



7/7/2020
City Council Meeting

**Handouts received after
agenda posted**

June 18, 2020

Lemoore City Council
711 W. Cinnamon Dr.
Lemoore, CA 93245

Re: Ordinance 2020-05 – Zoning Map Amendment No. 2020-02 and Ordinance 2020-06 – Approving Planned Unit Development No. 2020- 01

Dear Members of the Lemoore City Council,

The West Hills Community College District (WHCCD) has an 87-year history of serving students in the Central Valley. We have efficient, innovative practices that promote student success and completion which are critical to the economic development of Kings County and, in particular, the City of Lemoore. We have aggressively embraced the needs of our community and have implemented practices to increase student success and decrease time to completion, which is a key strategy to build a skilled workforce in our region.

I was disappointed to hear that, at the June 16, 2020 City Council meeting, there was no motion to approve the subdivision for the planned housing development project listed above. The West Hills Community College District (WHCCD) has long supported the City's 2030 General Plan, which includes a combination of low density single family, low-medium density residential, and medium density multi-family housing near the College (off Bush and College). In fact, when West Hills College Lemoore (WHCL) was built, the District expanded the infrastructure beyond what was necessary in preparation for future development.

My hope is that the Council will stick with its 2030 General Plan (https://lemoore.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/lemoore_gp_lu_diagram_8_14_08.pdf), which specifically designates residential housing around the College. Additional rooftops bring additional revenue to the City, and developing west of the 41 establishes a more noticeable footprint from both the 41 and 198, giving more prominence to the City of Lemoore.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions at (559) 925-3200.

Thank you,



Kristin Clark, Ed.D.
President
West Hills College Lemoore



June 19, 2020

Marisa Avalos
City Clerk – City of Lemoore
711 W Cinnamon Drive
Lemoore, CA 93245

VIA EMAIL: cityclerk@lemoore.com

Dear Marisa,

I am writing to ask that you convey my extreme disappointment to Lemoore City Council members for their collective failure to take any action to support the proposed Lennar project near West Hills College Lemoore. The lack of action sends a continuing, clear message of the council's collective inability, again, to embrace economic development to grow our city. Of more concern is the continuing message that the council has not realized that major economic drivers of the city – specifically Lemoore Naval Air Station and West Hills College – can work together. It is extremely frustrating that every attempt is thwarted to allow us to seek common ground with Lemoore NAS, something that I am confident we can do if permitted. It appears to me that the council supports only those voices from NAS.

As we have said many times, West Hills College was purposefully designed and built to ensure our infrastructure can accommodate retail and residential development on the west side of the highway. As importantly, our curriculum has been specifically designed to support workforce training options for area employers and residents. Additional rooftops are essential for us to continue to mature college offerings that prepare our residents for 21st century employment. Our master plan – as well as yours – is interconnected and based on the expectation that enrollment will grow as a result of residential development.

I urge the council to act on this project. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stuart Van Horn
Chancellor

c: Nathan Olson, City Manager – City of Lemoore (citymanager@lemoore.com)
Kristin Clark, President – West Hills College Lemoore (kristinclark@whccd.edu)



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

COMMANDING OFFICER
NAVAL AIR STATION
700 AVENGER AVENUE
LEMOORE, CALIFORNIA 93246-5001

IN REPLY REFER TO:
5726
Ser N00/0420
24 June 2020

Mr. Eddie Neal
Mayor, City of Lemoore
711 W. Cinnamon Dr.
Lemoore, CA 93245

Mayor Neal:

While not on the agenda for this special session, I am here to address the Lemoore City Council's previous Ordinance 2020-05, Ordinance 2020-06, Resolution 2020-19 and Resolution No. 2020-20, which subsequently failed a second reading on 16 June 2020. We understand that without this second reading this development has not been approved.

While these ordinances were not successfully adopted, Naval Air Station (NAS) Lemoore wants to reiterate its concerns about this potential development, which we believe will lead to: "encroachment to mission," "incompatible development," "subject individuals to high aircraft noise" and expose our aircrew and future Lemoore residents to unnecessary "health and safety" risks. We have previously submitted numerous matters for the record outlining our concerns on this matter and they remain the same.

My purpose for appearing today, however, is to reiterate our strong desire to work collaboratively with the City of Lemoore to re-analyze this land and the stated goals of the Council in an attempt to find ways to cooperatively identify a path forward that is compatible for all. We endeavor at every level to be good neighbors and to support Lemoore's smart growth initiative through economic contributions and strategic partnerships.

The Navy and I stand ready to continue to foster and strengthen community partnerships that support both the community and NAS Lemoore's mission. Our mission mandates are equally important and with the right approach can be mutually achieved. We recognize and value the strategic importance of our relationship and desire to foster and strengthen collaborative community cooperation. We will continue to strive at every level to be good neighbors and support the City of Lemoore through economic contributions and strategic partnerships. As you are already aware, members of my team and members of your staff over the last several months have identified several projects that can be nominated for the Defense Capital Improvement Program. The Navy and I stand ready to continue seeking partnerships that support the community and NAS Lemoore's mission, and we would like to approach the issue of this development project in the same vein – collaboratively work together and try to discern solutions and a way ahead that benefits all.

My staff and I appreciate your continued cooperation and look forward to further dialogue with the City.

My point of contact for this matter is Mr. Roman V. Benitez, who can be reached at roman.benitez@navy.mil or (559) 998-4093.

CHRIS T. FISHER
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
By Direction