



Save Open Space
P.O. Box 1284
Agoura Hills, CA 91376

*"Never doubt that a small group of
concerned people can change the world.
Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."*
—Margaret Mead

June 17, 2025

Dear Oak Park MAC:

Save Open Space/Santa Monica Mountains has three board members who reside in Oak Park. I live in the Fountainwood neighborhood of Agoura Hills. All of us need to use Kanan Road as our primary evacuation route in the event of an emergency, such as a wildfire.

We are concerned about evacuating safely from a fire if the planned buildout 2035 of Agoura Hills is allowed to happen. The City of Agoura Hills Planning Commission just voted to recommend the new Evacuation Analysis and other additions to the **Agoura Hills General Plan Safety Element** (the Plan) to be a project, but **exempt from CEQA**. This new evacuation analysis reveals that 10,503 cars will need to evacuate on Kanan to the 101 when Oak Park and Agoura Hills residents all need to leave at once.

This evacuation situation has significant impact on Oak Park residents' safety, as well as others nearby.

In addition to the above evacuation analysis, a U.C. Berkeley study from 2019 stated the following regarding **Pacific Palisades and Oak Park**: "Escaping a wildfire, these Californian zip codes have the **worst ratio of people to evacuation routes**". Unfortunately, we now know that this study was accurate after the Pacific Palisades fire in which 12 people died.

The proposed Plan is insufficient to protect Oak Park and the adjoining communities, and it is imperative for their safety that feasible alternatives are found. We request that Ventura County MAC request a full analysis and disclosure of the impacts with all impacted government entities, including Ventura County weighing-in, before this General Plan Amendment is approved.

We respectfully request that Ventura County send a letter **to Agoura Hills City Council** (comments@agourahillscity.org) stating this project is not exempt from CEQA and the reasons why. Support for reasons this project is not exempt from CEQA can be found in the attached letter from Venskus and Associates, legal experts on housing rights and responsible land use.

Thanks!

Mary Wiesbrock, Chair, Agoura Hills
Drew Fountaine, Co-Treasurer, Oak Park

cc: Michelle Santucci, Oak Park MAC
Ventura County Board of Supervisors

Attachment: PRISMM letter from Venskus and Associates

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