Beth, Margarete@Waterboards

From: Lee, Shin-Roei@Waterboards
Sent: Thursday, August 21, 2014 4:31 PM
To: Beth, Margarete@Waterboards
Subject: FW: Comments on July 31 JPA application for Flood Protection For East Palo Alto (both sides of 101)

Maggie, FYI.

From: Eve Sutton [mailto:eve@well.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 21, 2014 4:25 PM
To: Board@valleywater.org; mhparker@sfcjpa.org; Lee, Shin-Roei@Waterboards; Dennis J. Parker; Lisa Yarbrough Gauthier--CityCouncil; Laura Martinez--CityCouncil; Carlos Romero Carlos Romero--EPA; Ruben Abrica--CityCouncil
Subject: Comments on July 31 JPA application for Flood Protection For East Palo Alto (both sides of 101)

Added Comments Aug 21, 2014, after long talk with Shin-Roei.Lee@waterboards.ca.gov

We really need to use the golf course in Palo Alto as drainage to relieve the flood danger on the East Palo Alto neighborhoods. This is a huge advantage we have— an open area where nobody sleeps at night, nobody will be displaced from an abode, and nobody will suffer the agony of an impossible evacuation order. Would Palo Alto really want people to be injured or killed, or even suffer asthma attacks from a moldy house walls?

Dear mhparker@sfcjpa.org and Board@valleywater.org,
Thank you for considering my comments about flood protection in East Palo Alto, and for keeping me informed. I got the link to the agenda, and look forward to getting minutes of the hearing when available.

Eve Sutton
[redacted]

on 6/10/14 11:56 AM, mhparker@sfcjpa.org at mhparker@sfcjpa.org wrote:

Ms. Sutton,

The June 10 hearing is a SCVWD meeting, therefore the meeting materials including the agenda and minutes will be prepared by by SCVWD and your request should go to Board@valleywater.org. I have contacted the Clerks office and made them aware of your request. Please email the clerks at Board@valleywater.org. They are expecting to hear from you and will be happy to help.

Sincerely,
Miyko

Miyko A. Harris-Parker
San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority
615 B Menlo Ave
Menlo Park, CA 94025
mhparker@SFCJPA.org
(650) 324-1972

-------- Original Message --------
Subject: Flood Protection For East Palo Alto (both sides of 101)
From: Eve Sutton <eve@well.com>
Date: Tue, June 10, 2014 8:45 am
To: <mrichardson@valleywater.org>, "Dennis J. Parker" <wisteria423@yahoo.com>, <mhparker@SFCJPA.org>

Dear All,
Although I cannot attend the hearing June 10, I would like to stay informed and continue my input on this important matter. My email of May 30, 2014 (originally sent to mrichardson and Dennis J. Parker) is repeated below. In addition, I am now sending to:

Miyko A. Harris-Parker
San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority
615 B Menlo Ave
Menlo Park, CA 94025
mhparker@SFCJPA.org
(650) 324-1972

I tried to find the agenda on this website as indicated in the announcement of the hearing: http://www.valleywater.org

I searched "agenda" and got this web page:
http://www.valleywater.org/Search.aspx?searchtext=agenda
Somehow, I could not find the agenda for June 10.

Please send me the link to the June 10 agenda so I can follow this hearing, and also send MINUTES after the June 10 agenda.
------Original comments, May 30: -------
I will not be able to attend the meeting June 10 as I will be at work. However, I am very concerned about flooding. Real flood insurance comes from insuring against floods-- protecting buildings from an overflow of water. This is what we need to accomplish, starting with the areas most likely to be overcome with water!

My house is in the Gardens area of East Palo Alto, behind the main Palo Alto

post office, in a neighborhood that is surrounded on 3 sides by the creek. Very few roads go into my neighborhood, so even a little flooding on a few roads can trap us. In December, 2012, I took screen shots of the creek monitors mid-month, and again just before the flood Dec 23. I can send those screen shots if you want-- they document a deficient system for containing and reporting flooding. The problem was not only with bridges near 101, it was with drainage from higher elevations in other cities, and with lack of repair after the mid-December flood eroded large areas of the levees near East Palo Alto. Starting yesterday, we need dedicated flood protection plans for continued, reliable maintenance and constant monitoring of the soundness of levees.

California is the 7th or 8th largest economy in the world. The areas feeding water to our sea-level creeks are among the richest zip codes in the country. Residential properties have a total value that is probably less than the value of non-residential land (public spaces, business, industry, Stanford university and other schools, non-profit agencies, government buildings, etc.), yet residents seem to bear the most responsiblility for funding and planning the flood protection projects. Combined, these facts point to a serious, perhaps criminal, deficiency in flood protection for residents of East Palo Alto on both sides of 101.

Climate change, sea level rise, and increased development, with more paved areas, make flooding a high probability event. The "100-year flood" might occur every decade, perhaps two years in a row, especially after a drought when vegetation has died and the ground is hard. Maintenance cannot wait; it needs to be ongoing and fully funded even during the dry months.

Thank you!
Eve Sutton
[redacted]