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Hand Delivery

April 16, 2009

Ms. Kerry Brown
Planning Department
San Luis Obispo County
County Government Center, Room 208
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Subject: Proposed Los Osos Wastewater Project

Dear Ms. Brown:

The Board of Directors of the Los Osos Community Services District (“District”) has authorized the submission of the following comments on the Final Environmental Impact Report (“FEIR”) for the proposed Los Osos Wastewater Project as well as the project itself.

Introduction

The District is supportive of a project designed to alleviate the current significant groundwater issues in Los Osos and address the degradation of resources in the Morro Bay estuary resulting from the existing septic systems.

The following discussion identifies issues related to the scope of services that the District provides that should be addressed in the project approval process either as mitigation measures or conditions of approval. These comments are in addition to those previously submitted related to the Draft Environmental Impact Report in the letter from the District dated January 30, 2009.

Affordability

All of the conditions of approval attached to the wastewater project must take into account both the cost and equity implications to the property owners within the prohibition zone. The most cost effective mitigation measures must be identified and implemented to alleviate the strain of the already expensive wastewater project. Any conditions and mitigation measures must be specific to impacts created by the project and the wastewater project must not be viewed as an opportunity to attach non-related costs to the community.

Sustainability

In terms of the avoidance of adverse groundwater impacts, our primary recommendation is that the wastewater project includes tertiary treatment. The District is concerned about any potential removal of water from the

groundwater basin. Tertiary treatment will help the District and the other water purveyors in the community by returning sufficient treated wastewater to the basin to recharge the basin and prevent further salt-water intrusion.

Tertiary treatment could make treated effluent available for a variety of beneficial uses and disposal opportunities such as injection wells, urban/agricultural exchange, or “purple pipe” programs.

Drainage and Dewatering

Construction may affect a large volume of natural storm water drainage. Although the FEIR concludes that the proposed projects would not substantially alter the existing drainage patterns in the district, any such changes identified during the design and construction process must be addressed and Low Impact Development (“LID”) techniques implemented.

The project should include conditions of approval to address construction impacts adequate dewatering measures including the utilization of existing drainage basins throughout the district as well as other LID techniques. This measure must be included to avoid negative impacts to the upper groundwater aquifer and minimize potential impacts on marine resources.

Emergency Services

The District recommends that the County include measures in the project to address impacts on emergency services during and after the construction of the wastewater project.

The District believes that if the following measures are included that response time to emergency incidents will be significantly reduced, vehicle safety for all drivers would be increased, wear and tear on emergency service vehicles would be decreased and, in some cases, defensible space for homes and firefighters would be increased allowing a safe area for firefighters to fight vegetation, vehicle and structural fires.

- Make all-weather passable or pave all roads in Los Osos that are impacted by the construction of the wastewater project. Even if the road is unpaved but has an all-weather surface, the District believes that the most direct route to any incident can save valuable time during an emergency response, particularly Fairchild between Los Olivos and Santa Ynez.
- Remove all road barricades if traffic engineering considerations allow, particularly on 9th, 10th, 12th, 17th and 18th Streets.
- Make San Luis Avenue, Pismo Avenue, and Paso Robles Avenue to be all-weather passable. If these roads were improved, especially west of 11th Street, emergency response time will be significantly decreased into the Baywood District.
- Make Skyline Drive all-weather passable between Fearn Avenue and Nancy Avenue to improve access to residents and eucalyptus groves.
- Make Doris Avenue all-weather passable from Los Osos Valley Road to Skyline Drive. This would result in a more direct route to a portion of the community, significantly reducing emergency response time.

- Make Ramona Avenue all-weather passable between 10th Street and 11th Street. If Ramona Avenue were passable in winter months it would create a more direct route from the east side of Baywood and alleviate the need to circumvent this entire area.
- When all-weather surfaces are provided to address emergency services impacts, the drainage patterns will be affected and should be addressed as discussed above.

The attached list prepared by CAL FIRE further identifies the full extent of road closures, impassable streets, dead end streets and unpaved streets in our service area that impact the provision of emergency services within the District and access by emergency vehicles that should also be addressed in the project approval.

Although these measures should be included as mitigation measures and conditions of approval for the wastewater project, funds should be provided from County road fees, traffic impact fees, road maintenance fees prior to any of these costs being charged to the wastewater project.

Summary

In conclusion, we fully support measures to address the community's wastewater problems. We believe that the issues identified above are appropriate and necessary to be addressed in the County's wastewater project. Although the project will have a profound impact on the community, a comprehensive and responsible approach to conditions placed on the project will be for the betterment of the entire community.

Thank you for your consideration of the above issues in your consideration of the wastewater project. We are available to meet and discuss these matters at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Francis M. Cooney
Interim General Manager

cc: Mr. Paavo Ogren
Mr. John Waddell
Mr. Mark Hutchinson
Mr. Victor Holanda
LOCSD Board of Directors
File



CAL FIRE
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March 23, 2009

Marshall Ochylski
Director-Emergency Services Advisory Committee Liaison
1458 4th Street
Los Osos, CA 93402

RE: ROAD IMPROVEMENT INFORMATION

Director Ochylski:

As requested, I am submitting a list of road closures, impassable streets, dead end streets and unpaved streets in the Los Osos Community. The information provided is by area and not necessarily in priority order.

BAYWOOD

Barrier Streets

10th between Ramona and San Luis
10th between Ramona and Pismo
9th between Pismo and Paso
12th between Pismo and Paso
8th between Santa Maria and Santa Ysabel
9th between Santa Maria and Santa Ysabel
16th between El Morro and Santa Maria
17th between El Morro and Santa Maria
18th between El Morro and Santa Maria

Impassable Streets

San Luis from 6th to 9th
San Luis from 11th to 12th
Pismo from 4th to 7th
Pismo from 15th to 16th
Paso from 3rd to 8th
Santa Maria from 12th to 13th
Santa Maria from 15th to 16th

Passable, but Not Paved

Fairchild from Los Olivos to Santa Ynez
Santa Ynez between 12th and Fairchild

7th from Nipomo to San Luis
San Luis from 12th to 13th
Ramona from 16th to South Bay
Pismo from 11th to 15th
El Morro from 16th to 18th
18th from Pismo to Paso
Santa Maria from 13th to 15th
Santa Maria from 16th to 18th

SWEET SPRINGS

Impassable Streets

Broderson from LOVR to Binscarth
Rosina from Pine to Doris
Skyline from Fearn to Nancy
Sunny Hill from Binscarth to Garden
Donna from Binscarth to Lupine

Passable, but Not Paved

Doris from Rosina to Skyline
Skyline from Fearn to Pine
Skyline from Nancy to Pecho
North Court Street, South Court Street
Aspen from Skyline to Henrietta
Sunny Hill from Henrietta to Binscarth
Nancy from Binscarth to Garden
Doris from Binscarth to Mitchell
Loma from Pine to Broderson
Broderson from Ramona to the Preserve

Add Cul de Sac

Garden at Sunny Hill

BAYVIEW HEIGHTS

Impassable

All of Calle Cordoniz
All of Clelland

Passable, but Not Paved

All of Al Serano
All of Vista del Osos
Covey from BVHD to Vista del Osos
All of Quail
All of Sea Horse

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the LOCSD work with SLO County on the following:

- Pave or make all-weather passable all roads in the Los Osos area. Even if the road is unpaved but has an all-weather surface, staff believes that the most direct route to any incident can

save valuable time during an emergency response, especially Fairchild between Los Olivos and Santa Ynez, and Santa Ynez between 12th and Fairchild.

- Remove all road barricades if safe to do so, especially on 9th, 10th, 12th, 17th and 18th Streets.
- Improve San Luis Avenue, Pismo Avenue, and Paso Robles Avenue to be passable in all types of weather. If these roads were improved, especially west of 11th Street, emergency response time may be decreased into the Baywood District.
- Make Skyline Drive passable between Fearn Avenue and Nancy Avenue to improve access to residents and eucalyptus groves.
- Make Doris Avenue passable from Los Osos Valley Road to Skyline Drive. This would result in a more direct route, thus reducing emergency response time.
- Improve drainage and pave Ramona Avenue between 10th Street and 11th Street. If Ramona Avenue were passable in winter months it would create a more direct route from the east side of Baywood and alleviate the need to circumvent this entire area.

Staff believes that if the above recommendations were completed response time to emergency incidents may be decreased and, in some cases, defensible space for homes and firefighters would be increased allowing a safe area for firefighters to fight vegetation, vehicle and structural fires.

Sincerely,

Phill Veneris

Phill Veneris
North Coast Battalion Chief
~~CAL FIRE~~/San Luis Obispo County Fire Department

Cc: Matt Jenkins, Chief
Mitch Cooney, Interim General Manager, LOCSO