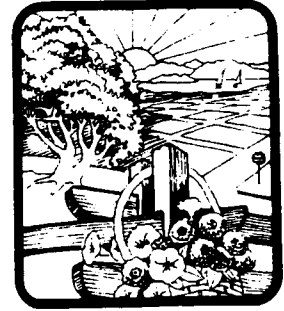


# **SCOPE**

**Santa Clarita Organization for Planning the Environment**

TO PROMOTE, PROTECT AND PRESERVE THE ENVIRONMENT, ECOLOGY  
AND QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY

POST OFFICE BOX 1182, CANYON COUNTRY, CA 91386



## **Plan for Preserving the Pico Oak “Old Glory” Created in conjunction with the Santa Clarita Oak Conservancy and members of the community**

### **Preamble**

A tree that is between 400 and 500 years old and that existed even before the birth of our Country is a part of our natural heritage and a treasure that must be honored and preserved. The goal of this plan is to preserve “Old Glory”. Re-location of this oak is not an acceptable solution since its size and age make its survival highly unlikely during and after such a procedure.

1. Decouple the Pico Canyon Road widening from John Laing Homes completion permit. John Laing homes must agree in return to a Court Stipulated injunction against removing the tree for as long as necessary to complete plan changes.
2. Down size Pico Canyon Road to two lanes to save “Old Glory” and for the health and SAFETY of the school children at the new Pico Canyon Elementary School. This 4 lane/100 foot high SPEED road will run right in front of the elementary school. This school will be the only one in the Santa Clarita valley that is accessed by and fronts on such a high speed road.
3. Complete an Environmental Impact Report on the entire road alignment. The terminus of this road is the Santa Clara River. It will serve several large unapproved projects including a 3500 unit Lennar Homes proposal and the 21,600 unit Newhall Ranch project. This road alignment has never received full environmental review, but rather has been illegally approved in increments contrary to requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act. Cumulative impacts such as excessive removal of heritage oaks, landslides, impacts to the endangered San Fernando Valley Spine flower, oil field pollution and growth inducing factors have never been addressed. They must now be addressed before any further actions on the road are taken.
4. Create a linear natural park in the area around Old Glory and extending along the County’s right of way. No oak removals, grading, nor road building should be required PRIOR to tract approval as this creates an illegal predisposition to approve projects for which no environmental analysis has been completed. This solution also would resolve the illegal approval without dedication of the required park space of Lennar Homes Phase 3 currently in litigation in the Second District Court of Appeals.
5. Work with the community, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and County Parks and Recreation to create funding for maintenance of this linear park.
6. A plan for the preservation cannot be promulgated unilaterally by any one entity. Interested stakeholders must sit down at the table to arrive at a real solution. The stakeholders must include the local community, environmental groups and tree experts. We call on Supervisor Antonovich to convene such a meeting.