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Members of the City of San Jose City Council:

I am a landowner south of Palm Avenue and a member of the Coyote Valley Alliance. I appreciate the time and energy that is being put into the very difficult task of developing the Coyote Valley. I respect and thank you for your efforts. I am on the same team as you are in that what I want is the best specific plan possible for this community.

I think the Greenbelt Vision as it is being presented tonight would be terrific if it were feasible. However, those most knowledgeable because they live and work on this soil say it won't work. The soil is bad. If you want to farm, you need good soil. Because of bad soils, higher costs, lack of farm labor, lack of infrastructure to process the products and the general difficulty of trying to farm next to a growing community makes farming no longer viable in south coyote which fact has been born out in the findings of your consultant. My father, grandfather, uncles, brothers and cousins have farmed the land south of Palm Avenue. For years the family stories would include belly laughs about why our crops were so sparse. Those stories are not funny anymore when people are dictating that we continue to do what we know will fail...because we have experienced the failure.

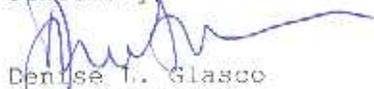
So, what can we do to (1) create a green Greenbelt, (2) give the Greenbelt property owners a voice in this process (3) work on eliminating the blight and encouraging success in the Greenbelt? Greenbelt landowners only representation on the Task Force is our elected official County Supervisor Don Gage who stated in Friday's Silicon Valley Business Journal that the Greenbelt is a "Dead Zone." To me "Dead Zone" equals "Blight Zone".

Improvement can start tonight with the City Council giving the Task Force more specific direction to include the Greenbelt owners in the planning process. Meetings without action do not accomplish anything but instead only creates more confusion and frustration. The direction can only come from you, the Council.

Contrary to what some say, there is a systematic devaluation of dreams on the south and a \$1.5 billion dollar reality being built across the street. The Greenbelt property is 1/4 of the 7,000 acre Vision, yet we are being allotted 1% of the 7,000 acre project's funding? If you do the math you will find that this equates to \$10,000 per acre in the Greenbelt for prime real estate that is well located but does not make good farming land. Please let the property owners south of Palm Avenue work with you and not against you to create the best Specific Plan for the community, a plan that will be successful and that is equitable to the other half of the landowners.

The creation and preservation of open space needs to be planned with equal diligence as the commercial development across the street. This open space is going to benefit everyone. South Livermore has an excellent model that could serve as a model for making the City Of San Jose's Vision become a reality.

Sincerely,



Denise L. Glasco
Property Owner