

**Jeffrey P. Bennett
7312 Puckershire Street
Las Vegas, NV 89166**

June 10, 2013

Chairman Phil Williams
Riverside Local Agency Formation Commission
3850 Vine Street, Suite 240
Riverside, CA 92507

RE: LAFCO 2013-05-1-Reorganization to Include Annexation 114 to the City of Corona (Temescal Valley)

Honorable Chairman Williams;

As a former mayor, councilmember, business owner and former resident of the City of Corona I want to strongly voice my opposition to the application to annex over 15 square miles in the Temescal Valley area, LAFCO 2013-05-1, to the City of Corona submitted this past March 2013 by the current city council and mayor.

Historically this area has been vehemently opposed to any attempts at annexation. This was shown in 1991 when the City, under the direction of then Mayor Bill Franklin, made the effort. The people did not want it then and they do not want it now.

I was elected to office in 1992 following the failed attempt by the prior council to annex this area. While Mayor in 1995, 2000 and 2003 respectively the council worked with the communities of El Cerrito and Temescal Valley on a Memorandum of Understanding that allowed the city to annex certain developable properties in return for shared property tax revenues that were directed to a newly created redevelopment area as well as other mitigations that would help their infrastructure needs. If approved this annexation would still require the city to pay the county for the bonded indebtedness of these developments as stated in the cities own Fiscal Analysis submitted with the application.

Taken from the Executive Summary it reads:

Former County Redevelopment Project Area

A portion of the Temescal Canyon Annexation Area is located in the El Cerrito/Temescal Canyon Sub-Area of the County Redevelopment Area (RDA) Project Area 1-1986. The recurring property tax increment in the RDA is projected at about \$2.3 million after build out and is comprised of about \$1.3 million for existing development and \$957,159 for

incremental development. Redevelopment has been eliminated by the State of California. Based on discussion with staff of the County Successor Agency for the former RDA, upon annexation the property tax increment for development within the former RDA area will continue to go to the Successor Agency until bonded indebtedness is paid, approximately by the year 2036.

In the following years the City went on to annex and develop The Crossings and Dos Lagos commercial centers that separated the lower Temescal Valley from El Cerrito from any land connections, further solidifying Temescal Valley's identity as a separate and independent community and is recognized as such with the U. S. Census.

In closing, the people of Temescal Valley have reached out in vehement protest on this in astounding numbers and with my experience I urge the commission to vote against this application when it is heard and to let the good people of Temescal Valley and Corona go back to the business of being good neighbors.

Please read my letter in its entirety into the public record during public comments at your next commission meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 27, 2013.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jeffrey P. Bennett

Cc: LAFCo Commissioners:
Vice-Chair Nancy S. Wright
Terry Henderson, Councilmember, City of La Quinta
Kevin Jeffries, Riverside County Supervisor, 1st District
Eugene Montanez, Councilmember, City of Corona
Jeff Stone, Riverside County Supervisor, 3rd District
Stephen Tomanellie, Public Member

Alternate Commissioners:
John Benoit, Riverside County Supervisor, 4th District
James Cioffi, Special District Member
Jim Love, Public Member
Yvonne Parks, Mayor, City of Desert Hot Springs

Others:
John Tavaglione, Riverside County Supervisor, 2nd District
Jason Scott, Mayor, City of Corona
George Spiliotis, LAFCo Executive Officer.
Jannlee Watson, Residents for Temescal Valley
Peter Fischetti, The Press Enterprise

**Contact me at:
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