

Public Comment for Upcoming Commission Meeting

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Comments:

Echoing many of my neighbors who have commented about the proposed wildlife feeding ordinance, I support proactively-addressing the safety issues related to feeding of unconfined wildlife. The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish requires we avoid endangering both the animals and ourselves by feeding unconfined wildlife. [<https://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/download/publications/wildlife/Feeding-Wildlife-Puts-You-and-Others-at-Risk.pdf>]

Whether the proposed ordinance's defining the horses being fed as wildlife will stand, they are definitely unconfined and as such, use the same routes as we do with our multi-horsepower conveyances to find adequate grazing. I am gratified our County Sheriff has recognized the hazards created by wanton feeding of them, and has requested our elected officials' support for addressing the issue. I hope the County Commissioners will step up and address this problem, using all the resources available, to protect the fragile ecosystem that supports us all. In particular, the continued growth in herd size is unsustainable and perpetuates abusive overgrazing throughout the 87043 zip code. Continuation of this situation is eroding our property values as well as destroying the home of so many other wildlife and plants. Thank you for the opportunity to comment, and for making citizen participation so accessible.