Ms. Naji,

I have hesitated sending you the 2 photos attached because I did not want to unnecessarily burden you. However, what the City has done with the destruction of the vines at the Tree Farm continues to gnaw on me and the rest of the neighbors and is indicative of what we have been dealing with from the City for years concerning the Tree Farm.

We believe these photos should be included in the packet for discussion at the 1/21/21 EPC Hearing under the 48-hour rule.

So no one is blindsided I am sending this email to Mark Chavez, Colleen McRoberts and David Simon with the City, as well as others shown on the copied line above.

Thank you.

Steve Ewing

January 17, 2021

Chairperson
Environmental Planning Commission
City of Albuquerque
600 Second Street NW
Albuquerque, NM 87102

re: Project #2020-004639 RZ-2020-00036
Amendment to Major Public Open Space Facility Plan

Dear ChairPerson,

I write as an interested neighbor. I am a resident of the City of Albuquerque and my wife served on the Citizens' Advisory Committee which is known in the project documentation as the "TAG Committee". I have taken several formal tours of the subject property at the invitation of City Parks personnel and at multiple public meetings. I visit the perimeter of the subject property more than 50 times per year. I live a short block away from the subject property and my remarks below will touch on impacts to my family and me.

I broadly support the RMP, and endorse the public process that led to it. At this time I would like to remark on only a few concerns I have. Let us recall that this MPOS is intended for the maintenance of and furtherance of a viable ecological zone: much of the City is urbanized and the few natural acres we have (proportionally) ought to be treated as precious. Erring on the side of preservation would be far preferable to erring on the side of extra development. Although public enjoyment is a required component of Land and Water Conservation Fund regulatory framework, it should not trample the primary purpose which is wildlife facilitation and restoration. Ample separate and different venues exist for recreation and related enjoyment including the nearby bike path along the river. It is important to note that the bike path itself is closed to motorized vehicles, but multiple times per week I see violators using motorized vehicles there. The fragility of the MPOS under consideration and the difficulty of policing the facilities weighs heavily into my remarks below.

1. Vehicular access and parking:
   I strongly believe that the highly limited vehicular access and parking should essentially remain as-is. Curiously, ***this means a greater impact on me and on my property***, but I believe it is in the greater interest of the City and the Major Public Open Space to do this.
   - There are presently adequate parking spaces as well as solid security control as installed and developed at the (State Owned and run) Rio Grande Nature Center. There exists a concentration of classroom, toilet, administrative and similar support infrastructure.
     - Duplication of constructed infrastructure is both wasteful of the general public's limited financial resources and harmful to the primary mission of the MPOS facility in question.
     - Development of, for example, additional parking removes viable land from the habitat at a rate of 500 sq ft per parking space (much more if longer access roads are used to "hide" the cars). The acreage is limited (167 acres total) and loss of this acreage to roads, parking and

From: Steve Ewing <steve@steveewing.com>

Subject: CNP/Tree Farm-Destruction of Vines

Date: January 14, 2021 at 1:45:59 PM MST

To: mschavez@cabq.gov

Mr. Chavez,

This will follow up on our conversation of yesterday. The neighbors would greatly appreciate the City not tearing down more vines at the Tree Farm. The vines that are there have taken years to grow on and along the fence. These vines offer the only buffer the neighbors have currently from the unsightly piles, waste and construction materials that are still on the site and which still need to be removed. Since the Tree Farm is to be "Open Space" for nature study and wildlife, it makes no sense to tear down the vines which have grown naturally and provide some beautification for the site.

The vines on the fence along Rio Grande were torn down yesterday without any input from the neighbors or the RGBNA, or notice to us. Since the EPC hearing on12/10/20, we have received no contact or communication with or from the City. There has been no contact from anyone with City until you returned my call yesterday. It would be very helpful if the City would communicate with me or someone else adjacent to the Tree Farm before additional drastic actions are taken, other than to remove the piles, waste and construction materials that remain on the site. The City indicated that we would have input on the site plan. The OSAB and EPC rulings confirm this. This just seems to make sense.

You indicated yesterday that you had concerns about my request. I then asked you to at least delay tearing down more vines until after the next EPC hearing on 1/21/21. If you still have concerns, I would renew my request to at least wait until after the next EPC meeting.

Thank you,

Steve Ewing