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October 21, 2021

FOOTHILL TRAILS DISTRICT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

North Valley Area Planning Department
6262 Van Nuys Blvd., 4th Floor
Van Nuys, CA 91401

Re: Case: DIR-2020-4186-WDI
9955 W. Foothill Blvd., Lake View Terrace

Dear Planning Department,

At the Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council General Board meeting held on October 21, 2021, the Board voted ___For, ___Against,___Abstain, to request City Planning reconsider the denial of the request for a waiver of the sidewalk requirement at the new Ahead With Horses facility.

The board is disappointed to hear that the request for a waiver to install a bridle path in lieu of a concrete sidewalk has been denied.

- The new Ahead With Horses facility is located on Foothill Blvd. in Lake View Terrace, a street that is an officially designated equestrian trail.
- Equestrian safety on Foothill Boulevard is an issue that needs to be addressed and the best way to do this is to add bridle paths along the street.
- CD7 Councilwoman Rodriguez has an initiative to install a continuous bridle path on the north side of Foothill Blvd. to provide a safe path for equestrians on Foothill. It is senseless to require Ahead with Horses to install a sidewalk, when the sidewalk would need to be removed in the future in order to construct the planned continuous bridle path.
- A precedent already exists for installing only a bridle path, and no sidewalk, for development projects on Foothill Blvd. This was done for the Delphi Academy at 10743 Foothill Blvd. This particular bridle path is highly functional and safe for equestrians as well as pedestrians, and should be the standard followed for all developments on Foothill Blvd. in the equestrian community. (see Figure 1 below)

We strongly urge you to reconsider this decision, which is in direct conflict with the safety needs of our equestrian community.

Sincerely,

Kevin Davis
President FTDNC

cc: Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez