# Written Comments for

# **Regular Public Comment Section**

# - Consent Agenda

- Non Agenda Items

From:	Mark Ruane
То:	Don Horsley; CEO BoardFeedback
Subject:	Re: Opposed to Truth Act - Creates Victims -Karina Castro Jose Landaeta
Date:	Friday, December 9, 2022 11:01:42 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Here is my initial email sent prior to the meeting so as to clarify. You requested support, I provided along with some like minded voters. I like to support law enforcement but it becomes a challenge with elected officials who seem to want to obfuscate and not answer the questions that are put forth.

Please let me know if you need me to clarify what I am asking.

On Wed, Nov 9, 2022 at 3:56 PM Mark Ruane <<u>microsales650@gmail.com</u>> wrote: Supervisors Pine, Horsley, Groom, Slocum, Canepa and Mgr Callaghy.

Last November, when then Sheriff Bolanos made the decision to not report foreign nationals to ICE, (I assume it was with the hopes of keeping his job), to no longer work with ICE I had sent all of you an email regarding the "Truth Act". I had phone discussions with DA Wagstaff, Sheriff Bolanos, and Mgr. Callaghy. I expressed how I believed that this policy would create more victims in the most underserved demographic of our county. The idea of the "Truth Act" as explained to me by the Sheriff and Mgr Callaghy was that after serving their sentence, the felons should be allowed to "return home", same as it would be for a US citizen. When I asked Mgr. Callaghy about domestic spousal abusers, Mr. Callaghy answered, again, in affirmative to release, he further responded that alien felons should be released according to the law, and I was absolutely shocked. I asked him to clarify if this was to be applied to domestic abusers, and his response was again in the affirmative. Mgr. Callaghy was kind enough to email a list of Ice reportees prior to TRUTH, I am still unclear why he felt compelled to call me at home as I had not emailed him. I was told he works for the board. I assume it was a request by a member who preferred, understandably, to not go on record, another reason for a call not an email.

This type of callous response creates victims and leaves the most underserved of our county. This leaves poor communities open to violent repeat offenders who prey on immigrants who rely on police to remove dangerous felons from their community. Instead gang members and domestic abusers are returned to the communities that they have been victimizing prior to arrest. Why would you do that?

Sadly, my email warnings and phone calls in 2021 to the board members, (Slocum, Groom, Pine, Horsley, Canepa) went largely ignored in November of 2021, only Supes. Horsley and Groom responded from the board of sworn elected officials. Staffers affirmed that they supported the Truth Act.

My prediction from Nov 2021, regarding the TRUTH ACT proved 100% correct sooner, (and more brutally), than I had expected, and was illustrated by a horrific homicide that unfolded in San Carlos, (District 3 Horsley), and made National Headlines. On September 8th, the quiet little town of San Carlos was the location of a brutal domestic homicide. A crime so violent that even veteran sheriff's deputies sought counseling.

In case you have forgotten, a violent habitual offender named Jose Solano Landaeta, 33, a citizen of Venezuela, with a history of drug and alcohol abuse beheaded his 27 year old girlfriend in broad daylight in front of her 2 children on Laurel Street in San Carlos with a Samurai Sword. Karina Castro had just returned from the store with her children after she had also had an angry verbal exchange with Mr Landaeta the father of her youngest child. The argument was an escalation as purportedly Ms. Castro knew of Mr. Landaeta's child abuse history and other behaviors that was embarrassing to Mr. Landaeta, and he became enraged.

Despite Ms. Castro having a TRO, Mr. Landaeta got in his car, made a 30 minute drive to San Carlos, and brutally executed Karina, a San Mateo County Resident and Native. San Mateo County Law Enforcement had been to Karina's residence over 10 times for domestic calls. Mr Landaeta was residing in the US on an expired tourist visa, he has a criminal record that included raping a girl younger than three years old and served three years of probation this crime was when he resided in San Francisco, the same sanctuary city that is providing guidance and the legal advocacy group that are pushing these dangerous "Truth " policies in San Mateo that ultimately cost Karina her life and left her children as orphans.

The Cost of Truth from Example Above

1. Karina was brutally Executed by a violent Felon that should have been deported.

2. The Police Responded multiple times to the home that Karina shared with Jose 3. Each Police call for service costs the taxpayers money for a violent felon who should be deported.

4. Incarcerating Mr. Landaeta is now a cost burden that could have been avoided

5. two young children now are victims and need counselling

6. Deputies who responded required counseling after seeing the result of Mr Landaeta with a samurai sword.

If you approve this policy, you will have more victims when the violent felon "Goes Home" as the county manager stated. Even Nancy Pelosi's husband, Paul Pelosi fell victim to a violent criminal alien from Canada (DePape).

The past policy, while not perfect, should be enforced. Violent Criminal Felons should not be released back to menace society ,violent felons should be reported to ICE. As Supervisors you have a duty to protect the communities who voted you into office, why you would prefer to keep people like Mr. Landaeta at the risk posed to the community is questionable. Violence is on the rise, its on the ballot as it is a key concern for many Americans if polling is correct. The reality is that even if these criminals are reported to ICE the vast majority are not deported, and that in of itself should lead the board to vote against this act.

If one violent homicide is enough, even though I have other local examples, one from just over a week ago, Paul Pelosi, and the Bologna Family in SF, as well as Kate Steinle SF, to name three that come immediately to mind.

Will you vote to support law enforcement, protect citizens, and community members, or will you continue to support and release violent criminals like Mr. Landaeta?

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Ruane

San Carlos, CA

From:	Alice Newton
To:	CEO BoardFeedback
Cc:	Warren Slocum; David Canepa; Don Horsley; Dave Pine; Carole Groom; rdmueller@menlopark.org; dcombs@menlopark.org; Nicholas Calderon
Subject:	The Plan to "Realize Flood Park"
Date:	Friday, December 9, 2022 4:10:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

#### Hello to each of you,

I have lived on Del Norte Avenue immediately adjacent to Flood Park for 35 years. We love the woodland of this park and we also value sports having raised two children who played soccer and baseball. Many neighbors have also lived here for decades and visit the park regularly. Since the Reimagine/Realize Flood Park plans began in 2015, some neighbors have diligently studied the park plans and documents, informed others, and have written and spoken to you. We look forward to the new Plan, but we also want to protect the immediate neighbors from excessive noise and traffic generated by new amenities. During the last year, the Parks Dept. and designer have made significant alternations to the Plan in response to input from these neighbors and many other concerned people for which we are grateful. <u>However, there are still a few aspects of the Plan that I hope will be addressed to benefit both neighbors and other users.</u>

The Parks Dept's 11/5/22 public input meeting in the park was attended by about 15 people. Those people were mostly people I know from Del Norte Ave and nearby streets as well as some others who care deeply about how the new Plan will both fulfill public desires and what the impact will be on the immediate neighborhoods. These people have been carefully studying the Plans for years and offering informed suggestions, a number of which have been adopted. Yet, important questions and concerns remain about the Plan many of which were voiced on Nov. 5th

My view is that this current version of the Plan is very good in many ways, but there are areas of serious concern regarding noise to Del Norte neighbors especially from proximity of pickleball and the smaller ballfield that has a sideline very near the 100' buffer line when used by kids under 10 years old (U10). The sideline is where coaches, extra players, and spectators will sit and yell. Refs will blow whistles there. That field is marked for two U10 fields with no spectator space between them. In my soccer experience, spectators and coaches sit at the midline so this narrow space between the sideline and the 100' buffer line is the only place for them. In addition, there are two drop-in picnic sites within the 100' buffer zone near that sideline each of which has 2-3 tables. No doubt sports families will be there and be noisy. I request: 1) Seating not be allowed within the buffer zone which could be accomplished by moving the new planned path so as to be right on the 100' buffer line and planting next to the

path within the buffer so chairs can't be put there. 2) Move those two drop-in picnic sites to the endzone areas of that field. 3) There is no path on the Plan that goes directly from the back parking lot to the smaller fields. The only way is along the long meandering path near the 100' buffer line. People would not be able to watch players reach the small fields. To me, it looks possible to put a new fairly direct visible path between the parking lot and the seating area they're going to be built at the northern side of the two U10 fields/one U12.

<u>Re: pickleball noise</u> - Pickleball is a terrific new sport, but its loud repetitive popping noise has been extensively written up in national as well as local papers as a major noise problem for neighbors. The Plan can lessen this potential noise problem. 1) Nicholas Calderon, Parks Director, insists that they will have just two pickleball courts, one on each of the two tennis courts. But, they could put two pickleball courts on the tennis court farthest from the 100' buffer line and reserve the other court for tennis. 2) Nicholas said they don't want to put noise-absorbing covers on the fence surrounding the pickleball court because they don't want to create a place where people can't be seen. <u>But they could at least cover the fence toward</u> <u>Del Norte Avenue</u>. Nicholas also said they would allow pickleball between 10 am and closing time. Therefore, neighbors need all sound mitigations possible. If planting considerations along the Del Norte Ave. properties could be specifically sound-absorbing types (native plants of course), it could be a major protection to Del Norte Ave. neighbors from noise from both of the above noisy sports plus other park activities.

One of the main aspects of Nicholas's presentation will be to explain <u>what will happen in each</u> <u>of the 3 phases</u> of construction. They will redo all picnic sites in Phase I which means no picnic sites will be available for about a year which will be a big loss since they are fully booked during good weather months. Perhaps they could to half at a time or do them during the off season. . .It is also puzzling why they don't plan to build the larger soccer/baseball field in Phase I since it is Summit and Everest High Schools in NFO that lack fields and baseball players have begged for this field. Taft and Hoover elementary schools have fields.

There is a <u>section of the park between the park maintenance area and Greenwood Avenue</u> <u>that I think should be used by the park, but it hasn't even been visible on the Plan maps</u>. The maintenance area could be extended nearly to Greenwood Ave. with no loss to the Suburban Park community perhaps allowing for a few more parking spaces for park users. The designers are going to redesign the park entrance and this could be part of the Plan.

<u>Re: volleyball courts:</u> The two sand volleyball courts were built in the last few years. Two regular volleyball courts are also in the park, one of which has been used M-F after work for decades by a group of Latino men and their families. Sometimes they are there on weekends too. I know that local schools teach regular volleyball. The Plan eliminates the regular courts, but sand volleyball and regular volleyball are not the same. I urge you to find a way to have both types of volleyball in Flood Park.

<u>Trees:</u> 64 trees are now the number they say will be removed. Some are already dying, but some are healthy trees. The Parks Dept. is studying what will be the best varieties to plant to replace those removed. Almost 4000 local people signed a petition to save the woodland trees. The Sierra Club and Sequoia Audubon Society also requested this and the woodland got saved. Trees are vital to Flood Park and the public remains concerned and interested in the preservation, replanting, and care of the park's ecosystem. Please ensure funding for this care.

I've heard that the MP Fire Dept. wants to make a vehicle gate at the Bay Road pedestrian gate near Del Norte Ave. which I assume would be only for their use like the vehicle gates on Iris Lane to which emergency responders have keys. This makes sense to me. The emergency gates at Iris Lane and the parking lots are some distance from the interior of the park. Also, in an emergency, if vehicles of responders have to navigate around moving cars in the parking lots, it could delay them getting to the site of need. Would the pathways have to wider than on the current Plan to accomodate these vehicles? Can this gate be added since it is not in the EIR? I would only want this new vehicle gate to be used for emergency responders.

<u>The pump track</u> will be fun and popular, especially for teens. I am concerned that its the location in the far NE corner of the park is not readily visible to the rangers and most park users and thus is less safe than if it were more centrally located.

Anticipated speeding cars and parking on Del Norte Ave. and nearby streets by sports players and park users using the pedestrian gate on Iris Lane remains a concern.

Welsome to the new Supervisors.\* Thank you for helping to make Flood Park better and better for all.

\*Ms. Groom - Please forward this to your successor. I can't find her email address. Thank you.

Alice Newton 1023 Del Norte Ave. Menlo Park

From:	pandagolf@aol.com
То:	CEO BoardFeedback
Cc:	Warren Slocum; David Canepa; Don Horsley; Dave Pine; Carole Groom; rdmueller@menlopark.org; dcombs@menlopark.org; Nicholas Calderon
Subject:	Re: The Plan to "Realize Flood Park"
Date:	Friday, December 9, 2022 6:59:09 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Please forward to Carole Groom's successor. I do not have that email address. Thank you.

I can't attend nor zoom into the upcoming meeting to review the Flood Park Plan; so I hope you will enter these comments about the project into the official record of your meeting and/or comments for the meeting.

I have attended several meetings chaired by the County staff, and I have contributed to them by voice and email. I hope you will consider these comments in the spirit that they are intended.

I concur with Alice Newton's comments below, and I commend her for serving on the working group established by the County for this massive project.

I do think keeping picnic areas open, as Ron Snow has suggested, or at least many of them, through the summer and fall months once construction begins should be part of Phase One, and building out sports fields, or many of them on the East side of the park, should happen earlier in the process than planned, some as part of Phase One.

#### My concerns with and wishes for the plan are that:

--traffic on Bay Road, Marsh Road and Ringwood, during commute hours, may be heavily impacted by families coming to participate in leagues when they turn into the park There is little provision for left hand turns into the park when coming from Marsh, and that will cause backups, especially during commute hours. Is a left-hand turn area needed? Is there little room for one? Pre-Covid, it was hard to move along Bay Road from 4:15-5:30 p.m. as cars backed up getting to Marsh and to Willow, fed by Ringwood and residents in Atherton and Menlo Oaks. Sometimes it took 20 minutes to go 7 or 8 blocks.

--medium size and small trees will be removed because they are not "significant". They may be 10, 20 or 30 years old, but they are much further along than any replacement trees will ever be in replacing the canopy being removed by the many planned tree removals. Don't cut down these trees (even if non-native) just because they are smaller than significant or heritage trees. Please publish a list of all trees (with sizes) on the County website.

--this plan does not save as many healthy significant and heritage trees that it could.

--replacement trees should be oaks, natives and drought-resistant; non-ornamentals or non-natives, please, and that they won't be.

--the County will publish a list (with sizes) of replacement trees for every tree

removed and that the list appears on the County website.

--the County will not be so quick to cut down redwoods because they may require too much water. The park has never watered them; other trees survive around them. They have been part of Flood Park for many years and they provide and attract biodiversity to the park. Many have survived well through the several eras of drought years and will continue to in future years. If they are healthy, they should not be removed. They are established in the park.

--arborist reports should be provided for every significant or heritage tree and all trees over 10" in diameter that are to be removed. If trees are healthy, they should not be removed. Plans can adjust to the trees, particularly in the picnic areas, and sports fields are mostly not in wooded areas. Arborist reports are required for homeowners wanting to remove trees; so in the same spirit, the County should also provide arborist reports to the pubic on all large trees to be removed that are 10" in diameter and larger.

--the County is removing one of the best and much needed carbon sequestration tool that it has, and in an area that's right by a busy freeway. Does this plan help the County's or the State's plan to fight Climate Change? Trees are one of the best ways to eliminate carbon from the air; removing so many trees and replacing them with smaller trees is not a way to fight Climate Change.

Thank you for your consideration. We all want a Flood Park that works for people, wildlife and the environment. I hope your decisions will do just that!

Judy Horst Menlo Oaks Tree Advocacy

From: Alice Newton <alicenewton62@hotmail.com>

Sent: Friday, December 9, 2022 4:10 PM

To: boardfeedback@smcgov.org <boardfeedback@smcgov.org>

Cc: warren slocum <wslocum@smcgov.org>; David Canepa <dCanepa@smcgov.org>; Don Horsley <dHorsley@smcgov.org>; Dave Pine <dPine@smcgov.org>; Carole Groom <cGroom@smcgov.org>; rdmueller@menlopark.org <rdmueller@menlopark.org>; dcombs@menlopark.org <dcombs@menlopark.org>; ncalderon@smcgov.org <ncalderon@smcgov.org> Subject: The Plan to "Realize Flood Park"

Hello to each of you,

I have lived on Del Norte Avenue immediately adjacent to Flood Park for 35 years. We love the woodland of this park and we also value sports having raised two children who played soccer and baseball. Many neighbors have also lived here for decades and visit the park regularly. Since the Reimagine/Realize Flood Park plans began in 2015, some neighbors have diligently studied the park plans and documents, informed others, and have written and spoken to you. We look forward to the new Plan, but we also want to protect the immediate neighbors from excessive noise and traffic generated by new amenities. During the last year, the Parks Dept. and designer have made significant alternations to the Plan in response to input from these neighbors and many other concerned people for which we are grateful. However, there are still a few aspects of the Plan that I hope will be addressed to benefit both neighbors and other users.

The Parks Dept's 11/5/22 public input meeting in the park was attended by about 15 people. Those people were mostly people I know from Del Norte Ave and nearby streets as well as some others who care deeply about how the new Plan will both fulfill public desires and what the impact will be on the immediate neighborhoods. These people have been carefully studying the Plans for years and offering informed suggestions, a number of which have been adopted. Yet, important questions and concerns remain about the Plan many of which were voiced on Nov. 5th

My view is that this current version of the Plan is very good in many ways, but there are areas of serious concern regarding noise to Del Norte neighbors especially from proximity of pickleball and the smaller ballfield that has a sideline very near the 100' buffer line when used by kids under 10 years old (U10). The sideline is where coaches, extra players, and spectators will sit and yell. Refs will blow whistles there. That field is marked for two U10 fields with no spectator space between them. In my soccer experience, spectators and coaches sit at the midline so this narrow space between the sideline and the 100'buffer line is the only place for them. In addition, there are two drop-in picnic sites within the 100' buffer zone near that sideline each of which has 2-3 tables. No doubt sports families will be there and be noisy. 1 request: 1) Seating not be allowed within the buffer zone which could be accomplished by moving the new planned path so as to be right on the 100' buffer line and planting next to the path within the buffer so chairs can't be put there. 2) Move those two drop-in picnic sites to the endzone areas of that field. 3) There is no path on the Plan that goes directly from the back parking lot to the smaller fields. The only way is along the long meandering path near the 100' buffer line. People would not be able to watch players reach the small fields. To me. it looks possible to put a new fairly direct visible path between the parking lot and the seating area they're going to be built at the northern side of the two U10 fields/one U12.

<u>Re: pickleball noise</u> - Pickleball is a terrific new sport, but its loud repetitive popping noise has been extensively written up in national as well as local papers as a major noise problem for neighbors. The Plan can lessen this potential noise problem. 1) Nicholas Calderon, Parks Director, insists that they will have just two pickleball courts, one on each of the two tennis courts. But, they could put two pickleball courts on the tennis court farthest from the 100' buffer line and reserve the other court for tennis. 2) Nicholas said they don't want to put noise-absorbing covers on the fence surrounding the pickleball court because they don't want to create a place where people can't be seen. <u>But they could at least cover the fence toward Del Norte Avenue. Nicholas also said they would allow pickleball between 10 am and closing time. Therefore, neighbors need all sound mitigations possible. If planting considerations</u> along the Del Norte Ave. properties could be specifically sound-absorbing types (native plants of course), it could be a major protection to Del Norte Ave. neighbors from noise from both of the above noisy sports plus other park activities

One of the main aspects of Nicholas's presentation will be to explain <u>what will happen in each</u> <u>of the 3 phases</u> of construction. They will redo all picnic sites in Phase I which means no picnic sites will be available for about a year which will be a big loss since they are fully booked during good weather months. Perhaps they could to half at a time or do them during the off season. . .It is also puzzling why they don't plan to build the larger soccer/baseball field in Phase I since it is Summit and Everest High Schools in NFO that lack fields and baseball players have begged for this field. Taft and Hoover elementary schools have fields.

There is a <u>section of the park between the park maintenance area and Greenwood Avenue</u> <u>that I think should be used by the park, but it hasn't even been visible on the Plan maps</u>. The maintenance area could be extended nearly to Greenwood Ave. with no loss to the Suburban Park community perhaps allowing for a few more parking spaces for park users. The designers are going to redesign the park entrance and this could be part of the Plan.

<u>Re: volleyball courts:</u> The two sand volleyball courts were built in the last few years. Two regular volleyball courts are also in the park, one of which has been used M-F after work for decades by a group of Latino men and their families. Sometimes they are there on weekends too. I know that local schools teach regular volleyball. The Plan eliminates the regular courts, but sand volleyball and regular volleyball are not the same. I urge you to find a way to have both types of volleyball in Flood Park.

<u>Trees:</u> 64 trees are now the number they say will be removed. Some are already dying, but some are healthy trees. The Parks Dept. is studying what will be the best varieties to plant to replace those removed. Almost 4000 local people signed a petition to save the woodland trees. The Sierra Club and Sequoia Audubon Society also requested this and the woodland got saved. Trees are vital to Flood Park and the public remains concerned and interested in the preservation, replanting, and care of the park's ecosystem. Please ensure funding for this care.

I've heard that the MP Fire Dept. wants to make a vehicle gate at the Bay Road pedestrian gate near Del Norte Ave. which I assume would be only for their use like the vehicle gates on Iris Lane to which emergency responders have keys. This makes sense to me. The emergency gates at Iris Lane and the parking lots are some distance from the interior of the park. Also, in an emergency, if vehicles of responders have to navigate around moving cars in the parking lots, it could delay them getting to the site of need. Would the pathways have to wider than on the current Plan to accomodate these vehicles? Can this gate be added since it is not in the EIR? I would only want this new vehicle gate to be used for emergency responders. <u>The pump track</u> will be fun and popular, especially for teens. I am concerned that its the location in the far NE corner of the park is not readily visible to the rangers and most park users and thus is less safe than if it were more centrally located.

Anticipated speeding cars and parking on Del Norte Ave. and nearby streets by sports players and park users using the pedestrian gate on Iris Lane remains a concern.

Welsome to the new Supervisors.\* Thank you for helping to make Flood Park better and better for all.

\*Ms. Groom - Please forward this to your successor. I can't find her email address. Thank you.

Alice Newton 1023 Del Norte Ave. Menlo Park

From:	Brendan O"Connor Webster	
То:	CEO BoardFeedback	
Subject:	Reimagining Flood Park	
Date:	Sunday, December 11, 2022 8:08:27 PM	

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

#### Dear Board Members:

In anticipation of noise emanating from the Pickle Ball Courts, I am hopeful that you will choose to move them from the center of the park where they can be disruptive to the quiet life of nearby residents, to the west side of the park, close to Bay Road, where they will disturb no one.

Very best regards, Brendan Webster 1027 Del Norte Ave., Menlo Park, CA

--

Brendan O'Connor Webster, M.A., CCC, BCS-CL

Speech/Language Pathologist, CA License #3224

Board Certified Specialist in Child Language

CEO, Center for Speech, Language, Occupational Therapy, and Applied Behavior Analysis

www.cslot.com,

510-794-5155

The information contained in this transmittal may be confidential. It is intended only for the use of the individual to whom it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient, or the employee, or agent responsible to deliver the transmittal to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that the use, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmittal in error, please notify the sender immediately.

From:	Carolyn Ordonez	
To:	CEO BoardFeedback	
Cc:	dcombs@menlopark.org; Ray Mueller	
Subject:	Flood park construction	
Date:	Monday, December 12, 2022 9:36:11 AM	
Date:	Monday, December 12, 2022 9:36:11 AM	

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Dear Representatives,

As a neighbor of Flood Park I am asking for the construction traffic to be limited to Marsh Road to Flood Park and Flood Park to Marsh Road.

There are many reasons. There are few houses on that stretch of Bay Road that are close to the street. The Willow Road to Flood Park stretch of Bay Road has houses next to the roadbed on both sides of Bay Road.

The pavement on Bay Road from Berkeley Avenue to Ringwood is in poor shape. The pavement condition index is 34 out of 100. There is no indication from the city of Menlo Park that the pavement is going to be improved anytime soon.

Bay Road from Willow to Ringwood is well traveled by Belle Haven neighbors getting to Menlo Atherton High School. This stretch generally has much more traffic than the Marsh Road end of Bay Road.

Thank you. I hope this request will be considered.

Carolyn Ordonez

#### **CEO\_BoardFeedback**

From:	contact@FloodPark.org
Sent:	Monday, December 12, 2022 3:53 PM
То:	Dave Pine; Don Horsley; David Canepa
Cc:	contact@FloodPark.org; Nicholas Calderon; Michael Callagy; Ann Stillman; CEO_BoardFeedback
Subject:	Dec 13th BOS Mtg #82: Please advocate for a better and more responsible Phase 1 Plan for Flood Park

#### CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

#### Dear Supervisors,

I am asking you to support a revision to the Flood Park Phase 1 plan that will deliver the promised youth sports at Flood Park as soon as possible. It will accelerate the delivery of these sports fields for area youth and youth team sport groups by more than a year or more. If this is not done, the risk of future economic downturn and recession could slow and delay these promised and needed resource. On the Dec 6th BOS, the threat of harder financial times were brought up and there it seemed everyone was warned about that potential.

It is so important that the sports fields side of the park be developed first. Supervisors have a commitment to the area youth and youth groups to address the lack of sports fields issue. So I am hoping you request Parks to make the development of that sports field side of the park the 1st phase priority so that those young players, teams, and coaches actually get the fields they need as soon as possible. (See illustration below) Please do this now while we have the funds to do so with out delay or risk.

By focusing Phase 1 on the sports field side of the park, county will deliver the Pump Track, Baseball field, and the multi-sports fields, demonstration garden. and fixes to the back parking area right away. No pushing the youth sports down the proverbial road for even more years. They have waited too many years already!

Changing the Phase 1 plan is more than possible because the park already provides the other amenities that can service the public, families, groups, and individual activities that it has been delivering for the past decades: Picnic, playground, walking paths, volleyball, group areas, virtually all of the individual picnic spaces. All of these are fully functional will remain that way for several years with just normal minor maintenance.

However, if the current Phase 1 plan is not modified, although I am sure it will be argued as being important, we will again be doing a lot of spinning our wheels. The current plan doesn't deliver the baseball and large multipurpose fields for the local communities. Nor does it address the back parking lot issues. What the proposed Phase 1 plan does is replace existing picnic areas, yet the current picnic areas already can and will service the public for years to come. Same with the existing volleyball courts and walking paths. What we absolutely need is the baseball and field sports and the Parks Phase 1 plan as it stands, doesn't do that.

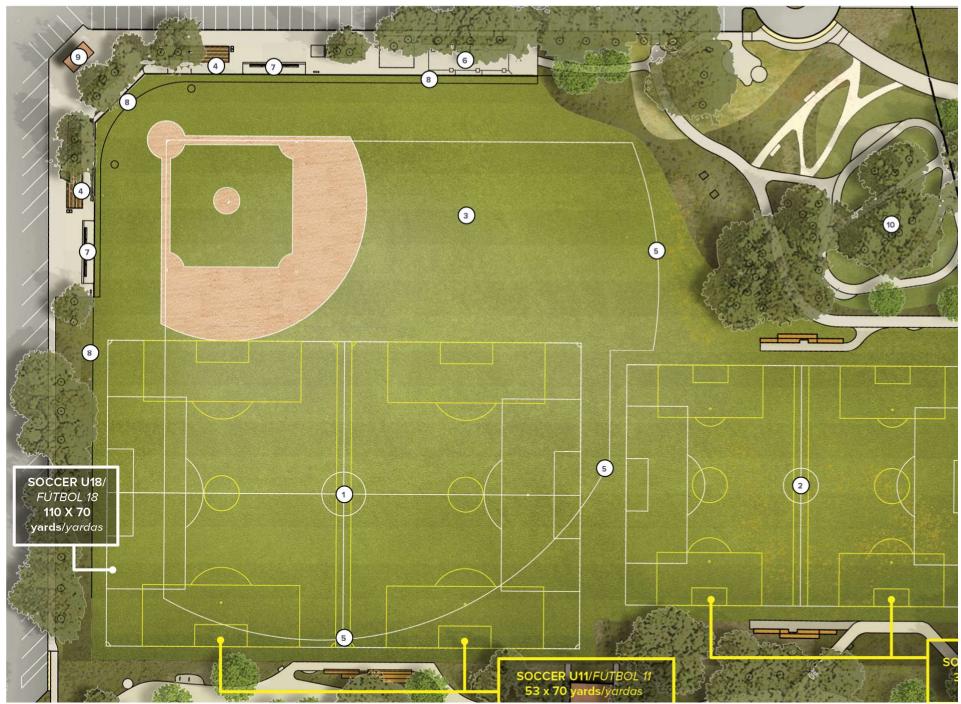
In my prior email, I left the impression that the park would have to be, for the most part, closed. I had meant that the park, as we know it, does not have to be fully or partially closed. Changing the Phase 1 plan simply focuses all of the development and construction in that sports field side of the park which is already either closed or not useable. It allows the existing park area to remain fully open.

It is important that when picnic areas are eventually updated, that a sub-phased approach to updating the picnic areas. Parks has indicated that that sub-phasing for picnic renovation will occur, we just don't have details on the sub-phasing. It makes sense that picnic areas should be done 1 or 2 picnic areas at a time to allow the majority of the picnic areas to remain open and usable.

Please provide the youth of our communities the fastest way to the sports fields they need.

Thank you, Ron

PS: below this is an illustration from Parks department showing that sports field side of the park. This is the sports field side of the park that I hope you will advocate for a Phase 1 plan.



## 

Ron Snow Flood Park Advocate Menlo Park, CA

Ph: 650.949.6658

From:	MARY PIMENTEL
То:	Don Horsley; Warren Slocum; Dave Pine; Carole Groom; David Canepa; CEO BoardFeedback
Cc:	menlo.mueller@gmail.com; Contact@floodpark.org; noelia@noelia4smc.org; Nicholas Calderon
Subject:	Making phase 1 of the Parke development about the development of the sports fields
Date:	Monday, December 12, 2022 4:39:05 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

I feel it is important to concentrate on the development of the ballfields for our youth of today. They have been so penalized due to Covid and other restrictive situations life presents. The existing part of the park that is so lovely can still be functional while working on the development of these sports fields for our kids. Please consider making that a priority. Thank you,

Mary E Pimentel.

Sent from my iPhone

# Written Public Comments for <u>Item No. 8</u>

December 13, 2022

Honorable Board of Supervisors 400 County Center, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Redwood City, CA 94063

RE: Recommendation to Adopt the Quarry County Park Master Plan

Honorable Board of Supervisors:

The San Mateo County Parks Commission writes in support of adoption of the Quarry County Park Master Plan ("Master Plan"), as presented by the Parks Department on December 13, 2022. Developed through a robust multi-year public engagement process that included five workshops, presentations to the Midcoast Community Council, and online surveys the Master Plan establishes a long-term vision for how the Department can preserve the unique environmental setting of the park, protect sensitive environmental systems, provide desired recreational opportunities, and promote a sustainable vision for the park.

In addition to and separate from the Master Plan engagement process, the Parks Commission Dog Park Subcommittee has held numerous well attended county wide public hearings regarding the on and off leash dog policy at Quarry Park, and the Midcoast Community Council has held standing room only public hearings where overwhelming support was shown for a pump track. Also there have been many presentations regarding wildfire fuel reduction projects, with much discussion of projects in Quarry Park.

In the six years this document has been developed, the Parks Department has advanced many community priorities, including construction of the pump track, implementation of the Off-Leash Dog Recreation Pilot Program, numerous wildfire fuel reduction projects, and expansion of the parking lot. Recreational opportunities for midcoast residents and visitors to the coast have expanded, with much community support. The Parks Department has consequently increased levels of active management at Quarry Park with the goal of safety not only for parks users, but also for neighbors.

The Parks Commission recognizes that more work is needed to enhance the trail system and signage in the park, improve visitor facilities and amenities to continue to provide experiences desired by the public, monitor, and manage park natural resources, and the Master Plan serves as an appropriate guide to accomplish these goals. Ongoing public input regarding activities at Quarry Park will of course be welcome, and we anticipate future community outreach going forward.

We advise that the Board of Supervisors to adopt the Quarry County Park Master Plan. Please let the Parks Commission know if you have any questions. Thank you. Respectfully,

Commissioner Jorge Laguna, Chair, District 1, San Mateo County Parks and Recreation Commission

CC: Commissioner Meda O. Okelo, Vice Chair, District 4 Commissioner Heather Green, District 2 Commissioner Neil Merrilees, District 3 Commissioner Basem Manneh, District 5

From:	<u>B Silveria</u>
To:	Don Horsley; Dave Pine; Carole Groom; Warren Slocum; David Canepa; CEO BoardFeedback
Cc:	fran pollard; <u>B Silveria</u>
Subject:	Adoption of the Quarry Park Master Plan Final Draft
Date:	Wednesday, December 7, 2022 2:25:07 PM
Attachments:	2. Attach B - 2021 Example of Seasonal Drainage Runoff from Quarry Park down Santa Maria Ave.mov 1. Attach A – Park Drainage Runoff, Flash Flood Risk, and Overflow Parking & Traffic.pdf 3. Attach C – Additional Fire Protection - Fuel Reduction.pdf 4. Attach D – Off-Leash Dog Play Area.pdf

#### CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

#### **Honorable Supervisors**

We, the neighbors of Quarry Park, believe certain community health & safety concerns need to be addressed before the proposed Quarry Park Master Plan Final Draft (November 2022) (MP) can be adopted.

Since the MP is expected to come before you for adoption in your next meeting on Dec 13th, we are resubmitting our previously submitted concerns in objection to the MP by this updated cover letter and the forwarded email below. For discussion of our raised concerns, please review again the attachments to that forwarded email below. (We had anticipated, in that email, the Quarry Park Master Plan would be placed before you in the Oct 18th meeting, per the Parks Dept website at the time - it unfortunately was not.)

The Midcoast Community Council recently, by letter to you, recommended adoption of the MP. However, in that letter, they also recognized and recommended that the Board take steps to allow review and development of a plan to address similar community concerns:

- Addressing drainage and runoff from Quarry Park onto community streets,
- Enforcing signs that say no dogs are allowed in the Children's Recreation Area,
- Controlling on street parking by park users, and
- Addressing wildfire risks in properties adjoining the Park.

The community concerns raised are of the same importance as the guiding programs and planned work contained in the MP and should be addressed. Viable solutions exist for our concerns, they just need to be recognized and implemented.

The community health & safety concerns originate from the Park, not elsewhere, and should be supported by you for further action and resolution. The community surrounding the Park matters and should not be left to face these problems alone.

We object to adoption of the proposed MP until our concerns are addressed. Please assure our concerns will be resolved before adopting the MP and, in doing so, support the concerns of the community that both surrounds and supports Quarry Park.

We thank you for your help and support.

(The community members submitting this cover letter and Attachs A & B are listed at the end of forwarded Attach A below. The community members submitting this cover letter and Attachs C & D are listed at the end of each of those forwarded attachments below.)

------ Forwarded message ------From: **B Silveria** <<u>times.locked@gmail.com</u>> Date: Wed, Oct 12, 2022 at 5:58 PM Subject: Quarry Park Master Plan Final Draft (August 2022) To: Don Horsley <<u>dhorsley@smcgov.org</u>>, <<u>dpine@smcgov.org</u>>, <<u>cgroom@smcgov.org</u>>, <<u>wslocum@smcgov.org</u>>, <<u>dcanepa@smcgov.org</u>>, <<u>boardfeedback@smcgov.org</u>>, Cc: fran pollard <<u>LPFP@comcast.net</u>>, Russell Bigelow <<u>Russell.bigelow3@gmail.com</u>>, James Ahl <<u>Jwa4Fish@icloud.com</u>>, <<u>nealsolloway@yahoo.com</u>>, Libby Roberts <<u>asta@stanford.edu</u>>, <<u>Sweeneytds@gmail.com</u>>, <<u>pjhardwoods@yahoo.com</u>>, <<u>Leni@sanmateo.org</u>>, B Silveria <<u>times.locked@gmail.com</u>>

#### **Honorable Board Members**

We, the neighbors of Quarry Park, believe certain community concerns need to be addressed before the proposed Quarry Park Master Plan Final Draft (August 2022) (MP) can be approved.

The MP set to be before you on Oct 18th of 2022 neglects the health & safety concerns of surrounding residents to the Park. These concerns were previously raised as feedback to the Quarry Park Master Plan Draft for Public Review (April 2022). These concerns are raised again here in objection to approval of the MP and are supported by the following attachments:

Attach A – Park Drainage Runoff, Flash Flood Risk, and Overflow Parking & Traffic

- Attach B 2021 Example of Seasonal Drainage Runoff from Quarry Park down Santa Maria Ave. (*Video*)
- Attach C Additional Fire Protection / Fuel Reduction

Attach D – Off-Leash Dog Play Area

These concerns originate from the Park - <u>not</u> from the surrounding neighborhood.

The MP contains many guiding programs and plans to address Park issues over the next 20 yrs. The health & safety concerns we raised are of the same importance and should be addressed by the MP.

We object to approval of the proposed MP until these concerns are addressed. Please

assure that the health & safety concerns raised by the community will be resolved before moving the MP on to approval.

Hopefully, the Board was able to review the results from the recent online survey conducted for the MP and related public comments received during the feedback period that closed on June 6th of 2022. Any shift in public sentiment should be considered. We were not able to find where that valuable response from the public was available. [Note, 12/7/2022 - now available]

Thank you for your support.

(The community members submitting this cover letter and Attachs A & B are listed at the end of Attach A. The community members submitting this cover letter and Attachs C & D are listed at the end of each of those attachments.)

#### We, the neighbors to Quarry Park, Object

We object to approval of the proposed Quarry Park (QP) Master Plan Final Draft (August 2022) (MP) because health and safety concerns raised and recognized in both community outreach meetings in 2017 & 2018 and again in 2022 are not addressed.

The health and safety concerns originating from the Park but not addressed are:

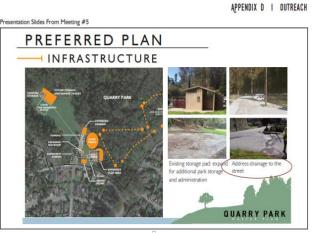
- Reduction of Park drainage runoff that floods residential streets and properties,
- Management of flash flood risk to adjacent homes, and
- Control of overflow parking and traffic impacts on surrounding neighbors.

#### Park drainage runoff

In addition to being repeatedly raised and recognized in 2017 & 2018 outreach meetings, community response to the 2017 online survey overwhelmingly favored, by 79%, management of Park drainage runoff and sediment.<sup>1</sup> As a result, the community's ultimate Preferred Plan stressed, under Infrastructure, the need to address Park drainage runoff to residential streets.<sup>2</sup>

Further, in Appendix B to the MP, the technical consultant, PWA, documented <u>that</u> residents reported Park runoff had resulted in flooding a large portion of the neighborhood during peak storm events and <u>that</u> the runoff poses a potential for damages to downstream residential and municipal properties.<sup>3</sup> PWA went on: (1) to confirm that a <u>majority</u> of the Park's 500+ acres<sup>4</sup> of drainage runs into residential streets at the Park's entrance and (2) to declare such Park drainage runoff an "Area of Concern" needing resolution.<sup>5</sup>

In 2022, in response to requested public feedback on the initial draft of the Master Plan, we again voiced our concern over Park drainage runoff flooding our residential streets and properties.



MP Appendix D at p.493, pdf p.385

APPENDIX B I WATERSHED ASSESSMENT AND EROSION PREVENTION PLAN

Appendix D April 2018



Photo 35 (Urban Drainage Interface - AOC 2): View of uncontrolled Class II stream flow exiting the Park at Santa Maria Avenue (AOC2, Map 2). Combined flow from the stream and road surface runoff travel down Stanta Maria Ave. The majority of the Park's drainage area evacuates the Property into the residential area downstream at this location.

MP Appendix B at p.321, pdf p.213

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> MP Appendix D at p.483, pdf p.375

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> MP Appendix D at p.493, pdf p.385

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> MP Appendix B at p.224, pdf p.116 (AOC 2)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> MP p.12, pdf p.24 (Quarry & Wicklow)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> MP Appendix B at p.224, pdf p.116 & at p.321, pdf p.213 (AOC 2)

To all of the preceding, the MP responded with one sentence:

The "Parks Department has limited ability to modify the amount of [Park] runoff ... aside from ... [planned] erosion/sediment/culvert improvements."<sup>6</sup>

However, the planned improvements, particularly for culverts, are designed to dump more runoff onto residential streets<sup>7</sup>, not reduce it (see example in footnote).<sup>8</sup> With improvements planned at 74 locations<sup>9</sup>, there's potential for a lot of added water runoff from the Park onto surrounding residential streets. The technical consultant, PWA, who suggested the planned improvements, provided no discussion of how to mitigate Park runoff.

#### For a video of circa 2021 Park runoff, see:

Attach B – 2021 Example of Quarry Park storm drainage runoff down Santa Maria

#### Flash flood risk

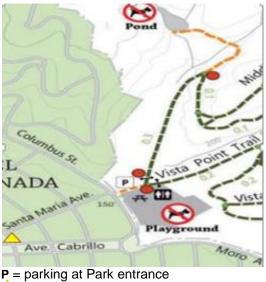
The reservoir was not a concern during the 2017 & 2018 outreach meetings because it was referred to as a "pond"<sup>10</sup>, not as a reservoir capable of holding over 3/4 of a million gallons of water<sup>11</sup>. We then discovered the "pond" was subject to the risk of flash flooding of up to 3 feet of water at the Park's entrance during: a "more likely" seismic failure of the dam from settlement or an overflow breach.<sup>12</sup>

So, as requested public feedback to the initial draft of the Master Plan, we voiced our concern.

The MP provided no response.



Santa Maria Ave circa 2017



a storm drain location in Santa Maria Ave
Pond = reservoir / dam

Columbus St. and then Santa Maria Ave.

- <sup>9</sup> MP Appendix B at p.217, pdf p.109 & MP p.92, pdf p.104
- <sup>10</sup> MP Appendix D at p.483, pdf p.375
- <sup>11</sup> MP Appendix C at p.336, pdf p.228 (2.4 acre-ft. = > 750,000 gals.)
- <sup>12</sup> MP Appendix C at p.335-336, pdf p.227-228

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> MP at p.79, pdf p.91

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> MP Appendix B at p.216, pdf p.108 (crossing culverts are sized to convey 100-year peak storm flow)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See for example location #23, MP Appendix B at p.259, pdf p.151 - The improvement directs construction of a larger culvert and enhanced channel definition to "contain the seasonal high flow volumes" – resulting in increased runoff onto

With the more and more likelihood of an extreme weather event or earthquake, breach of the reservoir/dam will result in homes being damaged or destroyed.

#### **Overflow parking & traffic**

As with runoff, we had repeatedly raised concerns in the 2017 & 2018 outreach meetings about overflow parking and traffic impacts from the Park's use. So much so, that the executive summary to the MP recognizes it as a "key issue raised by the community" and described the issue as:

Protection of neighbors from potential impacts of use intensification, <u>particularly</u> overflow parking.<sup>13</sup>

On a busy weekend, there may be overflow parking of as many as 35 to 40 vehicles parked on Columbus St. and Santa Maria Ave. - not to mention observed tour buses, sometimes with dozens of hikers. And, along with increased parking comes increased traffic and speeding on surrounding neighborhood streets.



Park entrance, Sept. 2022



Columbus St. (same day)



Santa Maria Ave. (same day)

In 2022, we again voiced our concern on this matter, as requested public feedback to the initial draft of the Master Plan. The MP provided no comment other than noting limited expansion of the existing parking lot by 18 stalls<sup>14</sup>, and that was in response to the pump track.

#### **Conclusion**

So four years after our concerns were voiced and recognized <u>in</u> the 2017 & 2018 community outreach meetings, <u>in</u> the 2018 Preferred Plan that resulted from the outreach meetings, and again <u>in</u> 2022:

- Community impact from Park use only focused on expansion of the existing parking lot in response to the pump track,
- The Parks Department stating it really couldn't do much about Park runoff,
- And, flash flood risk was not even mentioned in the body of the MP.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup>MP at p.IX, pdf p.11 (Emphasis added.)

That's why we object to the MP --- valid community concerns, supported by technical consultants to the MP, are not addressed.

These problems originate from the Park - not from the surrounding neighborhood. Yet, it is the surrounding residents that suffer. We are the ones that have to:

- Sand bag every year to protect our properties from Park runoff,
- Live with the fear of flash floods to our families and homes, and
- Endure increased parking, traffic, and speeding on our streets.

The MP contains many guiding programs and plans to address Park issues over the next 20 yrs. The health & safety concerns we raised are of the same importance and should also be addressed by the Park's MP.

Before the MP is approved, it must address:

- Mitigating Park drainage runoff so our properties are not flooded,
- Making the reservoir safer from flash flooding our homes, and
- Better controlling overflow parking and traffic on neighboring streets.

Please assure that these health & safety concerns will be resolved before moving the MP on to approval.

Reasonable solutions to the concerns exist - they just need to be recognized and implemented.

#### Possible Solutions to the Concerns

#### Park drainage runoff

Ideally, the existing storm drainage system could be corrected. The existing system handles the Parks runoff but the only storm drain is located in the wrong place. The drain is at the end of the street that carries the Park's runoff when it should be at the street's beginning near the Park entrance. That way, the runoff would not need to flood down 3 blocks of residential streets to get to a storm drain.

Structures, like catch basins, could be constructed within the Park to reduce drainage runoff to levels that do not flood our streets.

The erosion, sediment, & culvert improvements planned within the Park could be refined to focus on reducing drainage runoff to acceptable non-flood levels rather than just dumping more runoff down the already flooded streets. Actually, all work considered within the Park should be required to document its impact on Park runoff.

Individually or in combination, reasonable solutions do exit to reduce Park runoff to non-flood levels.

#### Flash flood risk

The water level of the reservoir can be lowered to reduce water volume and, in turn, reduce the severity of any flash flooding. (The technical consultant PWA spent a good deal of time discussing this approach in Appendix C.) However, lowering the water level of the reservoir may increase Park runoff and that would need to be coordinated with the runoff concern above.

Otherwise, strengthen the dam to better withstand extreme storm conditions that may overflow the dam <u>or</u> a seismic failure of the dam from settlement.

Again, individually or in combination, reasonable solutions exist to manage flash flood risk.

It is also absolutely critical that an emergency readiness plan be developed to warn the community, if the dam is threatened or damaged.

#### Overflow parking and traffic

The Road Maintenance Division of the Public Works (PW) Dept. has the ability in-house to analyze parking and traffic around the Park's entrance and recommend areas for parking restrictions (one side, timed, etc), speed control (reduced speed limits, etc), and traffic signage (stop sign at entrance, etc).

The Parks Dept. could request the PW Dept. perform the analysis and make recommendations, then work with the PW Dept. to implement the recommendations to better control overflow parking and traffic near the Park's entrance. And, please complete the parking lot expansion as soon as possible to provide some relief, no matter how small.

Thank you for your help and support.

The following community members submit the above correspondence in objection to approval of the proposed Quarry Park Master Plan Final Draft (August 2022):

Burnett & Cathy Silveria	Fran Pollard	Russell & Fay Bigelow
307 Santa Maria Ave.	422 Santa Maria Ave.	331 Santa Maria Ave.
El Granada, CA 94018	El Granada, CA 94018	El Granada, CA 94018
<u>times.locked@gmail.com</u>	<u>LPFP@comcast.ne</u> t	<u>Russell.bigelow3@gmail.com</u>
Jim Ahl	Neal & Inga Solloway	Libby Roberts
231 Santa Maria Ave.	1230 Columbus St.	1262 Columbus St.
El Granada, CA 94018	El Granada, CA 94018	El Granada, CA 94018
Jwa4Fish@Icloud.com	<u>nealsolloway@yahoo.com</u>	Libby.Roberts@stanford.edu
Terry Sweeney & Jim Blanchard 1290 Columbus St. El Granada, CA 94018 <u>Sweeneytds@gmail.com</u>	Paul Jordan 1284 Columbus St. El Granada, CA 94018 pjhardwood@yahoo.com	Leni Schultz 111 Balboa Ave. El Granada, CA 94018 <u>Leni@SanMateo.org</u>

#### Attach C – Additional Fire Prevention / Fuel Reduction

#### Additional Fire Prevention / Fuel Reduction

We recognize and thank the County and CalFire for the work they have done so far. But additional fuel breaks are still needed to protect homes adjoining the Quarry Park, and these are needed now. Additional fuel breaks are required around the border between the Eucalyptus Forest within the Park and adjoining homes. We are rightfully worried that these needed fuel breaks along the border won't be completed this year or before a disaster occurs.

Fire is the most serious, dangerous, and urgent issue facing California and especially the small unincorporated community of El Granada, which surrounds the Eucalyptus Forest within the Park. Eucalyptus is the





## (White line = Santa Maria Ave & Park entrance)

most volatile, hot fire burning wood in existence. In the past, normal rainy seasons kept the forest damp/wet, so we didn't worry about fires that much. But now, in a super drought of 3 years and ongoing, it has become enormously dangerous at a time when eucalyptus trees are overcrowded and have grown to record heights. These trees can now easily pass fire from one to another. And, PG&E wires adjoining the Park also pose a fire risk to the forest from windstorms. The planned and additional fuel breaks need to be completed as soon as possible, before a disaster occurs.

#### **Evacuation Plan**

An evacuation plan, with alternative evacuation routes, also must be prepared to safely guide residents of El Granada, when faced with a wildfire.

The Master Plan must be expanded to cover these concerns.

Thank you for your support.

The following community members submit the above correspondence in objection to approval of the proposed Quarry Park Master Plan Final Draft (August 2022):

#### Attach C – Additional Fire Prevention / Fuel Reduction

Fran Pollard	Burnett Silveria	Russell & Fay Bigelow
422 Santa Maria Ave.	307 Santa Maria Ave.	331 Santa Maria Ave.
El Granada, CA 94018	El Granada, CA 94018	El Granada, CA 94018
<u>LPFP@comcast.net</u>	<u>times.locked@gmail.com</u>	<u>Russell.bigelow3@gmail.com</u>
Jim Ahl	Neal & Inga Solloway	Libby Roberts
231 Santa Maria Ave.	1230 Columbus St.	1262 Columbus St.
El Granada, CA 94018	El Granada, CA 94018	El Granada, CA 94018
Jwa4Fish@lcloud.com	<u>nealsolloway@yahoo.com</u>	Libby.Roberts@stanford.edu
Terry Sweeney & Jim Blanchard 1290 Columbus St. El Granada, CA 94018 Sweeneytds@gmail.com	Paul Jordan 1284 Columbus St. El Granada, CA 94018 pjhardwood@yahoo.com	Leni Schultz 111 Balboa Ave. El Granada, CA 94018 <u>Leni@SanMateo.org</u>

#### Attach D – Off-Leash Dog Play Area

#### A Dedicated Off-leash Dog Play Area is Desperately Needed

Presently, visitors with dogs to Quarry Park improperly use the family area above the tot lot as an off-leash dog play area. These dog owners come from early morning and throughout the day as well as after work in the early evenings, many in cars and trucks. So, it goes on all day long. This area is restricted from off-leash dog use but dog owners continue to improperly use it because they see others using it that way.

The area is intended as a family play area were families with toddlers and young children have space to run around and play, to picnic, to gather, etc. A young mother's group has been coming once a week to gather and exercise together with their babies. Also, families and local schools come to the area to play catch, play sports, fly kites, etc.



When the tot lot and play/picnic area was created by Midcoast Park Lands (MPL), it was intended as one space for families to use and designated off-limits to dogs by the County. But, since then, it has not been enforced and people use the space as a default off-leash dog play area. When dogs are running around in the space, especially big dogs, families are reluctant to use the space given the threat and dog waste.

We recognize that dogs need more than off-leash trails, they need a dedicated area to run offleash to play catch with their owners, run free, etc. but the tot lot and play/picnic area need to be separated from off-leash dogs. With off-leash trails available, many dog owners will continue to improperly use the family area above the tot lot as an off-leash dog play area. A sometime in the future dog park in the Burnham Strip is too far away in time and distance from the Park to sufficiently reduce this behavior.

It is critical that the Master Plan designate an area in the Park for an off-leash dog play area away from the tot lot and play/picnic area space. This is not asking too much for the health & safety of our children.

#### **Fulltime Ranger**

If an off-leash dog play area is not designated, the tot lot and play/picnic area must be fenced off with "No Dogs Allowed in this Park" signs posted at all entrances, and the restriction must be enforced. A fulltime Park Ranger is essential to enforce Park rules and protect families and children from off-leash dogs and their waste. Quarry Park is a very large park with many

#### Attach D – Off-Leash Dog Play Area

competing activities and in a very densely populated and congested area. So, it's crucial to have some authority around that can and will enforce Park rules.

Thank you for your support.

The following community members submit the above correspondence in objection to approval of the proposed Quarry Park Master Plan Final Draft (August 2022):

Fran Pollard 422 Santa Maria Ave. El Granada, CA 94018 LPFP@comcast.net

Burnett Silveria 307 Santa Maria Ave. El Granada, CA 94018 times.locked@gmail.com Russell & Fay Bigelow 331 Santa Maria Ave. El Granada, CA 94018 Russell.bigelow3@gmail.com

Jim Ahl 231 Santa Maria Ave. El Granada, CA 94018 Jwa4Fish@Icloud.com Paul Jordan 1284 Columbus St. El Granada, CA 94018 pjhardwood@yahoo.com Leni Schultz 111 Balboa Ave. El Granada, CA 94018 Leni@SanMateo.org

Terry Sweeney & Jim Blanchard 1290 Columbus St. El Granada, CA 94018 Sweeneytds@gmail.com

## QUARRY PARK MASTER PLAN

Please Postpone any approval of the Parks Department "Quarry Park Master Plan" on December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Although the Parks Department has held several Community Meetings (Pre-Covid) or Zoom meetings since, to identify priorities, they haveconsistentky <u>ignored</u> the community's input regarding these issues:

- Creating any Stormwater Run-off in-park Mitigation (Santa Maria Avenue & East Miramar homeowners)
- Lack of control of off leash dogs in the Children's Play Area (Feces and potential dog/child interactions)
- Parking Issues by users that drive to use the Park (Pump track / Off-Leash Dog Trails / Mountain Bikes)
- Fire threat to homes along the Northern Park border (El Granada Blvd. Homeowners)
- Eliminating fuel load near residences (Homeowners Insurance Policies) vs "improving" Fire Roads STORMWATER

The Parks Director has *refused* to mitigate the <u>Stormwater run-off that originates</u> <u>within Quarry Park</u> by brushing aside concerns and ignoring complaints from neighbors on Santa Maria Avenue, who routinely need to block the excessive stormwater run-off that flows unabated, from the park entrance at 1195 Columbus for four entire blocks down to a Storm drain on Santa Maria at The Alameda. Director Calderon opined that the neighbors affected should contact SMC DPW for a remedy. *The highly unsatisfactory solution used by the DPW is to pass out Sandbags!* It is the community's belief that a better long-term outcome would be to implement on-site stormwater and sediment control management by coordinating between the two county entities, SMC DPW and County Parks, for an in-park Stormwater Pollution Prevention Management *solution* that would retain the drainage within the Park Boundaries, by deploying any number of catchment systems, bio swales, infiltration systems, or

retention ponds. It is *negligent* to allow water to flow down 4 blocks and eventually into the Pacific Ocean via a deficient San Mateo County storm drain system. Being in the Coastal Zone means THERE IS A NEED TO PROTECT OUR PRECIOUS COASTAL **RESOURCES.** 

### **REFERENCES:**

**2013** Please see the 2013 El Granada storm drain inventory map which includes contour lines, creek names, drainage names with acreage, culvert routes with directional arrows and catch basins, and outfall locations with total watershed acreage. The El Granada Drainage Map which clearly shows the Santa Maria Avenue Drainage of **298.6 ACRES** within Quarry Park that flows unabated, out from the park entrance into the adjacent 29.92 Acres Residential Neighborhood (EG 02).

https://static1.squarespace.com/static/613d069a1c250f668bd42feb/t/638d5a685622 7f270c26dc86/1670208106186/2013-Midcoast-stormdrain-inventory-EG.pdf

The Santa Maria Avenue Drainage was also identified in the Half Moon Bay Land Use Update Map:

https://static1.squarespace.com/static/613d069a1c250f668bd42feb/t/638d6975a703 f77c4c9ec353/1670211959526/HMB+watersheds+map.pdf

In 2017 C/CAG created the San Mateo County Stormwater Resource Plan, 2017 which would have qualified San Mateo County to be able to solicit funding Grants (per Prop1). but it mainly identified projects in Cities Per Kellyx Nelson "C/CAG did not solicit GIS information or planned projects for unincorporated areas of the County from any local agencies or organizations for inclusion into the plan". https://ccag.ca.gov/srp/ (Why would they? They are mainly

## about Cities)

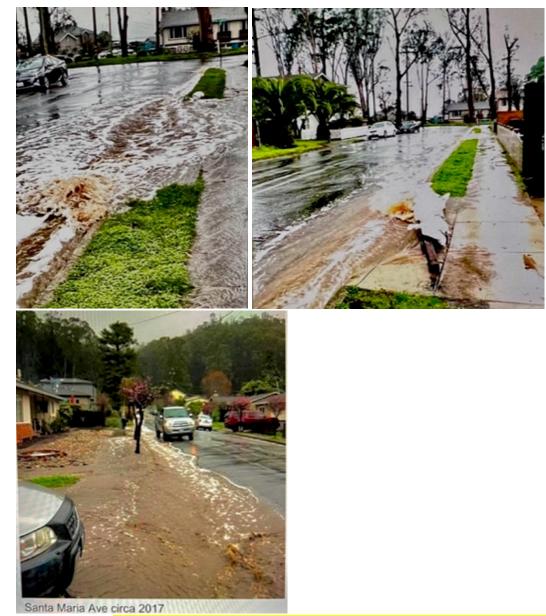
In 2018 The 2018 Quarry Park Watershed Assessment and Erosion 2018 Prevention Plan (released in 2022 - photos & map at the end) Please note: The Assessment and Erosion Prevention Plan specifically mentions the neighbor's issues, and includes an inventory of erosion and sedimentation issues and prioritizes recommendations to address them. Area of Concern #2 is the intersection of Santa Maria Ave and Columbus St, where the Class II stream exits the Park and flows uncontrolled onto urban residential streets. This location drains 299 acres, a majority of Quarry Park's watershed. The report notes on p.21, "There is no obvious effort to manage this runoff in any form of designed drainage structure ever. During field investigations, stream flow was observed traveling across and down the paved road choosing its' own flow path."



THERE ARE NO DRAINS ALONG SANTA MARIA AVENUE UNTIL THE ALAMEDA, FOUR BLOCKS FROM THE PARK.

I can only assume the reason for *failing to address stormwater issues* created within **Quarry Park** perhaps might be the design challenges for stormwater capture projects that could benefit local groundwater recharge of the aquifer, rather than sending it down streets and into the Pacific Ocean, or the lack of awareness of grant opportunities via: Proposition 1 & The State Water Resources Control Board.

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\_issues/programs/grants\_loans/swgp/prop1/\_ Any future project could serve ameliorate off-site flows and could to raise public awareness of green solutions via an in-park public demonstration for stormwater capture projects in QP. Above photo: **DPW's "sandbag solution"** RE: Park Run-off for neighbors; Photos left to right BELOW - first two - Dec. 2021 one with pick-up truck taken in 2017



#### WHY SHOULD QUARRY PARK'S NEIGHBORS HAVE TO PUT UP WITH THIS WATER EVERY TIME THERE'S A BAD STORM?

#### ADDITIONAL STORMWATER CONCERNS: Proposed Grading of the South Ridge Fire Road Extension Project

Objections were raised by neighbors of the **East Miramar** neighborhood due to storm & sediment run-off concerns into their Neighborhood at the most recent MCC Meeting. <u>https://static1.squarespace.com/static/613d069a1c250f668bd42feb/t/636e90aa1078</u> <u>ab46a91ea477/1668190381607/2023-SouthRidgeFireRd-extension-plan.pdf</u>

> NEIGHBORS OF THE EAST MIRAMAR NEIGHBORHOOD EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT

THE GRADING OF THE SOUTH RIDGE FIRE ROAD (WHICH IS DEEPLY ERODED) DUE TO STEEP PARK TERRAIN AND FEARS OF UNCONTROLLED STORMWATER RUN-OFF AT THE RECENT MIDCOAST COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING.



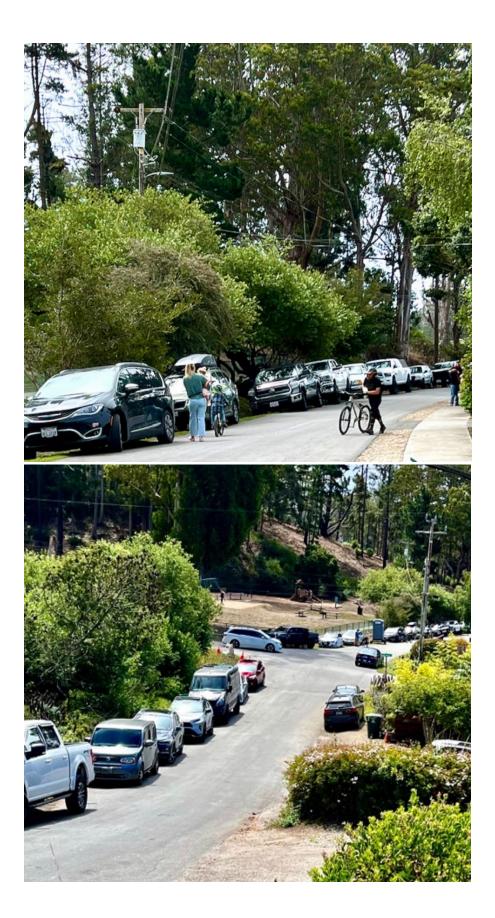
### LACK OF ENFORCEMENT OF OFF-LEASH DOGS NEAR CHILDREN IN THE PLAY AREA

Quarry Park has only a very <u>modest</u> children's play area, especially when compared to Flood Park, with picnic & play equipment and a meadow near the entrance to the 517 acre park. Although there are signs prohibiting off-leash dogs in this area, many owners ignore the rules and the rangers, when present, do not advise them that off-leash dogs are not allowed to play in the Tot-Lot area or meadow area. *Park users with children are concerned about the feces or the safety of their children playing near unleashed canines.* Requests to fenceoff the Tot-Lot or to Create a separate, fenced, off-leash dog play area seems prudent, but the Parks Director has dismissed these suggestions without further community input. One would think, for future liability purposes, this should have been addressed in the Master Plan, but it was not. Health and Safety concerns are at issue here, but there seems to be no effort to implement a solution, either by fencing or enforcement. <u>A postponement of the approval of the Quarry Park Master Plan</u> will give the Parks Department more time to put forward a satisfactory solution for the play area and adjacent meadow.



#### <u>INCREASED VISITOR USE = INCREASES NEED FOR MORE VISITOR</u> <u>PARKING</u>

Parking for the park has only recently been expanded by 18 spaces, but, as new features are added, such as the popular pump track or the improved trails for the mountain bike community (those who drive from elsewhere) it tends to create overflow parking issues at busy times.





## HEAVILY FORRESTED AREA AND NO PLANNED FIRE ROADS ON NORTHERN PARK BORDER

Since the CZU LIGHTNING FIRE in 2020, neighbors next to Quarry Park have been receiving homeowner's insurance rate increases or cancellation notices, yet there is no mention on plans for construction of any Fire Roads in the area of Upper El Granada Boulevard, in the Master Plan. They are making plans to improve an existing fire road on the other side of the park, while no fire roads exist along the El Granada Boulevard border. There should be plans for a fire road in the northern portion of the park, before "improving or grading" an existing road. Why is the other side of the park being ignored? Just because it's not as easy as regrading an existing road, should not cause it to be ignored.







#### San Mateo County Quarry Park is located in a STATE VERY HIGH FIRE SEVERITY HAZARD ZONE

AS NOTED ON THE GIS VIEWER:

https://gis.data.ca.gov/maps/CALFIRE-Forestry::california-fire-hazard-severity-zonesfhsz/about



I believe the Board of Supervisors' approval of an incomplete Master Plan would be detrimental for the surrounding residents who have voiced their concerns many times

and to rubber-stamp plan will leave the impression that over-looking of the main points should be allowed to continue indefinitely.

# The Health and Safety of the Public are my primary reasons to ask that more time be spent addressing these important issues.

Sincerely, Carlysle Ann Young 180 San Lucas Avenue Moss Beach, CA 94038 San Mateo County Resident since 1981

**Coastside Resident since 1988**