

Attachment PC 5

Public Correspondence in Opposition

INTENTIONALLY BLANK PAGE

From: Leslie Dethloff <lrosed@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: June 06, 2026 11:52 AM
To: Planning Commission
Subject: 1501 E. 16th Street Housing project

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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NB Planning Commission

I'm writing today to voice significant concern and urging that the commission to deny the progress of the proposed residential housing development at 1501 E. 16th Street.

As a resident of Newport Beach Baycrest neighborhood for over 23 years, we are highly concerned with the negative impacts a development like this will bring. Not only increase traffic, congestion, pedestrian safety, and quality of life, but also impact on the neighboring ENC natural space. Open natural spaces are being encroached upon and disappearing at a concerning rate and the ENC is a jewel in Newport. Our children attended summer sessions there for many years and we consistently enjoy all the seasonal events as well as a beautiful walk through the woods on any given weekend. We've already lost other parks, such as the space by city hall, let's not damage this peaceful, safe, natural, and educationally significant space by overcrowding, pollution, noise, increased traffic, and loss of nature due to change in habitat, sunlight, runoff, and exposure from the proposed surrounding buildings.

We hope the commission will stop the progress of this project and consider other location options that are not as highly sensitive to one of the last most unique natural urban spaces we have left in Newport Beach.

In addition, we understand the developers have declined requests related to structure heights, setbacks to ENC, and demonstrating the scale of the project. This is a concerning warning sign for the commission and community at large as these responses signal the developers are not a friendly, nor considerate addition to the community. A developer who is not willing to listen to the community and work out compromises that benefit the area as a whole will continue to ignore other concerns if the project were allowed to progress. It's a very concerning red flag.

We strongly urge the commission to deny this project and preserve quality of life in this beautiful area.

Leslie Dethloff

From: Kristen Fewel <kristenfewel@gmail.com>
Sent: June 05, 2026 2:44 PM
To: Planning Commission; Dept - City Council
Subject: Why the ENC matters to me

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I'm writing to share that the Environmental Nature Center is precious to our family. My children received outdoor education there, and even as they are teenagers and adults now, can still recall looking through microscopes, the hawk that flew overhead, and the native plants I purchased from them and planted in my own yard.

I understand the ENC is threatened due to a proposed nearby development, which will displace wildlife that makes the ENC their home. The dust, machinery, and structures will halt breeding, endangering future generations of wildlife, and discourage schools from scheduling field trips there, perhaps for years. Imagine the hundreds of K-5 schools, equalling thousands of children, missing out on ENC field trips.

I want the Environmental Nature Center to continue unharmed. I urge you to please protect it to the furthest extent of the law from harmful developments.

Thank you.

Kindly,

Kristen Fewel

Yoga teacher | Healer | Energyworker
Owner [Full Circle Yoga & Healing Arts](#)
Author [The Gift of Awakening](#)
714-404-2576

From: anne earhart <nianui@icloud.com>
Sent: June 08, 2026 11:56 AM
To: Dept - City Council; Planning Commission
Subject: Regarding proposed development at 1501 E 16th

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Dear City Council and Planning Commission members,

I write to comment on this proposed development which would loom over the ENC. It would shadow the ENC in the afternoon as well as affect the privacy and safety of ENC. The development would affect the environmental integrity and educational mission of ENC. Thousands and thousands of children, including my grandson who has enjoyed going there over the years, would lose the sense of being in a wild area if there is a building with balconies overlooking ENC.. A large development next door would be an anathema to this carefully created area.

I would also note, that residents with cats who are allowed to roam would no doubt use this as a killing field since the site is one of the few natural areas in the surrounding residential neighborhood.

At the very least, if approved, the building should be two stories. Three stories is too high there next to the ENC. Traffic in the area would also be an issue and affect safety of the comings and goings at ENC.

I urge you to send this project back for at the least, a modification to two stories.

Thank you,
Anne Earhart

From: Kasey Suryan <Kasey@lyonliving.com>
Sent: June 08, 2026 2:37 PM
To: Planning Commission
Subject: Planning Commission Hearing — 1501 E. 16th Street Project (behind ENC)

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Dear Planning Commissioners (several of whom are friends!),

As you may know, I live behind the ENC and want to share my concern about the proposed development at 1501 E. 16th Street.

I am not against housing, obviously (ha!). But this particular project, as proposed, is not good for the community and is not compatible with the ENC or the ENC Nature Preschool.

The ENC is a long-standing local treasure. This gem has been serving Newport Beach families and children for decades (including many of your kids!), and much of what makes it special is the outdoor, natural setting. Placing a three-story project with rooftop structures over 43 feet tall right next to it creates obvious concerns with privacy, noise, shade, traffic, construction disruption, and the overall character of the area.

The City has approved a lot of housing recently, and I recognize why. But that does not mean every project should be approved as presented. This is exactly the kind of situation where the City needs to slow down, look carefully at the impacts, and require a better plan.

Please do not approve this project as currently proposed. It needs to be revised in a way that respects the ENC, the preschool, and the surrounding neighborhood.

Thank you for hearing me out!

Kasey
Kasey Suryan | Managing Partner



4901 Birch St. | Newport Beach CA 92660

W www.lyonliving.com

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From: John Petry <johncpetry@hotmail.com>
Sent: June 09, 2026 11:10 AM
To: Planning Commission
Subject: ENC

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Two of my grandchildren were fortunate enough to be able to attend the ENC School. ENC's concerns about the proposed development are very valid, and I hope the Planning Commission will take them into real consideration and modify the project accordingly. Thank you.

John Petry

From: JULIE WILSON <wilsonbay@me.com>
Sent: June 09, 2026 11:24 AM
To: Planning Commission
Subject: ENC Ajaent

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Dear Commissioners,

We are longtime Newport residents. 65 years in Newport and 32 in Bayshores a stone's throw from proposed high density projects.

Our children attended camps at ENC and now our granddaughter.

This project's proposed building height and density, severely impacts the ENC's natural setting and habitat. We are extremely concerned about traffic around ENC with children and their families present. Their privacy and the importance of preserving quality outdoor learning environments for children here in Newport needs to be at the forefront of any recommendations.

Please take this into consideration and mitigate these issues.

Ideally, we would love the City of Newport to purchase the property.

Thank you,

Julie and Justin Wilson

Sent from Julie's iPhone

From: Bonni Dorr <bonni4jewelry@aol.com>
Sent: June 09, 2026 11:39 AM
To: Planning Commission; Dept - City Council
Subject: ENC

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Hello,

I wanted to reach out as I just heard of the development that might happen right next to ENC. I found this place about 15 years ago as a Girl Scout leader. It was nice to take the girls there as you felt like you were not in the City and connect with nature. It is hard to find places like this in Southern California without having to drive over an hour. I was a leader for over 10 years and we visited the ENC many times a year and used many of their programs for earning patches, discovering nature and open house events. Some of the girls even volunteered at a few events learning leadership.

I would hate for a development right next door to disrupt this nature center just so someone can make some money building huge townhouses/apartments so close by.

Sincerely,
Bonni Dorr
714-305-7453
Garden Grove, CA

From: Sara Lowell <smarisla@mac.com>
Sent: June 09, 2026 11:47 AM
To: Planning Commission; Dept - City Council
Subject: Comment on 1501 E. 16th Street Development

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To the Newport Beach City Council and Planning Commission,

I am writing regarding the proposed multi-story residential development planned at 1501 E. 16th Street. As a parent of a child who has made countless visits and spends every summer at camps at ENC, I have significant concerns about the compatibility of the project for the current neighborhood feel.

The Environmental Nature Center and their associated preschool will be greatly impacted by this project. Specifically, the mass and light impacts of the development will impede on the ENC. In addition, there are issues of privacy and encroachment from the higher stories of the building. It will be easy for people to look into the preschool and Center where young children are present.

The ENC is a jewel within Newport and should continue being a peaceful natural refuge for the City.

Sara Lowell

From: Kelly Roschewski <roschlynn@gmail.com>
Sent: June 09, 2026 12:49 PM
To: Planning Commission
Subject: Building Proposal near ENC

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Dear Planning Commission,

I have been following the proposal building adjacent to the ENC Nature Center since the sale of the property.

I am writing in hopes you can accept a different proposal or at least a comprise with the ENC.

Since I was pregnant with my now 2.5 year old I have had interest in sending him to the preschool. We have been on the waiting list for a year. Now, with this development I am having second thoughts. And I'm sure I'm not the only family.

We have been ENC members and partipate in monthly Nature classes for over a year with my toddler. It's truly a magical place to escape without planning an entire trip to the forest.

I have seen the large turnout for the pumpkin patch festival and have talked with so many parents who cherish this community and services the ENC provides.

There is truly nothing else like it in Orange County, I have researched many schools. There is no other preschool that offers such an experience. I invite you to tour the facility if you haven't already.

I looked at a different school closer to my house and it had 4 story housing across the street and that was enough for me to say no way, not having random people looking into the school yard where my child is.

So we are still focused on ENC Preschool, but if this proposal moves forward, I will look for alternatives, and it breaks my heart ,because the current school as it is now is the experience I want for my child.

The thought of extreme disruption during construction giving way to buildings towering over the center and encroaching on the natural environment. Not to mention, access to watching the children from someone's home.

That area already has traffic and parking challenges which could also pour over into Castaways park parking.

I believe this project would essentially put the ENC Preschool out of business and basically ruin the Nature Center and the habitat within it.

I strongly urge you to really reconsider this plan.

Thank you,

Kelly Roschewski

760.296.0224

kllrevents.com



From: Ellie <elica.perkins@gmail.com>
Sent: June 09, 2026 12:57 PM
To: Planning Commission
Cc: Dept - City Council
Subject: Development adjacent to ENC

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Hi,

As a Newport Heights resident for the last 13 years, I would like to express my concerns with the proposed development immediately adjacent to the ENC. The ENC is an absolute gem in our community - it's a sanctuary to escape and connect with nature that has positively contributed to my family's wellbeing for years. As a mother of two young kids under 10 years old I have seen the immense positive impact nature has on my kids. We have done countless school field trips, nature story times and trips to reset, explore and connect with nature at the ENC. Best of all - it is all here in our neighborhood.

Surrounding the ENC with a 3 story building that towers over it, shades the area, creates more noise pollution, and impacts privacy on the ENC and the preschool would be a complete disappointment. Apart from this being a home for native plants and animals, it's a sanctuary for people to immerse themselves in nature and escape the stress of busy lives.

We have so very few spaces left like this where we can truly immerse in nature without feeling surrounded by towering building - it would be very disappointing to take this away from our community. We should be doing everything we can to preserve and protect these precious areas that contribute so much to our wellbeing.

I am kindly asking you to take this into consideration when you are reviewing the proposed project and making adjustments to the proposed structure to ensure the project respects and protects the natural haven the ENC provides to wildlife and our community.

Thank you,
Ellie Perkins

From: DION GRAY <diongray@cox.net>
Sent: June 09, 2026 1:38 PM
To: Planning Commission
Subject: SAVE the serenity of the ENC!

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Dear NB Planning Commission,
I implore you to save the peace and qualities of being in nature that the ENC provides to thousands of children (and adults) each year!
I am an elementary teacher from the Irvine Unified School District who brought one hundred 3rd graders each year (for many years) to the ENC to learn about the Native Americans who once roamed the Orange County area. The ENC staff provides HANDS ON experiences in a natural environment to teach about the Native Americans and the environment, in an incredible environment!
The proposed housing that would be in the backyard of the ENC will destroy what the ENC was created to preserve! There are extremely few places that children can experience nature right in the middle of their city/county. The ENC is it! Please preserve this amazing oasis in its current state, without the noise, obstruction, and lack of safety (traffic, privacy) that a housing unit would introduce.

Dion Gray
IUSD Elementary teacher, retired

From: Beau Weaver <weaverb2002@gmail.com>
Sent: June 09, 2026 11:40 AM
To: Planning Commission; Dept - City Council
Subject: Protecting the Safety and Privacy of Children in Newport Beach

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Dear Newport Beach Planning Commissioners,

I am writing as a parent of two children who attend ENC Nature Preschool regarding the proposed residential development adjacent to the Environmental Nature Center campus.

This issue is fundamentally about protecting young children.

I respectfully ask that the Planning Commission carefully consider the unique nature of this site and the potential impacts that a high-density residential development may have on the safety, privacy, and wellbeing of the children who learn there every day.

Throughout California and the nation, schools regularly implement security measures specifically designed to reduce opportunities for child endangerment, including unauthorized access, trespassing, child luring incidents, stalking, surveillance of children, indecent exposure, and other inappropriate interactions involving minors. The purpose of these measures is not to assume bad intent from any individual, but to recognize that reducing opportunity is a fundamental principle of child safety.

Unlike a traditional preschool located within a fully enclosed building, ENC Nature Preschool is centered around outdoor, nature-based learning. Children spend significant portions of their day in outdoor classrooms, gardens, trails, and natural habitat areas. This educational model is one of the reasons many families choose the program, but it also makes the school particularly sensitive to changes occurring immediately adjacent to the property.

My concerns are not based on opposition to housing in general. Rather, they are based on the importance of maintaining an appropriate buffer between intensive residential development and a preschool serving young children. The proposed development would place a significant residential population immediately adjacent to areas where preschool children learn, play, and explore outdoors every day. This substantially changes the environment surrounding the school and increases the number of individuals with direct and ongoing proximity to children.

Numerous schools across California have experienced incidents involving trespassers, attempted child luring, indecent exposure, and registered sex offenders living nearby. These incidents are not

caused by housing projects, but they are often cited by parents when discussing school security and site design. We would never want Newport Beach schools to be included in that list.

Specifically, I ask the Commission to consider:

- **Child Safety** – Increased residential density directly adjacent to a preschool results in more daily activity, pedestrian traffic, deliveries, visitors, service providers, and other movement occurring near areas where young children are present. While most residents will undoubtedly be responsible neighbors, the reality is that schools and preschools require heightened attention to security and supervision because they serve a vulnerable population.
- **Privacy of Children** – The ENC campus is designed around outdoor exploration and learning. Residential units **OVERLOOKING** playgrounds, trails, or educational areas could and will substantially reduce the privacy currently enjoyed by children, families, and staff. Parents should be able to feel confident that their children can participate in outdoor educational activities without being subjected to unnecessary observation from adjacent residences.
- **Security of the Campus** – Schools throughout California continually invest in fencing, controlled access points, and security measures to limit unauthorized access and protect children. Development immediately adjacent to a preschool can create additional challenges related to visibility, access, and overall campus security.
- **Noise and Educational Impacts** – The ENC provides a unique environment focused on nature, environmental education, and outdoor discovery. Increased residential activity, construction impacts, and long-term noise generation have the potential to diminish the quiet and immersive setting that makes the program successful.
- **Compatibility with Existing Community Assets** – The Environmental Nature Center is one of Newport Beach's most valuable educational and environmental resources. Any development located directly adjacent to the campus should be designed with extraordinary care to ensure that it does not compromise the mission, character, or long-term viability of the ENC and its preschool.

As parents, we are asked to trust that schools maintain secure perimeters, controlled access, and protected environments for our children. Approving dense residential development directly against preschool property works against those same objectives by reducing the physical separation that currently exists between young children and the surrounding public environment.

The Environmental Nature Center is not simply another parcel of land. It is a unique educational sanctuary where children learn through direct interaction with nature. Once the buffer between the preschool and surrounding development is lost, it can never be restored.

I respectfully request that the Planning Commission require substantial setbacks, privacy protections (not simply “some trees” that will take 10+ years to mature and undoubtedly be trimmed, manicured or removed as to the new owners likings), security measures, landscaping buffers, and any other design modifications necessary to protect the children and educational programs at the Environmental Nature Center.

The interests of young children should receive the highest level of consideration in any decision affecting property immediately adjacent to a preschool.

Thank you for your consideration and service to the Newport Beach community.

Sincerely,

Beau Weaver

[Costa Mesa Resident / Parent of ENC Nature Preschool Student]

From: Jesse Bablove <jbablove@kbtriallawyers.com>
Sent: June 09, 2026 3:59 PM
To: Planning Commission; Dept - City Council
Subject: Destruction of EMC for development and money

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Dear Planning Commission & City Council,

No matter what side you lean towards, I think we can all agree nature is beautiful and it shows us amazing things every day. Look at this badass owl I caught sleeping in my tree

above the garage 2 days ago...



How freaking cool is that? My kids, 5 and 4, went nuts seeing the buho (owl in Spanish). Do you want those moments to disappear for your kids and their kids?? I hope not.

We need more of that in this world not less. The animals, the plants, how they all live together and how they exist despite the humans clawing to destroy them. Its magical, its healing it is everything that concrete and steel buildings aren't. Don't let the greedy developers people win, if you bounce them here, they will just move to the next city that is too weak or too poor to say no thank you. In Japan, depressed people are prescribed a couple days in an old growth forest. They have proven that nature heals the heart, and it

brings us back to our roots. Living off the land and feeding our families from what the almighty gave us. That is not going to happen in Newport, but we need to stay as close as possible, not get farther away.

To put this nicely, we do not need more development in Orange County and certainly not in Newport Beach. We need nature. We need trees. We need cool animals. We need the real world to teach our children that life is not about money, houses, cars, what college you went to and other material stuff. It is about beauty, learning, growth and family. The natural beauty in this world and what makes our planet so special is being lost at a rapid rate. The loss of our environment is always due to money and profits. Do not let developers take from our kids what they truly need, a place that drops their jaws in awe, a place with diverse nature where they can learn cool things and grow.

Do the right thing, keep the EMC and the area in its current state. It is an easy no for anyone paying attention to what is important in this life and the next.

Best,
Jesse

Jesse M. Bablove
KOHAN & BABLOVE LLP
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Newport Beach, CA 92660
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From: [greer wylder](#)
To: [Planning Commission](#)
Subject: Concerns About Development Adjacent to the ENC
Date: June 09, 2026 7:05:23 PM

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Dear Planning Commission Members,

I grew up in Newport Beach and went to Newport Harbor High School in the 1980s. The ENC was one of my favorite places then, and it still is.

I raised four boys here and they all went through ENC camps. Watching them discover nature the same way I did was one of the best parts of raising kids in this community. Just like Junior Guards taught them to respect the ocean, the ENC taught them to care about the natural world. Those lessons stuck.

I am writing because I am genuinely concerned about the proposed development adjacent to the ENC. As you review this project, I hope you will seriously consider the building height, shading, habitat impacts, traffic, and privacy concerns. Three-story buildings right up against the ENC and its Nature Preschool would permanently change what makes that place work. It is not just about greenery. It is about children feeling surrounded by nature rather than by a built environment. That distinction is everything.

Once that is gone, it is gone. The ENC has been part of this community since 1972 and generations of Newport Beach kids have grown up there, including mine. I hope future generations get that same experience.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this.

Sincerely,
Greer Wylder
Greer's OC

greer wylder | editor and founder, greer's oc
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instagram.com/greersoc
linkedin.com/in/greerwylder
youtube.com/user/GreersOCTV

From: [Janae Muzzy](#)
To: [Planning Commission](#)
Subject: ENC neighboring property proposed design - community feedback
Date: June 10, 2026 9:59:51 AM

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Hello, I'm writing as a member of the community to respectfully request that you deny the currently proposed plan for the neighboring property to the ENC. The ENC is an amazingly rare sanctuary in our community where children can still safely run free in nature, away from technology and development. Every time I bring my children there for a 'hike' or camp, it's an amazing escape for them - and so valuable for mental, emotional, and physical well-being in this day and age. The proposed plan will significantly and negatively affect the experience for so many who currently benefit from this.

It is unnecessary for the proposed project to be so tall and overlook the center. It is an evasion of privacy for the children enjoying the area. There are many creative ways to proceed with a design that doesn't affect the ENC experience. Please please please reconsider. Thank you!

Best,
Janae Muzzy
Community member
714.715.2225

From: Laura Curran <lauracurran@me.com>
Sent: June 10, 2026 1:42 PM
To: Planning Commission
Cc: Dept - City Council; Murillo, Jaime; Zdeba, Benjamin
Subject: ENC Project - DR Horton benefits from Zoning Change/ Kids & Community lose out

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The City needs to reconsider the current zoning approval and project plan for the proposed DR Horton project adjacent to the Environmental Nature Center (ENC). The ENC is of our outstanding community resources in City of Newport Beach. Originally conceived and created by Newport Harbor HS teachers and students, it has grown into a valuable community asset.

1. Rezoning from Commercial to Residential adjacent to Community Resources: The City of NB needs to address Housing issues, to comply with Regional Housing Needs Allocation. However, the City is oversubscribed in its RHNA allocation. The City's State allocation is for 4,845 new housing units, and the current plan allows for 8,174 new housing units. While there are some restrictions to meet the allocation for affordable units, the City should not rezone commercial locations for residential, when it will negatively impact or eliminate our our open space and recreational areas.

We are seeing a worrying trend, where developers are getting up zoned from commercial of recreational uses to residential, even though it eliminates community assets. For example, on June 9, 2026, the Council adopted the **Ordinance No. 2026-05: Amending Title 21 of the Newport Beach Municipal Code to Implement the Housing Element and Establish the Housing Opportunity (HO) Overlay Coastal Zoning Districts (PA2022-0245 & PA2024-0205)**. This will rezone properties adjacent to the Back Bay Estuary and other sensitive habitats to residential uses, including:

- Newport Beach Golf Course
- Newport Beach Tennis Club
- Park Newport
- Bayview Marriott

Rezoning properties next to open space, natural habitats, and recreational resources will eliminate these critical resources. It is especially disappointing to see the City take this

approach in Back Bay, as we near the completion of the Buck Gully restoration, where the City has been a critical partner.

2. DR Horton - DR Horton is receiving a Zoning change to facilitate the project, and benefiting significantly from this proposed Zoning change. However, zoning changes do not give a developer rights to build a project without constraints. The City has a responsibility to encourage the developer to collaborate closely with ENC to formulate a project suitable to the existing neighborhood and community character.

For example, ENC has said that they asked DR Horton to install **story poles** to help people understand the project, and that this request has been turned down. The City could facilitate this process and other visioning elements for DR Horton & ENC.

In closing, the proposed project as currently formulated is contrary to Newport Beach's outstanding record of maintaining and facilitating natural habitats & recreational areas for public enjoyment and education. Newport Beach residents have always strongly supported open space and Council is undoing years of efforts by the public with these zoning changes.

Thank you
Laura Curran
Newport Beach, CA

Orozco, Oscar

From: Murillo, Jaime
Sent: June 01, 2026 7:55 AM
To: Orozco, Oscar; Westmoreland, Liz
Subject: FW: No dense tall construction next to ENC

-----Original Message-----

From: Natalia Biron <natalia.biron@gmail.com>
Sent: May 30, 2026 2:32 PM
To: Planning Commission <planningcommission@newportbeachca.gov>
Subject: No dense tall construction next to ENC

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The traffic in the area of Newport Harbor is already crazy , too many cars driving too fast. If you add a dense new residential building it will only turn much worse. The Environmental Nature Center is a magic place for children and teenagers to learn about nature in a quiet location, please don't destroy that with noisy neighbors. Don't project shadows on their beautiful outdoor areas that teach thousands of kids about the different geographic regions. Not everything in life is making money!!!!

Sent from my iPhone

Orozco, Oscar

From: Rodriguez, Clarivel
Sent: June 02, 2026 10:44 AM
To: Orozco, Oscar
Subject: FW: Please Protect the Environmental Nature Center

Hi Oscar,

I don't remember if I sent you this comment already but here it is. Sorry if it is a duplicate.

Thank you,



Clarivel Rodriguez
Assistant to the Community Development Director
Community Development Department
Office: 949-644-3232
100 Civic Center Drive
Newport Beach, CA 92660



A promotional banner for the City of Newport Beach's CiViC account. It features the city logo and the text "AVOID DELAYS REGISTER TODAY" in large blue letters. Below this, it says "TELL A FRIEND! APPLY ONLINE!" in a red button. To the right, it says "Effective May 1, 2025" in red, followed by "A valid CiViC account will be required to apply for both in-person and online permits." and the website "newportbeachca.gov/civic".

From: Debby Koken <deborah.koken@gmail.com>
Sent: May 27, 2026 7:28 PM
To: Planning Commission <planningcommission@newportbeachca.gov>
Subject: Please Protect the Environmental Nature Center

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The Environmental Nature Center is a treasure for all of Orange County. This five-acre open space provides the residents of Newport Beach and surrounding areas with access to clean air, open space, and environmental education.

The proposed high-density development at 1501 E. 16th Street would disrupt the calm character of the area that is essential to the Environmental Nature Center and its preschool.

Please preserve the unique recreational and environmental resource that is the Environmental Nature Center. Thank you for the opportunity to submit my comments for your consideration.

Deborah Koken
Costa Mesa, CA
deborah.koken@gmail.com

From: Kianna Parviz <kiannaparviz@gmail.com>
Sent: June 10, 2026 12:57 PM
To: Planning Commission; Dept - City Council
Subject: Objection to Proposed Development Impacting Environmental Nature Center (ENC)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Report phish using the Phish Alert Button above.

Dear Planning Commission Members and City Staff,

I am writing to express my strong concern and objection regarding the proposed development project near the Environmental Nature Center (ENC).

The ENC is a rare and irreplaceable community resource that provides direct access to nature in an increasingly built-out environment. It is one of the few places where children and families can experience nature up close, learn about native habitats, and develop a lifelong appreciation for the environment.

My concern is that this development will significantly diminish the natural feel and character of the ENC. Even incremental changes to surrounding density, noise, traffic, or visual environment can meaningfully impact the experience of being in nature—especially for children, who are highly sensitive to these surroundings. The value of the ENC is not only in its programs, but in the immersive feeling of being in a natural setting that feels separate from the city.

Places like the ENC are increasingly rare, and once their natural character is compromised, it cannot be restored. The benefits of access to nature—especially for children’s development, mental health, and environmental awareness—are well documented and deeply important to the community.

I respectfully urge the Planning Commission and City to carefully consider these impacts and to prioritize the preservation of the ENC’s natural environment and visitor experience when evaluating this project.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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Kianna Parviz Bauman, Esq.