

## Naji, Leslie

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**From:** Marta Galicki <mmgalicki@me.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 30, 2020 8:47 AM  
**To:** Naji, Leslie  
**Cc:** Alan Galicki  
**Subject:** Candelaria Nature Preserve comments for EPC meeting Dec 10, 2020

### External

Dear Leslie Naji,

1. We are very supportive of the creation of the Candelaria Nature Preserve for the community of Albuquerque but Open Space did not bring us into the process concerning **proposed parking and public restrooms on the Tree Farm or the associated bird blind and bridge over the Duranes Ditch near our house facing Cherokee Road NW** until very late in the process. These proposals were seemingly added as an afterthought in summer of 2019 when most people are traditionally away on vacation. Even then, not one neighbor on the perimeter of the Tree Farm was alerted by mail, email or public notice or even flyers in our mailboxes about this proposal. We heard about it by word of mouth from neighbors. We purchased our property in 2016 and **no notice was sent to us to inform us or invite us into the decision-making process early enough for us to have an impact or feel like we trust the process.** Whether intentional or not the perception is that it was a done-deal that was railroaded through by Open Space without genuinely engaging the neighbors that are most impacted.

2. Even when the impacted neighbors were “heard” at a public meeting of **Sept 11, 2019**, the Open Space **staff did not provide a full record of oral and written public comments. Our trust in the process was further eroded when the votes at the TAG Meetings were irregular in Fall 2019 and Jan 2020 with some members confused and changing their vote several times and the chair failing to project an image of being a neutral party by voting early rather than waiting to vote last in order to be a tie breaker.** Also, are staff supposed to vote or just recommend? They voted.

3. **We have requested further studies, including traffic studies, to assess the actual need, location and extent of additional parking because right now, the number and location of parking on the Tree Farm is not based on any scientific data.** They are purely arbitrary and not following any science or facts. Would it not be more fair to make a study and try to scatter the parking so one neighborhood does not carry the negative impact and burden for the entire project.

4. Even if the Candelaria Nature Preserve is approved without the Tree Farm Tract on Dec 10, **the proposed bird blind and bridge in the CNP will force what happens in the Tree Farm.** The bird blind and bridge across Duranes Ditch near Cherokee Rd NW should not be included in the plan until the Tree Farm is resolved or we will be locked in. It is putting the cart before the horse. **How the Tree Farm is planned and developed will guide decisions about existence of and location of bird blind and bridge.**

5. **Is it possible for the upcoming process of developing the Tree Farm have a facilitator?** Ms. Torres facilitated the two public zoom meetings well in November 2020. It was really the first time that all the neighbors on the perimeter of the Tree Farm had a chance to speak. Before we had a facilitator, we had no one advocating for us to have a real voice. Otherwise, we will continue to be bullied.

6. We all want to share the beautiful and peaceful Candelaria Nature Preserve with the community and public but in the process why were we shut out: Why does our house have to face a 30 car parking lot plus 4/5 bus bays which will have idling and air/noise pollution plus a public restroom, bird blind and bridge. Also there will be flooding issues in the neighborhood due to the paving of the Tree Farm for parking facing our property.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marta and Alan Galicki  
3403 Rio Grande Blvd NW  
Albuquerque, NM 87107

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