

Public Comment for Upcoming Commission Meeting

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Comments:

I would like to personally address the Commissioners at the March 8, 2023 meeting. Please put me on the Agenda. Thank you. Please contact me if you approve this comment.

Regarding the wild horse feeding ban in Placitas, my wife and I have been feeding one of the groups in Placitas Heights. We personally on a daily basis interact with these majestic horses. To cease the feeding of these wild horses would be a disservice to the community, the horses, and the people who feed them (87% of Placitas residents approve of the wild horses). In life, unfortunately, there are going to be accidents. Most can be avoided. In this case we seem to be addressing an issue with wild horses that cannot defend themselves nor speak for themselves. Keep in mind that these wild horses were in the area long before its residential development. It didn't seem to be a problem when developers were presenting the Placitas Master Plan to the community. They understood they would share with the existing wildlife, including wild horses. In our experience from September 2021 to June 2022, we have been feeding our group consistently. In the monsoon season, vegetation flourished up in the Mustang Mesa area away from Placitas Village which took our group into that area from late June to early November 2022 when they came back to our property and we fed them again and continue to do so now. They are not dependent on human feeding if the vegetation is out there. In closing, these are free roaming horses which means they are going to roam in any entire area open to them. Ceasing the feeding is not going to stop their search for food - rather it will increase it. Thank you for your consideration.