

On Organization Letterhead

Date

Riverside Local Area Formation Commission (LAFCO)  
3850 Vine Street, Suite 110  
Riverside, CA 92507-4277

RE: Case Nos: 2008-20-1&3  
2008-21-1&3

Dear Commissioners:

Our Group (organization name & city) supports the proposed annexation by the City of Temecula of 4997 acres of unincorporated land at the southern gateway to the City. We understand that the intention to annex this property to preserve it as open space has been a part of the City's General Plan since 1993. We also recognize that this would allow Temecula to consolidate their sphere of influence. We the a city should have "local control."

Being that 85% of this land in question consists of the Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve, it is vital that this property is protected for future generations. This Reserve is a research facility that is used by universities and scientists all over the globe. This Reserve houses the last wildlife corridor in Southern California that connects the coastal Santa Anna Mountains with the inland Palomar Mountains. The Santa Margarita River, the last free flowing river in Southern California as well flows through 5 miles of this property on it's way to the ocean.

This rural open space provides a continuity of the land use from Riverside County to San Diego County. We believe Temecula to be the best "steward" for this land.

Along with the City of Murrieta, which passed a unanimous resolution in support of the annexation on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, we encourage LAFCO to approve Temecula's proposal.

Respectfully,

Name  
Title  
Organization