

Public Comment  
John Mataka

**Grayson Community Services District**

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July 28, 2002

Paul Caruso  
Stanislaus County  
Board of Supervisors  
1010 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite  
Modesto, CA 95354

Dear Mr. Caruso,

I am writing concerning the status of the Grayson Community Resource Center at the request of the Grayson Community Services District Board of Directors. Based on the information the District has received to date, the project as presented to the community is in jeopardy.

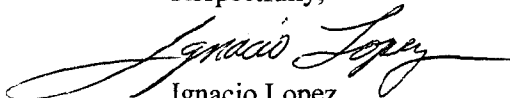
The Board directed me to meet with the Arambels to see if I could persuade them to consider the needs of the community. After my meetings with Jeff and Harold Arambel, I am convinced that their request of \$50,000 per acre will not change. The Board of Directors held an emergency meeting on July 25, 2002 where I updated them on my meetings with the Arambels and with County staff.

It was very commendable of the County to direct funds to build the much-needed community center but as we heard from Grayson residents, there is an equal need for a baseball field, a soccer field and playground equipment for the children of the community. Trying to construct the community center on anything less than 8 acres based on the configuration of the purposed site without the Arambel property would not be to the best interest of all concern.

The Board of Directors and staff feel that the appraisal price for the Arambel property is fair and comparable to other similar properties in the area. The property owner's asking price would lead you to believe that there were available utilities to develop the parcel. Rather, the fact of the matter is that the property is lacking water service and sewer service, which are necessary for development. Thus, the Board feels this property would be a prime candidate for eminent domain procedures.

The Board of Directors feel very strongly that if the County is not able to deliver the Grayson Community Resource Center (which you indicated would be a community project that other communities would be proud to emulate) as presented, that it is very important for you to bring back the item to the community before proceeding with anything less.

Respectfully,



Ignacio Lopez  
District Manager

cc: Board of Supervisors  
Raul Mendez/Stanislaus County  
Grayson Council