



P.O. Box 2326 Loomis CA 95650

3/20/2010

**Placer County Parks Commission**

Re: Allocation of Developer Fees to County Park Project – Hidden Falls

The Loomis Basin Horsemen's Association is a 501C(3) organization dedicated to the trails in Placer County and has well over 250 members that enjoy the trails in this area. Our members live in South Placer County as well as surrounding Counties. Many have enjoyed the trails out at Hidden Falls since it's opening and are looking forward to the expansion of the park. Hidden Falls is a treasure and greatly enjoyed now by many equestrians, hikers as well as bikers from not only this area, but draw from the surrounding area.

In order to proceed with the second phase of Hidden Falls, funding is paramount. The second phase will increase the Park size to close to 1200 acres of park land. Hidden Falls will be available to all to enjoy for many years to come. As stated, Hidden Falls is a very important recreation amenity for our area and is at a critical time in its development. Parks has completed the environmental review and has just under \$3 Million in grant funding that must be expended in the next two years toward the completion of the trail system, bridges, and fire risk reduction plan. The amount of the requested development fees is needed to provide matching funds and complete the budget for these improvements. We risk losing some or all of these grant funds if the project is not completed on schedule.

In order for the next phase to continue and ensure that Grant money is not lost, it is recommended that the County Parks staff utilize \$350,00 in County recreation fees paid by developers and homebuilders for improvements at Hidden Falls to be made. It is felt that these funds should be used on projects that would most benefit the residents in the whole of Placer County. Hidden Falls is the type of project these fees were created for. The Loomis Basin Horsemen's Association highly recommends that the Parks Commission forward their approval for the utilization of the funds from development fees to the Board of Supervisors.

Respectfully yours

Denise Howell  
President LBHA

Copy To: Placer Co Board of Supervisors