



COMMITTEE FOR
GREEN FOOTHILLS

June 15, 2005

Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors
County Government Center
70 W. Hedding Street, 10th
Floor, East Wing
San Jose, CA 95110

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors;

The Committee for Green Foothills requests that Santa Clara County proceed as soon as possible with several long-delayed environmental protections that were supposed conditions of approval for Stanford's Community Plan and General Use Permit in 2000. We are nearly halfway through the initial ten-year period for the GUP, yet the following environmental protections are still not in place:

- The S1 Trail – the Final EIR for this trail has not been released, eight months after the Draft EIR comment period has ended.
- The C1 Trail – not even initial planning has started for this trail.
- Special Conservation Area Plan and Zoning – we are not aware of any progress towards developing the zoning for these biologically-important areas in the Stanford Foothills.

Looming over all this is the need to prepare a Sustainable Development Study for Stanford that is called for in the GUP. While the university has not yet built a sufficient amount of construction to require the Study, it will be a large undertaking and will take a significant investment of time. The long delay in completing the projects listed above can significantly delay an eventual Sustainability Study, something that should happen sooner rather than later.

We welcome the long-delayed hiring of a Stanford Post Approval Monitoring Project Planner, Marina Rush, and we understand that some, not all, of the delay was related to the unfilled staff position. We request that the County immediately move forward with the projects listed above. Stanford received its GUP nearly five years ago; it is past time for the public to receive the environmental protections that were part of the overall GUP "package."

Please contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Brian A. Schmidt
Legislative Advocate, Santa Clara County