

To whom it may concern,

I want to address a few points in regards to the appellants concerns.

1. I am under the allowed number of legally permitted equine species and am zoned for equines in the RE-5 zone, in addition, all the corrals are set back from property lines in accordance to the non coastal Zoning ordinance.
2. All the horses are vaccinated twice a year with the "5-way" or "EWT" which includes **Eastern and Western Equine Encephalomyelitis, Tetanus, Influenza, and Rhinopneumonitis and West Nile or a combination with Rabies,** and have regular vet care to ensure safe, healthy horses and prevention of disease spread. In regards to disease spread the 11700 Topa Vista Road property owner graded and dug a very large hole/pit in the fall/winter of 2022. The pit was left open and in the past 2 years of heavy rains, the pit has filled with water and then left standing.

Vector control with the Ventura County has been coming for the past 2 springs and into summer to treat this water for mosquitos. I spoke to him recently and the last time he was there was 2 weeks ago. He stated he has never been able to contact the property owner.

I voluntarily had vector control come to my property last spring to check to see if there was any place of concern and he said my whole property was all clear and mosquito free- all mosquitos coming onto my property were likely coming from 11700 Topa Vista or other standing water in ravines near by that were not safely accessible for him.

3. All manure is disposed of safely. Corrals are cleaned 3 times a day and into a closed container daily which is removed from the property weekly. All urine is raked and covered with sand and DG. All water buckets are cleaned and scrubbed regularly and there is no standing water on the property
4. Fly control is done monthly with safe practices. Horses are sprayed with organic fly spray daily
5. There are many, many horse properties on the Ojai Santa Paula 150 road, Tree ranch road, Ojai Santa Paula Road, Sisar road, Topa Vista Road where either neighboring properties share fence lines with the horse corrals or are within a close distance of horse property and neighboring property. Of these numerous properties many of them do not clean or dispose of any manure-which can be easily viewed from the street.

On the 150 going east past Topa Vista Road there are cattle, goats, ducks, chickens. I only have horses.

6. H5N1 is the bird flu which is only spread by birds and possibly cattle. This was referenced in the letter that Dr Austin Howard wrote, who is a family member of Richard Howard.

I do not own cattle, birds, or chickens- only equine.

7. There is no house on 11700 Topa Vista Road- the appellant references that I have 6 acres to corral my equines and that my corrals are 40ft from his front door. There is no front door, because there is no house on 11700 Topa Vista Road. The horse corrals are over 60 ft away from where the previous dwelling was located. The horse corrals are outside of the HCWC surface water feature. Any other location on the property would be in that area. The horse corrals were placed there for safe access to remove them in case of a natural disaster such as a fire, which is always a concern.
8. There are several studies stating that horse manure is a solid waste and is excluded from the federal EPA waste regulation. The horse gut does not contain the two water borne pathogens that are of great concern to human health -e coli and salmonella.

Horse manure is mainly digested grass, is bio degradable and used in small compost bins.

I have addressed all the concerns and requests from the county for the past two years and greatly appreciate all the guidance and assistance that county planning has provided and the support and team work from Jensen Design and Survey, specifically Erik Nagy.

I strongly encourage that the county's planning decision of approval of my CUP/ PD be upheld and this appellants appeal be denied.

Thank you

Sincerely

Keeley Mircetic