



## Live Oak Stables – The “SaddleClub”

### Here’s a chronology of events; the “real story”:

- Spring 2017: John and Jill Maxwell, Coto de Caza Maxwell Stables, had been asked to move out after 25-years.
- We told the Maxwells about Live Oak Stables and the intent of the TCA to buy it. Our suggestion was, we would do everything we could to encourage the TCA to allow the Maxwells to use that property to continue their business.
- We heard the TCA had bought the old Live Oak Stables in December 2017. Good and bad, but it was planned for homes so better for all of us.
- The land was purchased as mitigation property to offset toll road development.
- ETI contacted the TCA right after the purchase to introduce ourselves. The discussion centered around evacuation because the TCA planned to use the site as an evacuation site.
- ETI drafted a wish list including Maxwell Stables for a meeting with the TCA in February 2018.
- At this meeting we discussed and shared our view to preserve the equestrian lifestyle; the TCA shared their requirements to preserve habitat.
- In March 2018, ETI met at the site with the TCA and explained our "vision" from the wish list. We pointed out exactly how Maxwells or Hanaeleh could use the property and how it could all work with the TCA's plan.
- The result was that the TCA would go away and work on the plan considering all options.
- We invited them to an ETI/public meeting which we held in August 2018. We held that meeting, people spoke up and ETI was adamant about the TCA clearing the dead brush along the roadway. Many others joined in that concern and the TCA said they would address it.
- One community suggestion at the August meeting was an after-school, equestrian camp for kids. The suggestion was added to the TCA’s list of possible programs.
- The COO of the TCA was at the meeting and said they were not going to allow a stable or horse operation.
- The TCA did clear the brush
- The TCA said they were still working on the "plan" but that ETI and the community would remain a "stakeholder" because of our immediate support and willingness to organize the community for input
- ETI called the TCA in November to see how things were going. We decided to talk more in 2019.
- ETI called the TCA in early 2019. The TCA asked to meet at the site.
- We met in January 2019. The TCA shared their plan to remove all the corrals but keep the hay barn, one round pen and the water tank on the hill to "preserve" the equestrian heritage. ETI offered support to receive the removed corrals so that they could be donated to horse rescues and offer them at deeply discounted rates (as a fundraiser) to the community.
- ETI invited the TCA to come to another ETI meeting to share their vision with the community. We agreed to April 4th...
- The TCA did a fantastic job at the meeting (all things considered). Of the FIVE things we originally requested, we got some version of FOUR of them!
  - trail access and equestrian use - **YES** (but limited, but opening some areas in 2019)

- Maxwell Stables or Hanaeleh Horse Rescue - **NO**
- community farm - **YES** (citrus orchard for the public)
- preserve heritage - **YES** (round pen, hay barn and water tank)
- trail connection between O'Neill Regional Park and the off-limits OCTA property - **YES**
- It's important to remember that the TCA is buying this land for mitigation and they are accountable to the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the CA Fish and Wildlife Service, the US Army Corp of Engineers and other agencies. The TCA has specific use guidelines, but we think they've done a good job of respecting the community, our equestrian lifestyle and preserving what they can.
- The plan right now is for ETI to receive all the covers and panels and deliver them to community members at deeply discounted rates (to cover expenses and as a fundraiser for the club).
- The plan is to donate as much as ETI can to horse rescues in Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties including delivery.
- The balance of the panels and covers will be sold at deeply discounted rates to the community and slightly higher to residents of the adjacent counties (we're going to advertise)
- ETI has secured a 24-foot truck and staff to DELIVER the panels to the rescues and others than want delivery (for a small fee to cover costs)