



SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

NON-AGENDA

November 15, 2024

Board Policy EL-7 Communication and Support to the Board
The BAOs shall inform and support the Board in its work.

Page	<u>CEO BULLETIN & NEWSLETTERS</u>
	CEO Bulletin: None
	<u>BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS & INFORMATIONAL ITEMS</u>
3	BMR/IBMR Weekly Reports: 11/13/24
	<u>INCOMING BOARD CORRESPONDENCE</u>
5	Board Correspondence Weekly Report: 11/13/24
8	Email from Nestor De la O Vargas to the board, dated 11/06/24, providing flyers for Keep Coyote Creek Beautiful's upcoming cleanup events. C-24-0263
16	Email from Karen Gauss, Transportation Manager- City of Mountain View to Director Eisenberg, dated 11/07/24, encouraging her to participate in the survey for the Miramonte Avenue Complete Streets Corridor Study by the City of Mountain View. C-24-0264
18	Email from John B Hernandez to Director Beall and Liang Xu, Hydrology, Hydraulics, & Geomorphology Manager, dated 11/11/24 requesting the current flood insurance documentation and the contact information for the FEMA zone representative for his residence. C-24-0265
20	Email from Hope Plack to the board, dated 11/12/24, Requesting support for the Homeridge Park neighborhood, which is experiencing safety issues due to unhoused encampments. C-24-0266
	<u>OUTGOING BOARD CORRESPONDENCE</u>
32	Email from chair Hsueh to Santosh Rao, dated 11/07/24, responding to their inquiry regarding the ownership of a section of Stevens Creek, located north of Stevens Creek Boulevard along Phar Lap Drive.
34	Email from Director Varela to Lesley Miles, dated 11/12/24, responding to their inquiry concerning a eucalyptus tree and informing them that the tree will be removed due to its roots damaging the roadway, curb, and sidewalk.

BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS and Informational Items

Report Name: Board Member Requests

Request	Request Date	Director	BAO/Chief	Staff	Description	20 Days Due Date	Expected Completion Date	Disposition
R-24-0012	11/12/24	Keegan	Yoke	Gordon	Who cleans up the McKelvey baseball field if it is used as a flood detention basin.	12/02/24		
I-24-0017	11/04/24	Santos	Hakes	Infante Bourgeois	Why is Alviso in the FEMA's mandatory flood-insurance purchase zone, also known as the FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), when other nearby communities are not? What can Valley Water do to remove Alviso from the FEMA SFHA designation?	11/25/24		
I-24-0016	10/10/24	Beall	Chan	Penilla	At the August 21, 2024 Board Audit Committee Meeting, Director Beall asked for information on how Valley Water is complying with a lobbying law, which requires disclosure when people lobby VW staff as it relates to projects in Valley Water's capital improvement plan.	10/30/24		

INCOMING BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Board Correspondence (open)

Correspond No	Rec'd By District	Rec'd By COB	Letter To	Letter From	Description	Disposition	BAO/ Chief	Staff	Draft Response Due Date	Draft Response Submitted	Writer Ack. Sent	Final Response Due Date
C-24-0257	10/29/24	10/29/24	Keegan	SALI SCHILLE	Email from Sali Schille to Director Keegan, dated 10/28/24 and Director Keegan's response, requesting a copy of the executed agreement between Valley Water and the City of San Jose for the use of the Lelong/Willow site as a safe sleeping location.	Refer to Staff	Hakes	Richards Codianne Nguyen	11/06/24	11/04/24	n/a	11/12/24
C-24-0264	11/07/24	11/07/24	Eisenberg	KAREN GAUSS City of Mountain View	Email from Karen Gauss, transportation Manager-City of Mountain View to Director Eisenberg, dated 11/07/24, encouraging her to participate in the survey for the Miramonte Avenue	Refer to Staff	Hakes	Infante Bourgeois	11/15/24	-	n/a	11/21/24

Correspond No	Rec'd By District	Rec'd By COB	Letter To	Letter From	Description	Disposition	BAO/ Chief	Staff	Draft Response Due Date	Draft Response Submitted	Writer Ack. Sent	Final Response Due Date
					Complete Streets Corridor Study by the City of Mountain View.							
C-24-0265	11/11/24	11/12/24	Beall	JOHN HERNANDEZ	Email from John B Hernandez to Director Beal and Liang Xu, Hydrology, Hydraulics, & Geomorphology Manager, dated 11/11/24 requesting the current flood insurance documentation and the contact information for the FEMA zone representative for his residence.	Refer to Staff	Hakes	Bourgeois	11/20/24	-	n/a	11/26/24
C-24-0266	11/12/24	11/12/24	All	HOPE PLACK	Email from Hope Plack to the board, dated 11/12/24, Requesting support for the Homeridge Park neighborhood	Refer to Staff	Hakes	Bilski Codianne	11/20/24	-	n/a	11/26/24

Correspond No	Rec'd By District	Rec'd By COB	Letter To	Letter From	Description	Disposition	BAO/ Chief	Staff	Draft Response Due Date	Draft Response Submitted	Writer Ack. Sent	Final Response Due Date
					, which is experiencing safety issues due to unhoused encampments.							

From: Néstor De la O Vargas
To: Board of Directors; Linh Hoang; Meghan Azralon
Subject: 2 KCCB Clean ups and 1 BioBlitz in December
Date: Wednesday, November 6, 2024 10:58:50 AM
Attachments: [241201-Cleanup-IG Post \(1\).png](#)
[241208-BioBlitz-IG Post.png](#)
[241214-Cleanup-IG Post.png](#)

***** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. *****

Hello,

Keep Coyote Creek Beautiful has two cleans on the 1st and 14th of December. There is also a BioBlitz on the 8th of December as well. More Information is below.

Don't Live in Litter, Live a Cleanup! - Creek and Trail Cleanup

Location: TBD

Sun Dec 1st

9AM to 12PM

Join Keep Coyote Creek Beautiful for a community cleanup event. Meet new people; improve a neighborhood park; build community around a shared sense of service.

Free litter kits!

Groups Welcome

Community service hours available.

RSVP: <https://241201-cleanup.eventbrite.com/?aff=vw>

The Spirit of Cleanup! - Creek and Trail Cleanup

Location: TBD

Sat Dec 14th

9AM to 12PM

Join Keep Coyote Creek Beautiful for a community cleanup event. Meet new people; improve a neighborhood park; build community around a shared sense of service.

Free litter kits!

Groups Welcome

Community service hours available.

RSVP: <https://241214-cleanup.eventbrite.com/?aff=vw>

BioBlitz at Spreckels Hill

Location:"57W8+55J San Jose, California

37°11'48.1""N 121°44'06.3""W"

Sun Dec 8th

9AM-11:30AM

Join Keep Coyote Creek Beautiful, Bioblitz Club, Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority, Santa Clara Valley Bird Alliance, and Peninsula Open Space Trust for a BioBlitz!

A BioBlitz is an event that focuses on finding and identifying as many species as possible in a specific area over a short period of time. At a BioBlitz, scientists, families, students, teachers, and other community members work together to get an overall count of the plants, animals, fungi, and other organisms that live in a place.

Join the BioBlitz at Spreckels Hill where you and experts come together to explore, document, and catalog all of the living things that reside there. Spreckels Hill is a permanently protected open space and is not open to the public. This BioBlitz is a special opportunity to explore this beautiful area, which will be restored to its natural habitat in the future.

Docents will guide you and teach you to use the iNaturalist app on your smartphone to record all the living things you encounter. Flowers, trees, butterflies, dragonflies, and beetles, birds, and squirrels. We love them all - now let's go find them!

The best part? All you need to participate is a smart phone with the iNaturalist app!

So bring your family and prepare for an in-depth tour of this great trail.

Community service hours available

Spreckels Hill is not currently open to the public, and is only open for special access events

Hosted by Keep Coyote Creek Beautiful , Bioblitz Club, Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority, Santa Clara Valley Bird Alliance , and Peninsular Open Space Trust. Registrants will be added to the email contact lists of each organization to receive their monthly e-newsletter.

RSVP: <https://241208-bioblitz.eventbrite.com/?aff=vw>

Sincerely,
Néstor De la O Vargas
Event Assistant
Keep Coyote Creek Beautiful
408.660.3339
KeepCoyoteCreekBeautiful.org

COYOTE CREEK CLEANUP LOCATION PROVIDED AT REGISTRATION

Don't

Live a
in Litter Cleanup!

Dec 1st • 9am-12pm

RSVP
AT  KEEP COYOTE CREEK BEAUTIFUL

SAN JOSE
PARKS, RECREATION &
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES
Building Community Through Fun



WWW.KEEPCOYOTECREEKBEAUTIFUL.ORG



SAN JOSE
PARKS, RECREATION &
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES



Building Community Through Fun



COYOTE CREEK CLEANUP

DECEMBER 1ST: 9AM-12PM

COMMUNITY
SERVICE
HOURS!!

SPRECKELS HILL BIOBLITZ

DECEMBER 8TH | 9AM-1130AM



BECOME A
COMMUNITY
SCIENTIST



JOIN EXPERTS TO EXPLORE NATURE
& DOCUMENT WHAT LIVES IN THIS PARK!





SPRECKELS HILL BIOBLITZ

DECEMBER 8: 9AM-1130AM



COYOTE CREEK & TRAIL CLEANUP

*The Spirit of
Cleanups!*

DECEMBER 14TH 9AM-12PM



COYOTE CREEK CLEANUP LOCATION PROVIDED AT REGISTRATION

RSVP
AT  KEEP COYOTE CREEK BEAUTIFUL

SAN JOSE
PARKS, RECREATION &
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES
Building Community Through Fun



WWW.KEEPCOYOTECREEKBEAUTIFUL.ORG



SAN JOSE
PARKS, RECREATION &
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES



CITY OF SAN JOSE
OFFICE OF RECREATION

Building Community Through Fun



COYOTE CREEK CLEANUP

DECEMBER 14TH: 9AM-12PM

From: [Michele King](#)
To: [Board of Directors](#)
Subject: FW: Miramonte Study in Mountain View - Permanente Creek
Date: Thursday, November 7, 2024 9:59:18 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Clean Water • Healthy Environment • Flood Protection
5750 Almaden Expressway, San Jose CA 95118
www.valleywater.org



From: Gauss, Karen <Karen.Gauss@mountainview.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 7, 2024 8:20 AM
To: Rebecca Eisenberg <Reisenberg@valleywater.org>
Cc: John Bourgeois <JBourgeois@valleywater.org>
Subject: Miramonte Study in Mountain View - Permanente Creek

***** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. *****

Hello Valley Water District 7, office of Director Rebecca Eisenberg,

The City of Mountain View is launching a Complete Streets Corridor Study for Miramonte Avenue. We'd like to include staff and elected officials from Valley Water in this study, to incorporate your ideas and to make sure you are aware of this project. Miramonte Avenue runs parallel to a riparian corridor: Permanente Creek.

We encourage you to read more about the project and **take our Round 1 community outreach survey** here: www.MountainView.gov/Miramonte

Please share the project and survey information with colleagues at Valley Water who have Mountain View in their purview.

Thank you so much for your time and attention to this project.

Karen Gauss
Transportation Planner



Public Works Department
650-903-6274 | MountainView.gov
[Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#) | [AskMV](#)

We Want Your Input!
¡Queremos Tu Opinión!



Scan me to learn more!

MIRAMONTE
Complete Streets Study

VISION ZERO |  www.MountainView.gov/Miramonte 

The poster features a large orange speech bubble with the text "We Want Your Input!" and "¡Queremos Tu Opinión!". To the right is a QR code with the text "Scan me to learn more!". Below the speech bubble is an illustration of a woman walking a child, and a person riding a bicycle. The background shows a building and trees. At the bottom, there are logos for "VISION ZERO", the City of Mountain View, the website "www.MountainView.gov/Miramonte", and another City of Mountain View logo.

From: [Michele King](#)
To: [Board of Directors](#)
Cc: [John Bourgeois](#)
Subject: FW: Ross Creek Records and FEMA phone and email contact
Date: Tuesday, November 12, 2024 12:21:38 PM

From: John B Hernandez [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 11, 2024 3:57 PM
To: Liang Xu <lxu@valleywater.org>; Jim Beall <JBeall@valleywater.org>; District9 <district9@sanjoseca.gov>; Scott Hughes <scott.hughes@sanjoseca.gov>
Cc: Hao Liu [REDACTED]; knoblauch.thomas@valleywater.org [REDACTED] Kathygarcia09 [REDACTED]
Subject: Ross Creek Records and FEMA phone and email contact

***** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. *****

Hi Liang Xu, (Valley Water)

I live in Jim Beall's Santa Clara Valley Water District 4. My name is John B Hernandez, and I live at [REDACTED] San Jose 95118 near Ross Creek.

I would like the current flood insurance supporting documents for my address and Ross Creek. I purchased my home in 1979 and was not in a flood zone or flood insurance requirement. In 1991 my home was placed in a flood zone and insurance requirement. The flood zone map has not changed after 34 years, and my home is still 1 1/2 homes from the bank of the flood zone bank. I would like this flood zone insurance requirement removed for me and my neighbors.

Can you please provide me the appropriate FEMA flood zone representative contact information (phone number and email address) for my address flood zone because I

have some information I want to discuss with FEMA.

See the Valley Water links that have some information that I have briefly reviewed and led me to you.

[HEC-2 and HEC-RAS data library | Santa Clara Valley Water](#)

valleywater.org/sites/default/files/3023001.txt

Regards,
John B Hernandez

From: [Hope Plack](#)
To: [Board of Directors](#)
Subject: URGENT Neighborhood Safety Concerns: Homeridge Park Meeting Summary and Resident Support
Date: Tuesday, November 12, 2024 2:56:47 PM
Attachments: [11_11_24 Homeridge Park Community Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)
[Homeridge Park Community Meeting with Signatures.pdf](#)

***** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. *****

Dear Board of Valley Water,

I hope this message finds you well. My name is Hope Plack, and I am a resident of the Homeridge Park neighborhood in Santa Clara. I am reaching out on behalf of concerned residents who have experienced escalating safety issues in and around Homeridge Park. These issues are affecting the wellbeing and security of our families, and we believe a collaborative response involving local government, law enforcement, and community services is necessary to restore safety to our neighborhood.

We recently held a neighborhood meeting on November 11, 2024, attended by over 25 residents and Councilmember Kevin Park, where we discussed the pressing concerns surrounding illegal activity, lack of enforcement, and hazardous conditions in Homeridge Park. Enclosed with this email, please find the following documents:

1.

Homeridge Park Neighborhood Meeting Outline – A detailed document outlining our key concerns and requested actions, along with the signatures of residents who support this initiative.

2.

Meeting Minutes – A comprehensive record of our November 11th discussion, summarizing resident experiences, safety issues, and proposed solutions discussed with Councilmember Park.

These documents provide an in-depth view of the issues we face, including recurrent drug activity, vandalism, and the presence of unhoused individuals engaging in criminal behavior. Our neighborhood has taken steps to engage with local law enforcement, but current measures have not been sufficient to deter these activities or safeguard our community spaces. We believe that a unified, well-coordinated response is essential.

Our primary requests include:

-

Increased patrols and enforcement by Santa Clara Police Department in Homeridge Park and the surrounding area, with authority to act on trespassing, drug offenses, and public disturbances.

- Clearer directives from the City Attorney to empower police officers under current laws, including recent rulings such as *Grants Pass*.
- Collaboration with Valley Water to allow law enforcement to address trespassing and other issues along the creek area adjacent to the park.
- Improved signage in Homeridge Park to indicate park hours and discourage illegal activities.

We respectfully request your support in bringing these concerns to the attention of city leadership and initiating a plan of action to address them. We believe that by working together, we can restore Homeridge Park as a safe and welcoming space for our community. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further or attend a city council meeting to present our concerns.

Thank you for your attention and commitment to our neighborhood. Please let us know if you have any questions regarding the attached documents or if there are specific next steps we should take to advance these requests.

Warm regards,
Hope Plack



Homeridge Park Neighborhood Meeting Minutes from November 11, 2024 Meeting

Meeting Start: 5:16 PM

Attendees: Over 25 neighborhood residents and park users, Councilmember Kevin Park

1. Opening Remarks by Hope Plack

- **Introduction and Background:** Hope Plack, a resident who moved to the neighborhood in May 2024, began by thanking everyone for attending. She shared that she is a stay-at-home mother who homeschools her three young children, which gives her frequent visibility into daily activities in the park. Hope emphasized her concerns about the safety of neighborhood children, given recent events, and highlighted the importance of coming together as a unified community to address these ongoing issues.
- **Documents for Community Support:** Hope presented two documents for attendees to sign. One document would be provided to Councilmember Kevin Park, and the other would be sent to Valley Water to address neighborhood concerns. Additionally, a sign-in sheet was available for those who wished to receive meeting minutes via email.

2. Police and Community Engagement Updates

- **Contact with SCPD Officer RJ Otico:** Hope explained that she has been in communication with Officer RJ Otico, who handles long-term community issues for the Santa Clara Police Department. While Officer Otico intended to attend the meeting, an unexpected commitment prevented his presence. Officer Otico conveyed that he has reached out to other city departments regarding community concerns and is aware of the challenges faced by residents in Homeridge Park and the surrounding neighborhood.
- **Key Points from the Neighborhood Statement:**
 1. **Enforcing Martin v. Boise:** Hope asked Councilmember Park to connect with the District Attorney's office to clarify police enforcement now that *Martin v. Boise* no longer limits actions against unhoused individuals with the new landmark case *Grants Pass v. Johnson*.
 2. **Trespassing on Valley Water Property:** Hope emphasized that Valley Water currently restricts police enforcement on its properties, which includes parts of the creek. However, enforcement permissions were granted in a specific area of Sunnyvale. The neighborhood requests that Valley Water similarly empower Santa Clara PD to act on trespassing issues.
 3. **Park Closing Time:** Residents requested the installation of clear and prominent signage in Homeridge Park indicating the closing time to support enforcement of after-hours regulations.
- **Empowering Police for Stronger Enforcement:** Hope shared that Officer Otico encouraged residents to remain engaged and to continue reporting issues consistently.

Otico is advocating for Community Service Officers to increase their patrol frequency in the park and actively cite any offenses observed. He also contacted the Patrol Division to request more frequent drive-bys and stricter enforcement measures in Homeridge Park and nearby streets.

- **COVID-19 Restrictions Lifted:** Officer Otico clarified that any COVID-era restrictions limiting police action have been lifted, allowing for full enforcement of applicable laws and ordinances.
 - **Resources for Reporting:** Hope provided attendees with a step-by-step guide on calling incidents into the PD and distributed a list of citable offenses to ensure residents understand what to report.
-

3. Remarks by Councilmember Kevin Park

- **Background:** Councilmember Park introduced himself, noting that he lives near Central Park and has a daughter in elementary school. He shared his annual tradition of walking along the creek from Central Park to Stevens Creek, which gives him firsthand insight into the creek's condition and related issues.
 - **Observations on Creek Issues:** Park identified two primary concerns regarding the creek:
 1. The creek is difficult to monitor due to its hidden layout, limiting visibility and oversight.
 2. Many unhoused individuals use the creek as a discreet travel route, making it a hot spot for encampments, some of which resemble small "cities" with children, veterans, and even areas modified for recreational use, such as a BMX park.
 - **Jurisdictional Challenges:** Park explained that three overlapping jurisdictions complicate enforcement:
 1. **Valley Water** owns the creek but lacks the authority to enforce trespassing or nuisance laws.
 2. **Santa Clara Police Department** has limited jurisdiction in the creek area, restricting their ability to act on certain issues.
 3. **The City** governs park and public areas but needs clearer directives for law enforcement.
 - **Encouragement to Use My Santa Clara App:** Park urged residents to report incidents through the *My Santa Clara App*, as it generates case numbers for tracking and follow-up. He noted that if police respond to a call and find no immediate evidence of a crime, a case number may not be generated, underscoring the importance of thorough reporting.
-

4. Community Concerns and Resident Comments

- **Concerns for Family Safety:** Jeff, a resident, stated that no parent should fear taking their children outside due to safety concerns in the park. He stressed the need for increased action to protect families.
 - **Police Staffing and Resource Limitations:** Residents discussed the need for additional officers in the area to provide continuous monitoring.
 - **Coordination Issues Among Departments:** Park acknowledged that departments such as Nuisance, Engagement, and Community Response often operate independently, with limited interdepartmental communication. He highlighted this as a barrier to cohesive problem-solving.
 - **Food Programs for the Unhoused:** Telly, another resident, raised concerns about food programs nearby that may inadvertently encourage unhoused individuals to remain in the vicinity. He specifically mentioned that St. Justin's Church, located nearby, provides meals for unhoused individuals.
 - **Outreach Limitations:** Park explained that, while he regularly engages with unhoused individuals, follow-up is challenging. Many unhoused individuals lack stable contact methods, and if they lose government-issued phones, such as "Obama phones," they also lose their assigned phone numbers, making reconnection difficult.
 - **Resident Support and Voting:** One resident expressed that, despite not previously voting, they would support Park in future elections if he could resolve the park's issues.
-

5. Questions and Additional Community Concerns

- **Drug Use, Dealing, and Enforcement:** Margaret asked about police responses when residents report drug use, dealing, or encampments. Hope explained that under Proposition 36, small quantities of drugs often result in "cite and release" unless the person is visibly dealing. Otico confirmed that the police department requires additional guidance from the City Attorney to determine enforcement under the new law.
 - **Availability of Drug Rehabilitation Services:** Margaret inquired if there are any local drug treatment or rehabilitation resources. Park responded that the city is initiating a tracking system to monitor offenders and escalate penalties after repeated citations.
 - **Enforcement on Valley Water Property:** Park expressed frustration that, despite existing agreements that should allow enforcement on Valley Water property, there has been little action. He believes enforcement should be pursued more proactively.
 - **Issues with Police Dispatch:** Pete shared his experience of receiving pushback from dispatch when reporting incidents. Several attendees agreed, indicating that they had also faced resistance from dispatchers.
-

6. Additional Insights from Councilmember Kevin Park

- **Unhoused Resources During COVID-19:** Park noted that the city received \$26 million in COVID-19 funding designated for unhoused support. However, these funds were

redirected to cover police and fire salaries, leaving limited resources for direct aid to the unhoused.

- **Grants Pass and Enforcement Hopes:** Park expressed hope that recent legal developments, such as the *Grants Pass* ruling, may provide the city with grounds to manage the presence of unhoused individuals in public areas more effectively.
 - **Path to Action with the City Council:** When asked who to contact to push for action, Park explained that residents should not rely solely on public comment at city council meetings. Instead, they should request that the council formally agendaize the issue. Once on the agenda, council members can discuss the topic and potentially take action.
 - **Community Reports and Documentation:** Park advised residents to document specific times, events, and outcomes when reporting incidents to the police. He emphasized that this data would strengthen the community's case when presenting to the city council.
-

7. Final Comments and Resident Experiences

- **Ongoing Park Issues and Family Safety:** Pete, a long-time resident, shared that while Homeridge Park has historically faced challenges, these issues have worsened since the park's recent revitalization. His family has lived in the area since the 1960s and has never seen the issues as severe as they are now.
- **Park Usage and Safety Concerns:** Residents noted that while the park is generally well-used, the far back end near the creek is avoided by many due to the presence of unhoused individuals. Hope mentioned an upcoming Valley Water notice for creek clean-up scheduled for November 12–14, during which encampments would be cleared, and arrests might occur if warranted.
- **Closure of Meeting:** Hope thanked everyone for their time and participation, closing the meeting at 6:16 PM.

November 11th, 2024

Homeridge Park Neighborhood Meeting

Thank you all for being here! The safety of our neighborhood and park is of utmost importance. The issues we've been dealing with have persisted for far too long. By coming together as a community, we can restore safety to our neighborhood. This effort requires the cooperation of residents, the City of Santa Clara, the Santa Clara Police Department, and Valley Water. I am highly motivated to make this happen.

Our Experiences

- **Personal Account (May 2024 Onwards):** Shortly after moving into our home in May 2024, I began noticing four individuals who appeared to be dealing drugs in front of my home in the cul-de-sac. Multiple nights, I've been woken by loud music, yelling, and parties with people smoking and drinking on the street.
- **Repeated Police Calls:** Since moving in, I've called the police almost a dozen times, yet issues persist.
- **Violent Attack on October 5:** At 1:30 PM on October 5, I witnessed Alexandria Myers, who lives with her grandmother at [REDACTED] attack her boyfriend, Mark Gregory Allen, with a hatchet outside my house. She swung at him roughly 10 times as I called the police. This happened just outside the park fence, 30 minutes before my son's birthday party. Despite providing police with video footage, I saw her back in the neighborhood days later. The police confirmed this wasn't the first hatchet-related attack by this individual.
- **Drug Deal on October 22:** On October 22, another neighbor witnessed Randy Camacho and Mark Gregory Allen perform a large drug deal involving over 1,000 pills on Barto St. at 8 AM. Photos show Mark holding a bag of pink pills and an open alcohol container. Although police found meth on Mark, they were released shortly after. Later that day, Mark was seen walking around the neighborhood and the creek.
- **Public Indecency Incident on November 6:** On November 6, as I was driving past the park with my three children, I saw a man, Brandon Giacomelli putting his shorts back on. Shortly after, a bus of elementary students arrived at the park. I reported this to the police, who were familiar with the individual but unable to take action.
- **Regular Loitering Near My Home:** These individuals involved in drug deals and violent incidents often loiter in cars or on the sidewalk in front of my home, making me feel unsafe as a stay-at-home mom with three small children.

Experiences of Other Residents

- **Lilian's HOA (Adjacent to Homeridge Park):** Lilian, who lives in the HOA attached to Homeridge Park near the basketball court, has also dealt with these issues. Individuals cut through private property to access the park, vandalize their gate, and steal from residents' porches. Despite police awareness, the problems persist.
- **Alexandria's Vandalism and Trespassing:** Alexandria Myers, of [REDACTED], is known for vandalizing private property, stealing, and carrying weapons. She frequently throws axes at trees near the Santa Clara Valley Water gate, where she and others repeatedly cut locks that are put on the gate.
- **Repeated Gate Damage in Lilian's HOA:** The gate connecting Lilian's HOA to Homeridge Park has been broken multiple times. On one occasion, the vandals chained it shut and left a note on the lock reading "F*CK YOU" and "you wanna play, let's play." When Lilian called the police, they promised additional patrols. Officers were visible for a few days in July but have since stopped.
- **Drug Activity Witnessed by Lilian:** End of July, Lilian spoke with officers about drug dealing in the park. One individual, Randy Camacho, pretends to play basketball and has openly referenced selling drugs in front of her and others in the park. His behavior indicates he feels untouchable.
- **Incidents Involving Brandon:** Brandon Giacomelli, a man known for shouting at people and engaging in violent behavior, recently "football-checked" a woman named Dawn and vandalized cars on Homestead on November 7.
- **Single Mother's Experience:** One mother of a 10-year-old at Sutter Elementary no longer allows her daughter to play near Homeridge, walk the dog alone, or walk home from school due to safety concerns.
- **Ondine on Flannery St.:** Ondine, who lives near the basketball courts on Flannery, regularly encounters drug waste, garbage, and drug deals in the area. The homeless individuals frequent the water district property that borders Homestead and leave trash on the street. Items her pets have found in the area pose potential harm.
- **Carol's Encounter with Dangerous Objects:** Carol, who lives along Flannery St., recently found an arrow embedded in the wall of her shed, and a neighbor found another in their yard. In September, she was struck in the head by a rock while walking in the park. She no longer feels safe entering the park.

- **Olga's Observations:** Olga, who lives across from the park, has witnessed homeless individuals using the park's facilities to wash and change. At night, loud music and noise from moving shopping carts are common disturbances. Olga finds party debris along her fence several times a week, including empty bottles and remnants of apparent drug exchanges.
- **Margaret's Creek Clean-Up Efforts:** On September 21, 2024, Margaret participated in a creek cleanup, removing large items dumped by homeless individuals living in nearby encampments. Since then, she has continued to remove items like bike frames, a cleaver, and bags of garbage, which are frequently dumped in the creek. Despite previous cleanups, the issues persist.
- **Previous Drug-Related Incidents in Homeridge Park:** On January 15, 2023, a child found a purse containing 90 grams of suspected meth in the park's play structure. Fortunately, the child alerted their parents. This incident could have ended tragically.
- **Continued Issues Since 2020:** Despite multiple creek cleanups, the same individuals (Alexandra, Mark and Randy) continue to operate illegal activities from the park. Neighbors have provided police with descriptions, license plates, and details, yet these problems persist.

Action Steps

1. **Empower Police to Enforce Existing Ordinances:** Request enforcement of all applicable city ordinances in Homeridge Park, particularly regarding loitering, drug use, and unauthorized camping per the overturning of *Martin v. Boise*. Specifically, ordinance 12.50.010.
2. **Assign a Dedicated Community Service Officer:** Designate an officer to check all corners of Homeridge Park daily, focusing on areas where transients frequently gather.
3. **Increase Police Patrols on Stevenson and Flannery Streets:** Request regular police presence on both streets, particularly around the basketball court and park entrances, to deter criminal activities.
4. **Zero-Tolerance Policy on Drug Use and Camping:** Implement a zero-tolerance policy on drug use, dealing, loitering, and camping on park or Valley Water property per the Valley Water's recent decision to become a victim of trespassing in Sunnyvale.
5. **Increase Police Budget for More Patrols:** Request an increase in the police budget and staffing to support additional patrols in the area.
6. **Remove COVID-Era Restrictions on Police Action:** Eliminate any remaining COVID-related restrictions that prevent police from enforcing laws fully and protecting community safety.

7. **Add Prominent Park Signage:** Place visible signs in the park stating that activities like archery, golfing, and other unauthorized activities are prohibited as well as park rules and regulations. Ordinance 9.05.050"b"
8. **Create a Creek Clean-Up Hotline with Valley Water:** Request a dedicated hotline for residents to report excessive garbage build-up in the creek, so Valley Water can respond promptly with cleanup services.
9. **Establish a Hotline for Large Item Pick-Up:** Request a hotline for residents to arrange pick-up of large items (e.g., electronics, bulky waste) found in the creek that cannot be disposed of in regular trash bins. Also an increase in the city budget for park clean up efforts.
10. **Increase Security Measures at Valley Water Property:** Urge Valley Water to enhance security along the creek and park borders, including installing additional lighting, fencing or locks to deter trespassing and illegal dumping as well as trail cameras.

Community Signatures & Addresses

Laura Ann

Jane Campi

Joseph Zogji

Margaret Hinebaugh

Telly Robbins

Linda Skipper

LILIAN ELIAS

ONDINE BURKE

Bob / Pam

KENNETH PALITO

Jeff & Laura Holmbeck

Carol Scheufele

ZUBEN W. DEHART

Cindi Roy

Lynn Kan

Susana Veliz

Tim Child

Ashley Herrington

Pete Adams
ONDINE BURKE
K. Knox,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Olga Sokolsky

Flannery
ST.

Hope Plack
Dain Plack

[Redacted]

OUTGOING BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

From: [Candice Kwok-Smith](#) on behalf of [Board Correspondence](#)
To: [Jennifer Codianne](#); [Christopher Hakes](#); [Kathy Nguyen](#); [Mark Bilski](#); [Shanika Richards](#)
Cc: [Michele King](#); [Board of Directors](#)
Subject: FW: Creek trail ownership.
Date: Thursday, November 7, 2024 8:45:22 AM
Attachments: [Stream Maintenance and Property Management Fact Sheet 2019 \(2\).pdf](#)
[image003.png](#)

Good morning everyone,

C-24-0261 has been approved, sent and closed.

Thanks,
Candice

From: Candice Kwok-Smith **On Behalf Of** Board of Directors
Sent: Thursday, November 7, 2024 8:44 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Creek trail ownership.

Sent on Behalf of Chair Hsueh:

Dear Santosh Rao,

Thank you for reaching out regarding the section of Stevens Creek north of Stevens Creek Boulevard along Phar Lap Drive.

There is not a singular entity in charge of the creeks and property owners whose land extends into the creek have a primary role. Creek ownership is a mosaic of ownership by the City, County, private parties and Valley Water. I've attached a fact sheet that identifies Valley Water's role and you may review Valley Water ownership on our website by using the following link: <https://gis.valleywater.org/FeeEasement/>. The green areas show lands owned in fee title the yellow areas show land held in easement. Activities in the creek regardless of ownership are further regulated by state and federal regulatory agencies.

In this reach of Stevens Creek, ownership is a composition of Valley Water, City of Cupertino, and various private properties. Valley Water staff are unaware of any permitted public access on this reach of creek.

Please contact Jennifer Codianne, Deputy Officer for Watersheds Operations and Maintenance at jcodianne@valleywater.org for follow up information.

For additional questions or comments you may also use our online system at <https://access.valleywater.org/customer/s/>.

Thanks again for contacting us.

Sincerely,



Nai Hsueh
Chair, District 5

C-24-0261

From: Santosh Rao [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, November 1, 2024 7:21 AM
To: Board of Directors <board@valleywater.org>
Subject: Creek trail ownership.

***** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. *****

Hello,

I am a resident of Cupertino.

I am writing about a section of Steven's Creek north of Steven's Creek Blvd that runs adjacent to Phar Lap Dr in Cupertino.

My understanding is that creeks are the jurisdiction of Valley Water Board.

Can you please let me know whether the creek land adjacent to Stevens Creek north of Steven's Creek Blvd is also the jurisdiction of valley water board and upto what distance in either direction of the creek is owned and under the jurisdiction of valley water board.

Homeowners by Phar Lap Dr are reporting use of the land next to the creek for hiking. This violates the privacy of those homeowners.

I am interested in learning about whether Valley Water Board owns this stretch, is aware of the use of the stretch for hiking trail and whether this goes through any public noticing and community input prior to such change of allowed use.

Thank you for your response.

Thanks,
Santosh Rao

From: [Candice Kwok-Smith](#) on behalf of [Board Correspondence](#)
To: [Bhavani Yerrapotu](#); [Sally Castro](#)
Cc: [Michele King](#); [Board of Directors](#)
Subject: FW: Very old eucalyptus scheduled to be cut down
Date: Tuesday, November 12, 2024 11:20:37 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

Good morning everyone,

C-24-0256 has been approved, sent and closed.

Thanks,
Candice

From: Candice Kwok-Smith **On Behalf Of** Board of Directors
Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2024 11:19 AM
To: 'lesley@wmarchitects.com' <lesley@wmarchitects.com>
Subject: Re: Very old eucalyptus scheduled to be cut down

Sent on Behalf of Director Varela:

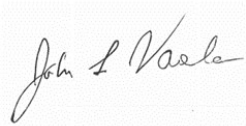
Dear Lesley Miles,

Thank you for your email and sharing the history of the agricultural community. The Upper Llagas Creek Flood Protection Project – Phase 2B will construct flood protection improvements along West Little Llagas Creek within the City of Morgan Hill. As part of this project, a portion of West Little Llagas Creek at Cosmo Avenue will be realigned. The realignment of existing West Little Llagas Creek includes the construction of a new reinforced box culvert undercrossing at Cosmo Avenue which will remove and replace the existing reinforced box culvert undercrossing. The Eucalyptus tree in question sits above the underground box culvert that is to be abandoned. The tree's root system continues to damage the adjacent roadway, curb, gutter, and sidewalk. Therefore, the box culvert and Eucalyptus tree will be removed to install a new curb/gutter and sidewalk at this location to fix the existing drainage issues along the southern side of Cosmo Avenue.

Unfortunately, tree removal is necessary to accomplish Valley Water's flood protection mission. To mitigate the impacts of tree removal, Valley Water has restored 2,000 linear feet of Llagas Creek, created a 5-acre wetland adjacent to Llagas Creek, and will have planted 105 acres of native riparian trees and shrubs by the time this project is complete. These actions coupled with control of several invasive plant species is designed to improve ecological conditions for native fish and wildlife within the Llagas Watershed. Valley Water has received the required Regulatory Permits for the Project from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Please contact Deputy Operating Officer Bhavani Yerrapotu at byerrapotu@valleywater.org with any follow-up information.

Sincerely,



John Varela
Director, District 1

C-24-0256

From: Lesley Miles <lesley@wmarchitects.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2024 6:34:55 AM
To: John Varela <jvarela@valleywater.org>
Subject: Very old eucalyptus scheduled to be cut down

***** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. *****

Hi John, I'm sure you're familiar with all of the coastline Oaks that have been cut down in the process of what the valley water district is apparently doing to work on the channel. There is a huge eucalyptus that is right next to the new voices school, but it is easily 100+ years old and is Healthy it is an interesting part of our historic pass, and it is being scheduled to be cut down.

It is an opportunity to talk about and to save a tree that is about our history as an agricultural community since Leonard Coates, who lived and worked on the property where Charles and I currently live was one of the people that brought eucalyptus from Australia to test out here in California. In some ways, things didn't work out for eucalyptus, but it worked well for many years as wind breaks in the valley And here And Morgan Hill this tree is an opportunity to really talk about our history and I don't see any purpose in cutting down the tree.

Can you help me understand What is going on so many trees have been removed and if this tree is within that sphere of work?

Thank you so much and hope you and your family are all doing well,

Lesley

Lesley Miles AIA, LEED AP

Principal

P: (408) 779-6686 M: (408) 515-9469

17500 Depot Street, Suite #200

Morgan Hill, CA 95037



Visit us at: www.wmarchitects.com