



City of  
**SANTA CLARITA**

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October 18, 2021

Bill Miranda  
Mayor

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors  
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 W. Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Laurene Weste  
Mayor Pro Tem

Subject: Opposition that Camp Joseph Scott serve as the Long-Term Facility for DJJ Populations

Jason Gibbs  
Councilmember

Dear Chair Solis and Members of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors:

Marsha McLean  
Councilmember

On behalf of the Santa Clarita City Council, I am writing to respectfully express our concerns and opposition that Camp Joseph Scott (Scott) be adopted as a long-term County facility for male Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) youth.

Cameron Smyth  
Councilmember

Our position remains that Camp Scott is unsafe and unsuitable for the proposed use included in the DJJ Plan. The scorecard evaluation, which summarized the comprehensive evaluation of each facility was underutilized in the Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Subcommittee (Subcommittee) decision making when determining which facilities would be recommended.

Of the four facilities included in the Subcommittee recommendation to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, Camp Scott is the least feasible selection for the proposed use. Camp Scott received the lowest possible score for the only life-threatening category - Resiliency for Potential Fire/Flood Hazards – yet the facility was still recommended as a suitable facility. The locational hazards identified at Camp Scott pose significant physical danger to DJJ personnel and youth as well as local residents that would need to evacuate the area in the case of an emergency.

Although Camp Scott received the lowest ranking of the four recommended facilities for Land Use Compatibility/Proximity to Residential Development, the ranking received does not consider the future 375-unit residential project which was approved by City Council on November 10, 2020. This residential project will further escalate the incompatibility of land use and increase the proximity of residential developments to the camp site. Over the last several public Subcommittee meetings, Santa Clarita residents have shown up in force to express their concerns and opposition to both



Camp Scott and Scudder being considered as a permanent facility. Although the volume of public concern was acknowledged by Subcommittee Chairman, Adam Bettino, the Subcommittee failed to address any of the issues brought forth, specifically as it relates to the facilities proximity to residential homes.

The inclusion of this site in the Subcommittee's recommendations calls into question the integrity of the evaluation process and the Subcommittee's commitment to ensure recommendations were made in the best interest of the youth served in the facilities and surrounding communities near the facilities.

With Fred Miller Camp (Miller) now being considered in conjunction with Campus Kilpatrick it is important to reemphasize that this facility was recommended in the Youth Justice Reimagined Report, issued in December 2020, to serve as the long-term treatment facility for the DJJ population. Considering the \$45 million investments made in 2017 and the security enhancements being considered as the facility is currently purposed as an intermediate solution for the DJJ youth, Campus Kilpatrick/Miller remains a highly feasible option for the long-term facility.

As previously stated in our letter dated July 26, 2021, Campus Kilpatrick/Miller is the most comprehensive, modern, and secure youth facility that already offers the desired "LA Model," treatment for a population that is in the most need for rehabilitative resources.

Furthermore, Camps Paige and Afflerbaugh offer greater safety and feasibility in serving as a long-term facility for the DJJ population, as both facilities received favorable scores for most of the categories evaluated. Camps Paige and Afflerbaugh received higher marks than Camp Scott for Resiliency Potential Fire/ Flood Hazard, Land Use Compatibility/ Proximity to Residential Development, and Proximity to Staff Residence, two of which are the only categories evaluated that impact communities outside of DJJ personnel and youth.

If a two-facility option is to be adopted, we urge you to adopt Campus Kilpatrick/Miller along with Camps Paige or Afflerbaugh to serve as the long-term facilities to treat DJJ youth for the reasons we have outlined in this letter and in previous correspondence to the Subcommittee and Board.

Thank you for your consideration on this grave matter. We look forward to working with each of you in securing the most adequate resources and suitable facilities for the transition of the DJJ population. Should you require any additional information regarding our comments and requests included in this letter, please contact Masis Hagobian, Intergovernmental Relations Analyst, at (661) 286-4057 or [mhagobian@santa-clarita.com](mailto:mhagobian@santa-clarita.com).

Sincerely,



William A. Miranda  
Mayor

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Attachment

cc: Members of the City Council  
Department of Youth and Community Restoration, California Health and Human Services Agency  
Los Angeles County Division of Juvenile Justice Subcommittee  
Los Angeles County Youth Justice Work Group  
Fesia Davenport, Los Angeles County Chief Executive Officer  
Justice Deputies, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors  
Kenneth W. Striplin, City Manager  
Frank Oviedo, Assistant City Manager  
Leadership Team  
Masis Hagobian, Intergovernmental Relations Analyst  
Jennifer Quan, League of California Cities  
California Contract Cities Association