

From: Lee Heller <leehellerk9@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2023 3:34 PM
To: natasha@sblafco.org; lafco@sblafco.org
Subject: public comment on Bailey Ave. annexation

Dear LAFCO members,

I am unable to participate live in your Feb. 2nd meeting, when you will consider annexation of farmland adjacent to Bailey Ave. to extend the City of Lompoc's sphere of influence. So I am emailing to express my strong disagreement with this proposal.

Santa Barbara County is agricultural; although anchored by Santa Barbara to the south and Santa Maria to the north, we are a heavily ag-driven county. It's part of our character. And we need to keep farmland in production, rather than converting it to housing or other uses that will not sustain the local economy and put food in residents' mouths.

There is more than enough undeveloped land available within the City of Lompoc to meet housing needs, without sacrificing good farmland and adding to urban sprawl. City planners should prioritize in-fill housing to prevent sprawl and the loss of irreplaceable agricultural land.

The City needs to do more analysis of the potential impacts of future development as well.

I urge you to vote against the annexation and extended sphere of influence that this proposal would provide.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Lee Heller
Santa Barbara CA