



P.O. Box 2326 Loomis CA 95650

LBHA Livestock Position Statement

February 9, 2010

The Loomis Basin Horsemen's Association founded in 1984 is a non-profit 501 (C) 3 information and awareness organization dedicated to the South Placer County Trails, Traylor Ranch Bird Sanctuary and Nature Reserve, the Arena at the Loomis Basin Community Park and the Preservation of the Rural Lifestyle. We strongly believe that the ability to keep and raise livestock is an essential component of the rural lifestyle of South Placer County, for people who have livestock, people who see and enjoy the animals and those who buy, sell, and use livestock products. LBHA supports public policy and private action which preserve and encourage keeping livestock in South Placer County. New development, in residential/agricultural areas, must be carefully designed to promote compatibility and minimize conflicts between projects which prohibit livestock and those in which livestock is allowed. Harmonizing livestock and other land uses should be specifically raised and addressed in all decision making. Solutions to potential conflicts should be thoroughly explored.

Education and Information

Our residents and visitors should be informed and aware of the value of livestock to our community. Education and programs like 4H and Future Farmers of America should be encouraged and supported. Information, experiences and celebrations like farmer's markets, Placer County farm trails, fairs, festivals and ranch tours which highlight and enhance the community value of livestock should be encouraged and supported.

Public Policy

Zoning, regulation and other public policy actions and legislation should encourage and protect livestock's place in Placer County.

Development Approval Process

Development proposals and other public and private actions which might limit or prohibit livestock require public disclosure and accurate project descriptions as early in the process as possible so that people and organizations can make informed comments at the time when the project design is most flexible.

All agencies which have an interest in livestock (such as the Agricultural Commissioner) and organizations (such as LBHA and Placer Grown) which have requested notice of projects which might limit or prohibit livestock should be sent that notice.

Private actions (such as CC&Rs) and public project approvals (such as conditions) which prohibit or limit livestock in areas where livestock is otherwise allowed should be disclosed and be made a specific part of the project description. There should be easily accessible project documents which describe these specific proposals. Later changes which might limit or prohibit livestock (such as CC&Rs or informal policies) should require further public input before any implementation.

Development Design

Developments should be designed to create a balance between livestock and other residents and users which is sensitive to the needs of both. Potential adverse impacts and compatibility issues between livestock and their neighbors should be discussed and resolved with a wide range of flexible, creative solutions. Exploration of those solutions should be an integral part of policy, legislation and the development approval process. There are many ways in which development design can harmonize livestock keeping with its neighbors. As examples, development design can include:

- Buffer zones of open space and trails
- Screening with planting, berms and other barriers, preferably located on the land contiguous to the livestock use.
- Setback requirements between those parts of livestock uses which are least compatible with other uses, preferably located on the land contiguous to the livestock use
- Notice and disclosure to buyers and users of land next to and near livestock of the possible impacts of livestock as neighbors.

| In closing, the rural lifestyle contributes to the beauty and economy of Placer County. The ability to keep livestock, have a small farm or just have a horse to ride the area trails is what makes Placer County so attractive to those coming to this area to relocate.