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To: [CityClerk](#)
Subject: COUNCIL MEETING THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12
Date: Wednesday, December 11, 2024 6:56:13 PM

The residents of Kaufman & Broad and Shepherd Lane neighborhoods have been complaining about breathing problems, damage to pools along with their increased maintenance, and other issues created when the development began. Most problems are caused by disturbance of the sand/soil and/or the green fixative sprayed down to hold the illegal and unnecessary man-made escarpment in place. Refuge Palm Desert representatives, when contacted by individuals with complaints, have been obfuscating, saying the problems are a result of Hurricane Hilary, and the city contact has not returned emails or phone calls. It is rich that the Refuge people would bring up the Hurricane Hilary flooding as they have created a flooding hazard behind the two bordering neighborhoods when we get the big rain event.

What do we want?

We would like the council to instruct the city staff to schedule, at the first opportunity, a neighborhood meeting with Refuge developers regarding the planning and planting of the “meandering walkway” directly behind our neighborhood homes. (We do not care how they landscape the remainder of their development.)

At the meeting we would like to see from the developer a rendering of the wall planned for the areas behind our neighborhoods on top of the escarpment. We would also want a statement in writing from the developer that it will be a six-foot-high wall rather than a galvanized tubular “view fence” on those “view lots,” as described on their plans.

After agreeing about the types and numbers of plants, we would like the walkways to be completed and planted immediately.

We would like the city to maintain the landscaped walkways until such time as the Palm Desert Refuge/Del Webb Explore community homeowner association can take over that function.

We do not feel our requests are unreasonable considering the developer, in collusion with city staff, violated state law by building the unnecessary and offensive elevated structure behind the Kaufman & Broad and Shepherd Lane communities creating a public nuisance, potential flooding, and the elimination of a wonderful view for the up-to-thirty-year existing residents.

Jana Bennehoof Koroczynsky