



Open Space Land contract request - small change
Jori Clarke to: twahler

10/09/2012 01:44 PM

History: This message has been forwarded.

Hello Mr. Wahler,

As we have discussed, we are very interested in protecting the environment and species that inhabit this area. This is why we have applied for entrance into the Open Space aspect of the Williamson Act. We are interested in protecting the natural habitat by setting aside a large piece of land. We are also interested in limited land uses that will expand knowledge in the areas of environmental protection not limited to but including any research and educational support needed to understand environmental protection and the successful cohabitation between natural species and agricultural needs.

As we have discussed, we have already been supporting this vision the past few years by allowing the land to be used for bee research around bee hive collapse. This land use is a practice called "bee resting". This is the term used for restoring the health of bees affected by pesticides during their work in agricultural pollination by providing them habitat that is pesticide free. This is an important study in the area of natural habitat and sustainable food practices since the loss of natural habitat and the collapse of hives has led to the inability to fully pollinate crops such as the almond crop in California. This use of our land has provided insights that have been helpful in the study of this issue to date.

In this process of developing this vision and in attending the agricultural advisory review board meeting we came to realize that we will need to continue to talk to experts in this area including people at Cal-Poly who can help us better understand how we can best support our vision. Since this meeting we have made contacts with people working with Cal Poly agricultural researchers to continue to build our knowledge. It appears that the ignorance of the general public around these issues and the need to conduct research and provide further education is part of the goal of people working in these areas of environmental protection and sustainable agriculture. Since it is pioneering work and we don't fully understand all the land use aspects that will make this vision realized, we would like to continue to move forward to place the larger of the two pieces of land (parcel number 043,291,031) involving 634 acres into the Open Space aspect of the Williamson Act and hold back for now the adjoining 40 acre parcel 043,291,030. This will allow us to learn more about the land use needs required to accomplish our vision of progress in the areas of environmental protection and sustainable agriculture. We trust that this small change to our request to place a large piece of land into Open Space conservation will not be impacted by holding back the adjoining 40 acre parcel while we learn more from experts as to how we can best accommodate their work and our vision.

Sincerely,

Jori Clarke
Sole Owner of 1096LLC holder of parcels 043,291,031 and 043,291,030.