PRESS CONFERENCE: SAVEBAREC REFERENDUM VICTORY JULY 27, 2007, 12:30PM, SANTA CLARA CITY HALL, 1500 WARBURTON AVENUE, SANTA CLARA, CA

On July 18, 2007, just eight days ago, we submitted over 12,000 signatures to the City of Santa Clara.

Today, we stand before you with two validated referendums for the City Council to take action on. We protested these resolutions adopted by the City Council on June 19, 2007 regarding the rezoning of the land from agriculture to planned development and the change to the general plan for BAREC.

I can honestly say, not many people thought we could accomplish the goal of collecting the required signatures in just three weeks. I was even told by a Santa Clara elected official that he thought the referendum would "crash and burn." It was sheer determination by the members of this community, focusing on the task at hand, that made this happen, showing just how much they care about this unique piece of land.

On August 21, 2007, the Santa Clara City Council will hold its next regularly scheduled meeting. They have only two choices: one will cost the City nothing in terms of ballot costs and one will cost the City around \$173,000. They are as follows:

- 1. Rescind both Resolutions (zoning change and general plan amendment), an action that will not incur ballot costs.
- 2. Motion to put the Resolutions on the February 5, 2008 ballot, costing the taxpayers approximately \$173,000.

We are recommending that the City Council rescind both resolutions, returning BAREC to agricultural zoning and the prior general plan, which will save the City and taxpayers time and money.

In conclusion, we all hope the City Council will listen to the voters of the City of Santa Clara. To review, each petition required 3,949 valid signatures to become certified; we gathered over 5,000 on each.

While this process took significant effort to accomplish, the voters message is clear: Listen To Us!