

Sent by email, October 22, 2007 to planner@clearlake.ca.us

One thing that seems to be missing from the EIR is any mention of what it will cost citizens to maintain this development. As we all know, and all available university studies confirm, residential developments NEVER pay for themselves. The taxes that they bring in NEVER cover the cost to maintain them. One study showed that it can cost 136 percent more than the resulting additional tax revenue, resulting in costs of several hundred dollars a year per family. This is to families that already live here.

This brings up the question as to what we get for all this money we will have to pay. A lowered quality of life is the short answer. This process is basically a way of coming up with the long answer. Essentially we will experience more traffic, less water, longer lines, more crowded schools as well as the need for more school facilities, less wildlife, fewer trees, more competition for nonexistent jobs etc etc etc. My question is; how much will all this misery cost us financially, and how will we pay?

To answer this I feel we are entitled to an independent study, funded by the developer, to determine as near as is possible what each resident already here will have to pay, and how we will have to do it. It is very unfair for us to simply hear later that fees had to be increased and new taxes with innocuous sounding names had to be invented. We have a right to know now what we will have to pay to subsidize this unneeded development in terms of fees, city taxes, county taxes, and state taxes.

While there is no imaginable reason to OK this development, we all know that it probably will be. The reason of course is money, and those of us on the lose lose side of this equation deserve a full accounting.

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