

Barbara Buikema

From: Deborah Ju <dsju371@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 12:58 PM
To: Barbara Buikema
Subject: May 25th Board meeting- CAWD proposal affecting Ribera Road properties

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Dear Ms. Buikema.

I sent the email below to the CAWD Board on 2/22/23, in advance of your last meeting on the CAWD proposal affecting Ribera Road properties. We object to the placement of a grinder pump on our property. We often lose electrical power on our street. Our 2/22/23 email detailed seven different outages between 9/22/22 and 1/10/23. More recently however, we were without power from 3/9 - 3/12, and again from 3/14-3/15 which was a total of 105 hours without electrical power over 6 days. Given these outages, a grinder pump CANNOT provide reliable wastewater services to our home. It would pose health and safety risks which no responsible wastewater management service should consider. Wastewater could back-up on the outside of our property and, possibly even inside our property, causing bad odors and even illness. These are not shanties we are speaking of. These are homes valued at over two million dollars which were purchased with fully functioning wastewater systems and were purchased in reliance of the same. Removing our homes from the general wastewater system and forcing grinder pumps onto our property would significantly damage our property values and our quality of life.

CAWD is tasked with providing wastewater services to the households within its jurisdiction. As a governmental entity, you are required to treat customers equally. Yet, your proposed grinder pump policy would require homeowners with grinder pumps to pay the electrical costs of running the system when electric bills are already a great burden. You also propose to hold us responsible for maintenance, repair and replacement costs. The pumps themselves would restrict homeowners in how they could use dishwashers and other appliances on their property, and require them to perform flushing and other unpleasant tasks. Rather than spreading costs among the taxpayer base, a handful of homeowners would be expected to bear costs that other households are not subject to. Similarly, we are not willing to have a generator on our property as we bought our home in large part to enjoy the quiet, serenity of nature and the loud sound of a generator would wreck that serenity.

We also oppose placement of a lift station in the cul-de-sac at Mariposa Road. These homes are in a rural setting that is quiet and peaceful. There would be visual, noise and smell impacts from a lift station which none of us would find acceptable if we had a home in that location.

Sincerely,

Deborah and Werner Ju

2805 Ribera Road
Carmel, CA

On Wed, Feb 22, 2023 at 3:00 PM Deborah Ju <dsju371@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Ms. Buikema,

I have just been informed that the CAWD Board will vote on the Proposed Ejector Pump Policy tomorrow morning. I am submitting this letter of opposition. I sent an earlier letter in opposition months ago and spoke in opposition at the LUAC meeting in November.

My husband and I reside at 2805 Ribera Road. We have owned this home since 2005. We are strongly opposed to the proposed CAWD Wastewater project that would require us to have a grinder pump on our property.

Firstly, we are opposed to any financial responsibility for the grinder pump which we adamantly do not want and which would be placed against our explicit opposition. We pay exorbitant property taxes on this home and are entitled to the same wastewater services that other homeowners receive without extra charge over and above our property taxes. The attempt to impose financial responsibility on us (and on our children who will inherit our home) is an unethical shifting of costs by CAWD to the affected homeowners.

Secondly, as we have previously stated, a wastewater system that relies on electricity is doomed to failure in our neighborhood. Our neighborhood loses electric power very frequently for reasons I do not know. I recently logged the power outages for the past few months and they include:

9/22/22 Power out. start time unknown. Restored 5:34 pm
10/2/22 power out 2:10 pm - 3:28 pm
11/5/22 power out 4:10 pm - 4:41 pm
12/10/22 power out 4:17 pm - 8:52 pm
12/31/22 multiple outages during the day.
1/4/23 power out 9:32 am - 1:02 pm
1/9- 1/10 start time unknown. restored 4:10 am

As you can see, we have many power outages in our neighborhood. Some are relatively short and some last for many hours. When the electricity goes out, the lack of a functioning wastewater system is a great inconvenience and more importantly, a serious health hazard.

When the grinder pumps malfunction, they can cause nasty backup problems that are totally unacceptable.

The grinder pump proposal needs to be jettisoned immediately.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Deborah and Werner Ju



Virus-free www.avq.com

May 15, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

We, along with The Carmel Meadows Association, oppose the Carmel Area Wastewater District's ("CAWD") proposed Lift Station and Sewer Replacement Project (the "Project"). It is unfair, and possibly illegal, to burden six residents for the benefit of CAWD, especially given that there is a better feasible alternative—simply replacing the current gravity line with a new gravity sewer line (the "Replacement Option"). We live at 2935 Ribera, which makes our property one of the "Lift Pump" properties. Our driveway butts up directly at the end of our road. When Waste Management Trucks park there, we are unable to leave our home.

The following bullet points clarify the reasons we are opposed:

- Plan requires grinder pumps on four properties:
 - Burden of maintenance, replacement and loss of personal freedom
 - Would incur cost of electrical service required to run the pumps
 - Forced to flush pumps with water prior to extended absences and would limit ability to use dishwashers and food disposals
 - Would be without sewer services during electricity outages
- Sewer Lift Pump Property residents:
 - Noxious odor, noise and visual impact
 - Diminish enjoyment and property values
- Better Alternative:
 - Replacement option: less expensive, more environmentally friendly, avoids negative impacts on residents
 - 2013 study by Kennedy/Jenks Consultant Engineers said replacement option best and prepared set of specs and bid documents
 - CAWD has refused to provide justification
- CAWD portrays new proposal more environmentally friendly
 - Manufactured a letter for the California Water Boards, media and County of Monterey
 - Relied on false assumptions
 - No objective independent review
- Actual "Project Proposal" leaves carbon footprint
 - Use of electricity to run grinder pumps and lift sewer pump
 - Flushing of grinder pumps wastes water
 - CAWD's assertion that the sewer lines would be moved farther away from the lagoon not totally true. Parts of existing sewer lines would remain in place, along with a lift pump station that will be as close to lagoon as to new proposed lines
- New "Replacement Option" would reduce spills as much as "Proposed Project"
- Replacement Option best for neighborhood

Please give careful consideration to our concerns,

Keith and Lori Porter

2935 Ribera, Carmel Meadows



CARMEL MEADOWS
ASSOCIATION

May 10, 2023

Phil Angelo, Associate Planner
County of Monterey
1441 Schilling Place, South 2nd Floor
Salinas, CA 93901-4527
AngeloP@co.monterey.ca.us

RE: CAWD CARMEL MEADOWS SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Dear Associate Planner Phil Angelo:

The Carmel Meadows residents expressed concern and a willingness to support the group of affected residents opposing the CAWD's proposed Lift Station and Sewer Replacement Project during our annual meeting on April 13, 2023. The Project unfairly burdens six residents for CAWD's benefit despite the existence of a better, more reliable, and feasible alternative - simply replacing the existing gravity line in kind.

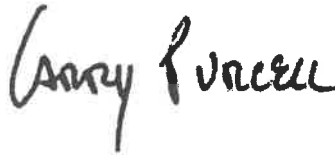
The Project, as currently proposed, will negatively and unfairly impact six of our residents because it requires grinder pumps on four properties and a lift pump in very close proximity to two other properties. This scheme appears needlessly complex and relies on our tenuous electrical grid to keep the sewage flowing. The grinder pumps may even restrict the type of waste that is normally sent down the drain. This system has the potential of adversely affecting many of our residents' quality of life and will likely reduce the value of the affected properties.

From what we understand, CAWD's consulting engineers had concluded that an early iteration of the Project was "*fatally flawed*" and that replacement in kind was the *best* alternative. We understand that CAWD has even prepared a full set of specs and bid documents for the replacement in kind alternative. In addition, the Land Use Advisory Committee has recommended that CAWD reconsider in favor of the replacement in kind alternative.

We have been told that despite repeated requests by our residents, CAWD has yet to provide a definitive reply to their valid inquiries as to why it has abandoned the replacement in kind alternative in favor of the current Project.

We therefore respectfully request that CAWD reconsider in favor of the replacement in kind alternative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Larry Purcell". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Larry Purcell,

Carmel Meadows Association Board Chairman

Cc: Barbara Buikema, CAWD General Manager (buikema@cawd.org)
Ken White, CAWD Board President (white@cawd.org)
Michael Rachel, CAWD Board Member (rachel@cawd.org)
Bob Siegfried, CAWD Board Member (siegfried@cawd.org)
Kevan Urquhart, CAWD Board Member (urquhart@cawd.org)
Greg D'Ambrosio, CAWD Board Member (dambrosio@cawd.org)
Supervisor Mary Adams, District 5 (MooreS@co.monterey.ca.us)

Barbara Buikema

From: prtarrantino@comcast.net
Sent: Sunday, May 14, 2023 5:28 PM
To: angeloP@co.monterey.ca.s
Cc: Barbara Buikema; Ken White; Michael Rachel; Robert Siegfried; Kevan Urquhart; dambosio@cawd.org; MooreS@co.monterey.ca.us
Subject: Carmel Meadows Sewer Replacement Project

You don't often get email from prtarrantino@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear Mr. Angelo,

I am writing this letter in order to express displeasure at the current proposal for the Carmel Meadows sewer replacement project.

It makes no sense to pump waste uphill when the current gravity system could be replaced. The odor and potential for unintentional discharges are, quite simply, unacceptable. I find it hard to believe that any duly licensed engineer would advocate for such a flawed solution to this problem. In fact, it is our understanding that the best solution was to replace the current system.

In addition, a small number of homeowners would be burdened with the downsides to this project.

I respectfully request that you respond to the inquiries by our neighbors in Carmel Meadows requesting why the current project was picked over the replacement in kind alternative and that you reconsider the "sewage pumping" project.

Sincerely,

Paula R. Tarantino
2784 Pradera Road
Carmel, CA 93923

Barbara Buikema

From: Ellen Turbow <emturbow@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, May 15, 2023 8:01 PM
To: Barbara Buikema
Subject: CAWD's Proposed Lift Station and Sewer Replacement Project

[You don't often get email from emturbow@sbcglobal.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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Dear Ms. Buikema:

As a resident of Carmel Meadows (2992 Cuesta Way), I am writing to express my opposition to the CAWD Project. As you know, there is a viable alternative that would not unduly burden some of our neighbors. I urge you to implement the in-kind option.

Thank you,

Ellen Turbow