



Mid-Coast Fire Brigade
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Date: October 6, 2014

To: Saba Engineer, M.S., P.E.
 Senior Civil Engineer
 Community Development

From: Cheryl Goetz
 Fire Chief
 Mid-Coast Fire Brigade

Subject: Road Naming – Weston Ridge Road, A Private Road

Per our discussion this letter is to oppose the naming of Weston Ridge Road as an official name. The road in question has gone by the name of Garrapata Ridge Road for many years. It is listed in our official area response map books that are shared and used by Cal Fire, the United States Forest Service, as well as being listed as such on “Google Maps”. Unfortunately, when you zoom in on Garrapata Ridge Road the name shows as Garrapatos Ridge Road which is incorrect.

The gentleman in question that would like to change the name of the road believes that this will solve a emergency agency response problem, despite our appeal to him that this will only confuse the issue. The houses on this road are currently addressed off of Highway 1. When the call comes in for emergency services the 9-1-1 caller gives a Garrapata Ridge Road and/or Highway 1 address. We have spoken to some of the residents that do not want the name changed and have vowed to continue to use Garrapata Ridge Road. Some residents vow that they will continue to use their Highway 1 address as they do not want to have to change numerous documents and banks accounts, etc. We as the local emergency responders feel that this will just add to the confusion as additional emergency responders try to locate a road that is no longer signed (Garrapata Ridge Road) and potentially delay critical emergency services.

I have been the Fire Chief since 2000 and involved with the Fire Brigade since 1997 and we have never had an issue of locating a residence on Garrapata Ridge Road. We have only has problems with access as the gate that was installed does not meet the county standard with the appropriate Fire Department access lock. Changing the name of the road will cause a hardship to the Fire Brigade as numerous maps will have to be reprinted at a significant expense for us and responding agencies. The delay in someone (who is this someone- this is left to each property owner who if opposed will not do this) taking the time to correct the current 9-1-1 ANI/ALI (automatic name and location information attached to each phone number) as well as the corrections to responses for Fire Com in Salinas and Cal Fires mapping dispatch systems which could potentially have disastrous impacts in the interim.

Thank you.

Cheryl Goetz
 Chief
 Mid Coast Fire Brigade