

SANDAG and Linda Culp - Richard Chavez 9/30/2011

To Whom It May Concern at SANDAG – Letter is also being addressed by: Chris Jacobs, Senior Planner City of La Mesa

Regarding: **NOISE ELEMENT**- Request for noise reduction of trolley for environment and community improvement in residential area. **Location Description:** Loren Dr. Slope near Trolley Tracks (see attached map) Double track trolley operates adjacent to Water St. between Severin Dr. and Murray Dr. La Mesa 91942

Please see the attachments: Map of Area, Trolley Route, and the La Mesa Noise Element Background Study 1989 with map of decibel levels identifying the area for noise over 20 years ago. There are two trolleys now and double tracks, more frequent trips, and longer hours of operation.

1) Request trolley and environment noise reduction funded by one or more of the following: a grant, the City of La Mesa, County, State, Airport Authority, MTS-Metropolitan Transit System, Federal, community improvement funding, environment program funding, noise abatement funds, energy conservation funding, and/or other available program funding.

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- An additional trolley rail was installed since the attached noise and decibel 1989 study. Trolleys turn around from end of line in a few minutes. Noise is from: Orange Line and Green Line Trolleys.
- Sleep is impacted. Hours of operation and low ridership questioned. The trolley operates approx. 21hrs per day and residents feel this is excessive. Trolley squeals can be heard on Loren Dr., adjoining streets to Loren Dr.
- Residence cannot enjoy saving energy as they are not able to cool homes by opening doors and windows. The trolley is costing residence money and unnecessary utility use.
- Recreation is impacted due to noise. The trolleys emit different levels of squeals and rail noise that travels from the tracks to the community. The sound waves travel like rushing water up the slope from Loren Dr. to streets and homes.
- This area impacted by trolley noise has churches, schools, and parks. There is a hospice on Loren Dr.
- There are numerous parcels impacted with excessive noise.
- The community also contends with noise of interstate 8, highway 125, and Helispot- airway- helicopters.

Community improvement to this noisy situation is desired. The neighborhood could be made more beautiful with a sound barrier or rail tunnel that holds art murals. The residence could enjoy life better if trolley sound was reduced. I would appreciate a resolution and look forward to hearing from you. Please let me know what else you need from me for this request.

Sincerely,

Rhonda Ciardetti

Enclosure 3(s) 1989 La Mesa Noise Element: and Decibels page (found on the City of La Mesa web site), MTS Trolley Map, and Map of Area.