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LETTER RECEIVED  
RE LODI WILDER-  
NESS AREA

City Clerk Reimche presented the following letter which had been received from Joyce N. Sullivan regarding Lodi's Wilderness Area:

"Dear Council Members:

I am heartsick.

I just returned from a walk through Lodi's wilderness area adjacent to Lodi Lake. I could hardly believe what I saw.

It looked like a bull dozer had run through the length of the area clearing everything away for a two lane highway. All plant life over 6 inches tall was totally destroyed in the path of this destruction including the willows, cattails, and horse tail reeds. This plant life provided shelter and food for animal life. The wilderness area is hardly a wilderness anymore.

The week before this latest travesty the park maintenance plowed up a huge swath of land at the base of the levy for a fire line taking with it incredible varieties of lush wild flowers in full bloom. I understand the necessity for this, but this latest action is intolerable.

A mere six years ago my family and I saw deer and foxes frequently in the wilderness area. Since the paved path went into the area they've left, never to return.

I consider that area as one of Lodi's most precious interests - sacred - rather like entering a church. When I see the kind of destruction I saw today it reminded me of some vandals throwing paint on beautiful stained glass windows and walls of a church.

Hopefully, you as a council will educate yourselves as to what a wilderness area is and the do's and don'ts of maintaining such an area. An excellent resource person to talk with would be Steve Stocking, a Botanist teaching at Delta Community College. I have a hunch that if the city were to ask for consulting services in regard to Lodi's wilderness area the Community College would co-operate.

It was a very silent spring day in our wilderness area today. The frogs weren't even croaking.

Very truly yours,

s/Joyce N. Sullivan"

City Manager Peterson indicated that he had toured the area and commented on his observations. Mayor Hinchman asked the City Manager to contact Mrs. Sullivan regarding his findings.

RECEIVED

DATE: APR 11 1985

April 9, 1985

ALICE M. REIMCHE  
CITY CLERK  
CITY OF LODI

Joyce N. Sullivan  
1819 Edgewood Dr.  
Lodi, CA 95240

Lodi City Councilmembers  
Lodi City Hall  
Lodi, CA 95240

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