

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 08/02/2019 05:34 PM

Council File No: 19-0782

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in support of Councilman Bob Blumenfield's motion to halt development of the Bothwell property at 5300 Oakdale in Woodland Hills and create it into a much-needed City Historic-Cultural Monument. Population density is already skyrocketing with the attendant severe traffic consequences. Woodland Hills is losing the beauty and bucolic quality that made many of us move here in the first place. We need to keep some of the character of this place for the quality of life it provides. Just putting money in the pocket of a developer is not reason enough to destroy what has always been a beloved and unique feature of our neighborhood. Thank you for taking my comment into account.

Communication from Public

Name: Miles Lewis

Date Submitted: 08/02/2019 09:02 PM

Council File No: 19-0782

Comments for Public Posting: I whole-heartedly support the total or partial preservation of Bothwell Ranch, in a way that honors the owners, the community, the environment, and the great historical-educational potential of the site. I am a life-long resident of Collier St. and Collier Pl., right next to the Bothwell Ranch. I attended Castlemont before it became the current CHIME school. I am now 29 and intend to live in this neighborhood for the foreseeable future. In addition to working as a professional artist, I am an arts and environmental educator and organizer. I am keenly aware of how we need to reform decision-making and priorities on all levels to maintain a livable environment and accomplish sustainable development. If the city cannot identify and strategize around the obvious value of 2000 mature trees, this last ranch property, and the clear benefits to a sensitive school population (in CHIME), we're in deep trouble. I am available to help share this proposal, its procedure, and opportunity for comment to the neighborhood immediately surrounding the ranch.

Communication from Public

Name: Michal Kamran
Date Submitted: 08/03/2019 05:10 PM
Council File No: 19-0782
Comments for Public Posting: Hello, I'm writing to you as a resident of the Reseda/Tarzana area for the past 30 years, urging you to have the Bothwell Ranch designated as a historic-cultural landmark. Preservation of this grove would be beneficial to the valley's culture as well as the ecosystem. Thank you for your consideration.

Communication from Public

Name: David and Judith Braun

Date Submitted: 08/04/2019 06:09 PM

Council File No: 19-0782

Comments for Public Posting: The Bothwell orange grove is a geographical and cultural landmark that should be preserved for future generations so that they may have an understanding of how important agriculture and particularly the orange was to the San Fernando Valley. We live two blocks from the grove and walk by this special place several times a week.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 08/05/2019 01:47 PM

Council File No: 19-0782

Comments for Public Posting: We must as citizens and humans keep green space and the history of the orange groves is one of the most important to keep with us!!!! Thank you for doing the right thing and make the groves stand with us forever!!!

Communication from Public

Name: Richard Scrymgeour

Date Submitted: 08/05/2019 04:08 PM

Council File No: 19-0782

Comments for Public Posting: I am a public school teacher in Granada Hills, and a resident at Collier Place, which is adjacent to the Bothwell Ranch. My desire to see the ranch become a public green space is three-fold. First, I am concerned about the health of the children who attend school at the CHAMPS campus, a school that has a sizable population of children with special needs. The regulation of air, quiet, and space that the ranch affords is important to me as a resident for personal reasons. Lastly, I support the desire of both our mayor as well as the city council in the effort to maintain and create new green spaces in an effort to increase carbon reduction, generate greater green space for parks and recreation, and maintain the important yet vanishing cultural legacy of the San Fernando Valley. Please, I urge you to consider making the Bothwell Ranch a permanent cultural and environmental area that can serve the neighborhood, the city, and indeed, the whole state, nation, and planet!

Communication from Public

Name: Mark Karatas

Date Submitted: 08/05/2019 04:53 PM

Council File No: 19-0782

Comments for Public Posting: I recently moved from Irvine, Orange County to Tarzana/Woodland Hills area and was extremely pleased that I had an Orange Grove right across the street from our house. This was sight we were all familiar with for 30 years in Irvine. I would be lying if I said "it wasn't a contributing factor in our purchase decision." All though I respect the fact that one who owns any property, has the right to sell or keep it and the one purchasing it has the right to do whatever it pleases as long as it's allowed by the city. Having said that, I wish for this gem to be at least partially preserved. We will see in the up and coming months where this is going. My only wish is that, as residents, we should have some say in how this land is developed.

Communication from Public

Name: daniel schwarz

Date Submitted: 08/05/2019 05:04 PM

Council File No: 19-0782

Comments for Public Posting: I am a home owner for over 20 years in the area near the Bothwell Ranch. I urge the city council to vote for the Planning and land use committee to examine the ultimate use of this land as an historical site or other use that would maintain the only Orange orchard left in the San Fernando valley and help keep pollution and congestion at a minimum. Thank you. Sincerely yours Daniel J. Schwarz

Communication from Public

Name: MaryLou Schwarz

Date Submitted: 08/05/2019 05:53 PM

Council File No: 19-0782

Comments for Public Posting: I reside at 19803 Linnet St. Woodland Hills, Ca 91364. My husband and I have lived here for over 20 years. We urgently ask that the council review the use of the orange grove land on Oakdale Ave. The manner in which this land is used will effect the entire neighborhood. It is an orchard, the last one in the valley. It is like green space benefiting the environment greatly.

Communication from Public

Name: Elizabeth Kahn

Date Submitted: 08/06/2019 01:24 PM

Council File No: 19-0782

Comments for Public Posting: As the author of the change.org petition titled "Preserve Bothwell Ranch, The Last Commercial Orange Orchard in The San Fernando Valley," I strongly encourage Los Angeles City Councilmembers to do everything in their power to protect this orange grove from being destroyed. Right now, we are experiencing the effects of climate change. Catastrophic wildfires tore through our canyons and mountains just months ago, the Greenland ice sheet is melting at an unprecedented rate with last week breaking the record for most ice lost in a single day, and the list goes on and on. We must act from a place of urgency because we have an emergency on our hands. Before I get into some of my points, I want to clearly express that I am fully aware that the Bothwell Ranch is a "private farm" as their Council put it during the Woodland Hills Neighborhood Council Environmental Committee Meeting last Wednesday, July 31st. However, the government is known to take acquire private property through eminent domain when it is necessary for specific projects that benefit the public. Well, we are dealing with the worst air quality in Los Angeles than any other city in The United States. We know trees are capable of elevating air pollutants out of the atmosphere, not to mention, the shade created by the trees helps cool areas. This is essential for the San Fernando Valley, particularly Tarzana/Woodland Hills as temperatures have risen significantly over the last decade. TreePeople, an LA-based nonprofit, claims that trees raise property value, muffle sounds from nearby highways, and provide a habitat for wildlife. Scientists around the world have agreed that green spaces have a positive effect on mental health. Aside from the priceless environmental benefits and services trees and nature (generally speaking) provide us, we have the opportunity to literally regenerate a piece of land to sequester significant amounts of CO₂, which we desperately need to combat the climate crisis. Countless "regenerative agriculture" organizations such as Apricot Lane Farms, Kiss The Ground, Savory Institute, and Marin Carbon Project have research that proves that when we build the organic matter in soils with the following 5 steps we can directly combat climate change: composting, cover cropping, planned animal grazing with zero chemicals and tilling. These practices boost biodiversity, replenish aquifers, and take carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and store it

in the ground. There are endless possibilities of how Bothwell Ranch can benefit the local community with community farming/gardening programs and the greater LA County and State of California at large if it were acquired by the City, State, and/or County and transformed with biodynamic/ regenerative agriculture practices. We could also use Bothwell Ranch to teach LAUSD school children as well as Pierce College / UCLA / USC students about the importance of regenerative agriculture and localizing our food supply. The average age of a farmer in the US is 64 years old and this in itself is unsustainable. We must take proactive measures to inspire youth and adults to work in farming. Localizing our food can also help with health issues by providing fresh produce to people in need and the direct community. Not to mention, having an open green space in the middle of the San Fernando Valley can also provide a sanctuary for people to come and relax and reconnect with nature. On another note, after starting this petition I know my former neighbors and the immediate community surrounding Bothwell Ranch want the orange grove to remain a green space. Not only is it a beautiful and historic property that we all love looking at and smelling in the springtime, but it is a unique characteristic that distinguishes Tarzana/Woodland Hills from other neighborhoods. I look forward to being a part of this fight and other fights to protect nature and regenerate our land in Los Angeles. Thank you,
Elizabeth Kahn