

My name is Kirk Vartan.

Good evening Madam Mayor, Councilmembers, and the public. I have been nominated and elected as the spokesperson for SaveBAREC and this message is from our group.

On July 25, 2007, the City of Santa Clara received notification from the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters that over 10% of the voters in the City of Santa Clara do not agree with the City Council's decision to allow the Santa Clara Gardens Housing development to occur. The more than 10,000 signatures on the referendum petitions confirmed the desires of the of Santa Clara citizens.

On July 27<sup>th</sup> and again tonight, the community and SaveBAREC are asking for you're action in rescinding the two resolutions that were petitioned, namely the Rezoning and the General Plan Amendment (resolutions 07-7432 and 07-7430 respectively). The citizens of Santa Clara are asking you to stop this development project in the most cost effective way. Rescinding the resolutions will allow the City, the State, and the citizens to look at this unique piece of land and determine what is in Santa Clara's and the State's best interest long term without wasting more taxpayer money.

The voters are ready and will take action on February 5, 2008 if necessary, but why spend over \$173,000 to do this? The majority of the voters do not want to see the current plan implemented. We all know this is not the last piece of land for housing, but it IS the last piece of land for agricultural open space in Santa Clara. Once it is gone, it is gone forever. Do not give up on BAREC as open space.

Even if the City Council does not agree with our economically feasible, financially sustainable, agricultural, public open space alternative, we hope the Council will see that the current housing plan under consideration is not the best solution.

Thank you for your time and courtesies.

Keep Public Land Public.