sbcounty.gov>; Supervisor Rowe <Supervisor.Rowe@bos.sbcounty.gov>; Supervisor Rutherford <Supervisor.Rutherford@bos.sbcounty.gov>; COB - Internet E-Mail <COB@sbcounty.gov>
Subject: Church of the Woods

I Would like to see the Church Of The Woods project to move forward. If you look at the negativeness it's just a few local people, with out of town backing. This will be a positive improvement for the mountains. I'm sure nature will be more than welcome to share the premises with us. More people will enjoy the property with the church facility on it then the property just sitting there for the very very few to enjoy. There's thousands of acres all over the mountain that have just as much Beauty and I never see anyone back there because I am the few that use all those thousands of acres. This is a positive plan so please approve this for our community it is something we need and we need it now. Thank you for your time and consideration, and please look up when you make the decision, he is always watching over us. Respectfully yours Dean Stufkosky

Sent from my iPhone

From: Nievez, Tom
To: Toothaker, Sarah
Subject: Fw: Vote No on Church of the Woods project "Sonrise"
Date: Friday, October 9, 2020 4:37:21 PM

LAST ONE!

From: trysta Schwenker
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 3:34 PM
To: Nievez, Tom
Subject: Vote No on Church of the Woods project "Sonrise"

I have lived on the Mountain for 34 years. The beauty and peace of this area are very special to me. When I heard of the project "Sonrise" my first reaction was anger that our beautiful wilderness was to be disrupted for what is essentially a private religious group's expansion. After seeing the plan size and scope of the project I am even more appalled. The congestion, increase of drain on scarce water resources especially to water and maintain the multiple large game fields, all to enlarge a church of a denomination I do not belong to nor care to attend is not what I have paid taxes for. This project will cause unnecessary traffic disruption on an already crowded Rt 18, the disruption will make evacuation in case of emergency even more difficult for all of us. We will pay more for needed upgrades of services caused by the increase of traffic and use that the project entails. It will also cause unavoidable pollution issues, not only for the locals but for our waters and forest. Our environment up here is already under stress from pollution as well as climate change induced drought and we should be concentrating on supporting the wilderness rather than tearing it up to create more traffic and building and usage. Many of the letters in support of the project I read in the environmental statement stress the beauty of the mountains and the nice air... which they will be adversely impacting with this project.

One of the things I have enjoyed over the years is the nearness of wildlife in the mountains. Many local species are already under threat from overcrowding and lack of territory. This project will adversely affect the area by removing a large section of habitat from a suffering population. This is not a community project for the betterment and enjoyment of the entire community, but a private school and facilities for Church of the Woods to generate income. These fields and meeting places will only be available to the public when not in use by Church of the Woods and their affiliates. The present recreational facilities are more than adequate for the needs of our community with no pressing need to increase them. The public should not have to suffer for the expansionist desires of a few. Please vote No on this disruptive project.

Trysta Schwenker
31021 Wild Oak Dr

Running Springs, Ca 92382

From: Nievez, Tom
To: Toothaker, Sarah
Subject: Fw: Church of the Woods
Date: Friday, October 9, 2020 4:36:17 PM

From: Us <lakearrowheadberrys@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2020 8:13 AM
To: Nievez, Tom
Subject: Church of the Woods

Attention: Tom Nievez

Subject: Church of the Woods, Lake Arrowhead

I strongly oppose and ask you to VOTE NO on the new Church of the Woods development proposal along Hwy 18..

It would be a disaster to see the 17 acres of trees, natural creek, animal habitat and natural forest destroyed. The increased traffic and additional stop lights will impede traffic flow and the impact on the environment will be detrimental to those of us that live on the mountain. Please put a stop to this location!

Yours truly,

Linda Berry
Lake Arrowhead, CA 92352
909-337-1444

From: Duron, Heidi - LUS
To: Toothaker, Sarah; Biggs, Lupe
Subject: Fw: Church of the Woods
Date: Tuesday, October 13, 2020 8:30:01 AM

From: Linda Rubin <rubin.linda6@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 11, 2020 7:04 PM
To: Rutherford, Janice
Cc: Duron, Heidi - LUS
Subject: Church of the Woods

Please VOTE NO, on this appalling devastating project.
Thank you
Linda Rubin

Sent from my iPhone