

**From:** Kate Griffith <kateygriffith@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 31, 2023 12:49 PM  
**To:** natasha@sblafco.org; lafco@sblafco.org  
**Subject:** Deny the City of Lompoc Proposal for Bailey Ave SOI

To Whom it May Concern:

I am a City of Lompoc resident, former City of Lompoc Economic Development Manager and Planning Commissioner, who believes that city expansion is not currently the sustainable direction for Lompoc. We have successfully opposed development of the Bailey Ave corridor in the past and we continue with this mission for the following reasons:

- Approval of this project would threaten unique and important prime farmland and undermine local agricultural production.
- There is sufficient, vacant undeveloped land within the City's current boundaries to accommodate the City's housing needs.
- The City must analyze potential impacts of future development on the 148.3 acres that could ultimately be converted due to this proposal.

As Nadia Abushanab points out in her *Independent* Opinion piece, "New housing on Bailey Avenue just outside of Lompoc would do very little to reduce vehicle miles traveled VMTs in the county or lessen the jobs-housing imbalance. In fact, it would likely only exacerbate the problem by building more housing away from most employment opportunities."

I also agree with Abushanab's observation, "Priority for development should go to the undeveloped vacant parcels within Lompoc. There are plenty of opportunities for infill housing projects that could meet the city's current housing needs without expanding the city limits. There are parcels that are close to existing services: transit centers, grocery stores, hospitals, schools, and job centers. Building closer to existing activity hubs not only can help reduce vehicle miles traveled, but also can result in denser, more affordable housing."

Abushanab also reminds us, "The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act, the governing law of LAFCO, explicitly directs the decision makers to prevent urban sprawl, encourage orderly growth, and preserve and protect prime agricultural lands." Please keep that in mind as you make your decision.

Cheers,

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