

USEFUL QUOTES ON BAREC (by well-known individuals):

"Our recent poll shows that 8 out of 10 people in Santa Clara Valley are concerned about the lack of open space in the Santa Clara Valley."

Bob Gerard, Attorney and Retired Stanford Professor, February 2004

"In the summer of 2002 our City did a study of where to place Santa Clara's required housing for the next five years. This study showed that BAREC was not needed for this required housing."

Santa Clara City Mayor Patricia Mahan

"If the county will step forward and say we will join with the City of Santa Clara and purchase some of that [land] or if the City of San Jose wanted to contribute, it would be marvelous. To have 17 acres reserved as open space would be magnificent. I do not know that anyone of us sitting here today would argue that fact."

Santa Clara City Mayor Patricia Mahan, October 21, 2004 on Comcast TV's "Environmental Concerns"

"The whole purpose of the hearings is to find out what people think and to judge what's most important as we move forward."

Santa Clara City Mayor Patricia Mahan, as quoted in *The Valley* section of *The San José Mercury News*, April 6, 2006

"It's technically not too late, said Santa Clara Mayor Pat Mahan.

"If somebody is willing to buy it for that price and put agricultural uses on it, the state would consider it and we could zone it," she said. "This is taxpayer land."

***The Valley* section of *The San José Mercury News*, May 13, 2006**

"We can't withhold zoning arbitrarily, unless you want to subject this City to a lawsuit that will bankrupt it...and, it's just not going to happen, and I'm sorry to say, that's just the reality of it."

Santa Clara City Mayor Patricia Mahan, April 26, 2005 at the Santa Clara City Council Meeting

"We have to be reasonable in allowing rezoning; we can't withhold entitlements unreasonably, especially when we can't offer a good alternative."

Santa Clara City Mayor Patricia Mahan, as quoted in *The Valley* section of *The San José Mercury News*, January 29, 2006

"All political power is inherent in the people. Government is instituted for their protection, security, and benefit, and they have the right to alter or reform it when the public good may require."

Constitution of the State of California, Article 1, Section 2

"If this parcel of land has the agricultural zoning removed, it would not only be a tragic loss to the community's heritage and its future, but also close the door to any opportunities we may have in the future to pursue our research and education work in the Santa Clara Valley."

Dr. Carol Shennan, Director of the University of California Santa Cruz Center for Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems.

"Housing is a dead bang looser for income. In the United States we have gone from 5th to 48th in the most efficient use of our tax money. We have the highest unemployment in this country. The average person in Santa Clara Valley travels 35 miles one way to work each day."

Terry Trumbull, October 21, 2004 on Comcast TV's "Environmental Concerns"

"It's [BAREC] a marvelous facility that is supporting research on turf grass, landscape plants, cut flowers, high value horticultural crops, composting, bio-intensive pest management, alternatives to methyl bromide and other high visibility topics. It's also a very unique property for studying ag-urban interface issues. These interface issues will only grow in importance in the coming years."

Steven Nation, Assistant to the University of California President of Agriculture and Natural Resources (before the Center was closed).

"Open space raises property values."

Daniel Press, author of *Saving Open Space*, Professor Environmental Studies at UC Santa Cruz

CALIFORNIA CODES, CIVIL CODE SECTION 815-816

"815. **The Legislature finds and declares that the preservation of** land in its natural, scenic, agricultural, historical, forested, or **open-space** condition is **among the most important environmental assets of California**. The Legislature further finds and declares it to be the public policy and in the public interest of this state to encourage the voluntary conveyance of conservation easements to qualified nonprofit organizations."

"BAREC is so important to the City and region that it should be placed on the National Historical Registry."

Lori Garcia, Santa Clara City Historian and Commissioner on the Santa Clara County Historical Commission and Chairman of the Santa Clara Planning Commission.

"To make the strongest case for keeping this site as is, the General Plan would need to be changed to agriculture."

Geoffrey Goodfellow, Santa Clara Planning Director at a Neighborhood Outreach Meeting on January 15, 2003.

"The City [Santa Clara] loses money with housing as it is costly to maintain it."

Geoffrey Goodfellow, Santa Clara Planning Director at a Neighborhood Outreach Meeting on January 15, 2003.

"The State has never challenged a city on a zoning issue."

Jeff Crone, Senior Real Estate Officer, California State Dept. of General Services. Note: that Dan Potash is the State's consultant in charge of selling BAREC and his boss is Jeff Crone.

"This governor's budget is a stinker and he does see developers and the rich generally as more important than schools. Too few legislators have any spine when it comes to really standing up for children."

Delaine Eastin, former State Superintendent of Public Schools who had as her theme "A Garden for Every School" and was able to create over 3000 school gardens in California, January 2005.

"Santa Clara is the "Mission City" and an important part of our Mission was the fruit trees and plants used to help the Indians farm the land. The plants introduced by the early missionaries helped the Santa Clara Valley discover the uniqueness of this Valley for growing food, especially fruit trees. As part of the City's Mission City heritage we need a collection of the Mission Period plants. Because of its history and the fact that it is set up for education and growing plants with wells, irrigation systems, greenhouses, and a conference room, BAREC is the best place to locate this collection. We also need such a place for our students to study the relationship between man, history, ecology and plants and we have no room on our campus for this. To be successful there are many departments on campus which need such a place. Also, BAREC is adjacent to public transportation which links it to the University and the Valley, an important element for students."

Dr. Russell Skowronek, Professor of Anthropology and Social Sciences Dept., Santa Clara University

"Land is a non-renewable resource. It would seem shortsighted to make a dollar at the expense of what has been a resource for the greater community."

Vicki Moore, Greenbelt Alliance

"This property is unique in California. It is considered the State's leader in the rural/urban interface issues. We are fortunate to have it in the middle of our metropolitan community with excellent public transportation to it. As we become more urban, we will need it even more. It is also important that you recognize the

importance of its history to our community and to the State and encourage City, State, and National Historical Registry status for it.

Because of its history and location, the potential to bring federal, state, and private foundation money to your City is tremendous. The permanent jobs this would create and the good it could bring would far outweigh a housing development that will only make it look like the rest of our paved over Valley and become a drain on the City's economy. The work done on the property could send out new little business ideas all over your City and enrich it for years to come. Santa Clara has been far-sighted in its solar energy policies. I urge you to continue your environmental leadership and vote to keep this historically important piece of land agriculturally zoned."

Ted Smith, Director of the Silicon Valley Toxics Coalition in a letter to the Santa Clara City Council.

"The average acre of farmland in San Francisco earns \$123,000 per year."

Michael Olson in Metro Farm, a Guide to Growing a Big Profit on a Small Parcel of Land (<http://www.metrofarm.com>).

"I am writing you to encourage you to follow up on the Council's vote on March 18, 2003:

'Direct staff to explore opportunities to obtain funding to assist in purchasing portions of the BAREC property The Committee directed Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services staff to work with the City and County of Santa Clara to explore funding opportunities including, but not limited to, submission of a joint application for a Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant from the State of California to assist in purchasing portions of the BAREC property, located in the City of Santa Clara, to allow for continued agricultural/open space uses.'

The State has too quickly tried to sell this land to make it appear that your efforts were in vain. Since I have not seen a follow up on your vote and since the City of Santa Clara does not seem to know about your interests in helping them, I request that you continue this good work."

Ted Smith, Director of the Silicon Valley Toxics Coalition in a Letter to the San Jose City Council.

"What was most missing in this process so far was fair and adequate public notice of this proposed action, the deactivation of this BAREC research operation, without discussion or resolution of or planning with respect to the two critical questions: (1) Where and how else will the critical research BAREC now conducts be conducted, assured? (2) How else will this land be utilized? Since our local municipalities have under law the full authority to authorize or refuse any proposed change of zoning and use, we ask the State of California to begin discussions with the City of Santa Clara regarding appropriate proposed alternative use/s for that property."

Senator John Vasconcellos and Assemblywoman Elaine Alquist in a letter to Governor Davis and the UC President (January 3, 2000) regarding BAREC

"This decision was made singularly between your administration and the University of California, and slipped into the budget without any advance notification to either the public or us at large. This is truly an abominable process. We hope that you, your administration and the UC, will pledge never again to undertake such a surreptitious action. Given the surreptitious manner in which this deal was made between the UC and the Davis administration (i.e. the huge budget document, at the last minute, with no notice to anybody - local residents, us, the local legislators that represent that area) this whole deal should be called off, and the process legitimately renewed with full public notice and involvement."

This was the last letter about this very undemocratic process. The governor never responded. This process has been continuing to erode community confidence in the political process as the State's consultants; the City staff and the City's elected officials have gotten more into the picture."

Senator John Vasconcellos and Assemblywoman Elaine Alquist in a follow-up letter to Governor Davis on March 9, 2000, since the letter dated January 3, 2000 went unanswered.

"I am very sorry to say it but many people believe Jamie Matthews is much to close to some developers."

A Santa Clara City Councilperson, April 23, 2003

"Tom Shanks of the Markula Center at the University helped the City along the 'ethical' process to our awards. This is no longer the same 'ethical' City Council as we had as recently as last year. The shadow of 'money influence' reaches out far and further than before."

The same Santa Clara City Councilperson, August 4, 2003

"Senate Bill 2099 requires that the State's Department of General Services make the property available to other State Agencies. A State agency could indicate it would like the property for its use and the property would be retained by the State. After State Agencies have been advised, it is offered to City and County agencies for their purposes or for one of three purposes: (1) the development of affordable housing, (2) the development of educational facilities, and (3) for parks and open space."

Dan Potash, State Department of General Services Consultant in charge of selling BAREC stated this at a Neighborhood Outreach Meeting on November 20, 2002.

NOTE: The Department of General Services has not followed this process required by law. It has not offered BAREC to many State Agencies nor to local City and County agencies. For example, the City of

San Jose expressed an interest in the property in March, 2003, before the property was offered to a developer. Also, the University of California Department of Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems is interested in the property only if it is kept agriculturally zoned. These are only two examples.

"Sustainable agriculture is under attack in the United States. At a time when the Bush administration is ballooning the U.S. defense budget to as much as \$500 billion for the 2007 fiscal year (a massive 48% increase since 2001), it is also proposing to slash the modestly funded programs that help farmers transition from using pesticides to more sustainable or organic agriculture.

These proposed cuts are shortsighted, because funding organics provides big bang for the buck for USDA," observed Mark Lipson, Policy Program Director at the Organic Farming Research Foundation. While the U.S. market for organic products enjoys consistent annual growth of as much as 20% a year, Lipson points out that the United States is importing 90% more organic products than it exports. Lipson believes one reason is that U.S. farmers "are getting minuscule support for organic production," while other countries including Mexico and China are embracing the organic market trend."

Pesticide Action Coalition Newsletter, March 10, 2006

"I am surprised that our food supply has not been targeted by terrorists."

Tommy Thompson, President Bush's Secretary of Health and Human Resources, December 2004

"Hey, farmer, farmer, put away that D.D.T., now!
Give me spots on my apples
But leave me the birds and the bees, please!
Don't it always seem to go
That you don't know what you've got till it's gone?
They paved paradise and put up a parking lot."

Joni Mitchell, *Big Yellow Taxi*, 1969

"How do we know it's us without our past?"

John Steinbeck