

To the State Water Resources Control Board:

It's hard to believe that you could expect us to convey to you, in three minutes, what our lifestyle has been, and the fears we hold for the future because of the tunnels and intakes. I was born and raised in the Clarksburg area and my father came to be a superintendent of the construction of the Sugar Mill, one of the major industries of the Clarksburg area. Now you'd think that because the Sugar Mill no longer operates to create sugar, that we have a failure on our hands. We've had lots of changes in Clarksburg, and we didn't give people three minutes to convey their concern about them. We've always met as a whole, extended community. We haven't won all the issues that each of us, as responsible citizens, would like to have, but we love each other and we care for one another. If I look back on my busy life, I think on a weekly basis, how grateful I am that I grew up in Clarksburg where I was raised with all the benefits that we try to create for other communities in our country, trying to prevent shootings and hate and crime.

We have an extended family. Two years ago, as I was being discharged from Sutter Hospital after a month's stay, they told me, "We don't think you can go home to be by yourself." I said, "It's okay. I'm going home to my extended family, my neighbors who love me in Clarksburg." They said, "How are you going to manage your meals?" I said, "The church and the community will bring me food for as long as I need it." And they said, "How do you know?" I said, "Because I've been making food and distributing it since I returned to Clarksburg."

I haven't always lived in Clarksburg. I went to college at Santa Barbara and lived in various other communities. Those experiences in other communities have given me a real heartfelt knowledge that the Delta has something to teach the rest of the world.

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