

08/09/2016

FROM: Ron Taylor, Dougherty Valley Citizen

Provided in advance of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors Meeting – 08/09/2016

TO: clerkoftheboard@cob.cccounty.us

RE: Public Comment for Planned Old Dougherty Road Closure

Dear Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors,

Thank you for the Dougherty Valley community that you have helped to develop. In general we are very pleased with community and all that it has to offer. We commend you for the good job so far and for the coming opening of the “New” Dougherty Road.

However, as of today over 800 citizens and users of the community have a petition to keep Old Dougherty Road open and are opposed to the closure plans by the Dougherty Valley Oversight Committee (DVOC). This closure would have a severe impact on the residents and users of the community. Detailed feedback can be given by the public in future meeting(s). Sufficient notice was not given to the community of the road closure decision and sufficient feedback of the public was not gathered.

The concern of the public is that the Dougherty Valley Specific Plan policies are not being met with the planned road closure. For just one example, policy C-16 which addresses congestion and air quality was not considered in the decision. There are existing school traffic congestion issues which would be worsened significantly with the closure. As a former member of the Quail Run Traffic Safety program, I noticed that unsafe driver behavior during congested times causes a threat to the safety of school children. Due to congestion, drivers begin making poor decisions such as unsafe u-turns, drop-offs from the driving lane, and other unsafe practices.

To address the needs of the public served by the Dougherty Valley we would like you to add an agenda item to the next scheduled board of supervisors meeting to discuss, take action, and make the right decisions so that the Dougherty Valley Specific Plan can be properly fulfilled. The agenda is requested to include at a minimum the following items:

1. Take action to request an urgent DVOC meeting to be convened prior to the closure to request a delay of the closure of the road until such time as a comprehensive review which includes feedback from the public can be held to determine if the closure is in accordance with ALL of the relevant policies of the Dougherty Valley Specific Plan, and not just the 4 policies that were referenced in the decision. I feel that the policies were narrowly interpreted.
2. Provide the specific references from the Dougherty Valley Specific Plan that specify or require for the road to be closed to motor vehicles.
3. After public feedback, determine a resolution of whether the planned Old Dougherty Road closure is in accordance with ALL of the relevant policies of the Dougherty Valley Specific Plan.
4. Take action to assess the traffic impact to Bollinger Canyon Road due to the closure.