

## Alexander, Jacquelyne

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**Subject:** FW: In Regards to the Proposed Formation of a Community Services District in Isla Vista

**From:** Molly Morrison

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 03, 2014 11:31 AM

**To:** [lafco@sblafco.org](mailto:lafco@sblafco.org)

**Subject:** In Regards to the Proposed Formation of a Community Services District in Isla Vista

To whom it may concern:

I hope this message finds you well. My name is Molly Morrison, and I am a fourth-year student enrolled at University of California, Santa Barbara. I am studying Biological Sciences and Statistical Sciences; however, I have found myself heavily involved in the self-governance movement in Isla Vista. While I myself am not a political figure, I have seen too much intoxication, infrastructural frailty, neglect from the county, and death during my three years of residency in Isla Vista. To help stop cliff falls, I founded the group Fence Isla Vista to help combat the ignorance and morbidity resulting from decades of neglect due to lack of governance in Isla Vista. While this is a very narrow niche to have worked in, this matter has given me a broad perspective on the demographics of Isla Vista, including long-time homeowners, property owners, students, and transients, as well as many problems, whether infra-structurally (lighting, sidewalks, unevenly paved roads). I realize that this should've been a county project; however, because there was no one from the county working on fencing, and there was a lack of interest in funding a fence, when founded the group, I took matters into my own hands, although I realized that I had little to no efficacy in the matter. Eventually, my project caught the interest of county officials, and soon, it wasn't my "problem" anymore. However, my grades had suffered, and so had my appreciation for those who are supposed to be politically representing me during my time at UCSB. I am living in 1.8 square miles of morbid reality, and there is no other environment that I can think of that needs as much help as Isla Vista does.

I know that the problem of fencing isn't the only matter that needs to be focused on; nor is it the worst. This is exactly why we should be taking action now in order to pave the way for a safer future for the people who do decide to live in Isla Vista, regardless of if they know anything about Isla Vista when they move here, or how big their impact will be during their short stay in this little college-side territory.

I urge you to think about the positive events that will come out of self-governance in Isla Vista, for the students that decide to come to UCSB in 10 or even 20 years from now. I urge you to consider which parents will want to let their children live in Isla Vista, and how the fear of death can decrease with more and more self-sufficiency Isla Vista gains every year that its residents have the ability to influence. Self-governance in Isla Vista will be a very long journey, even step being taken slowly; however, there is no better time to start. In the wake of multiple tragedies, I think that starting to place responsibility into the hands of those who know Isla Vista the best, and who actually live in Isla Vista, will reap the most benefits.

As I said before, I am a Biology major, and school comes first; however, as a person who wants to see a better future for UCSB, Isla Vista, and Santa Barbara County alike, I hope that you will support this step forward towards a great future for Isla Vista, so that we can finally have adequate representation and services.

Thank you for your time.

Best,

Molly Morrison  
Undergraduate Lab Assistant, Turner Lab  
Overall Co-Chair, Dance Marathon at UCSB  
Chairperson, UCSB A.S. Public Safety Commission  
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