Miranda Benson

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Kari Ehresman <kehresman@lewispalmer.org> Wednesday, December 11, 2024 7:27 AM PCD Hearings Monument Hill Road Closure Follow up

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Dear El Paso County Commissioners,

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I am writing regarding the proposed "Monument Ridge East" development project and its potential impact on traffic and safety near Palmer Ridge High School.

As a staff member and parent at Palmer Ridge, I am concerned about the plan to close Monument Hill/Frontage Road and redirect traffic through Misty Acres. This change would significantly increase congestion, especially during school hours, creating challenges for students, staff, and families attempting to access or leave the school safely. The lower lot will see more accidents leaving the lot as more people will have no choice but to head south out of the school causing kids leaving the student parking lot (south lot) to take more chances on trying to enter significantly increased traffic, at a higher speed, heading south on Monument Hill Road. The additional traffic will also increase risks for those entering the upper parking lot from Misty Acres, causing severe backups into the neighborhood. This also will cause issues with students who live in that neighborhood and walk to school, who will then face more traffic at all intersections and therefore be more dangerous on foot.

Additionally, the traffic study conducted for this project appears incomplete, as it does not account for school-time traffic patterns. I urge the commissioners to reconsider this plan and work towards a solution that addresses these safety and accessibility concerns.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Kari Ehresman kehresman@lewispalmer.org Assistant Principal Secretary Palmer Ridge High School 719-867-8165