

**PUBLIC COMMENTOR 262 - RICH SHERWOOD, SEPTEMBER 24, 1996**

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I would like to thank everyone who has done research -- excuse my voice, I'm coming over a cold. To stand up for something that I've really fallen in love with this summer. I moved to Forestville last winter, and I was told "aw, the water's kind of nasty. I don't know if you want to swim in it." But I've been swimming in it, and it's a beautiful healthy place, and it really lifts my spirit when I'm there, and that means a lot to me. And I know it means a lot to people who are here. And that's why they're here. And so thank you very much to the people who are doing the research. And I feel very naive listening to all these facts. I feel naive that it's like, well, if -- it costs too much to build -- to have an alternative to dumping into the river, and so I guess we just have to -- you know -- sacrifice rivers -- rivers that mean so much to people. And mean so much to me. And it hurts me -- it really hurt me when I heard that -- that if 20 percent sewage is going to be dumped into the river -- and can I swim in the river still? Will I be able to swim in the river still? No?

Well, hmm -- that's sad. And how will the river look? And will I be able to go down there and feel good? Will I be able to go down and feel yes, I live in a beautiful place, this is someplace beautiful, I'm blessed to live here? Or will I say oh, I live by a sewer? You know. Well, it's -- we're blessed to live here, and thank you very much for listening. I hope -- I hope that people will show more respect to what we have in this area. Thank you very much.

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**Mayor Wright:**

Thanks, Rich.