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## **HARD WORK PAYS OFF FOR COALITION OF NEIGHBORS AND LOCAL DEVELOPER**

*Project highlights the splendor of the Santiago Creek and its surrounding communities*

Orange Park Acres, CA – JMI Properties/Santiago Partners is pleased to announce the details of the much-anticipated proposal for the former Sully Miller and Hanson Aggregates properties in East Orange on the north side of Santiago Canyon Road.

The project is a collaboration of ideas and planning resulting from over a year and half of meetings with community members who had formed a coalition that deals with land development issues in East Orange.

“We are pleased to present this amazing opportunity for our community that provides one of the largest open space dedications in the city of Orange,” said John Martin, developer and Orange Park Acres resident. “It is an honor to have the support of such a dedicated volunteer group who only has the best interests of the community at heart.”

Over the last several years, Martin, along with other investors, assembled the 108.7-acre site in order to offer a more community-friendly planning process with local and first-time single ownership of these parcels.

Rio Santiago proposes 78 acres of both passive and recreational open space including, sports fields, equestrian facilities, trails and trail connectivity. Most impressive is the proposed Santiago Creek preservation. Three-quarters of a mile of trails will allow the community to enjoy beautiful views of the creek in its current natural state. The project, completed with a senior living component, brings entire families together.

“Rio Santiago celebrates one of the largest recreational opportunities for Orange, while providing a much-needed new housing opportunity for our seniors,” Martin continued. “Our goal with Rio Santiago is to bring families together in a variety of ways.”

“This plan for the former Sully-Miller sand and gravel site represents what a community can do when they sit down and work together on a plan that is mutually acceptable. Surrounding neighborhoods and several organizations concerned with Santiago Creek and parks/open space participated in a 2-year effort working with the developer to arrive at a workable plan for this site,” stated Shirley L. Grindle, Member of Orange Citizens for Parks/Schools and part of the Coalition. “This plan provides for ball fields and other recreational uses which are sorely needed in Orange, and also includes a Senior Living Community that no doubt many of us will find ourselves in need of in the future.”

The Coalition consists of Orange Citizens for Parks and Schools, represented by Grindle and Greg Holcomb, Santiago Creek Greenway Alliance, represented by John Moore, president, and Kirk Winterroth, the Mabury Ranch Home Owners' Association, represented by Dan Swoish, president, and Sue Obermayer, Environmental Committee Chair, and Jamestown, represented by Nick Terpstra.

In the future, an extension of Santiago Oaks Park is possible, allowing connectivity of the natural trail system. In addition, the gravel operation will cease to exist, relieving Santiago Canyon Road of the current construction truck traffic once and for all.

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Included graphics:

Bubble plan of site

Santiago Creek preservation