

Teresa Takaoka

From: Deborah Cullen
Sent: Monday, February 05, 2018 2:18 PM
To: Lauren Ramezani
Cc: Teresa Takaoka; Elias Sassoon
Subject: RE: IMAC, Landslide Feasibility Study

Lauren,

I will send it to the consultants.

Deborah

From: Lauren Ramezani
Sent: Monday, February 05, 2018 2:15 PM
To: Deborah Cullen <DCullen@rpvca.gov>
Cc: Teresa Takaoka <TeriT@rpvca.gov>; Elias Sassoon <esassoon@rpvca.gov>
Subject: FW: IMAC, Landslide Feasibility Study

Deborah,

Lowell has submitted a correction to his previous submittal to the consultant. Can this attached version replace his previously submitted version? I was not sure how flexible the Feb 2nd deadline was.

Thanks

Lauren Ramezani
Sr. Administrative Analyst- Public Works



City of Rancho Palos Verdes
310-544-5245
LaurenR@rpvca.gov
<http://www.rpvca.gov>

From: Lowell R. Wedemeyer [<mailto:lowell@transtalk.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 05, 2018 2:09 PM
To: Lauren Ramezani <LaurenR@rpvca.gov>
Subject: IMAC, Landslide Feasibility Study

Lauren:

I am appending a corrected submittal, to replace the one sent February 2.
I hope there is time to replace this corrected version as late correspondence to the IMAC and to the consultants.

Lowell R. Wedemeyer

Questions on Figure 13 of the Landslide Feasibility Study

The Feasibility Study states its principal conclusion as follows:

“Importantly, the preliminary three-dimensional slope modeling confirms that a **reasonable** reduction in the elevation of the groundwater surface (i.e., 10 to 20 feet) **could** result in a significant reduction in land movement in the PBLC area (an increase in the FOS [Factor of Safety] **up to approximately** 8 percent) (Figure13).” (Bold italic emphasis added) (FS, page 44)

Thus, Figure 13 depicts the theoretical foundation for the feasibility analysis of the entire Plan of Control.

Feasibility Study Figure 13 is labeled “**Modeled** Increase in Factor of Safety with Decline of Groundwater elevation.” (bold emphasis added.)

Figure 13 depicts with remarkable, mathematical precision a calculated curve that relates (A) increase in Factor of Safety to (B) reduction in groundwater elevation.

If and to the extent that the calculated curve in Figure 13 is scientifically uncertain (or incorrect), then the conclusions in the Feasibility Study are uncertain (or incorrect)

Therefore, it would be useful to modify Figure 13 to depict a scientifically calculated range of uncertainty in the plotted curve. This will reduce the potential for readers to misinterpret apparent, but scientifically unwarranted, precision in the plotted curve in Figure 13.

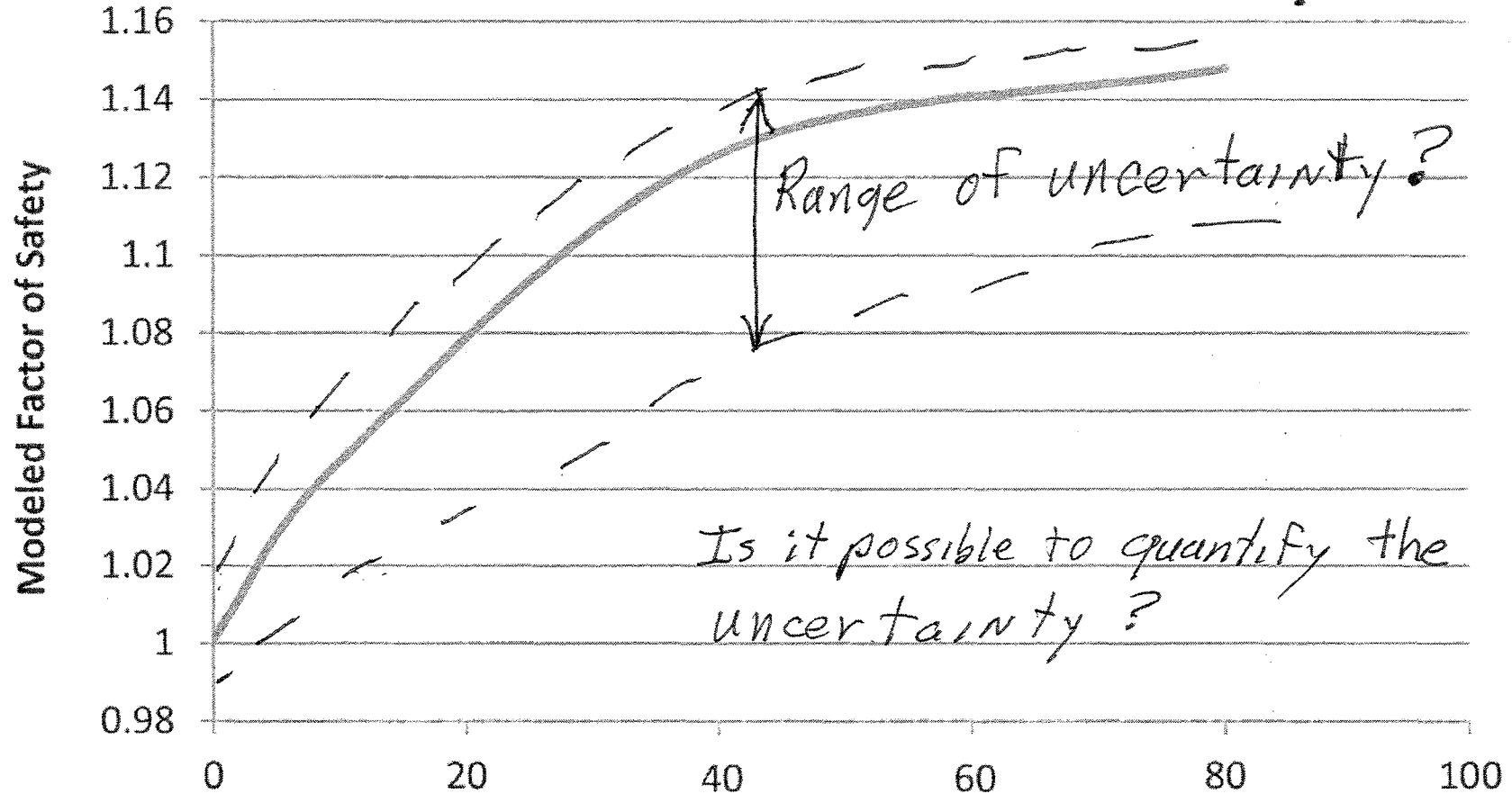
The appended modifications of Figure 13 suggest a way to depict the mathematical and scientific uncertainties to avoid unintentionally misleading readers.

There are some scientific issues:

1. Is it possible to quantify the scientific uncertainty in the curve plotted in Figure 13?
2. Is Figure 13 only a conceptual “model” based upon assumptions and interpolations from sparse field measurements such that it is not even possible to quantify the scientific uncertainty of the plotted curve?
3. Are the mathematical algorithms used in the computer programs for “three-dimensional modeling of slope stability” published? Or is the underlying computer coding a trade secret so that the persons doing the modeling are prevented from calculating the mathematical precision of the source code for the computerized calculations that produced Figure 13?

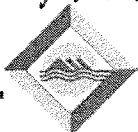
Lowell R. Wedemeyer

What is the scientific range of uncertainty (or confidence) in these calculated results?



Or is this figure only conceptual, based upon assumptions and interpolations from sparse field measurements?

CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES
Modeled Increase in Factor of Safety with
Decline in Groundwater Elevation



SEPARATOR PAGE
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Teresa Takaoka

From: Deborah Cullen
Sent: Monday, February 05, 2018 5:35 PM
To: Teresa Takaoka
Subject: FW: P.B.L.C. questions and comments
Attachments: Port. Bend feasibility comments December 22.docx

From: Deborah Cullen
Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2018 9:13 AM
To: Cullen, Steve <SCullen@dbstephens.com>; 'Dodge, John' <jdodge@dbstephens.com>
Cc: Ara Mihranian <AraM@rpvca.gov>; Elias Sassoon <esassoon@rpvca.gov>; Doug Willmore <DWillmore@rpvca.gov>
Subject: FW: P.B.L.C. questions and comments

Hi John and Steve,

See attached questions from Councilmember Dyda.

Deborah

Portuguese Bend Feasibility - December 2017

QUESTIONS

1. Executive summary on page 7 in paragraph 1

- A. in paragraph 1 can a more permanent fix for surface fractures be implemented?
- B. On page 9 add to the first paragraph the restoration of any damaged habitat to the condition in which it was prior to the destruction.
- C. On page 11 in the first paragraph it states that contaminant toxicity is not an issue. What about septic tanks?
- D. On page 16 in paragraph 2 the first line talks of wave erosion. Earlier the statement was made that the landslide complex deposited dirt in the ocean creating turbidity which then moved that soil southward. A review of photos since 2003 to present shows no perceptible shoreline erosion. Is a wave erosion really a significant factor?
- E. On page 25 in the second paragraph it states Altamira Canyon does not drain into the PBLC. With the amount of water that flows in Altamira Canyon I find it hard to believe that water does not get into the PB LC. How certain is it that no Altamira Canyon water drains into the Portuguese bend landslide complex?
- F. On page 44 reduction in movement only 8% yet on a subsequent chart the stability goes to an estimated 1.14. Does this result in a substantial slowing of the slide, from feet the year to less than an inch per year?
- G. Each pilot program cost is below the surplus over and above the city's annual 50% reserve in our budget. Is it contemplated to do them sequentially or can some of the work overlap? If the work can overlap, it would go a long way to controlling the slide and reduce the ongoing cost sooner.

Pilot program costs:

Seal surface fractures	\$250,000
Sub surface	\$650,000
Liner and channel system	\$512,000
Extraction and monitoring wells	\$556,000
Sewer system (no pilot program)	\$ 0
Pilot program total=	\$1,968,000

- H. To what extent can the larger drainage channels be planted and still provide the requisite drainage?

COMMENTS

- 1. On page 7 in the report in paragraph 4 the first word should be subsequently.
- 2. In the electronic report it would be nice if you could click on figures so that they could be viewed at the time they are identified rather than going back and forth to find the figures.
- 3. I think it is necessary to memorialize the surf zone considerations, preferably in the body of the feasibility report or at least in an attached addendum. This will ensure that in the future new councils and staff, if they read the report, will be aware of the work and why the decision was made not to implement.
- 4. The \$50 million cost characterization is misleading. The cost of the work is on the order of \$31 million. The rest is annual maintenance cost over 30 years. We could even make the cost much larger than \$15 million by calculating the annual maintenance cost out to 100 years. The real annual cost assessment is something like one half of the taxpayers are currently spending while effectively accomplish in nothing but a deterioration of the area. This reduction in maintenance cost would be a welcome relief for the taxpayers. I think the project cost should be presented separately and the maintenance cost presented separately as an annual cost and not as an aggregate for any period of time.

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Teresa Takaoka

From: Lorna Cloke
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2018 3:08 PM
To: Teresa Takaoka
Subject: FW: Study response

For you. They could not get the email to go through to you.

Lorna

From: Barbara Ailor [mailto:barbailor@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2018 3:06 PM
To: Lorna Cloke <LornaC@rpvca.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Study response

Begin forwarded message:

From: Donald Crocker <dwcrocker@aol.com>
Subject: Study response
Date: January 29, 2018 at 2:48:48 PM PST
To: barbailor@gmail.com

1: Have you compared the cost of the continuing study and construction proposed, if invested, will cover many years of road repairs and not destroy the very unique, wild/deep and environmentally sensitive canyons and their flora and fauna habitats and Blue Line streams therein. If road repair cost is the primary reason for habitat destruction in the PVPLC please focus on new creative methods of construction, maintenance, materials etc to abate the roadway problem.

Thank you for consideration of this request. Don Crocker. Rolling Hills.

Sent from my iPhone

SEPARATOR PAGE
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Teresa Takaoka

From: Lorna Cloke
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 7:18 AM
To: Teresa Takaoka
Subject: FW: Second batch of info
Attachments: PB Landslide Abatement - questions for the consultants staff and council clean 1.29.18I_PE edits.docx; ATT00001.htm

Forwarding Barbara Ailor email.

Lorna

From: Barbara Ailor [mailto:barbailor@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2018 9:46 PM
To: Wendy P Watson <wpwatson116@gmail.com>
Cc: Lorna Cloke <LornaC@rpvca.gov>
Subject: Second batch of info

Now don't let this next document scare you to death. The idea is simply to scan through it and look for something that you can relate to and send it (a question) to the City. You can modify the question some (your choice) or simply pick one (and can pick as many as you like) and send them to the City. **Public Comments should be submitted to Teri Takaoka, Deputy City Clerk, at TeriT@rpvca.gov.** However, none of us could get that email to work today, so I called the City and she said we could send it to **lornac@rpvca.gov** instead. Try both if you like. This info has to be in the City's hands by Friday, February 2nd. Really horrific what the City is contemplating to do with the Preserve.

Thanks again Wendy. I appreciate your interest. If you have any questions, feel free to text me at 310-701-6186. 
Barb

Questions following up to the RPV CC meeting of 1/16/18

Draft of 1/29/18

CC=Rancho Palos Verdes City Council

CSS=???need definition of this acronym

City or RPV=City of Rancho Palos Verdes

FS=Feasibility Study Update draft of 12/22/17

PBLC=Portuguese Bend Landslide Complex

PBR=Portuguese Bend Reserve

PVDS=Palos Verdes Dr South

"Solution" specific:

1. Which of the project proposals being floated in the FS present the greatest risk of triggering another landslide during construction? Is it not the case that 1950's infill done in the PBLC area is thought to have been, at minimum, a contributing factor to the 1956 landslide?
2. Mr. Cullen explained that the typical gradients they work on are 0.01 to 0.00001. The area under consideration has a 0.10 or 10% grade. What hazards could be expected working with such steep terrain?
3. Have homes in RH located near these three canyons been examined for risk of de-stabilization if the project proceeds?
4. Are there flexible materials now available that could be substituted for existing materials used on 1) the road, 2) the sewer pipe along PVDS, 3) the extraction and monitoring wells, 4) the corrugated pipe installed in past years to channel water in the lower reaches toward the ocean, which would reduce the likelihood of them being torn apart by land movement?
5. If septic tanks account for a certain percentage of the groundwater and septic tank conversion is the proposal with the least impact on nature, then will that be prioritized first?
6. Would pipes from a centralized sewer system in Rolling Hills be routed to avoid the Preserve?
7. Why not give full effort to dewatering instead of installing and then letting them go? If it worked for Abalone Cove, if it worked for PBR in the past, why not try it? Even if the

wells shear over time, it would be cheaper and less invasive to drill them again and over time they should stop shearing as land movement slows.

8. What subsurface water would the proposed "horizontal" drains be expected to drain and what water would not be expected to be drained by them? What would happen to the water that would not be expected to drain? Is there a certain percentage of saturation that is expected to have a nominal effect on land movement?
9. How will dewatering wells function with the horizontal drains? How will the tunneling and drains under the road affect the long-term stability of the road when the land does move?
10. From the plan view of the placement of the horizontal drains (Fig. 14) it is not clear what subsurface water levels the horizontal drains could passively drain. (An elevation view would be useful.) Furthermore, portions of the rupture surface appear to be at a zero elevation contour line (Geotechnical Figure 3). This would imply that the horizontal drains will not drain water passively from this area. Please clarify.
11. Where has the sealing of surface fractures with cement been done previously in an area with similar land movement?
12. What will happen to the clumps of concrete filling the fissures when/if the land moves?
13. The consultants' presentation to CC (at about 2:32) indicates that the fill substance for the fissures doesn't have to be cement, it could be soil. Is there soil in some places in the City land south of the Preserve" that has been deposited by man during prior remediation attempts, that could be used as fill for the fissures or are the consultants talking about introducing foreign soil? If the latter, does that have any risks associated with it? Related, foreign soil was brought in to re-grade Peppertree Tr after last year's rains. Are there any risks associated with that?
14. Where has the geo-textile fabric lining and channelization of canyons been done previously in an area with similar features as in PBR?
15. What would the installation process be for geo-textiles where canyon walls are deep or steep sided?
16. How much flex is there in the geo-textile fabric proposed to line the canyons and other proposed channels, i.e., when the land moves one foot, what happens to that fabric? Two feet?
17. If over time the geo-textile fabric tears or separates, does the work need to be redone? How would someone even know?
18. The FS at p. 53 says that "some engineering components would also be needed in mid-canyon high flow or flow convergence areas such as velocity dissipation structures, flow control channeling. . . ." Are any of those engineering components to be made of concrete? And approximately what dimensions are they likely to be?
19. What "stream restoration program" is contemplated in the reference on p. 63 of the FS?

20. How do the consultants envision getting construction equipment and hauling equipment to and from each of the canyons they propose to channelize?
21. If 65 feet is the minimum width of the canyon lining and channelization based on a 100-year flood event, what is the maximum width that will be permitted/required?
22. How much work area is needed adjacent to the geo-textile project to support the work?
How much staging area is needed for the geo-textile work? How much area is needed for spoils from the geo-textile work?
23. How do consultants propose to create a 65 foot-wide channel down each of these canyons which, in some places are currently 5-10 feet wide but have steep sides--will the canyons be filled in places in order to widen them?
24. Explain further how planting is proposed in the rip rap and, in particular, how the sacs would support large native plants with deep roots.
25. How do consultants propose to analyze the trade-offs between removing vegetation with deep root systems that help to control erosion in order to channelize the canyons vs. retaining that vegetation and allowing water to flow through the canyons naturally?
26. Doesn't the central channel operate at cross purpose to the goal of sending the water down the canyons to the ocean as quickly and directly as possible?
27. The CC presentation by the consultants (at about 2:28) indicates that Portuguese Cyn pretty much flows to the ocean. The pipe going under PVDS has apparently sunk some. How does the consultant justify altering the canyon if it is functioning currently? Why direct some of that flow to the east through the connecting/central channel where it then flows through the worst part of the landslide zone?

Cost-related:

1. Provide a breakdown of the spend on PVDS, sewer and other expenses since the City's incorporation in 1973. What was the money spent on, and what jurisdiction/agency spent it?
2. What would it cost and how long would it take to implement the measures of 1984, which seemed to be fairly effective and with significantly lighter environmental impacts than those currently proposed in the FS? What would it cost to maintain them, both monetarily and environmentally?
3. Per Mr. Cullen, ground water wells are critical to understanding the geology and hydrology of the landscape. Over the past years, money has been invested in placement of some 20 water wells, probably more but the data is lacking. The fact that money was spent on water wells and then not monitored or kept in repair does not give taxpayers confidence that this project will be successful or be monitored and maintained. Why should taxpayers believe that this time will be any different?

4. The consultant indicates that "a handful" of data would be needed before designing a system, yet the data gaps seem to be extensive. Please separate the data gap costs from the pilot testing costs provided in the slide near the end of the consultants' presentation "Order of Magnitude Costs".
5. Regarding pilot testing, at what point would the determination be made that the plan isn't working and it should be scrapped, vs. it should be modified at X cost? Is the idea to go forward at all costs once we start down that road?
6. The FS says at p. 72 that "ultimately, additional areas in the adjacent watersheds could also be lined, such as Eastern Altamira Canyon or Lower Klondike Canyon where stormwater continues to infiltrate to groundwater in the vicinity of the project area." What are the projected additional costs of these measures and how and when will the consultants determine whether they are "necessary"?
7. Will RPV pay for updated biologic surveys and how much will that add to the cost?
8. Do the costs of the project take into account the costs for work in Rolling Hills?
9. Do the costs of the project take into account all environmental mitigation, including that for Rolling Hills?
10. Will RPV pay for Rolling Hills septic to be converted to sewer?
11. If public debt is proposed for any of the project costs, whether in RPV or Rolling Hills, will a public vote be required? What happens if the public debt is not approved? Are the costs of such an election included in the project costs?
12. What would be estimated to be the interest costs of any public debt required to fund the project? Provide backup documentation for the calculation of probable interest costs.
13. If the canyon channelization and lining goes forward, will RPV compensate donors who have given their hard-earned money trusting that the land would be protected and preserved in perpetuity?

Hydrology and geology-related:

1. Some of the existing landslide abatement infrastructure is in complete disrepair, some is simply not maintained. For example, this culvert between Burma Rd and Rim Tr has overgrown vegetation blocking water flow.



It seems that if the damaged infrastructure is not repaired, hydrologic data may be skewed as water runoff and pooling is affected, thus it makes sense to postpone any future hydrologic studies until the existing damaged infrastructure is cleaned up and repaired or replaced. Has the existing infrastructure been surveyed to determine what is repairable and what isn't? Considering how long it will take to complete the projects currently contemplated in the FS, doesn't it make sense to fix what we have at least in the short term?

2. Why did the FS not include a "complete characterization of the hydrology of the area", since this was a top priority of the public who attended the Landslide Subcommittee meetings?
3. How will the consultants address the data gaps, specifically addressing data from existing wells, piezometers in the streams, rainfall gauges, and multiple years of data.
4. What are the highest priority data needs to determine the most feasible, cost effective, and least damaging solutions?
5. What is the risk of failure of each proposed remediation solution if a full hydrologic study of the watershed is not conducted and the existing data gaps are not addressed?
6. Is it possible to predict (and with what degree of certainty) where the land will flow in the future based on how much and where water will infiltrate the ground?
7. How much water is too much in the watershed? In other words, how much would need to be removed under certain rainfall conditions? And how much is needed to support life in the watershed?
8. Leighton estimated up to 77 acre-feet per year recharge from upslope irrigation. Mr. Cullen said that this is significant and needs further quantification to support a PBLC design. What sources of water are subsumed in "upslope irrigation"? What is the current percentage of groundwater inflow into the PBLC resulting from such irrigation upslope? What percentage is from septic tanks?
9. Is there a correlation between the changes in groundwater elevation from well to well and the land movement measurements from one well location to another?

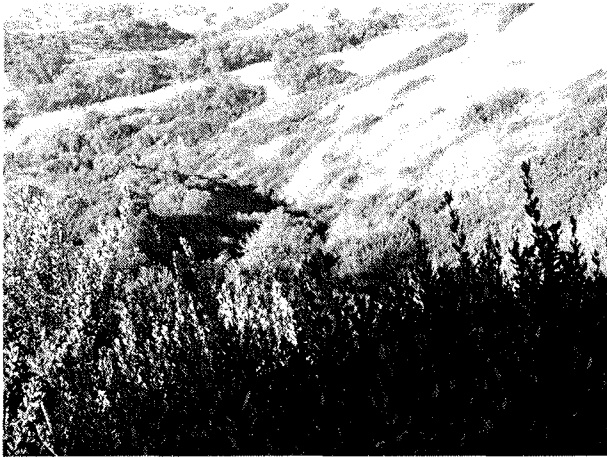
10. Without the results from a hydrologic study for the watershed, that includes data specific to each canyon, what evidence is there to quantify the statement (in the PBLC Physical Characteristics slide presented by consultants at the CC meeting) that "infiltration of canyon runoff is a source of groundwater recharge" other than the infiltration once that runoff arrives at the lower reaches of PBR? In other words, where is the evidence that water while running through the upper canyons has any significant impact on groundwater recharge in the lower reaches of PBR?
11. The consultants' presentation to CC indicated that "100% of storm water from [Paintbrush and Portuguese] canyon flows directly into the head of PBLC." Confirm that would be true with or without lining and channelizing the canyons, i.e., it's what is done with the water that comes out of the canyons that's going to determine whether or not the water flows into the head of the PBLC or is diverted elsewhere.
12. Explain the "deep" water bearing zone.
13. In the CC presentation, the consultant indicates ponding in the head of the slide, but he is waving the arrow around broadly. Where is the ponding? Is this reference different than the depression in the failure surface?
14. What is the likelihood that the depression in the failure surface in the "sandbox" is responsible for the 8 feet/year land movement just south of that feature?
15. Regarding the Hydrogeology slide shown by the consultants at the CC meeting of 1/16/18 indicating that PBLC water enters the subsurface by different means, what amount of water entry is attributable to each of the different means?
16. How is the variation in land movement explained (1-2 feet in most areas versus 8 feet in one place)? And what is the consultants' proposal for addressing this in particular; for focusing on this area?
17. Land movement data presented was just for 1 year. What is the movement for other years? And where?

Commented [PE1]: {Pam, is this what they call, underflow?} --
 --No, it is not quite the same thing. Here is how NOAA defines it:
Underflow:
 The lateral motion of water through the upper layers until it enters a stream channel. This usually takes longer to reach stream channels than runoff. This also called subsurface storm flow.

There will likely be infiltration all along the streambed, from both runoff on the surface, and from water moving through the upper layers. But we have no idea how much without further study.

Nature-related:

1. Are Portuguese Cyn, Ishibashi Cyn, Paintbrush Cyn and Klondike Cyn all blue-line streams?
2. Why did the FS not include a complete assessment of the environmental impacts of the proposal, since this was a top priority of the public who attended the Landslide Subcommittee meetings?
3. As you look out over PBR from above, you see that much of the CSS cover occurs in the canyons.



Portuguese Canyon



Ishibashi Canyon



Paintbrush Canyon

This makes sense, because the higher flat lands were the lands that were farmed in years past, while the canyons were left in their natural state, except for the damming of them created by roads across them. How viable is a preserve for CSS reliant species if the very highest quality CSS is removed?

4. Is there any plan going forward to assess the impact that destroying prime wildlife habitat in these canyons will have on the survivability of wildlife that currently live there and depend on the dense vegetative cover for protection from predators, for den sites, and for forage.
5. What does it mean that the City staff worked with the consultants to make sure alignment of surface area would avoid any of the identified species? Studies have shown us that California gnatcatchers, cactus wrens, and mammals are present. What data is there to demonstrate that the noise and other impacts of heavy equipment such as bull dozers, engines roaring, men shouting, radios blaring --all common to construction sites--will not have an adverse impact on the protected species and other wildlife?
6. What modifications will the consultants and RPV staff make in their FS recommendations to show true prioritization of minimizing impacts on the Preserve?
7. What are the most sensitive areas of the Preserve and how will they be avoided per the NCCP requirements?
8. Per the SR, the NCCP allows 3.3 acres of CSS take within the Preserve for landslide abatement measures. Channelizing upper Portuguese Cyn, Ishibashi Cyn and Paintbrush Cyn alone is estimated to "take" more than 10 acres of CSS. If the City and consultants are truly committed to honoring the NCCP, then why isn't channelizing the canyons rejected as an option as other landslide abatement measures considered were rejected?
9. How will the biological values of the area in the PBLC be preserved?
10. In years, what is the estimated timeframe that the proposal would set back the efforts to ensure the long-term viability and sustainability of the native ecosystem?

11. Who was consulted regarding native plants before the FS proposed uprooting them and planting them in sacs in the channelized canyons?
12. The FS says at p. 72 that "ultimately, additional areas in the adjacent watersheds could also be lined, such as Eastern Altamira Canyon or Lower Klondike Canyon where stormwater continues to infiltrate to groundwater in the vicinity of the project area." In addition, in the consultants' presentation, Klondike Cyn was mentioned and we're told that it should be controlled eventually. The consultant acknowledges that there is a lot of CSS in that canyon. Has the take from these canyons been considered in the total take calculations?
13. What inspections have been done in the canyons, if any, and under whose guidance?
14. "Take" in RH is not mitigated by the NCCP. What mitigation efforts and permitting will be undertaken with respect to that take? Who will be the lead agency for that permitting?

Process-related:

1. Conversations with the consultants following the CC meeting suggest that the consultants would benefit from regular input from PVPLC staff and its volunteers. What is the plan going forward to bring in the PVPLC and its volunteers on a regular basis to engage in back and forth dialogue with the consultants?
2. Was ACLAD (Abalone Cove Landslide District) consulted for their data and feedback during the FS process?
3. Who is the environmental consultant on the team, what is his/her background and what has been his/her contribution? (The public was told that there is an environmental consultant on the team.)
4. Why doesn't the FS take into account the time frame and feasibility of permitting and various agencies' reviews (other than mentioning there would be constraints) with respect to the myriad project proposals?

Other:

1. If we have a heavy rain year in the middle of the project when all the habitat has been torn up and nothing yet installed or only partially installed to manage the water flow, what measures will be taken to prevent Palos Verdes Drive South and the Portuguese Bend community become 'another' Route 101 and Montecito, CA?
2. What measures can be implemented now without further study, such as repairing or replacing existing infrastructure (corrugated pipes, e.g.) to direct water off of the lower PBR?
3. What percentage of the PBLC is within the City of Rolling Hills?
4. What support is there from Rolling Hills?

5. What impact have past construction projects had on the land movement, for example, to what extent have Burma Rd, Peppertree Tr, and PV Dr South damned the natural flow of water down the canyons to the ocean and how can those projects be re-designed to mitigate the problems? For instance, after the rains of 2017 resulted in significant runoff on and along Peppertree Tr, the trail was filled and re-graded, resulting in damming of the naturally-formed runoff trenches. Recent rain filled these trenches and pooled in the lower part of PBR, allowing rain water to infiltrate the ground rather than running off.



6. What is the involvement of the Klondike Cyn landslide with the Portuguese Bend landslide as mentioned by Mr. Cullen in the CC mtg of 1/16/18?
7. There's an assumption that the grading done in 1987 as per POC II (moving 500,000 yards from steep areas to flat areas) slowed the land movement. Has anybody looked at the rainfall during that time to determine whether other variables might be responsible for the slower movement?
8. Why doesn't the consultants' cross-section of the groundwater occurrence show that the soil surface level is below the road surface north of the road?
9. In the consultants' slide labeled Detailed Analysis--Geotechnical Modeling, the landslide mass is pulled off revealing a brown layer, but it appears that part of the landslide mass is left behind in the area of the pond/the deeper landslide. Is that correct? (about 2:16 on CC video) If the modeling left behind the pond, can it be accurate modeling?

Alternatives:

1. Surface drainage within the landslide is poor, said consultants during the CC meeting, and "can't get water to move through to the ocean where it normally and originally and natively went to. It gets essentially dammed up by the slide material." Was some of that "slide material" deposited by man and why not focus on returning to a more natural drainage course, particularly because the PBLC apparently showed little movement for decades (centuries?) until man began to grade the area for roads, damming the natural water courses?
2. The consultants' presentation indicated that the "lower reaches of Portuguese and Paintbrush Canyons have been destroyed". They were destroyed by man. What is the feasibility of restoring the lower reaches of the canyons to allow rainwater to flow naturally to the ocean?
3. Has an analysis been done on leaving the upper reaches of the canyons in their natural state and only addressing the lower reaches, for example possibly lining "the sandbox", or part of it, with some type of flexible fabric and directing the water from that low area down to the ocean through some type of flexible piping?
4. What is the feasibility, risks and benefits, of creating a wetland atop a liner in that area?
5. What is the feasibility of supporting PVDS on caissons or other support structures down to the basalt bedrock, or creating a floating road or a bridge, anchored on both ends of the land flow, allowing the land flow to pass below the road surface?

SEPARATOR PAGE
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Teresa Takaoka

From: tony baker <tbake377@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 02, 2018 2:09 PM
To: Teresa Takaoka
Subject: PBLS Draft Feasibility Study
Attachments: Draft Feasibility Study P.B. Lndslld.docx

Attached is a comment letter for the Draft Feasibility Study
Thank you for entering this into the process.
Tony Baker

Mayor Brooks, Mayor Pro-tem Duhovic, Council members Dyda, Alegria and Cruikshank

I have read the Feasibility Study and I have serious concerns with some of the suggested remedial actions and I share many of the concerns that many other letter writers have stated.

I preface my comments by stating that I am not a structural engineer, hydrologist or geologist. I am a 70 year resident of Portuguese Bend, a native plant landscaper and first hand observer of the slow moving P.B. Landslide as well as an active participant of a fast moving slippage at the Ocean Trails Golf Course. I am also Horticulture Chair of the South Coast Chapter of the California Native Plant Society, but I speak here only as a concerned resident.

I was about 10 yrs. old when the earth began to move here in the Bend. I recall bulldozers, scrapers, trucks and blasting prior to the crumbling road-cut face that is now the head of the landslide. Cracks began opening up all around the neighborhood and the water drained out of the swimming pool at the Portuguese Bend Club located in the lee of Inspiration Point. The construction of Crenshaw Blvd. was the trigger that set off the movement of this section of an ancient landslide that had been laying at the angle of repose. And it continues until today.

There is much we do not know. A comprehensive study of the Ancient Altamira Landslide Complex has never been implemented. We only have parts of a very large and complex puzzle. Some of the studies that are being relied upon for this report were done on private landholdings and were at the behest of land owners looking to develop segments of Port. Bend. Vonder Linden was hired by Palos Verdes Properties (subsidiary of Great Lakes Properties) and the Leighton studies were undertaken for P.V. Landholding (Barry Hon-developer). An aside---Karl Vonder Linden---said to me (1980's) that if you ask 4 geologists a question, you get 5 answers back (old joke).

Again, there is much we don't know. The potential impacts to native fauna and flora by this project as viewed is tremendous and could be devastating to many species of concern and the viability of the Preserve. Intensive surveys must

be done before any work begins and impacts to the overall Preserve taken into account. Just because “take” is allowed in the NCCP doesn’t mean that it should be. The elimination of habitat in this case removes some of the highest quality and densest vegetation of the Preserve.

Of all the proposals put forward, grading and lining the canyons would be devastating to vitality of the Preserve as a whole. This proposal should be taken off the table. The canyons are the heart of the Preserve with abundant habitat providing natural corridors that are irreplaceable. Cutting a 65’ wide swath through them means cutting back the steep canyon walls to run a geo-textile fabric liner down them which would require removing all the vegetation (denuding) of both the canyon bottom and steep sides. The dense vegetative cover is soaking up, storing and transpiring most of the rain that falls. The plants also break up rain as it falls and reduces runoff. When a landscape is denuded to bare earth, water runs off to form rivulets, then channels that then form gullies and they find faults that take the water to the slide plane.

I heard it said that islands of habitat can dug and replanted. I would expect mortality to be near 100% aside from the shallow rooted *Opuntia* cactus. The trees and large shrubs---*Rhus*, *Toyon*, *Salix*, *Malosma*, etc---of the canyons have roots that extend several dozens of feet deep. Bob Douglas (late resident and PBLS expert) told me that roots were encountered at 90 feet when the dewatering wells were being drilled. The established coastal sage plants such as *Artemisia*, *Salvia*, *Encelia* are more shallowly rooted but will not transplant. I’m a big proponent of habitat restoration, but we can never re-create undisturbed natural habitat with its complex web of life down to the microscopic biota. Once an area is disturbed, it is an opening for non-native invasive species. Notice that the coastal sage scrub of the Preserve that has not been subject to disturbance, has very little exotic vegetation within it.

Filling surface fissures with concrete is doomed to failure with a creeping landslide. As drivers on P.V. Drive South can tell us cracks open up in the asphalt the day after they are filled. Residents of PBLS have learned to be flexible. I picture years down the road, if the above ideas are implemented, we will have liner and concrete detritus blighting the Preserve.

The active land slide began with a large construction project. We need to reject much of this massive construction project with its \$53 million price tag and huge negative impacts. There is no guarantee of successfully slowing slide. Is there any guarantee that the above won't actually exacerbate movement?

While the lateral drain system looks promising on paper, will it perform within an actively moving landslide?

We can look into less intrusive methods. The goal of slowing the PBLS is a laudable one. Dewatering wells have proved successful in slowing the Abalone Cove Landslide to a fraction of movement. Wells can be instrumental in lowering the water table considerably. Wells that are well placed and maintained hold much promise---especially the idea of removing water before it reaches the slide plane by placement of wells above the active slide. A study of the optimal locations should be undertaken.

Capturing storm water after it exits the upper canyons and directing it through the sandbox area and under the drive and to the ocean needs more examination. The landslide long ago cut off the natural flows through the middle and lower sections. The efforts after the 1987 grading to collect and direct the storm waters failed quickly, but were not well designed or maintained. A large semi-flexible pipe system replacing the metal corrugated full and half pipes that are placed so that water flows at a downward angle (obviously). And Maintained!

Let us do everything we can to protect the habitat, wildlife, peace and tranquility of the Palos Verdes Preserve. The phrase "Less is More" comes to mind.

Thank you for your consideration

Tony Baker

16 Limetree Lane

Portuguese Bend

SEPARATOR PAGE
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Teresa Takaoka

From: Eva Cicoria <cicoriae@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, February 02, 2018 1:45 PM
To: CityClerk
Cc: CC
Subject: Portuguese Bend Landslide Feasibility Study Related Questions
Attachments: PB Landslide Abatement - questions for the consultants staff and council final.pdf

Dear Ms. Takaoka,

We wish to thank Mayor Brooks, Mayor Pro Tem Duhovic, Council Members Alegria, Cruikshank and Dyda, and the Rancho Palos Verdes City Staff for the opportunity to provide additional questions to City Staff and the engineering consultants at Daniel B. Stephens & Associates regarding the Draft Portuguese Bend Landslide Feasibility Study dated December 22, 2017.

We are submitting the questions attached to this email for and on behalf of each of the 85 people and one group whose names appear at the end of the question set. We sought to compile a comprehensive list of questions. We find today, however, that members of the public have still more questions than are included in the attachment. We have simply run out of time to continue to add to the list.

There may be some overlap among questions, and we request that in such cases City Staff and its consultants provide answers that address all aspects of the aggregate of such overlapping questions, not summary answers to groups of similar questions.

Please share our submission with the Infrastructure Management Advisory Committee, so that they, too, may consider our questions.

Thank you for your diligent attention to this significant and important matter. Kindly acknowledge receipt of this submission.

Eva Cicoria and Ken Swenson

Rancho Palos Verdes

**Questions Following Up to the Rancho Palos Verdes City Council Meeting of
1/16/18 Re: Draft Portuguese Bend Landslide Feasibility Study**

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Legend

CC=Rancho Palos Verdes City Council

CSS=Coastal Sage Scrub

City=City of Rancho Palos Verdes

FS=Feasibility Study Update Draft of 12/22/17

NCCP=Natural Communities Conservation Plan

PBLC=Portuguese Bend Landslide Complex

PBR=Portuguese Bend Reserve

PVDS=Palos Verdes Dr. South

RPV=City of Rancho Palos Verdes

SR=RPV Staff Report for CC meeting of 1/16/18

"Solution"-Specific Questions

1. Which of the project proposals being floated in the FS present the greatest risk of triggering another landslide during construction? Is it not the case that 1950s infill done in the PBLC area is thought to have been, at minimum, a contributing factor to the 1956 landslide? How much new fill would be involved in the different project proposals?
2. Mr. Cullen explained that the typical gradients they work on are 0.01 to 0.00001. The area under consideration has a 0.10 or 10% grade. What hazards could be expected working with such steep terrain?
3. Have homes in Rolling Hills located near these three canyons been examined for risk of de-stabilization if the project proceeds?
4. Are there flexible materials now available that could be substituted for existing materials used on 1) the road, 2) the sewer pipe along PVDS, 3) the extraction and monitoring wells, 4) the corrugated pipe installed in past years to channel water in the lower reaches toward the ocean, in each case which would reduce the likelihood of them being torn apart by land movement?
5. If septic tanks account for a certain percentage of the groundwater and septic tank conversion is the proposal with the least impact on nature, then will that be prioritized first?
6. Would pipes from a centralized sewer system in Rolling Hills be routed to avoid the Preserve?
7. Why not give full effort to dewatering instead of installing such systems and then letting them go? If it worked for Abalone Cove, if it worked for PBR in the past, why not try it ahead of other solutions? Even if the wells shear over time, would it not be cheaper and less invasive to drill them again and over time they should stop shearing as land movement slows?
8. What subsurface water (amount and percentage) would the proposed "horizontal" drains be expected to drain and what water would not be expected to be drained by them? What would happen to the water that would not be expected to drain?
9. Is there a certain amount of water or percentage of water saturation that would be expected to have a nominal effect on land movement and therefore would be acceptable under the proposed solutions?

10. How will dewatering wells function with the horizontal drains? Will drainage be tunneled or established under PVDS? How will the tunneling and drains under the road affect the long-term stability of the road when the land does move?
11. From the plan view of the placement of the horizontal drains (FS Figure 14), it is not clear what subsurface water levels the horizontal drains could passively drain. (An elevation view would be useful.) Furthermore, portions of the rupture surface appear to be at a zero-elevation contour line (Geotechnical Figure 3). This would imply that the horizontal drains will not drain water passively from this area. Please clarify.
12. Where has the sealing of surface fractures with cement been done previously in an area with similar land movement?
13. What will happen to the clumps of concrete filling the fissures when/if the land moves?
14. The consultants' presentation to CC (at about 2:32) indicates that the fill substance for the fissures doesn't have to be cement, it could be soil. Is there soil in some places in the City land south of the Preserve that has been deposited by man during prior remediation attempts, that could be used as fill for the fissures or are the consultants talking about introducing foreign soil? If the latter, does that have any risks associated with it? Related, foreign soil was brought in to re-grade Peppertree Tr. after last year's rains. Are there any risks associated with that?
15. Explain the differences between the Work Areas Conceptual Design vs. the Drainage Routing graphics. The former shows the Portuguese Cyn Channel extending past the Central Channel to PVDS and the ocean discharge, whereas the Drainage Routing graphic shows drainage for Portuguese Cyn being routed to the Central Channel only.
16. Where has the geo-textile fabric lining and channelization of canyons been done previously in an area with similar features as in PBR?
17. What would the installation process be for geo-textiles where canyon walls are deep or steep-sided?
18. How much flex is there in the geo-textile fabric proposed to line the canyons and other proposed channels, i.e., when the land moves one foot, what happens to that fabric? Two feet?

19. Will plant roots perforate the geo-textile fabric, or work through seams or overlaps, and in doing so impact the fabric's effectiveness?
20. If, over time, the geo-textile fabric tears or separates, does the work need to be redone? How would someone even know?
21. The FS at p. 53 says that "some engineering components would also be needed in mid-canyon high flow or flow convergence areas such as velocity dissipation structures, flow control channeling" What are these additional engineering components? Are any of those engineering components to be made of concrete? And approximately what dimensions are they likely to be? How would they be installed?
22. What "stream restoration program" is contemplated in the reference on p. 63 of the FS?
23. How do the consultants envision getting construction equipment and hauling equipment to and from each of the canyons they propose to channelize?
24. If 65 feet is the minimum width of the canyon lining and channelization is based on a 100-year flood event (per the SR), what is the maximum width that will be permitted/required?
25. How much work area is needed adjacent to the geo-textile project to support the work? How much staging area is needed for the geo-textile work? How much area is needed for spoils from the geo-textile work?
26. How do consultants propose to create a 65 foot-wide channel down each of these canyons which, in some places are currently 5-10 feet wide but have steep sides--will the canyons be filled in places in order to widen them?
27. Explain further how planting is proposed in the rip rap and, in particular, how the sacs would support large native plants with deep roots.
28. How do consultants propose to analyze the trade-offs between removing vegetation with deep root systems that help to control erosion in order to channelize the canyons vs. retaining that vegetation to control erosion and allowing water to flow through the canyons naturally?
29. Doesn't the central channel operate at cross purpose to the goal of sending the water down the canyons to the ocean as quickly and directly as possible?
30. Why does the central channel send most of the water, including water from Portuguese Cyn, into the area of suspected subterranean pooled water, already deemed by the consultants to be a major problem area?

31. The CC presentation by the consultants (at about 2:28) indicates that Portuguese Cyn pretty much flows to the ocean. The pipe going under PVDS has apparently sunk some. How does the consultant justify altering the canyon to the extreme extent proposed if it is functioning fairly well currently except at the point where it reaches PVDS?

Cost-Related Questions

1. Provide a breakdown of the spend on PVDS, sewer and other expenses since the City's incorporation in 1973. What was the money spent on, and what jurisdiction/agency spent it?
2. What would it cost and how long would it take to implement the measures of 1984, which seemed to be fairly effective and with significantly lighter environmental impacts than those currently proposed in the FS? What would it cost to properly maintain them, both monetarily and environmentally?
3. Per Mr. Cullen, ground water wells are critical to understanding the geology and hydrology of the landscape. Over the past years, money has been invested in placement of some 20 water wells, probably more, but the data is lacking. The fact that money was spent on water wells and then not monitored or kept in repair does not give taxpayers confidence that this project will be successful or be monitored and maintained. Why should taxpayers believe that this time will be any different?
4. The consultants indicate that "a handful" of data would be needed before designing a system, yet the data gaps seem to be extensive. Please separate the data gap costs from the pilot testing costs provided in the slide near the end of the consultants' presentation "Order of Magnitude Costs".
5. Regarding pilot testing, at what point would the determination be made that the plan isn't working and it should be scrapped, vs. it should be modified at X cost? Is the idea to go forward at all costs once we start down that road?
6. The FS says at p. 72 that "ultimately, additional areas in the adjacent watersheds could also be lined, such as Eastern Altamira Cyn or Lower Klondike Cyn where stormwater continues to infiltrate to groundwater in the vicinity of the project area." What are the projected additional monetary and environmental costs of these measures and how and when will the consultants determine whether they are "necessary"?

7. Will RPV pay for updated biologic surveys and how much will that add to the cost?
8. Do the costs of the project take into account the costs for work in Rolling Hills?
9. Do the costs of the project take into account all environmental mitigation, including for Rolling Hills?
10. Will RPV pay for Rolling Hills septic to be converted to sewer?
11. If public debt is proposed for any of the project costs, whether in RPV or Rolling Hills, will a public vote be required? What happens if the public debt is not approved? Are the costs of such an election included in the project costs?
12. What would be estimated to be the interest costs of any public debt required to fund the project? Provide backup documentation for the calculation of probable interest costs.
13. If the canyon channelization and lining go forward, will RPV compensate donors who have given their hard-earned money trusting that the land would be protected and preserved in perpetuity?
14. Has exposure to liability to homeowners, including homeowners in Rolling Hills, been taken into consideration if the project triggers slope failure?
15. When will the public see a rigorous return-on-investment analysis?

Hydrology- and Geology-Related Questions

1. Why did the FS not include a "complete characterization of the hydrology of the area", since this was a top priority of the public who attended the Landslide Subcommittee meetings?
2. How will the consultants address the data gaps, specifically addressing data from existing wells, piezometers in the streams, rainfall gauges, and multiple years of data?
3. What are the highest-priority data needs to determine the most feasible, cost effective, and least-damaging solutions?
4. What is the risk of failure of each proposed remediation solution if a full hydrologic study of the watershed is not conducted and the existing data gaps are not addressed?

5. Some of the existing landslide abatement infrastructure is in complete disrepair, some is simply not maintained. For example, this culvert between Burma Rd and Rim Tr. has overgrown vegetation blocking water flow.



It seems that if the damaged infrastructure is not repaired, hydrologic data may be skewed as water runoff and pooling is affected, thus it makes sense to postpone any future hydrologic studies until the existing damaged infrastructure is cleaned up and repaired or replaced. Has the existing infrastructure been surveyed to determine what is repairable and what isn't? Considering how long it will take to complete the projects currently contemplated in the FS, doesn't it make sense to fix what we have at least in the short term?

6. Is it possible to predict (and with what degree of certainty) where the land will flow in the future based on how much and where water will infiltrate the ground?
7. How much water is too much in the watershed? In other words, how much would need to be removed under certain rainfall conditions? And how much is needed to support life in the watershed?
8. Leighton estimated up to 77 acre-feet per year recharge from upslope irrigation. Mr. Cullen said that this is significant and needs further quantification to support a PBLC design. What sources of water are subsumed in "upslope irrigation"? What is the current percentage of groundwater inflow into the PBLC resulting from such irrigation upslope? What percentage is from septic tanks?

9. Is there a correlation between the changes in groundwater elevation from well to well and the land movement measurements from one well location to another?
10. Without the results from a hydrologic study for the watershed, that includes data specific to each canyon, what evidence is there to support the statement (in the PBLC Physical Characteristics slide presented by consultants at the CC meeting) that "infiltration of canyon runoff is a source of groundwater recharge" other than the infiltration once that runoff arrives at the lower reaches of PBR? In other words, where is the evidence that any subsurface water flow originating from water running down through the upper canyons has any significant impact on groundwater recharge in the lower reaches of PBR?
11. The consultants' presentation to CC indicated that "100% of storm water from [Paintbrush and Portuguese] canyon flows directly into the head of PBLC." Yet, some of that water currently percolates into the ground and transpires through vegetation in the canyons. Confirm that actually more water from the canyons will flow directly into the head of PBLC with lining and channelization and that actually what is done with the water that comes out of the canyons is going to determine whether or not the water flows into the head of the PBLC or is diverted elsewhere.
12. Explain the "deep" water bearing zone.
13. In the CC presentation, the consultants indicate ponding in the head of the slide, but the arrow is moving around broadly. Where is the ponding? Is this reference different than the depression in the failure surface? Does the failure surface that drops to sea level extend under PVDS?
14. Where is the depression in the failure surface relative to the one spot that showed 8 feet/year land movement?
15. What is the suspected relationship between the depression in the failure surface and the one spot in the vicinity that showed 8 feet/year land movement?
16. Regarding the Hydrogeology slide shown by the consultants at the CC meeting of 1/16/18 indicating that PBLC water enters the subsurface by different means, what amount of water entry is attributable to each of the different means?

17. In the consultants' slide labeled Detailed Analysis--Geotechnical Modeling, the landslide mass is pulled off revealing a brown layer, but it appears that part of the landslide mass is left behind in the area of the pond/the deeper landslide. Is that correct? (about 2:16 on CC video) If the modeling left behind the pond, can it be accurate modeling?
18. How is the variation in land movement explained (1-2 feet in most areas versus 8 feet in one place)? And what is the consultants' proposal for addressing this in particular; for focusing on this area?
19. Land movement data presented was just for 1 year. What is the movement for other years? And where?

Nature-Related Questions

1. Are Portuguese Cyn, Ishibashi Cyn, Paintbrush Cyn and Klondike Cyn all blue-line streams?
2. Why did the FS not include a complete assessment of the environmental impacts of the proposal, since this was a top priority of the public who attended the Landslide Subcommittee meetings?
3. As you look out over PBR from above, you see that much of the CSS cover occurs in the canyons.



Portuguese Cyn



Ishibashi Cyn



Paintbrush Cyn

This makes sense, because the higher flat lands were the lands that were farmed in years past, while the canyons were left in their natural state,

- except for damming created by roads across them. How viable is a preserve for CSS-reliant species if the very highest quality CSS is removed?
4. Is there any plan going forward to assess the impact that destroying prime wildlife habitat in these canyons will have on the survivability of wildlife that currently live there and depend on the dense vegetative cover for protection from predators, for den sites, and for forage?
 5. What does it mean that the City staff worked with the consultants to make sure alignment of the surface area would avoid any of the identified species? Avoiding identified species is not something the City staff is qualified to represent fully to a consultant. A biologist should be the only person representing this kind of information on behalf of the City and in a collaborative process as well as to honor the NCCP, the City would request that a biologist from the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy provide this information to the consultants.
 6. Studies have shown us that California gnatcatchers, cactus wrens, and mammals are present in the proposed project area. What data is there to demonstrate that the noise and other impacts of heavy equipment such as bulldozers, engines roaring, men shouting, radios blaring--all common to construction sites--will not have an adverse impact on the protected species and other wildlife?
 7. What modifications will the consultants and RPV staff make in their FS recommendations to show true prioritization of minimizing impacts on the Preserve?
 8. What are the most sensitive areas of the Preserve and how will they be avoided per the NCCP requirements? Please consult PVP Land Conservancy.
 9. Per the SR, the NCCP allows 3.3 acres of CSS take within the Preserve for landslide abatement measures. Channelizing upper Portuguese Cyn, Ishibashi Cyn and Paintbrush Cyn alone is estimated to "take" more than 10 acres of CSS. If the City and consultants are truly committed to honoring the NCCP, then why isn't channelizing the canyons rejected as an option as other landslide abatement measures considered were rejected?
 10. If the City uses its full allotment of CSS take for utilities and dewatering well maintenance simply to install the project, what is the City's plan for those activities after the project is installed?

11. How will the biological values of the area in the PBLC be preserved?
12. In years, what is the estimated timeframe that the proposal would set back the efforts already undertaken and progress already made to ensure the long-term viability and sustainability of the native ecosystem?
13. Who was consulted regarding native plants before the FS proposed uprooting them and planting them in sacs in the channelized canyons? Are consultants aware that some native plant species in the canyons have very extensive root systems, some 30-40 feet deep or greater, which themselves offer stabilizing and transpiration benefits?
14. The FS says at p. 72 that "ultimately, additional areas in the adjacent watersheds could also be lined, such as Eastern Altamira Cyn or Lower Klondike Cyn where storm water continues to infiltrate to groundwater in the vicinity of the project area." In addition, in the consultants' presentation, Klondike Cyn was mentioned and we're told that it should be controlled eventually. The consultants acknowledge that there is a lot of CSS in that canyon. Has the take from these canyons been considered in the total take calculations?
15. What inspections have been done in the canyons, if any, and under whose guidance?
16. "Take" in Rolling Hills is not mitigated by the NCCP. What mitigation efforts and permitting will be undertaken with respect to that take? Who will be the lead agency for that permitting?
17. What effect does dewatering have on plant life?

Process-Related Questions

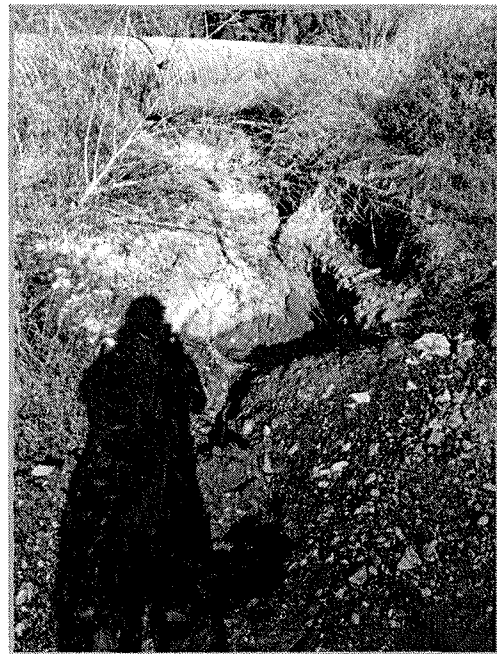
1. Conversations with the consultants following the CC meeting suggest that the consultants would benefit from regular input from PVPLC staff and its volunteers. What is the plan going forward to bring in the PVPLC and its volunteers on a regular basis to engage in back-and-forth dialogue with the consultants?
2. Was ACLAD (Abalone Cove Landslide District) consulted for their data and feedback during the FS process?
3. Who is the "environmental expert" on the team; what is his/her background; and what has been his/her contribution? (When the issue was raised last

summer, the public was told that there is an environmental expert on the team.)

4. Why doesn't the FS take into account the time frame and feasibility of permitting and various agencies' reviews (other than mentioning there would be constraints) with respect to the myriad project proposals?

Other Questions

1. If we have a heavy rain year in the middle of the project when all the habitat has been torn up and nothing yet installed or only partially installed to manage the water flow, what measures will be taken to prevent Palos Verdes Drive South and the Portuguese Bend community becoming "another" Route 101 and Montecito, CA?
2. What measures can be implemented now without further study, such as repairing or replacing existing infrastructure (e.g., corrugated pipes) to direct water off of the lower PBR?
3. What percentage of the PBLC is within the City of Rolling Hills?
4. What support is there from Rolling Hills?
5. What impact have past construction projects had on the land movement, for example, to what extent have Burma Rd., Peppertree Tr., and PVDS dammed the natural flow of water down the canyons to the ocean and how can those projects be re-designed to mitigate the problems?
6. To what extent will existing poor drainage infrastructure be repaired prior to pilot projects and other work? For instance, after the rains of 2017 resulted in significant runoff on and along Peppertree Tr., the trail was filled and re-graded, resulting in damming of the naturally-formed runoff trenches. Recent rain filled these trenches and pooled in the lower part of PBR, allowing rain water to infiltrate the ground rather than running off.



7. What is the involvement of the Klondike Cyn landslide with the Portuguese Bend landslide as mentioned by Mr. Cullen in the CC meeting of 1/16/18?
8. There's an assumption that the grading done in 1987 as per POC II (moving 500,000 yards from steep areas to flat areas) slowed the land movement. Has anybody looked at the rainfall during that time to determine whether other variables might be responsible for the slower movement?
9. At what point in the process will the noise, dust, trail closures and other impacts of the extensive construction work over a long period of time, on trail users, residents of Rolling Hills and the Portuguese Bend community, and visitors to Terranea Resort be considered in the mix of concerns?
10. Portuguese Bend Club is involved in slide remediation in their area. Have the possible impacts of their grading and other work on the Klondike Cyn slide and/or the PBLC, whether positive or negative, been systematically examined?

Alternatives

1. Surface drainage within the landslide is poor, said consultants during the CC meeting, and "can't get water to move through to the ocean where it normally and originally and natively went to. It gets essentially dammed up by the slide material." Was some of that "slide material" deposited by man and why not focus on returning to a more natural drainage course, particularly because the PBLC apparently showed little movement for decades (centuries?) until man began to grade the area for roads, damming the natural water courses?
2. The consultants' presentation indicated that the "lower reaches of Portuguese and Paintbrush Canyons have been destroyed". They were destroyed by man. What is the feasibility of restoring the lower reaches of the canyons to allow rainwater to flow naturally to the ocean?
3. Has an analysis been done on leaving the upper reaches of the canyons in their natural state and only addressing the lower reaches, for example possibly lining "the sandbox", or part of it, with some type of flexible fabric and directing the water from that low area down to the ocean through some type of flexible piping?
4. What is the feasibility--risks and benefits--of creating a wetland atop a liner in the low area of the sandbox?

5. What is the feasibility of supporting PVDS on caissons or other support structures down to the basalt bedrock, or creating a floating road or a bridge, anchored on both ends of the land flow, allowing the land flow to pass below the road surface?

Supporters of These Question Submissions to Date (2/2/18)

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. <i>Eva Cicoria</i> | 33. <i>Bill Ailor, PhD</i> | 66. <i>Virginia Cicoria</i> |
| 2. <i>Ken Swenson</i> | 34. <i>Jim Knight</i> | 67. <i>Carolynn Petru</i> |
| 3. <i>Pam Emch, PhD</i> | 35. <i>Cassie Jones</i> | 68. <i>Andy Petru</i> |
| 4. <i>Barb Ailor</i> | 36. <i>John Spielman</i> | 69. <i>Sharon Fair</i> |
| 5. <i>Jim Rassler</i> | 37. <i>Kathy Christie</i> | 70. <i>Joe Platnick</i> |
| 6. <i>Cynthia Woo</i> | 38. <i>Susan Cyr</i> | 71. <i>June Treherne</i> |
| 7. <i>Randy Harwood</i> | 39. <i>Tom Cyr</i> | 72. <i>Linda L. Varner</i> |
| 8. <i>Noel Park</i> | 40. <i>Scott Ammons</i> | 73. <i>Leonard W. Varner</i> |
| 9. <i>Tony Baker</i> | 41. <i>Lewis Enstedt</i> | 74. <i>Jeremiah N. George, PhD</i> |
| 10. <i>David Sundstrom</i> | 42. <i>Megan McElroy</i> | 75. <i>David Quadhamer</i> |
| 11. <i>Barbara Gleghorn</i> | 43. <i>Amy Friend</i> | 76. <i>Kathy Hill</i> |
| 12. <i>George Gleghorn</i> | 44. <i>Rick Wallace</i> | 77. <i>Leslie Chapin</i> |
| 13. <i>Ann Shaw</i> | 45. <i>Grace Wallace</i> | 78. <i>Christine Campbell</i> |
| 14. <i>Allen Franz</i> | 46. <i>Peter Shaw</i> | 79. <i>Tami Podesta</i> |
| 15. <i>David Berman</i> | 47. <i>Marianne Hunter</i> | 80. <i>Gina Henderson</i> |
| 16. <i>Bill Lavoie</i> | 48. <i>Wendy Watson</i> | 81. <i>Mark McGinn</i> |
| 17. <i>Dave Wiggins</i> | 49. <i>Joan Kelly</i> | 82. <i>Adela Barnett</i> |
| 18. <i>Donna McLaughlin</i> | 50. <i>Vicki Hulbert</i> | 83. <i>Bruce Biesman-Simons</i> |
| 19. <i>Ian Song</i> | 51. <i>Randy Hulbert</i> | 84. <i>Bob Ford</i> |
| 20. <i>Barbara Sattler</i> | 52. <i>Katie Vanderhal</i> | 85. <i>Al Sattler</i> |
| 21. <i>Rob Kautz</i> | 53. <i>Jeremy Vanderhal</i> | 86. <i>South Coast Chapter of the California Native Plant Society</i> |
| 22. <i>Elizabeth Sala</i> | 54. <i>Joyce Jessoe</i> | |
| 23. <i>Heather White</i> | 55. <i>Brett Barker</i> | |
| 24. <i>George Neuner</i> | 56. <i>Geraldine Cole</i> | |
| 25. <i>Diana Bailey</i> | 57. <i>Brian Donnelly</i> | |
| 26. <i>Evi Meyer</i> | 58. <i>Cynthia Donnelly</i> | |
| 27. <i>Emile Fiesler</i> | 59. <i>Mel Lefkowitz</i> | |
| 28. <i>Cathy Nichols</i> | 60. <i>Linda Wu</i> | |
| 29. <i>Jim Aichele</i> | 61. <i>Denise Donegan</i> | |
| 30. <i>Bob Shanman</i> | 62. <i>Terry Scott</i> | |
| 31. <i>Mike Kilroy</i> | 63. <i>Jim Scott</i> | |
| 32. <i>Greg Marcelo</i> | 64. <i>Sharon Yarber</i> | |
| | 65. <i>Virgil Cicoria</i> | |

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Teresa Takaoka

From: Ken DeLong <ken.delong@verizon.net>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2018 3:58 PM
To: CC
Cc: 'William Patton'; Mickey Rodich <mickeyrodich@gmail.com>; 'David Koch'; 'Kit Ruona'; Robert Nelson <nelsongang@aol.com>; 'Sharon Yarber'
Subject: Portuguese Bend Landslide Comments

This concerns the Portuguese Bend landslide presentation to the Council on January 26th and the subsequent request for resident comments.

There was considerable technical detail with the presenters reported intent was to bring past concerns to a current data update. It appeared that the objective was accomplished. As I am not an engineer qualified to make technical comments, my observations are non-technical.

It appears that the presenters again confirmed what RPV has known for some time; that there is septic water from Rolling Hills and RPV as well as water from other sources that are significant contributors to the landslide. Sources have never been adequately mapped to determine exactly where the water flow begins. At the lower ocean outfall, there needs to be a buttress that can stabilize and hold the land from flowing into the ocean. We recognize that developing good solutions for landslide control is not an easy problem to solve.

First of all it would seem that task 1 would be to remove all of the landslide area from the Nature Preserve thus removing PVPLC involvement as the PVPLC seems to have greater concerns for habitat than landslide control. The NCCP should NOT be a component of this problem.

Much of the negotiations going forward will be political as well as technical. RPV needs to engage Los Angeles County (Supervisor Hahn / LA County Sanitation / sewers) and Rolling Hills. Rather than making the San Ramon Canyon mistake of not requesting LA County's participation, get other possible participants involved early. A working committee of two Council members as well as the Public Works Director and a Public Works engineer would seem an initial process to move forward. A process for keeping the Council and staff updated would be necessary.

To move forward, it seems there should be greater pursuit of more specific plans for eliminating / controlling septic and other water from the landslide area. Also identification of potential financial sources and mapping of the underground structure. RPV has very healthy financial reserves with Terranea now contributing over \$5 million annually in TOT in addition to property and other taxes. The RPV Council must focus on critical priorities and stop wasting resources on *exercises in futility* that are meaningless to the residents of this community. Demonstration of serious intent will demonstrate to other agencies that RPV is serious about fixing / slowing the Portuguese Bend Landslide.

Ken DeLong

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Teresa Takaoka

From: Al and Kathy Edgerton <alnkathye@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, February 02, 2018 3:39 PM
To: Teresa Takaoka
Cc: Deborah Cullen
Subject: Comments/Recommendations Re: Portuguese Bend Landslide Abatement Feasibility Study

Dear Ms. Takaoka,

Below are issues regarding the Portuguese Bend Landslide (PBLs) Abatement Feasibility Study that I would ask the consultants to address.

I am a retired geophysicist with experience in geologic hazards, hydrology, mining, oceanographic, petroleum and space applications. I'm not a habitat expert but have served on the city's PUMP committee and have been a long-time supporter of the PVP Land Conservancy.

Firstly, the feasibility study's focus appears to have been on a "driving force" dewatering solution with no mention of the root cause of the slide and little mention of coastal buttressing/remediation alternatives.

Most continental landslides eventually self-stabilize when sufficient slide toe buttressing materials accumulate to overcome the head slope driving force load. Notable exceptions include slides into the ocean (The Big Sur Slide is an example) and others that slide into rivers and other moving water bodies.

Secondly, the Abalone Cove slide was fortunate to have an existing stabilizing buttress load from coastal land mass and promontories like Portuguese Point which are protected and stabilized at sea level by extremely hard, strong volcanic basalt formations. A majority of the peninsula promontories have these basaltic sea level features - including Inspiration Point and Pt. Vicente. Because of the natural buttressing effect of those features, dewatering has been effective in slowing the Abalone Cove slide.

Thirdly, the PBLs has no comparable buttressing load and slide material is quickly washed to sea by wave action and carried away by offshore currents.

Earlier efforts to slow PBLs movement included moving 500,000 cubic yards of slide debris from the upper reaches of the slide to near-shore coastal lands, basically reducing driving force load while adding buttress load. Coastal wave action has washed away a majority of this slide material.

The root cause of the continual PBLs movement is the absence of stable buttressing and without remediation, erosion of remaining toe materials will continue for the foreseeable future - resulting in constantly lower buttress load and safety margin at the slide toe. Unremediated, the coastline will erode landward unrelentingly.

I strongly encourage the city to Pursue slide toe buttressing options by onshore riprap (breakwater-sized lining of the shoreline) or offshore breakwaters comparable to the LA harbor and Redondo Beach breakwaters.

Lastly, I encourage a multi-pronged approach to PBLs stabilization as outlined below:

- Add analysis of toe buttressing options to the feasibility study.
- Focus dewatering effort in the triangular area of greatest land movement - the best bang for the buck.
- Finish placing all Portuguese Bend homes on sewer systems.
- Encourage Rolling Hills to implement sewer systems for all watersheds in Portuguese, Ishibashi, Paintbrush and Klondike canyons.
- Explore less obtrusive means of reducing runoff from canyons above the primary slide triangle using relocatable drain lines, possibly capturing runoff from the Paintbrush catch basin, the Portuguese Canyon drainage line outlet under Burma Rd. and at an appropriate location in Ishibashi Canyon.

Many compliments to the city staff, consultants and RPV citizens for their efforts and enthusiastic work. Like many residents, we live above the PBLS and have a vested interest in your success.

Al Edgerton

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Teresa Takaoka

From: Allen Franz <afranz@pacbell.net>
Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2018 5:24 PM
To: CC
Subject: Comment on Portuguese Bend Land Flow Feasibility Study
Attachments: FS comments 11618.docx

Please find attached my comment letter on the Feasibility Study.



Virus-free. www.avast.com

City Council
City of Rancho Palos Verdes
30940 Hawthorne Boulevard
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275
cc@rpvca.gov

RE: Portuguese Bend land flow

Mayor Brooks, Mayor Pro Tem Duhovic, and Councilmembers Alegria, Cruikshank, and Dyda,

As a concerned citizen and long-time supporter of land and habitat conservation in Portuguese Bend, I thank you for the opportunity to register concerns relating to the recently released Feasibility Study (FS), and the subsequent Staff Report, on proposals to remedy landsliding/landflow in Portuguese Bend.

There is no disputing that the City has a responsibility to address matters that impact the safety, security, and financial condition of the City and its residents, such as the Portuguese Bend land flow. Indeed, the history of the past 60+ years reflects numerous attempts by the City to better understand and remediate the land movement.

While the remedial measures proposed in the current FS draft have the potential to reduce land flow—albeit at a considerable financial cost—I urge the City to carefully weigh this potential benefit against the cost to local ecology, recreational use, and aesthetics. Without attempting a point-by-point response, I'd like to call your attention to what I see as the most controversial features of the remediation plan laid out in the FS.

Balancing landflow remediation measures against environmental impacts

There is general agreement that land flow in the area is the result of groundwater accumulation on a southward-sloping layer of bentonite clay, lying well below the surface. The solution put forward in the FS incorporates a sequence of different strategies to reduce the accumulation of water in the bentonite zone.

At the same time, the City's options are to some extent limited by "take" constraints imposed by state and federal agencies—most notably, in the present situation, by conditions in the draft Natural Communities Conservation Plan (NCCP) which stipulates that projects to be performed in minimally invasive ways. Less formally, the City is also constrained by the donors—public and private, local, county, state, and federal—who funded acquisition of the component parcels that make up the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve, with the explicit intent of establishing an NCCP-consistent, contiguous expanse of natural habitat. Continued support for the preserve may be contingent in

part on donors' assessment of the City's handling of the community's investment in, and vision for, the preserve.

Having over the decades participated in numerous NCCP workshops from RPV to Carlsbad and elsewhere, my central take-away has been that the NCCP requires "no net loss of habitat value," which is a more concise expression of the goal articulated in Section 7.1 of our local NCCP draft: "The overall objective of the NCCP/HCP is to ensure that the biological values of natural resources, where land is preserved as part of the NCCP/HCP through acquisition, regulation, mitigation or other means, are maintained over time."

It bears mention that the City benefits in several ways from participation in the NCCP, in addition to the mere acquisition of open space for the recreation and enjoyment of visitors and nearby residents. Perhaps most notably, establishing and maintaining the preserves permits the City a measure of revenue-generating development "take" outside the preserve, while also removing risk of legal liability that would ensue from development of properties within and adjacent to the preserve and landflow area.

The challenge the City faces is to address groundwater accumulation in the bentonite zone while protecting the "no net loss of habitat value" objective of the NCCP—and I argue below that not all of the remediation strategies proposed in the FS support both these essential goals.

Fine-tuning remediation strategies

Given this predicament, I suggest refining the proposed combination of remediation strategies to prioritize those approaches that most directly address the accumulation of water in the bentonite zone, and which at the same time have the least impact on habitat value, while postponing or tabling implementation of those strategies likely to pose the greatest risk to the "no net loss of habitat value" standard.

My suggestion takes into account the fact that the habitat value of the entire Portuguese Bend basin is shaped fundamentally by the availability of groundwater in the root zone of resident plants, and by the interconnectivity of habitat lands, both above and below ground (in the form of essential soil microorganisms, mycorrhizal fungi, roots, burrowing vertebrates and invertebrates, etc.).

In this situation, I would argue that two of the FS-recommended strategies offer the most favorable outcomes, in that they are most likely to reduce water accumulation in the bentonite zone while imposing comparatively lesser impacts on the viability of local ecosystems:

- 1) While there are obvious geotechnical challenges, dewatering wells can directly reduce water accumulation in the bentonite zone where it's a problem, without dramatically impacting groundwater in the root zone of resident plants and other organisms, thereby supporting the foundations of the ecosystem.

- 2) The FS reports that as much as 30% of groundwater in the slide/flow area derives from septic discharge, most critically from sources above the slide, and elsewhere implies that more than half of all groundwater inflow derives from the combination of septic discharge and excess irrigation drainage, again originating primarily upslope from the slide in Rolling Hills. While there may be no single, tidy point source for this cumulative artificial discharge into groundwater, it can be significantly reduced by a combination of (a) upslope runoff capture with directional drains, and (b) replacement of septic systems with sewer hookups. The latter strategy is complicated by municipal boundaries, but intercity negotiations, intercession of county or state agencies, creative use of liability claims, or other tactics might hasten adoption of modern sewage collection technologies and make a greater impact than some of the other very expensive and ecologically harmful strategies proposed in the FS, particularly the liner-and-channel option.

In sum, dewatering wells, directional drains, and proper sewage hookups would significantly reduce the introduction of artificially-derived septic and irrigation water, and remove water directly from the key problem area, the subsurface bentonite zone—and do so without substantially disrupting surface flow and root-zone groundwater infiltration derived from natural precipitation, thereby minimizing disruption of ecosystem function in the Preserve and adjacent lands.

In contrast, two other FS-recommended strategies—concrete surface sealing and canyon channelization—pose significant problems by disrupting the surface flow and groundwater infiltration that are vital to ecosystem functioning, and would furthermore fragment habitat and degrade the visual and recreational experience of the Preserve.

- 1) The proposal to seal surface fractures by filling them with concrete has the potential to cause significant disruptions to near-surface hydrological and ecological processes, as well as significant aesthetic impacts on the landscape, degrading visitor enjoyment of the preserve. Given the wide distribution and ongoing spontaneous relocation of fissures in a landscape characterized by expansive soils, this could lead to a proliferation of permanent eyesores of only short-term utility, and which would require repeatedly moving heavy equipment all over the preserve.

As an aside, these fissures might be more reasonably addressed with geofabrics or other more flexible, less ecologically disruptive, and potentially more easily removable materials.

- 2) The liner and channel strategy proposed in the FS appears to be the least desirable option in terms of ecological function as well as the aesthetics of the visitor or viewer experience. In terms of ecological function, these blue line streams are the arteries of the surrounding habitat, and home to the largest and most diverse array of species in the preserve. This runs directly counter to the guidance of NCCP Section 5.5.19, which specifies that any impacts “shall be

located on the least sensitive portions of the site as determined by existing site-specific biological and supporting information.”

More than any other methodology proposed in the FS, the liner and channel strategy would unnaturally alter—and deplete—root zone groundwater, starving the plants at the base of the food chain not just in the canyons themselves but well beyond in zones where stream water infiltrates into the root zones.

Furthermore, the channels themselves—described in the FS as spanning up to 65 feet across—would cause significant fragmentation of habitat, particularly for smaller creatures and soil-based organisms. Such habitat degradation and fragmentation is explicitly opposed in the NCCP and virtually any other serious habitat conservation or restoration plan.

Implementation of this methodology would involve disruption during construction activities extending over a number of years, according to the FS, including repeatedly importing, repositioning, and removing pieces of heavy equipment, stockpiling construction equipment and materials (as well as excavation tailings and other byproducts); and upon completion this approach would leave extended “dead zones” where ecological connectivity across the 65 foot channels would be significantly disrupted except for larger and more mobile organisms.

The proposed incorporation of artificial “islands” of soil bags in the planned riprap finish of the channels might have some limited cosmetic affect, but would be extremely questionable in terms of habitat value. After prolonged and extensive habitat disruption, and with the loss of connectivity for soil microorganisms, mycorrhizal fungi, root communication, burrowing animals, etc., it’s hard to imagine how this could be compatible with the objective of no net loss of habitat value.

Two additional principles of habitat management bear mention here: Edge and Scale effects. Many organisms—plants as well as animals and soil microbiota—avoid the boundary zones of their habitat, resulting in a comparatively impoverished transitional buffer beginning at the edge of habitat patches and extending as much as 100 yards into the habitat. Extensive concrete patches, and canyon lining, would fragment habitat by creating ecological edge effects extending some distance beyond their apparent physical boundaries. This can then lead to subtle but significant scale effects: the smaller the functional habitat available, the less diverse and less stable the resident ecological community.

Summary and concluding remarks

The City has a responsibility to address significant issues impacting its residents and operations—such as the landslide/landflow in Portuguese Bend, which is a continuation of episodic land movements extending back hundreds of thousands of years—essentially an inherent feature of the landscape here and elsewhere along the California coast.

Several of the methodologies proposed in the FS to slow the land flow—in particular expanded use of dewatering wells, installation of directional drains, and conversion of septic treatment facilities to modern sewer hook-ups--appear promising as means to reduce inflow of “unnatural” water and remove water directly from the bentonite zone, the focus of the slide/flow.

On the other hand, FS proposals to inject concrete seals in surface fissures, and especially the plan to line and channelize the Preserve’s blue line streams, seem to be in direct conflict with both the spirit and the letter of the NCCP. I would strongly urge reconsideration of these more intrusive options.

If the City is intent on pursuing the full array of remedial actions proposed in the FS, I would strongly urge investment in more current data. The FS recommendations are based on a review of research literature extending back over fifty years. Considerable land movement has occurred since even the more recent studies cited, and new, more informative technologies are available.

On a related point, the FS provides a list of applicable or relevant and appropriate environmental requirements, such as CEQA and the California Coastal Zone Management Act, that might bear on implementation of FS proposals, but does not provide guidance as to their specific bearing on any elements of the proposals, beyond stating that they would not likely be insurmountable obstacles to implementation. In this connection, it would be interesting to know why Stephens & Associates chose to apply the analytical methodology of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA, aka “Superfund”)—which was developed for cleanup of toxic waste sites—rather than a protocol developed for habitat management.

Finally, I’d like to underscore the point that the City is not under any obligation to expend its allotment of permitted “take” under the NCCP, especially given the projected cost and comparatively modest benefit (5 to 15% reduction in groundwater) of the projects proposed; per the NCCP, “Simply because take is available does not mean it is permitted or should be utilized.” What “take” the City doesn’t apply to the menu of projects advanced in this FS would remain available for future projects, or might be transferrable to comparable sites.

Thank you again for the opportunity to offer comment, and for your consideration of my comments. We all share the goal of an effective project that preserves the preserve.

Sincerely,

Allen Franz

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Teresa Takaoka

From: Ron Dragoo
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 2:11 PM
To: randykhawood@gmail.com
Cc: CC
Subject: Landslide Feasibility Study

Mr. Harwood,

Thank you for your comments regarding the Landslide Feasibility Study. We are forwarding forward your comments, and all comments we receive on this topic by February 2, 2018 to the consultant for further consideration. Tentatively, this topic will again be considered by the City Council at their February 20, 2018 meeting.

Best regards,

Ron Dragoo, PE
Principal/City Engineer

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Teresa Takaoka

From: Randy Harwood <randykarwood@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 11:56 AM
To: CC
Subject: Landslide Feasibility Study
Attachments: Landslide letter to CC.pdf

please see attached

Randy Harwood

Randall K. Harwood
3719 Palos Verdes Drive North
Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274
(310-265-0889)
randykhawood@gmail.com

January 28, 2018

Via electronic mail to cc@rpvca.gov

City Council
City of Rancho Palos Verdes
30940 Hawthorne Blvd.
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275

RE: Draft Feasibility Study, Agenda Item 2, Council Meeting Jan. 16, 2018

Dear Honorable Mayor Brooks, Honorable Mayor Pro Tem Duhovic and honorable Council Members Alegria, Cruikshank and Dyda

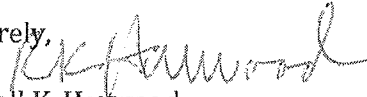
I attended the City Council meeting on Jan. 16, 2018, wherein consultants presented specific possible solutions to alleviate road damage and possible sewer line ruptures by reducing the movement of land in the Portuguese Bend reserve. These proposals were based on outdated studies and without considering the effects to the native habitat.

It was obvious to me and confirmed by the consultants, that there have been no hydrological or geological studies completed recently and that their presentation was only a synopsis of past reports and studies. Particularly disturbing was the information that years of reports on the function of the de-watering wells in place in the Reserve are apparently missing and that the City failed to maintain and repair these wells for many years. Perhaps the reported success of these types of wells in the Abalone Cove Reserve and Portuguese Bend Reserve would indicate that this minimally invasive, less expensive method of reducing groundwater would be a good first attempt at lessening the harmful effects of the slide. This should be attempted only after a comprehensive hydrologic study is completed and all efforts to minimize the harmful effects of any disturbances to the Reserve are explored.

It seems to me that two of the early proposals to 'stop' the slide are very premature and reckless. The placement of geo-textile fabric in the canyons and the injection of cement in fissures are likely to be very harmful, noisy and long lasting disruptions of the quiet, natural landscape envisioned in the mission and goals of the Land Conservancy and the City of Rancho Palos Verdes. Thought needs to be given to the effects these procedures would have on the geological habitat, flora and fauna that so many people have devoted their hard work and financial resources for many decades to restore and preserve.

I applaud the Councils' efforts to confront the issues of the road repairs, safety of the sewer lines and disruption of the public along Palos Verdes Dr. S. and I hope, after careful study, with updated comprehensive information, solutions that are minimally harmful to the Reserve are discovered and implemented.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "RK Harwood", written over the word "Sincerely,".

Randall K. Harwood

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Teresa Takaoka

From: Marianne <2hunter@cox.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 01, 2018 4:23 PM
To: CC
Cc: Eva Cicoria
Subject: Re: Time sensitive--PV Nature needs your help.
Attachments: PB Landslide Abatement - questions for the consultants staff and council.pdf;
ATT00001.htm

Dear City Council Please add my name as a signatory of this document.
Marianne Hunter
1 Cinnamon Lane RPV 90275

<PB Landslide Abatement - questions for the consultants staff
and council.pdf>

I tried to sign this but i don't have the proper program set up.

Questions following up to the RPV CC meeting of 1/16/18

Questions are organized by the following categories: "Solution" Specific, Cost Related, Hydrology and Geology Related, Nature Related, Process Related, Other, and Alternatives. Of course, there is overlap among question categories. A legend of acronyms precedes the questions for reference.

Legend

CC=Rancho Palos Verdes City Council

CSS=Coastal Sage Scrub

City or RPV=City of Rancho Palos Verdes

FS=Feasibility Study Update draft of 12/22/17

PBLC=Portuguese Bend Landslide Complex

PBR=Portuguese Bend Reserve

PVDS=Palos Verdes Dr South

SR=RPV Staff Report for CC meeting of 1/16/18

"Solution" Specific:

1. Which of the project proposals being floated in the FS present the greatest risk of triggering another landslide during construction? Is it not the case that 1950's infill done in the PBLC area is thought to have been, at minimum, a contributing factor to the 1956 landslide? How much new fill would be involved in the different project proposals?
2. Mr. Cullen explained that the typical gradients they work on are 0.01 to 0.00001. The area under consideration has a 0.10 or 10% grade. What hazards could be expected working with such steep terrain?
3. Have homes in Rolling Hills located near these three canyons been examined for risk of de-stabilization if the project proceeds?

4. Are there flexible materials now available that could be substituted for existing materials used on 1) the road, 2) the sewer pipe along PVDS, 3) the extraction and monitoring wells, 4) the corrugated pipe installed in past years to channel water in the lower reaches toward the ocean, in each case which would reduce the likelihood of them being torn apart by land movement?
5. If septic tanks account for a certain percentage of the groundwater and septic tank conversion is the proposal with the least impact on nature, then will that be prioritized first?
6. Would pipes from a centralized sewer system in Rolling Hills be routed to avoid the Preserve?
7. Why not give full effort to dewatering instead of installing such systems and then letting them go? If it worked for Abalone Cove, if it worked for PBR in the past, why not try it ahead of other solutions? Even if the wells shear over time, would it not be cheaper and less invasive to drill them again and over time they should stop shearing as land movement slows?
8. What subsurface water (amount and percentage) would the proposed "horizontal" drains be expected to drain and what water would not be expected to be drained by them? What would happen to the water that would not be expected to drain?
9. Is there a certain amount of water or percentage of water saturation that would be expected to have a nominal effect on land movement and therefore would be acceptable under the proposed solutions?
10. How will dewatering wells function with the horizontal drains? Will drainage be tunneled or established under PVDS? How will the tunneling and drains under the road affect the long-term stability of the road when the land does move?
11. From the plan view of the placement of the horizontal drains (FS Fig. 14) it is not clear what subsurface water levels the horizontal drains could passively drain. (An elevation view would be useful.) Furthermore, portions of the rupture surface appear to be at a zero elevation contour line (Geotechnical Figure 3). This would imply that the horizontal drains will not drain water passively from this area. Please clarify.
12. Where has the sealing of surface fractures with cement been done previously in an area with similar land movement?

13. What will happen to the clumps of concrete filling the fissures when/if the land moves?
14. The consultants' presentation to CC (at about 2:32) indicates that the fill substance for the fissures doesn't have to be cement, it could be soil. Is there soil in some places in the City land south of the Preserve that has been deposited by man during prior remediation attempts, that could be used as fill for the fissures or are the consultants talking about introducing foreign soil? If the latter, does that have any risks associated with it? Related, foreign soil was brought in to re-grade Peppertree Tr after last year's rains. Are there any risks associated with that?
15. Explain the differences between the Work Areas Conceptual Design vs. the Drainage Routing graphics. The former shows the Portuguese Cyn Channel extending past the Central Channel to PVDS and the ocean discharge, whereas the Drainage Routing graphic shows drainage for Portuguese Cyn being routed to the Central Channel only.
16. Where has the geo-textile fabric lining and channelization of canyons been done previously in an area with similar features as in PBR?
17. What would the installation process be for geo-textiles where canyon walls are deep or steep sided?
18. How much flex is there in the geo-textile fabric proposed to line the canyons and other proposed channels, i.e., when the land moves one foot, what happens to that fabric? Two feet?
19. Will plant roots perforate the geo-textile fabric, or work through seams or overlaps, and in doing so impact the fabric's effectiveness?
20. If over time the geo-textile fabric tears or separates, does the work need to be redone? How would someone even know?
21. The FS at p. 53 says that "some engineering components would also be needed in mid-canyon high flow or flow convergence areas such as velocity dissipation structures, flow control channeling" What are these additional engineering components? Are any of those engineering components to be made of concrete? And approximately what dimensions are they likely to be? How would they be installed?
22. What "stream restoration program" is contemplated in the reference on p. 63 of the FS?

23. How do the consultants envision getting construction equipment and hauling equipment to and from each of the canyons they propose to channelize?
24. If 65 feet is the minimum width of the canyon lining and channelization based on a 100-year flood event (per the SR), what is the maximum width that will be permitted/required?
25. How much work area is needed adjacent to the geo-textile project to support the work? How much staging area is needed for the geo-textile work? How much area is needed for spoils from the geo-textile work?
26. How do consultants propose to create a 65 foot-wide channel down each of these canyons which, in some places are currently 5-10 feet wide but have steep sides--will the canyons be filled in places in order to widen them?
27. Explain further how planting is proposed in the rip rap and, in particular, how the sacs would support large native plants with deep roots.
28. How do consultants propose to analyze the trade-offs between removing vegetation with deep root systems that help to control erosion in order to channelize the canyons vs. retaining that vegetation to control erosion and allowing water to flow through the canyons naturally?
29. Doesn't the central channel operate at cross purpose to the goal of sending the water down the canyons to the ocean as quickly and directly as possible?
30. Why does the central channel send most of the water, including water from Portuguese Cyn, into the area of suspected subterranean pooled water, already deemed by the consultants to be a major problem area?
31. The CC presentation by the consultants (at about 2:28) indicates that Portuguese Cyn pretty much flows to the ocean. The pipe going under PVDS has apparently sunk some. How does the consultant justify altering the canyon to the extreme extent proposed if it is functioning fairly well currently except at the point where it reaches PVDS?

Cost Related:

1. Provide a breakdown of the spend on PVDS, sewer and other expenses since the City's incorporation in 1973. What was the money spent on, and what jurisdiction/agency spent it?
2. What would it cost and how long would it take to implement the measures of 1984, which seemed to be fairly effective and with significantly lighter environmental impacts than those currently proposed in the FS? What

- would it cost to properly maintain them, both monetarily and environmentally?
3. Per Mr. Cullen, ground water wells are critical to understanding the geology and hydrology of the landscape. Over the past years, money has been invested in placement of some 20 water wells, probably more but the data is lacking. The fact that money was spent on water wells and then not monitored or kept in repair does not give taxpayers confidence that this project will be successful or be monitored and maintained. Why should taxpayers believe that this time will be any different?
 4. The consultant indicates that "a handful" of data would be needed before designing a system, yet the data gaps seem to be extensive. Please separate the data gap costs from the pilot testing costs provided in the slide near the end of the consultants' presentation "Order of Magnitude Costs".
 5. Regarding pilot testing, at what point would the determination be made that the plan isn't working and it should be scrapped, vs. it should be modified at X cost? Is the idea to go forward at all costs once we start down that road?
 6. The FS says at p. 72 that "ultimately, additional areas in the adjacent watersheds could also be lined, such as Eastern Altamira Canyon or Lower Klondike Canyon where stormwater continues to infiltrate to groundwater in the vicinity of the project area." What are the projected additional monetary and environmental costs of these measures and how and when will the consultants determine whether they are "necessary"?
 7. Will RPV pay for updated biologic surveys and how much will that add to the cost?
 8. Do the costs of the project take into account the costs for work in Rolling Hills?
 9. Do the costs of the project take into account all environmental mitigation, including for Rolling Hills?
 10. Will RPV pay for Rolling Hills septic to be converted to sewer?
 11. If public debt is proposed for any of the project costs, whether in RPV or Rolling Hills, will a public vote be required? What happens if the public debt is not approved? Are the costs of such an election included in the project costs?

12. What would be estimated to be the interest costs of any public debt required to fund the project? Provide backup documentation for the calculation of probable interest costs.
13. If the canyon channelization and lining goes forward, will RPV compensate donors who have given their hard-earned money trusting that the land would be protected and preserved in perpetuity?

Hydrology and Geology Related:

1. Some of the existing landslide abatement infrastructure is in complete disrepair, some is simply not maintained. For example, this culvert between Burma Rd and Rim Tr has overgrown vegetation blocking water flow.



It seems that if the damaged infrastructure is not repaired, hydrologic data may be skewed as water runoff and pooling is affected, thus it makes sense to postpone any future hydrologic studies until the existing damaged infrastructure is cleaned up and repaired or replaced. Has the existing infrastructure been surveyed to determine what is repairable and what isn't? Considering how long it will take to complete the projects currently contemplated in the FS, doesn't it make sense to fix what we have at least in the short term?

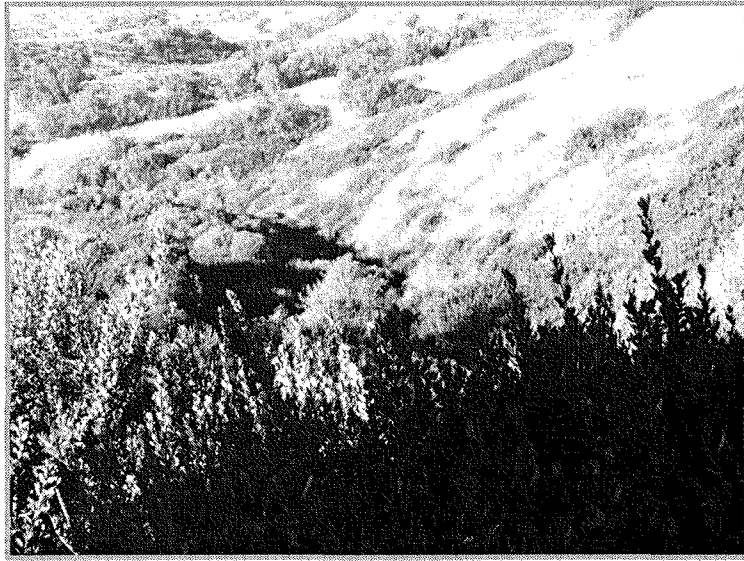
2. Why did the FS not include a "complete characterization of the hydrology of the area", since this was a top priority of the public who attended the Landslide Subcommittee meetings?

3. How will the consultants address the data gaps, specifically addressing data from existing wells, piezometers in the streams, rainfall gauges, and multiple years of data.
4. What are the highest priority data needs to determine the most feasible, cost effective, and least damaging solutions?
5. What is the risk of failure of each proposed remediation solution if a full hydrologic study of the watershed is not conducted and the existing data gaps are not addressed?
6. Is it possible to predict (and with what degree of certainty) where the land will flow in the future based on how much and where water will infiltrate the ground?
7. How much water is too much in the watershed? In other words, how much would need to be removed under certain rainfall conditions? And how much is needed to support life in the watershed?
8. Leighton estimated up to 77 acre-feet per year recharge from upslope irrigation. Mr. Cullen said that this is significant and needs further quantification to support a PBLC design. What sources of water are subsumed in "upslope irrigation"? What is the current percentage of groundwater inflow into the PBLC resulting from such irrigation upslope? What percentage is from septic tanks?
9. Is there a correlation between the changes in groundwater elevation from well to well and the land movement measurements from one well location to another?
10. Without the results from a hydrologic study for the watershed, that includes data specific to each canyon, what evidence is there to support the statement (in the PBLC Physical Characteristics slide presented by consultants at the CC meeting) that "infiltration of canyon runoff is a source of groundwater recharge" other than the infiltration once that runoff arrives at the lower reaches of PBR? In other words, where is the evidence that any subsurface water flow originating from water running down through the upper canyons has any significant impact on groundwater recharge in the lower reaches of PBR?
11. The consultants' presentation to CC indicated that "100% of storm water from [Paintbrush and Portuguese] canyon flows directly into the head of PBLC." Yet, some of that water currently percolates into the ground and

- transpires through vegetation in the canyons. Confirm that actually more water from the canyons will flow directly into the head of PBLC with lining and channelization and that actually what is done with the water that comes out of the canyons is going to determine whether or not the water flows into the head of the PBLC or is diverted elsewhere.
12. Explain the "deep" water bearing zone.
 13. In the CC presentation, the consultant indicates ponding in the head of the slide, but he is waving the arrow around broadly. Where is the ponding? Is this reference different than the depression in the failure surface? Does the failure surface that drops to sea level extend under PVDS?
 14. Where is the depression in the failure surface relative to the one spot that showed 8 feet/year land movement?
 15. What is the suspected relationship between the depression in the failure surface and the one spot in the vicinity that showed 8 feet/year land movement?
 16. Regarding the Hydrogeology slide shown by the consultants at the CC meeting of 1/16/18 indicating that PBLC water enters the subsurface by different means, what amount of water entry is attributable to each of the different means?
 17. How is the variation in land movement explained (1-2 feet in most areas versus 8 feet in one place)? And what is the consultants' proposal for addressing this in particular; for focusing on this area?
 18. Land movement data presented was just for 1 year. What is the movement for other years? And where?

Nature Related:

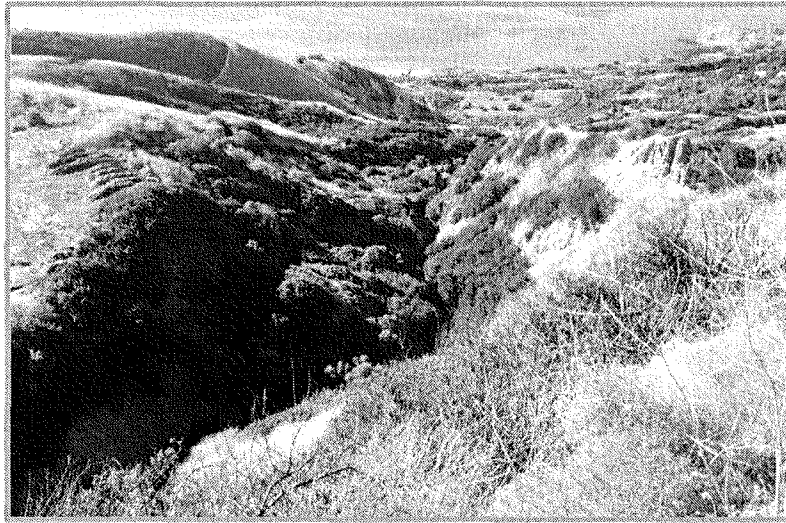
1. Are Portuguese Cyn, Ishibashi Cyn, Paintbrush Cyn and Klondike Cyn all blue-line streams?
2. Why did the FS not include a complete assessment of the environmental impacts of the proposal, since this was a top priority of the public who attended the Landslide Subcommittee meetings?
3. As you look out over PBR from above, you see that much of the CSS cover occurs in the canyons.



Portuguese Canyon



Ishibashi Canyon



Paintbrush Canyon

This makes sense, because the higher flat lands were the lands that were farmed in years past, while the canyons were left in their natural state, except for damming created by roads across them. How viable is a preserve for CSS-reliant species if the very highest quality CSS is removed?

4. Is there any plan going forward to assess the impact that destroying prime wildlife habitat in these canyons will have on the survivability of wildlife that currently live there and depend on the dense vegetative cover for protection from predators, for den sites, and for forage?
5. What does it mean that the City staff worked with the consultants to make sure alignment of surface area would avoid any of the identified species?
6. Studies have shown us that California gnatcatchers, cactus wrens, and mammals are present in the proposed project area. What data is there to demonstrate that the noise and other impacts of heavy equipment such as bulldozers, engines roaring, men shouting, radios blaring --all common to construction sites--will not have an adverse impact on the protected species and other wildlife?
7. What modifications will the consultants and RPV staff make in their FS recommendations to show true prioritization of minimizing impacts on the Preserve?
8. What are the most sensitive areas of the Preserve and how will they be avoided per the NCCP requirements?

9. Per the SR, the NCCP allows 3.3 acres of CSS take within the Preserve for landslide abatement measures. Channelizing upper Portuguese Cyn, Ishibashi Cyn and Paintbrush Cyn alone is estimated to "take" more than 10 acres of CSS. If the City and consultants are truly committed to honoring the NCCP, then why isn't channelizing the canyons rejected as an option as other landslide abatement measures considered were rejected?
10. If the City uses its full allotment of CSS take for utilities and dewatering well maintenance simply to install the project, what is the City's plan for those activities after the project is installed?
11. How will the biological values of the area in the PBLC be preserved?
12. In years, what is the estimated timeframe that the proposal would set back the efforts already undertaken and progress already made to ensure the long-term viability and sustainability of the native ecosystem?
13. Who was consulted regarding native plants before the FS proposed uprooting them and planting them in sacs in the channelized canyons? Are consultants aware that some native plant species in the canyons have very extensive root systems, some 30-40 feet deep or greater which themselves offer stabilizing and transpiration benefits?
14. The FS says at p. 72 that "ultimately, additional areas in the adjacent watersheds could also be lined, such as Eastern Altamira Canyon or Lower Klondike Canyon where stormwater continues to infiltrate to groundwater in the vicinity of the project area." In addition, in the consultants' presentation, Klondike Cyn was mentioned and we're told that it should be controlled eventually. The consultant acknowledges that there is a lot of CSS in that canyon. Has the take from these canyons been considered in the total take calculations?
15. What inspections have been done in the canyons, if any, and under whose guidance?
16. "Take" in Rolling Hills is not mitigated by the NCCP. What mitigation efforts and permitting will be undertaken with respect to that take? Who will be the lead agency for that permitting?

Process Related:

1. Conversations with the consultants following the CC meeting suggest that the consultants would benefit from regular input from PVPLC staff and its

volunteers. What is the plan going forward to bring in the PVPLC and its volunteers on a regular basis to engage in back and forth dialogue with the consultants?

2. Was ACLAD (Abalone Cove Landslide District) consulted for their data and feedback during the FS process?
3. Who is the "environmental expert" on the team; what is his/her background; and what has been his/her contribution? (When the issue was raised last summer, the public was told that there is an environmental expert on the team.)
4. Why doesn't the FS take into account the time frame and feasibility of permitting and various agencies' reviews (other than mentioning there would be constraints) with respect to the myriad project proposals?

Other:

1. If we have a heavy rain year in the middle of the project when all the habitat has been torn up and nothing yet installed or only partially installed to manage the water flow, what measures will be taken to prevent Palos Verdes Drive South and the Portuguese Bend community becoming 'another' Route 101 and Montecito, CA?
2. What measures can be implemented now without further study, such as repairing or replacing existing infrastructure (corrugated pipes, e.g.) to direct water off of the lower PBR?
3. What percentage of the PBLC is within the City of Rolling Hills?
4. What support is there from Rolling Hills?
5. What impact have past construction projects had on the land movement, for example, to what extent have Burma Rd, Peppertree Tr, and PV Dr South dammed the natural flow of water down the canyons to the ocean and how can those projects be re-designed to mitigate the problems?
6. To what extent will existing poor drainage infrastructure be repaired prior to pilot projects and other work? For instance, after the rains of 2017 resulted in significant runoff on and along Peppertree Tr, the trail was filled and re-graded, resulting in damming of the naturally-formed runoff trenches. Recent rain filled these trenches and pooled in the lower part of PBR, allowing rain water to infiltrate the ground rather than running off.



7. What is the involvement of the Klondike Cyn landslide with the Portuguese Bend landslide as mentioned by Mr. Cullen in the CC mtg of 1/16/18?
8. There's an assumption that the grading done in 1987 as per POC II (moving 500,000 yards from steep areas to flat areas) slowed the land movement. Has anybody looked at the rainfall during that time to determine whether other variables might be responsible for the slower movement?
9. In the consultants' slide labeled Detailed Analysis--Geotechnical Modeling, the landslide mass is pulled off revealing a brown layer, but it appears that part of the landslide mass is left behind in the area of the pond/the deeper landslide. Is that correct? (about 2:16 on CC video) If the modeling left behind the pond, can it be accurate modeling?
10. At what point in the process will the noise, dust, trail closures and other impacts of the extensive construction work over a long period of time, on trail users, residents of Rolling Hills and the Portuguese Bend community, and visitors to Terranea Resort be considered in the mix concerns?

11. Portuguese Bend Club is involved in slide remediation in their area. Have the possible impacts of their grading and other work on the Klondike Canyon slide and/or the PBLC, whether positive or negative, been systematically examined?

Alternatives:

1. Surface drainage within the landslide is poor, said consultants during the CC meeting, and "can't get water to move through to the ocean where it normally and originally and natively went to. It gets essentially dammed up by the slide material." Was some of that "slide material" deposited by man and why not focus on returning to a more natural drainage course, particularly because the PBLC apparently showed little movement for decades (centuries?) until man began to grade the area for roads, damming the natural water courses?
2. The consultants' presentation indicated that the "lower reaches of Portuguese and Paintbrush Canyons have been destroyed". They were destroyed by man. What is the feasibility of restoring the lower reaches of the canyons to allow rainwater to flow naturally to the ocean?
3. Has an analysis been done on leaving the upper reaches of the canyons in their natural state and only addressing the lower reaches, for example possibly lining "the sandbox", or part of it, with some type of flexible fabric and directing the water from that low area down to the ocean through some type of flexible piping?
4. What is the feasibility--risks and benefits--of creating a wetland atop a liner in the low area of the sandbox?
5. What is the feasibility of supporting PVDS on caissons or other support structures down to the basalt bedrock, or creating a floating road or a bridge, anchored on both ends of the land flow, allowing the land flow to pass below the road surface?

Signatories

Eva Cicoria

Barb Ailor

Jim Rassler

Ken Swenson

Pam Emch

Randy Harwood

Cynthia Woo

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Teresa Takaoka

From: Jim Lehman <jimlehman@mac.com>
Sent: Friday, January 19, 2018 4:03 PM
To: Teresa Takaoka
Cc: Jerry Duhovic
Subject: Portuguese Bend Landslide Comments

To whom it may concern,

Having resided on the Palos Verdes Peninsula for most of my 63 years (26 years on the south side of the hill), and having been impacted by the Portuguese Bend Landslide in various ways during that time, I would like to voice my support for a paradigm shift in the city's approach to this nuisance.

Since the major issue created by the slide is the continual repair of Palos Verdes Drive South and the tremendous impact on the city budget, I would be in favor of a new approach. That is, I would like the city to consider abandoning the idea of maintaining a smooth paved stretch of roadway through the Portuguese Bend area and transitioning to a gravel type of roadway as one might find in more rural areas. It should be possible to still provide a passage through that area on which normal vehicles could still safely travel but at somewhat reduced speeds (e.g. 20 - 25 mph). If that means it will discourage some drivers that like to maintain much higher speeds from using PVDS then so be it. If those drivers need smoother roads then Hawthorne Blvd is still available.

A regular grading of a gravel road would probably keep the irregularities manageable as well as save a whole lot of budget money which could be used for other things. I would be fine with the slight inconvenience of having a less than mile long stretch of gravel road, and if that discourages some traffic from barreling through the south side of our peninsula then that would more than make up for the inconvenience.

Regards,

Jim Lehman
Ladera Linda

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Teresa Takaoka

From: homecoding@gmail.com on behalf of Madeleine Mc Jones
<madeleine@homecoding.com>
Sent: Friday, February 02, 2018 7:19 PM
To: Teresa Takaoka
Subject: Draft Portuguese Bend Landslide Feasibility Study Portuguese Bend Landslide area

Please take a moment to review my comments and please think about this and look back to previous attempts to find more data.

- Click [here](#) to view the Draft Portuguese Bend Landslide Feasibility Study
- Click [here](#) to view the January 16th City Council Staff Report

I found this report lacking in many areas and very common to the previous actions that did not work and actually made land movement on our active landslide.

1. I feel this report overlooks the up-welling and the ocean effects on the clay layer - I feel to go any further the study really need to review with full marine studies. There was very little review it is like the study seems to assume they know what is happening off the landslide in the water and I do not feel that they do. The ocean tidal and wave effects are major on the clay layer they actually wet and pull clay from under the active land slide. None of this was addressed in this study. Please get more study and data information on the Oceanic Effects.

2. We have already had the proposed "elaborate drain system" and it was laid all over the top of the active landslide it lays there today a real mess - all broken and ugly disconnected sharp not natural drain system. It is an eye sore and is impossible to manage or maintain. More of what failed is what they are proposing again? How about removing the first failed drainage attempt. Admit the following truth: There is no possible way you can manage a surface drainage system in the active landslide the surface land moves drastically during our rain storms. You could not before and you will not again. There is negligible mitigation in the use of this drain concept when matched with maintenance. During the very few heavy rains we mostly see the run off reach the ocean or roads. This is not going into the slip plane- there are no studies presented about what happens in an huge down pour in this report- I have watched it live and it pours surface down to the road and ocean. The access to the clay layer is at the top of our hill and not mid way.

3. Sewage pipes - there is no proof that I could find of our sewage actually located in the slip plane water. This is an easy target and fills out their report nicely and provides a graft- heavy contract that will be again impossible to keep in maintenance, we have to fix our water connection to our home 8 time a year. That means shutting off our water and reconnecting our water main. Please read that last sentence again. Then do this sentence with the word "sewage" in stead of "water". We have trees that are torn in half. This proposal is small beans and graft-y sounding. Please reconsider spending this money in this direction.

3.a. If you cannot give up on the sewage issue: Please consider making all of our septic systems forced pumpout instead of connected to a system or grinders and pipes system. It is much easier to manage. We have our sewage pumped now - I am 100% sure NO sewage from my home goes into the active land slide. It goes to CARSON in a truck. You could mandate pump only system, if you are sure this is a problem but you are not sure there is NO proof. Find my sewage in the slip plane.

4. Our water evaporates from 5 feet deep it is so dry our soil, none of our water ever gets deeper into the slip plane please stop blaming small volume surface water from our lower altitude lots as a primary fixable cause of the landslide, It is not and that is just a dream contract for a sewer contractor.

5. Find more history: I would seek that you reach out to Bill Rogers in Rolling Hills for more information about the beginning of the landslide when those homes cut into the base rock then planted monster fields of dichondra which the Rolling hills homes lavished and watered all day. The landslide started about that time and he insist that many contractors admitted that is the water you are still fighting not so much new water. The slip plane will be wet for many decades despite your efforts midway down.

6. Dumping: Topsoil destruction Dumping more soil - this is an awful plan you destroy top soil that has take many hundreds of years to develop soil that will absorb water and hold plants.

7. Dumping: Adding weight Dumping more soil: to the landslide adding more weight on top of a moving surface makes no sense at all this is just a contract for some lucky dumpers, RPV is going to PAY to be a dump? are you serious. Please reconsider this plan. There is no proof that the mid way fissures reach to the deep slide plane. There is plenty of proof even in your city minutes that when you have put soil on the landslide you have actually caused more movement. Look at previous attempts to fill the fissures and the movement it caused. Every time you have altered the mid-landslide the result has been more movement.

8. Dumping : Liability danger of Mudslides. If you bring loose soil and place it all about the land slide you are liable for any landslide that will 100% occur during the next Coastal Storm. Do you really want to pay to be the lawsuit liable cause of the next Montecito mudslide?

9. No Proof Water getting into the fissures: Next to my home last rainy season a 5 month lake formed - and this lake used to be there before our homes. It has been filled many times once by the city study contract. It is back. It does not seep into the slip plane. There is no way this study understands the fissures if they say this with no mention of this Lake. That lake formed before our home where constructed and after your cities first attempt at landslide abatement and it is forming again. The horses walked in a deep pond for months on the active landslide. Where was this LAKE reported in the study all the study says is the mid-location water drains into the land slide clay and we all need sewage pipes and fill it all up with dirt?

In closing I feel the study is flawed, It missed all Ocean wave and tidal effects and even missed a Lake, it is a lazy repeat of the last study that did not work. The recommendations for pipes and drains are graft for contractors. Maintaining drains and sewage systems is impossible this actually has been as proven before. Dumping is dangerous to the environment and liability for landslide and pollution. This has been done before and found not effective and will make even worse run off for our oceans and put more weight on top of our moving clay layer.

The land is going to move, this studies understanding is flawed and wastes money. Build a bridge with the money and you will see better results. Tear out all the landslide clay plane and put in a harbor and you will see a better return on your money in tax revenue. BUT....Do what they ask in this study and we all loose money, and it will not work AGAIN.

Madeleine McJones
3 Tangerine Road
RPV CA 90275

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Teresa Takaoka

From: my3000,V <my3000@verizon.net>
Sent: Friday, February 02, 2018 12:13 PM
To: CC
Subject: 1/16/2018 City Council discussion of DBS & A discussion of paving Portuguese Bend Canyon

Dear Council Persons:

I am out of town and just heard about DBS&A's proposal and wanted to write to say **PLEASE DO NOT DO THIS!!!!** My home will slide and I and others will SUE (and will organize others to also). **WE WILL WIN BECAUSE WE AND YOU KNOW-- THIS WILL LAUNCH A MASSIVE LANDSLIDE!!!** I was heavily involved in the 18 year fight to stop Hon from launching a slide. I spent substantially more than \$100,000 dollars in this fight, **hiring numerous landslide geology experts to study all available geology in the Portuguese Canyons area, specifically where this paving the canyons project is focused.** They warned me that Hon's project or any earth movement, grading or soil removal or additions on this ancient slide had a high probability of starting a slide. I learned a lot about landslides, earthquake risks in landslide zones, and actions which trigger landslides. This particular area is unbelievably fragile as you well know. Adding or shifting weight on an ancient landslide is one of the key triggers of a landslide. Grading, heavy equipment, adding soil, moving soil..... all are high risk actions. Denuding the area in this process can launch mudslides. They also warned that **adding a fabric, sheet of any form with soil on top also is very likely to create a slide in an earthquake.**

In addition to my investment in the fight, I also bought acreage in the Preserve to help pay for the Preserve. This was for wildlife. Taking the last coastal sage scrub areas out harms wildlife. Bring soil from other areas adds weeds and invasive vegetation. The water company brought in a small amount of soil to fill in exposed water lines on the Fire Station trail years ago and brought many new plants including tumbleweed. **If you approve this project, I WANT ALL OF MY SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PRESERVE BACK AND SO DO MY FRIENDS, SOME OF WHICH MADE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS IN CONTRIBUTIONS.** Also you should consider reimbursing the State and other agencies for their contributions since you are ruining the place for wildlife.

I have confidence that you are smart enough not to do this, but many of you may not be aware of the risks in this particular area nor its history. Remember my home is here, if you were substantially reducing the risk of a slide given my knowledge of the area, I should be in favor of this. **I AM NOT. YOU WILL DESTROY MY HOME AND THE HOMES OF SO MANY OF US THAT FOUGHT HON FOR 18 YEARS. PLEASE SAVE OUR HOMES!!!!** Please save out wildlife.

Cathy Nichols (former President of Peninsula Preservation)
14 Crest Rd West

PS I do not know much about the specific geology near the road area. Therefore I am not in a position to comment on your actions to help reduce road movement there. I am talking in this email about Portuguese Bend Canyon, Peacock flats... and surrounding areas.

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Teresa Takaoka

From: Noel Park <noelparkone@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2018 4:13 PM
To: CC; Doug Willmore; Ara Mihranian; Elias Sassoon; Teresa Takaoka; Deborah Cullen
Subject: Portuguese Bend Landslide remediation

As part of the design and permitting process for any project, I strongly suggest and urge that a formal Cost Benefit Analysis be done.

I am sure that your staff is familiar with the methodology, so please forgive me if I appear to be restating the obvious.

A Cost Benefit Analysis is required for all major Federal projects by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and is also used by California state agencies including Caltrans. It is a formalized procedure, explained in detail by available Federal publications.

I note that Daniel B. Stephens & Associate's website offers "NEPA services". In the event that your staff needs assistance with this process, they may be able to help. If they cannot, I would strongly suggest that you hire a consultant with the expertise to effectively execute this highly structured process.

The Cost Benefit Analysis tool has been successful in saving billions of dollars of taxpayers money by identifying inappropriate projects. On the other hand, if it proves a positive cost/benefit ratio, it will be a powerful selling point for any project.

For a project estimated to cost over \$30 million, in a city the size of Rancho Palos Verdes, such an analysis would appear to be mandatory.

Noel Park
6715 El Rodeo Road
Rancho Palos Verdes CA 90275
562-413-5147

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Teresa Takaoka

From: Noel Park <noelparkone@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2018 4:38 PM
To: CC; Doug Willmore; Ara Mihranian; Elias Sassoon; Teresa Takaoka; Deborah Cullen
Subject: Portuguese Bend Landslide remediation

In our informal discussion after your recent Council meeting Mr.Dodge and Mr. Cullen responded in a very positive way to community concerns about the lining of the upper canyons and the feared destruction of critical habitat.

They stated that it might be possible, once proper hydrological studies of how much water actually percolates from there to the groundwater, not to line the upper canyons at all. The water would then be collected in the so-called "sand box" area and conducted to the ocean.

If possible, this would remove one of the greatest community concerns about the proposed project. I would hope that this design approach be aggressively pursued as the preferred alternative.

At a minimum, as I stressed in my previous email, every creative effort must be made to find ways to preserve the habit in the canyons in the face of the possible need for some sort of drainage improvements.

Noel Park
6715 El Rodeo Road
Rancho Palos Verdes CA 90275
562-413-5147

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Teresa Takaoka

From: Noel Park <noelparkone@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2018 7:15 PM
To: CC; Doug Willmore; Ara Mihranian; Elias Sassoon; Teresa Takaoka; Deborah Cullen; jdodge@dbstephens.com
Subject: Portuguese Bend Landslide

I can be a little slow on the uptake, but the penny usually drops eventually. Obviously, another prototype exists for a "collaborative design" effort in the form of the Civic Center Advisory Committee (CCAC).

I strongly urge you to establish such a body for the landslide effort, sooner rather than later. I'm sure that an application process similar to that for the CCAC will reveal plenty of highly qualified people. I would gladly defer to them.

If you but take a look at the brilliant comment letters written by Cassie Jones, Allen Franz, Ken Swenson and Eva Cicoria, it is clear the level of talent and experience available. If and when they are on board with a project, that's all I need to know.

In addition, there needs to be a highly collaborative process for you to take advantage wealth of knowledge of the highly credentialed and experienced staff of the PVPLC. Perhaps they could be represented on the Landslide Control Committee as well. Or you might prefer to set up a different platform to get them even more involved in the design process.

I would hope that Mr. Dodge and Mr. Cullen would attend every meeting of the committee. Considering the amount of progress and good will which resulted from the ad hoc meeting in the hall after the last Council meeting, I sense the potential for real consensus to be built.

Again, much better that than fighting and disagreement after tens or hundreds of thousands of dollars have been spent on a design effort.

As always, thank you for your patience and consideration.

Noel Park
6715 El Rodeo Road
Rancho Palos Verdes CA 90275
562-413-5147

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Teresa Takaoka

From: William Patton <billpatton21@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2018 10:50 PM
To: Ken DeLong
Cc: CC; Mickey Rodich <mickeyrodich@gmail.com>; David Koch; Kit Ruona; Robert Nelson <nelsongang@aol.com>; Sharon Yarber
Subject: Re: Portuguese Bend Landslide Comments

Ken,

Absolutely well said and certainly could be an excellent outline for a future strategy!

Bill

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 25, 2018, at 3:58 PM, Ken DeLong <ken.delong@verizon.net> wrote:

This concerns the Portuguese Bend landslide presentation to the Council on January 26th and the subsequent request for resident comments.

There was considerable technical detail with the presenters reported intent was to bring past concerns to a current data update. It appeared that the objective was accomplished. As I am not an engineer qualified to make technical comments, my observations are non-technical.

It appears that the presenters again confirmed what RPV has known for some time; that there is septic water from Rolling Hills and RPV as well as water from other sources that are significant contributors to the landslide. Sources have never been adequately mapped to determine exactly where the water flow begins. At the lower ocean outfall, there needs to be a buttress that can stabilize and hold the land from flowing into the ocean. We recognize that developing good solutions for landslide control is not an easy problem to solve.

First of all it would seem that task 1 would be to remove all of the landslide area from the Nature Preserve thus removing PVPLC involvement as the PVPLC seems to have greater concerns for habitat than landslide control. The NCCP should NOT be a component of this problem.

Much of the negotiations going forward will be political as well as technical. RPV needs to engage Los Angeles County (Supervisor Hahn / LA County Sanitation / sewers) and Rolling Hills. Rather than making the San Ramon Canyon mistake of not requesting LA County's participation, get other possible participants involved early. A working committee of two Council members as well as the Public Works Director and a Public Works engineer would seem an initial process to move forward. A process for keeping the Council and staff updated would be necessary.

To move forward, it seems there should be greater pursuit of more specific plans for eliminating / controlling septic and other water from the landslide area. Also identification of potential financial sources and mapping of the underground structure. RPV has very healthy financial reserves with Terranea now contributing over \$5 million annually in TOT in addition to property and other taxes. The RPV Council must focus on critical priorities and stop wasting resources on *exercises in futility* that are meaningless to the residents of this community. Demonstration of serious intent will demonstrate to other agencies that RPV is serious about fixing / slowing the Portuguese Bend Landslide.

Ken DeLong

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Teresa Takaoka

From: Andre Ruggeri <andre@ruggerimarble.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 01, 2018 5:17 AM
To: Teresa Takaoka
Subject: Trails Network Plan and Feasibility Study

Teri
Hope you are well ,
I would like to add that the trails used by Both Bikes and Horses should have always visibility and that if a blind corner Occurs that there is a sign asking to slow down
Nothing could be more dangerous , that a bicyclist coming down hill full speed with ear pods own up to a upcoming horse on a single track
there is only a couple of places that this is the case and we as riders try and avoid them But limits us from the use of this sections of beautiful trails
also what made things wort is that the vegetation grew very large on last years rains
Thaks for you're help
Best regards

Andre Ruggeri

Ruggeri Marble And Granite Inc
Office and Slab Yard
920 Eubank Ave
Wilmington, CA 90744
Office: 310-513-2155
Cell: 310 527-1331

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Teresa Takaoka

From: Barbara Sattler <bsattler@igc.org>
Sent: Friday, February 02, 2018 10:03 AM
To: Teresa Takaoka; CC; Ara Mihranian; Deborah Cullen; Elias Sassoon
Cc: Al Sattler
Subject: comments re Draft Feasibility Study for Landslide Abatement
Attachments: Comments re Draft FS Landslide Abatement.pdf; CNPS policy re transplanting2.pdf

Attached please find our comment letter regarding the Draft Feasibility Study for Landslide Abatement and the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Policy opposing transplanting native plants as mitigation.

February 2, 2018

Re: Draft Feasibility Study to remediate the Portuguese Bend Landslide

To the City Council and Staff of Rancho Palos Verdes:

The primary directive of the Rancho Palos Verdes Natural Communities Conservation Plan (NCCP) is to AVOID impacts to sensitive habitat areas and species. Replanting an area does not provide an immediate one-to-one restoration of impacts to habitat, nor does it provide any mitigation for impacts to wildlife during the actual disturbance activity.

Likewise, the notion that mature native plants can simply be dug up to be replanted later is not supported by professional botanists. In fact, the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) has a formal policy, "STATEMENT OPPOSING TRANSPLANTATION AS MITIGATION FOR IMPACTS TO RARE PLANTS". (attached) because efforts to transplant mature native plants are more likely to fail than to succeed.

It is critical that the city obtain specialized knowledgeable evaluation of this project's potential impacts from qualified biologists, botanists and ecologists before further development of a project plan. The Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy, which has the authority for biological management of the Preserve, must be consulted in these matters. The fact that this land is dedicated as a Nature Preserve warrants input and consideration of the best possible biological and ecological approach to addressing the situation, not solely an engineering report and recommendation.

How was the total acreage of impacts from the proposed abatement project determined? Does that estimated acreage include all areas impacted by the proposed project including, but not limited to access, construction and staging areas?

Is the degradation of existing prime contiguous habitat into fragmented "edgey" islands with subsequently degraded habitat value being counted as a significant biological impact?

What about the temporal loss of mature functional habitat which is destroyed by the proposed project until any restoration efforts have proved successful?

Are the sparse transplanted plants proposed to be installed for the drainage areas being counted as restoration? What if these proposed transplants of mature plants fail to thrive?

How does the proposed project justify destroying prime Coastal Sage Scrub (CSS) in the heart of the Preserve in clear violation of Section 5.5.19 of the NCCP?

What was the natural hydrology of the area included in the Feasibility Study before the introduction of roads, buildings and other development? Can it be assumed that the local ecology is adapted to that original amount and pattern of ground water? How would the proposed plan alter this hydrology and what impact might this alteration have on native vegetation?

How much water is added to the area from surface runoff due to excess irrigation on neighboring properties? How much might watering restrictions, such as we have had during periods of drought, reduce this excess of water infiltration?

How much of a reduction of ground water load would be achieved by conversion from septic tanks to a sewer system? What would be the impacts of sewer line installation? Can sewer lines be routed to the north of the Preserve, avoiding impacts to the Preserve?

Although we appreciate the desire to minimize ongoing land movement on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, any efforts to do so should not be to the detriment of the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve.

Al and Barbara Sattler
Via email with attached CNPS Policy on Transplanting

California Native Plant Society

STATEMENT OPPOSING TRANSPLANTATION AS MITIGATION FOR IMPACTS TO RARE PLANTS

July 9, 1998

The California State Legislature enacted the Native Plant Protection Act (NPPA) in 1977. The NPPA identifies wide-ranging and broad categories of activities on private lands that could result in the take (killing) of state-listed plants. These activities include: (1) agricultural operations or management practices including clearing of land, (2) land clearing for fire control, (3) timber operations in accordance with a legal timber harvesting plan, (4) mining assessment work, (5) performance by a public agency or public utility of its obligation to provide service to the public, (6) removal of listed plants from (a) a canal, (b) lateral ditch, (c) building site, (d) road, or (e) other right of way by the owner of the land. Few land use or management activities fall outside of these categories. Under one interpretation of Section 1913 of the NPPA, landowners who wish to engage in any of the aforementioned activities, and who have been informed by the California Department of Fish and Game (Department) of the presence of state-listed plants on their property, need only provide 10 day notice and give the Department the opportunity to salvage the plants before proceeding. This would be the sole mitigation required for destruction of listed plants or their habitat in these cases.

Recent regulatory proposals by the Department, statements by the California Attorney General, and activities in the courts and the state legislature, signal that NPPA's provisions on transplantation may soon become the major, possibly the only, form of "protection" from unlimited take for all state-listed plant taxa. For these reasons, it has become necessary to review the reasons why reliance on transplantation to conserve state-listed plant species is not only unlikely to succeed, but is likely to contribute to further declines of these taxa, possibly to widespread extinctions. Transplantation is rarely successful in establishing rare plants at new locations. A study by the Department itself (Fiedler, 1991) found that, even under optimum conditions with ample time for planning, transplantation was effective in only 15% of cases studied. Other reviews (e.g. Allen, 1994; Howald, 1996) have found similar problems. There are many reasons for this poor success rate:

1. we often know very little about the biology of rare plants. We may not be aware of all the intricate habitat requirements of each listed species. Rare plants are often specialists that exploit a particular and unusual combination of habitat attributes. They may require a particular soil type, set of pollinators, mycorrhizal fungi or other associate species, aspect, hydrological regime, microclimate or some combination of these or other factors for survival.
2. suitable transplantation or propagation sites may not be available, particularly with only 10 days notice.
3. digging up, transporting, and replanting plants, bulbs, rhizomes or seeds imposes a tremendous stress on a plant. They can easily die in the process.
4. scientifically-tested, reliable methods for salvage, propagation, translocation or transplantation are not available for many rare species.
5. areas where the impacted taxon is already present are often at the carrying capacity of the habitat, and the introduction of transplanted individuals into the existing population will disrupt the equilibrium of that population and will not increase the viability of the taxon.
6. the 10 day notice provision means that landowners can require the Department to salvage plants at any time of the year, including times that are inappropriate for physical disruption of the plant. Annual species may not even be visible at some times of the year.





STATEMENT OPPOSING TRANSPLANTATION PAGE 2

Transplantation can also cause problems at the target site. Genetic contamination can occur if the plant being transplanted can exchange genetic material with local taxa. Disturbance at the target site may facilitate invasion by non-native invasive species.

For all of these reasons, the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) does not recognize off-site compensation as appropriate mitigation for project impacts and opposes the use of salvage and transplantation as mitigation for impacts to rare and listed plants (California Native Plant Society Rare Plant Scientific Advisory Committee, 1991). The undersigned individuals, botanical societies and organizations oppose the use of transplantation as the primary means of conservation of rare plant species.

Signed,

Lori Hubbard
President
California Native Plant Society

Barbara Ertter, Ph.D.
Chair, CNPS Rare Plant Scientific Advisory Committee
Curator of Western North American Flora*
University and Jepson Herbaria
University of California, Berkeley

Ann Dennis, Ph.D.
CNPS Vice President for Rare Plants
Plant Ecologist*
USGS Biological Resources Division

Carol C. Baskin, Ph.D.
President
Botanical Society of America

*Titles and affiliations are for identification purposes only. This letter does not necessarily represent the positions of the referenced institutions.

Literature Cited

Allen, W. H. 1994. Reintroduction of endangered plants: biologists worry that mitigation may be considered an easy option in the political and legal frameworks of conservation. *Bioscience* 44(2): 65-8.

California Native Plant Society Rare Plant Scientific Advisory Committee. 1991. *Mitigation Guidelines Regarding Impacts to Rare, Threatened and Endangered Plants*. California Native Plant Society, Sacramento, CA.

Fiedler, P. 1991. Mitigation related transplantation, translocation and reintroduction projects involving endangered and threatened and rare plant species in California. California Department of Fish and Game, Sacramento, CA. 82 pp.

Howald, A.M. Translocation as a mitigation strategy: lessons from California. In: D.A. Falk, C.I. Millar, and M. Olwell eds. *Restoring Diversity: Strategies for Reintroduction of Endangered Plants*. Island Press, Washington, DC.



STATEMENT OPPOSING TRANSPLANTATION PAGE 3

Addendum

to CNPS comments on proposed regulations implementing Chapter 6, Article 2 of the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) pertaining to take of listed species incidental to routine and ongoing agricultural activities.

Regarding the definition of routine and ongoing agricultural activities, please note that a recent ruling by the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals addressed "normal agricultural activity" in the context of federal regulation of wetland destruction on agricultural lands in California. The Court found that "normal agricultural activity" explicitly did not include (1) activities that bring an area into farming or (2) where modifications to the hydrological regime are necessary. (Borden Ranch Associates and Angelo K. Tsakopoulos v. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, summary Judgement finding for the U.S., Filed June 9, 1998). Although this occurred in a completely different jurisdiction and context than these regulations, the definition of "routine and ongoing" agricultural activities in the Proposal and the ED is clearly inconsistent with this court's interpretation of "normal agricultural activity".

California Native Plant Society
1722 J Street, Suite 17
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 447-2677

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Teresa Takaoka

From: Janet Schoenfeld <jbmor275@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, February 02, 2018 4:17 PM
To: Teresa Takaoka
Subject: Draft Portuguese Bend Landslide Mitigation Study

Dear Ms. Takaoka,

I was among those who attended the Jan.16 City Council Meeting which included presentations on the subject study.

This message is submitted to convey my deep concern with both the proposed mitigation measures and the underlying data. Before further consideration of mitigation measures, I urge that the City

1. Place as first priority use of the least invasive mitigation strategy(-ies) and tactics.

For instance, adding three 65-foot wide concrete "riverbed" equivalents through a nature preserve absolutely fails that test.

2. Initiate an in-house research effort to determine and document how much has been spent on prior mitigation efforts, what maintenance was performed, what effects were noticed, track development vs landslide activity, and similar historical data.

3. One of my neighbors, Eva Cicoria, has worked with others and prepared an in-depth document requesting additional information on this study. I fully endorse that line of inquiry.

Please contact me if you would like other or additional information on the concerns noted above. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Janet Schoenfeld
6 Coach Road
Rancho Palos Verdes
310-245-7858

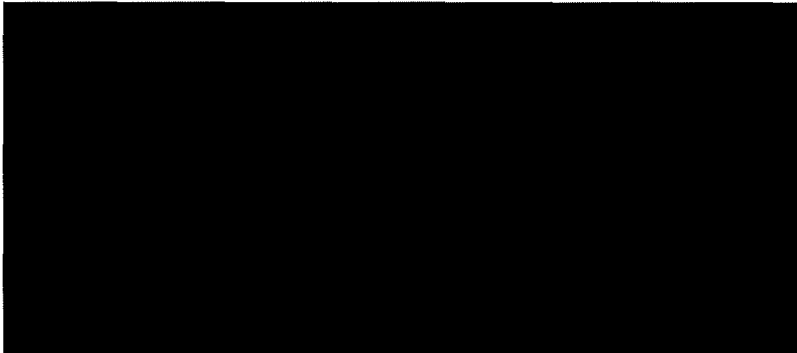
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Teresa Takaoka

From: Nina Smith <ninansteveca@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 01, 2018 7:39 PM
To: Teresa Takaoka
Subject: Portuguese Slide

Hi - Has anyone looked in to what the effect would be if a mass planting/orchard of pepper or avocado trees - call to Ric Dykzeul for additional ideas of trees that the roots would drink up the water as well as hold the hill together? Thanks Nina Smith

RIC DYKZEUL



**RIC DYKZEUL LANDSCAPE DESIGN & GARDEN
CONSULTING - Torrance, CA | Angie'...**

See reviews for RIC DYKZEUL LANDSCAPE DESIGN &
GARDEN CONSULTING in Torrance, CA at 23115 FALENA AVE
from Angie'...

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Teresa Takaoka

From: Will Somers <wsomers61@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2018 11:02 AM
To: Teresa Takaoka
Subject: Requested response on Draft Portuguese Bend Landslide Feasibility Study

To the Rancho Palos Verdes City Council:

As the owner of property (7572 007 001) at 10 Pomegranate Drive E. in Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275, I have read the report from Daniel B. Stephens and Associates carefully.

I am supportive of both the conclusions and recommendations in the report.

Performing those actions suggested in the feasibility study will help to preserve and protect homes and other properties in the Portuguese Bend area of Rancho Palos Verdes, and to ameliorate road conditions, leading to improved safety and reduced maintenance costs. These actions will assist in preserving the beauty of one of the most scenic areas in the state, or, for that matter, the nation.

Financially, undertaking the actions has the potential to increase values in the area significantly, with an ultimate effect of lessening tax burdens in the community. Please consider these suggested actions for civic improvement.

Regards,

Willard Somers Sr.

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Teresa Takaoka

From: Jon Spain <jkspain@rpvc.al.net>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 12:51 PM
To: Teresa Takaoka
Cc: Jon Spain
Subject: Questions for PBLC Consultant
Attachments: QuestionsForPBLC Consultant-JSpain.docx

Hi Teri,

Please see attached Word File. These are my personal questions and do not reflect any official "input" from IMAC. You should receive the official IMAC letter on or about February 12th.

Thanks,

Jon

Questions for Daniel B. Stephens & Assoc.

1. What is probability of significant and sudden land movement that can compromise infrastructure (e.g. PVDS and the LA County sanitary sewer line). It is desired this analysis be as quantitative as possible to enable city staff to perform a cost benefit analysis of mitigations of this risk.
2. Other than sudden land movement, are there other risks that could occur rapidly and present a health or safety hazard to residents. For example, a sudden opening of a fissure that could trap a person or a vehicle. If possible, please quantitatively assess the probability of the risk occurring.

Jon Spain
RPV Resident
7335 Via Lorado

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Teresa Takaoka

From: SUNSHINE <sunshinerpv@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 27, 2018 12:02 PM
To: tbray@scng.com
Cc: CC; dennisggardner@me.com
Subject: PB Landslide Letter to the Editor

Hey Tom Bray,

I am laughing, choking and crying all at the same time. "Fake News" has hit a new, local, high or low depending on which side you are on. Valerie Osier appears to be on the side of "the sky is falling" as though a new scandal would sell more papers. Oh, weren't you the one who told me that Ed Pilolla is no longer with The News? Well, he is listed on the Editorial Page as Editor-in-Chief in today's (January 25, 2018) **PENINSULA NEWS**. May I suggest that you employ a "Fact Checker".

I can email this to more people who care than there are people who read the occasional Letters to the Editor in the PV News. But, I just can't resist the urge to reach out and touch someone. Since you no longer put the parameters for letters to the Editor on your Editorial Page, I'll just keep it short. ...S

To The Editor:

Efforts by the City of Rancho Palos Verdes to control the Portuguese Bend Landslide Complex should not be taken lightly nor be inflated to panic mode. Most of it (if any) does not move at 8 feet per year.

The last major work was effective for several years even though the water drainage designs were under-engineered. We know better, now.

The habitat grew back better than ever. One should not call that "irreversible". I'll bet you quoted Barbara Ailor not a Barbara Abel.

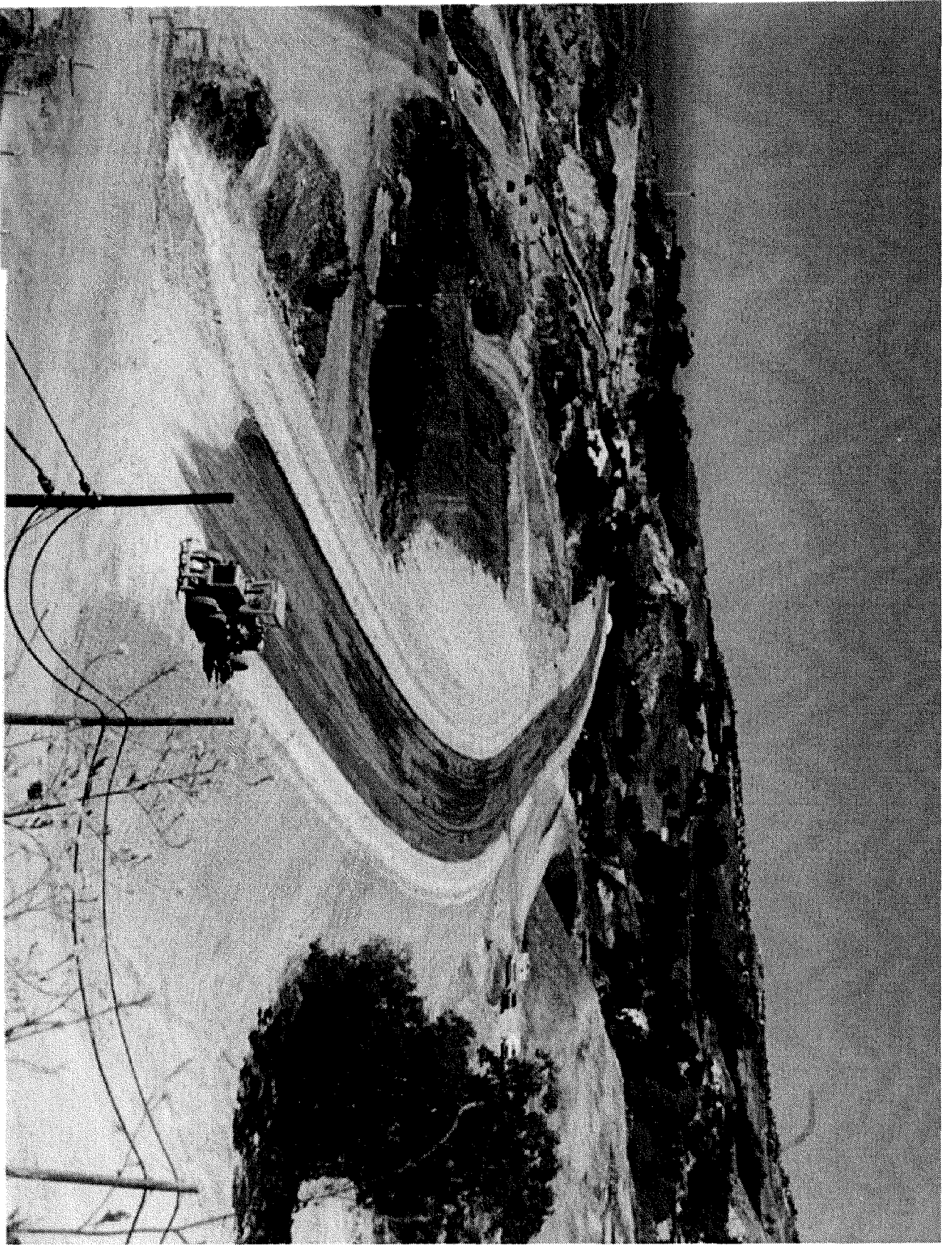
The photo is of Palos Verdes Drive South, not Pasco Del Mar.

SUNSHINE 310-377-8761

6 Limetree Lane

Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275

Following is a photo taken by the late Lyman Riley. It is of the "new" PV Drive South looking west from just inside the eastern edge of the Portuguese Bend Landslide. Notice the existing road along the left side. The new road has moved to essentially where the old road was then.



PALOS VERDES DRIVE SOUTH 1986

SEPARATOR PAGE
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From: SUNSHINE [mailto:sunshinerpv@aol.com]

Sent: Monday, January 29, 2018 1:35 AM

To: Deborah Cullen <DCullen@rpvca.gov>

Cc: Doug Willmore <DWillmore@rpvca.gov>; Elias Sassoon <esassoon@rpvca.gov>; Ara Mihranian <AraM@rpvca.gov>; Cory Linder <CoryL@rpvca.gov>; CC <CC@rpvca.gov>; kelvin@vanderlip.org; j1000@cox.net; momofyago@gmail.com; Mickey Rodich <mickeyrodich@gmail.com> <mickeyrodich@gmail.com>; annamcdougall@cox.net; annapualii@gmail.com; andre@ruggedmarble.com; leneebilski@hotmail.com; pvpra.president@gmail.com; pvpwatch@pvpwatch.com; pvpasofino@yahoo.com; quixtar@byorkevolkermysr.com; vdogregg@aol.com; yojay67@hotmail.com; yojay67@hotmail.com

Subject: Into 2018. Re: 2017 DRAFT Portuguese Bend Feasibility Study

Hi Deborah,

Good answer. Please feel free to call this my Comment #1: The PV Loop Trail "ideal route" goes across the PB Landslide abatement Feasibility Study area. If this RFP doesn't take the "sustainability" of off-road emergency access and evacuation corridors into consideration along with the rain water run-off and recreational trails issues, when do you suppose that The Budget will get around to the City Council's GOAL of "trail enhancement"?

SUNSHINE
310-377-8761
RPV

Letters to the Editor

City making her 'Loop-y'

To the Editor:

The Palos Verdes Loop Trail Project is guided by an "ideal route" and a mission statement. The good news is that just as it was in 1985, this ideal route is still feasible. Approximately 26 miles of unpaved pathway can still be connected into a continuous loop. No building has been permitted, which completely interrupts the continuity. Only poison oak and politics stand in the way of completing the dream.

"All things cometh to he who waits as long as who waits worketh like hell while he waitith." I don't know who first reworded this Scripture. I do believe it.

The latest complication has more to do with the quality of the dream than the dream itself. One would think that the RPV Natural Communities Conservation Plan (NCCP) would be a boon to the

project's goals. In fact, many segment adopters contributed cash to the "Preserve Portuguese Bend" campaign.

How hard is it to identify the potentially "least steep" route across a property that connects with the potentially "least steep" route across adjacent properties and provides non-motorized public access to trail heads and other points of interest? The RPV City Council did not "get it" when they updated the Forrester Nature Preserve Management Plan. The RPV Public Use Master Plan (PUMP) Committee was not allowed to recommend it.

The Palos Verdes Loop Trail route is where the project's segment adopters agree among themselves where it is. The city of RPV has no business using the name and then moving it to trails that do not meet the criteria when there are feasible trail connections that do.

Sunshine
Rancho Palos Verdes

Hello Sunshine,

Feel free to send your comments to me.

Deborah Cullen
Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 29, 2017, at 4:14 PM, SUNSHINE <sunshinerpv@aol.com> wrote:
Dear Ms. Cullen,

Happy New Year. Apparently you are the one who has been assigned the task of making sense of the exercise called the Draft Portuguese Bend Feasibility Study. While I totally support the City's interest in managing the PB Landflow, as an active landslide resident for 40 years and an objector of the goal of "sustainable development", I have to ask... To whom should I send my input about typo's, graphic inaccuracies, redundancies, historical inaccuracies, missing community input and other relevant data?

Preparing a grant application is an expensive endeavor. You have access to the bookkeeping/accounting for all of the City's previous grant opportunity inspired projects. I would like to see this one turn out as a legitimate benefit to the community.

Keeping with the advice of asking Staff only one question per email, I repeat... To whom should I send my input?

SUNSHINE 310-377-8761

In a message dated 12/22/2017 2:47:34 PM Pacific Standard Time, listserv@civicplus.com writes:

[View this in your browser](#)

Click the following link to view the [2017 DRAFT Portuguese Bend Feasibility Study](#).

If you have any questions please contact Deborah Cullen, Director of Finance at 310 544-5278 <[Embedded1514564038502.png](#)> or Dcullen@rpvca.gov.

This message is been sent by the [City of Rancho Palos Verdes](#) as part of a "Notify Me" Listserve category you are signed up for. Please do not press "reply" when responding to this message, it is an unmonitored email address. You can make changes to your subscription by visiting <http://www.rpvca.gov/list.aspx>.

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Teresa Takaoka

From: SUNSHINE <sunshinerpv@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 4:37 PM
To: Deborah Cullen
Cc: CC; Elias Sassoon; Ara Mihranian; Trails; Doug Willmore
Subject: PB Landslide Feasibility Study Comment No. 2

Hello Deborah,

Somehow, all this needs to be converted into a direction to the Consultant to include designing a somewhat "sustainable" trails network within and around the Project Area. Our primary, south side, evacuation route used to be the Crenshaw Extension. That should be restored. Water flow control and capture is important for making low maintenance recreational trails too. This got Delphi Technique'd out of the Workshop records. The details are available. What is missing is that big decision to use this hired talent to move forward with the Trails Network Plan Update. Engineering is the first "E" in the "tread lightly" philosophy. Then Education. Then Enforcement. If all of the City's goals are not considered, together, a huge opportunity to "get it right" will be lost.

SUNSHINE 310-377-8761

Subject: PVPLC "conspiracy theory"
Date: 4/2/2017 1:42:24 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time
From:  SunshineRPV@aol.com
To: cprotem73@cox.net, mizie@cox.net
CC: jduhovic@hotmail.com
BCC: amcdougall1@yahoo.com, pypasofino@yahoo.com, pvpra.president@gmail.com, pvpha2010@gmail.com, pvppwatch@pvppwatch.com, campbell.rpv@gmail.com, jeanlongacre@aol.com

Hi Anthony and Ken,

I have copied Jerry on this because he was on my original distribution list. I hope it will not be a problem with the Brown Act for you. I am just a citizen of the United States of America trying to communicate with my elected representatives.

As much as I like Carolyn Petru, I have to say that the following correspondence did not produce any change in the PVPLC's influence on how the City's Staff was making a habit of sidestepping the City's primary documents. And, a majority of the City Council has gone along with it.

Not having an "updated" General Plan sets them free to propose all sorts of mischief. Given that most of the Amendments to the existing General Plan (see the Agenda Report about the General Plan implementation 2016) were "Land Use" changes, I am looking for a way to get a Line Item in the next Budget that will fund the removal of proposed changes to the General Plan's Land Use Map so that Council can consider a proposed updated Land Use Map which represents only the currently approved Amendments. (Conservation easements have never been processed as Land Use changes.)

The Land Use Map on the City's web site includes proposed changes (supposedly per Council's direction) and the graphics talented Staff Time it would take to remove the proposed changes is not funded without further

Council action. I have been told that I am the only person who would look at a large scale, color, General Plan Land Use Map if it was hanging in the City Hall Lobby. A currently accurate Land Use Map is not available on the City's web site. If that is the case and if the State of California does not enforce their unfunded mandate that the City have such a document, why don't we just leave our award winning, existing one as it is?

Seriously, we may be stuck with the City's 50 year deal with the PVPLC. However, there is no reason why "we the people" here in RPV should have to watch our elected representatives get manipulated. The tide turned when Jim Knight did not get reelected. The tide turned when President Trump got elected. On a local level, we need to get Staff out of the ICLEI cult. The NCCP does not need to be "typo-proofed" to be approved by the State Agencies. The tide has turned there, too. The RPV version needs to be repealed so that at least the PVPLC can be put back into "Pandora's Box".

I was simply a trails connection advocate and an agriculture advocate until I found out that my community property rights and my private property rights were to be done away with at a higher level. It is up to three Members of the RPV City Council to recover what we have lost in this community. Or, at least put a stop to... ..S



Subject: Report on RPV Trails Network Plan (TNP) kick-off workshop
Date: 6/27/2014 11:09:20 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time
From:  SunshineRPV@aol.com
To: carolynn@rpv.com
BCC: jeanlongacre@aol.com, momofyago@gmail.com, lencebilski@hotmail.com, troy@eworld-media.com, j1000@cox.net, radlsmith@cox.net, jduhovic@hotmail.com

Report on RPV Trails Network Plan (TNP) kick-off workshop

Hi Carolynn,

Here are my impressions from the first of possibly at least six workshops. Please correct me if I make any incorrect statements. What I would really like is for you to redirect Ara's task assignment so that the citizens of RPV, our City Council and Staff end up with a usable advisory tool, a guide for implementing and funding trails and a device to achieve a consistent course of action in developing an integrated network of trails.

For starters, the attendees were provided with copies of the Introduction to the RPV Conceptual Trails Plan (CTP). They were not provided with the Introduction to the RPV Trails Network Plan (TNP). See page 2 of the TNP. That is where I got the above list of objectives. See the problem?

Staff has access to a Trail Standards Study, the Circulation Element of the RPV General Plan, the Trails Network Plan, the Conceptual Trails Plan, the Conceptual Bikeways Plan, a complete draft update of section 2 of the City's trails per the Task Force's request for policy directions, the California Coastal Conservancy's report to the California Legislature about the ideal California Coastal Trail, the brochure on the ideal Palos Verdes Loop Trail, the RPV Coastal Vision Plan, LA County property ownership records, PV Nature Preserve Trails Plans, a complete draft update of section 1 of the California Coastal Trail per the Task Force's request for

policy directions and the final version of the Western States Trail Foundation's TRAIL DEVELOPMENT / MAINTENANCE CRITERIA of July 4, 2012. When asked why all of these documents have not been pulled together into one document (the TNP), Ara replied something like... well, they haven't been and that is what we are working on, now.

I beg to differ. Public workshops will only serve to pit neighbor against neighbor about the localized "merits" of specific trail connections. The update of the 1990 version of the CTP (Parks Dept.) into the 1993 version of the CTP (Planning Dept.) accomplished two things. A critical easement on Spoke #7 of the Peninsula Wheel Trails Network was vacated and the emphasis on trail connectivity objectives was changed to trail user restrictions enforcement. All I foresee with this TNP "update" is more of the same.

It rather sounds like the City Council's unanimous vote to preserve/restore agriculture in RPV. Staff is either not funded, not inspired or directed by a higher power to let agriculture and trails "fade away". One of the primary methodologies of those who would like to rule the word is to keep local special interests fighting among themselves while actions are taken to support the more global goal.

Maintaining an updated RPV General Plan, Coastal Specific Plan, Parks Master Plan and Trails Network Plan should be Staff's #1 priority. After all, in the interest of the citizen's health, safety and welfare, Staff should be looking to the City Council's directive's first. And, then their "oversight".

Carolynn, I beg of you. Task somebody with updating the graphic of the City's Land Use Map according to all of the City Council approved property purchases and land use amendments before the "public" is asked to comment on the proposed "changes". Task somebody with amending the Coastal Specific Plan so that it includes a specific definition of what a "viewing station" is that an applicant's Architect can understand. Task somebody to do the research and add all of the City's acquired properties to the list in the Parks Master Plan. Task somebody to do the research and add all of the City's acquired easements to the list in the Trails Network Plan. Task somebody with proposing a City wide trails signage program before another dime is spent on signage in the PV Preserve.

To put it bluntly, the public is not in a position to comment on proposed changes as long as nobody knows what we have, now. Remember that list you made of CATEGORY I trails and provided to Larry Still? Remember that map of which trails were which CATEGORY that the City Manager asked the Task Force for? **WHERE ARE THEY?**

As Fiscal Year 2013-2014 comes to a close, a lot of trail maintenance has not been done. A lot of CUP conditions are not being enforced. What Staff doesn't know hurts the rest of us. For a few months more, you are in charge.

Seriously, sitting on committees has not accomplished anything. What can I do to help save RPV from ICLEI?
...S

SEPARATOR PAGE
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Teresa Takaoka

From: SUNSHINE <sunshinerpv@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 01, 2018 12:46 PM
To: Deborah Cullen; Ara Mihranian
Cc: CC; Elias Sassoon
Subject: Landslide Feasibility Study Comment No. 3

Hi Deborah,

Notice the CTP draft update language at the end. If nothing else, the design to restore this primary circulation corridor should be included in the RFP. ...SUNSHINE 310-377-8761

Trails Network Plan Update

Hi Ara,

Trump National's proposed changes in Tract 50666 appear to be the perfect opportunity to figure out what it is going to take to integrate the TRAILS DEVELOPMENT / MAINTENANCE CRITERIA of July 4, 2012 into the TNP update. There are both existing trails and designed "conceptual" trails. Somebody "in house" should have the expertise to identify which TYPE each one is.

There are two sides to that. Only the trail tread width is identified on their Public Amenities Plan. The width and height of the trail prism needs to be assigned by TYPE for new construction and for maintenance purposes. The other thing is the average grade of the trail and how long are the steep places. That needs to be from each end of an assigned trail name.

All of these trails are or will become Category I. The TNP does not now address the Code Enforcement issues as in when a third party is responsible for trail maintenance. It is really nice that Trump repaired the Sunset Trail. But, that begs the questions... Was it restored to a specific criteria? And, how long was it closed?

The TRAILS DEVELOPMENT / MAINTENANCE CRITERIA of July 4, 2012 is all about the future. What may volunteers do? Trail repairs should be more specific than... "Whatever the Fire Department wants." Foliage should be kept trimmed back to outside the prism for line of sight and other anti user conflict reasons. PVPLC should not be able to allow designated trails to become overgrown and then call the corridor "untouchable precious habitat".

The exercise of backing into Trump's Public Amenities Plan should be a big help for designing the ideal trails network in the PB Landslide RFP.

We have lots of "chickens and eggs". Everyone is telling me to talk with you.

My question is... Who has been assigned the task of assigning the trail TYPE to each of our Category I trails?

...S 310-377-8761

PS: Following is a sample of what the Task Force's Open Space Subcommittee wrote in their recommended format for the CTP. You have all 20 pages, right?

I have modified this to accommodate the change recommended by the PUMP Committee. See the Badlands Segment map in the 1993 Conceptual Trails Plan.

S3A11 The Badlands Segment of the Palos Verdes Loop Trail

Route: This *point-to-point* trail segment begins at the parcel boundary near Portuguese Canyon (GPS S3A11-1+) where it must connect with the Crenshaw Segment (S3A10) and extends eastward and south to restore the Crenshaw Extension across the "Sandbox" area and north on the "Mexican Village" access road to Klondike Canyon where it must connect with the Klondike Segment (S3A12) (GPS S3A11-9+).

Status: Category III

Development/Maintenance Criteria: TYPE 3.

Access: This trail segment does not intersect with any public street. However, it goes through the proposed Gateway Park area which could be improved as a trailhead with access from PV Drive South

Objectives: As a segment of the Palos Verdes Loop Trail, this trail is the primary, unpaved connection between Upper Point Vicente Park and the Ladera Linda Community Center.

SEPARATOR PAGE
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Teresa Takaoka

From: SUNSHINE <sunshinerpv@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, February 02, 2018 2:17 PM
To: CC; Deborah Cullen; Doug Willmore; Elias Sassoon; Ara Mihranian; Cory Linder
Cc: kelvin@vanderlip.org; Robert Nelson <nelsongang@aol.com>; ldb910@juno.com; smhvaleri@cox.net; ken.delong@verison.net; andre@ruggedmarble.com
Subject: PB Landslide Feasibility Study Comment No. 4

MEMO From SUNSHINE

TO: RPV City Council, City Manager and interested parties

RE: Priorities for the Draft Portuguese Bend Landslide Feasibility Study

I am under the impression that comments submitted to Staff are simply being forwarded to the Consultant. I have noticed that my comments relate more to the potential parameters than those previously given to the Consultant as a result of the workshops which are essentially the same as what Staff proposed at the first workshop.

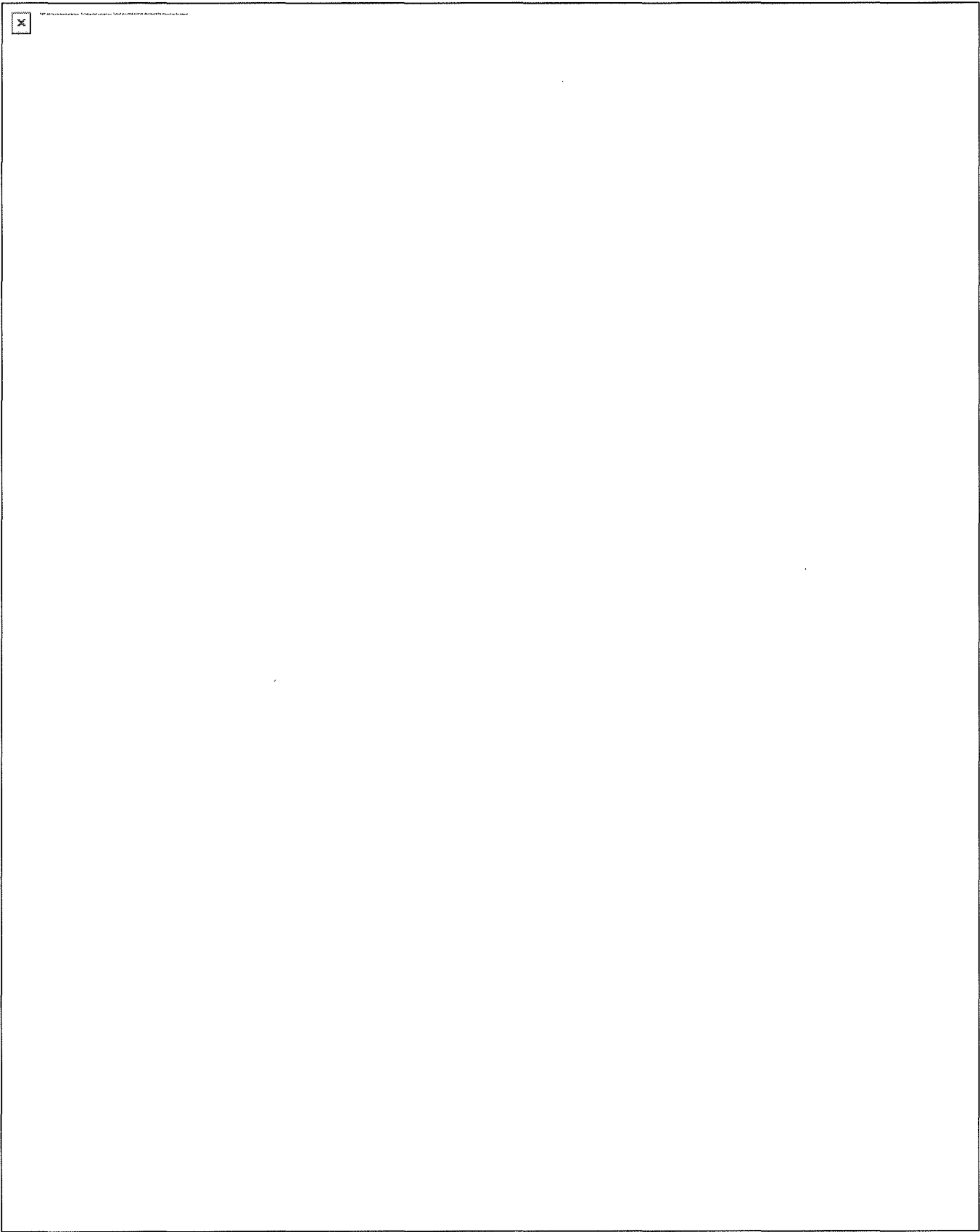
Following are two photos of the previous work to preserve Palos Verdes Drive South and control the land movement. I submit them in support of the fact that any work will not endanger the "habitat".

This RFP and grant application should represent the best possible, permanent, engineered solutions for the General Plan update, the Clean Watershed Plan, emergency access, recreational trails network and Landflow control. Reseeding the vegetation should be even better this time because we now have a better understanding (and seed collection) of what can/should be a "native" habitat.

My plea is that you not compromise on any of the best possible, coordinated designs in favor of not impacting the existing habitat. As in, "mitigation measures" will reduce the effectiveness of the end product. The PVP Land Conservancy has rewritten their Mission Statement. The City of Rancho Palos Verdes has not.

This really is our "second in a lifetime" chance to get it done, right. No more substandard sewers. No more substandard catch basins. No more substandard storm drains. No more substandard trails and trail routes. No more substandard erosion control. Get the ideal design for everything and then take a very close look at phasing and other ways to reduce the funding complications.

Scroll on down past the photos to see an old letter to the Editor. It was not meant to be funny. Following that is an even older one. Both were written from my point of view as a horse owner, a resident of the active landslide and as a supporter of the PVP Land Conservancy's original mission.





Small, illegible text line, possibly a page header or footer.

July 27, 2007

TO THE EDITOR:

This is in response to a most incredible letter you published (July 26, 2007) about the roadway repairs on Palos Verdes Drive South. How can anyone have lived in Rancho Palos Verdes, read the *PVP News*, used this road for 30 years and not know about the oldest, continuously moving landslide in the United States (if not the world)?

The City Council, personally, should pay to install a first class bridge? That is physically and fiscally absurd. Anyone who doesn't appreciate the heroic job that the City is doing to just keep this mile of roadway "passable for MTA buses" needs to make themselves "tired" by driving from Halfway Point to Long Point via the other three Palos Verdes Drive's. It is a public roadway. However, there is no law that says you have to use it.

This is the good ol' US of A. Will and Mary Ann Felando have the right to express their opinions even if they sound like Communists, Fascists, Socialists and/or just plain selfish people. The rest of us "stupid taxpayers" have the right to hope that caring people will continue to step up and run for public office despite this sort of gratuitous abuse.

SUNSHINE

6 LIMETREE LANE

RANCHO PALOS VERDES, CA 90275

1-310-377-8761

Sunshine

6 Limetree Lane

Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275-5909

(310) 377-8761

SunshineRPV@aol.com

June 6, 2003

TO THE EDITOR:

If one starts counting when humans from Europe first arrived on "Our Hill", then there are at least eight non indigenous critters and thousands of non indigenous plants living here with us and mostly roaming at will. The critters are red foxes, peafowl, green parrots, cats, dogs, horses, tree rats and gray squirrels. I am counting the hawks, owls, snakes, insects, skunks, gophers, coyotes, field mice, ground squirrels, opossums and gray foxes as indigenous. Each resident seems to have reason to love or hate each of them.

Anyone who moved here expecting to cocoon in a safe, private, quiet enclave with fresh air and beautiful vistas has never lived in a semi rural environment. The Palos Verdes Peninsula may be paradise when compared with most other places, but it is not without having to deal with the neighbors.

Each of our four cities' governing bodies has dealt with their constituents' opinions about neighborliness in differing ways. Of the eight critters, the only one that can be legislated out is the horses. The rest involve trapping and or killing. (Note that swine already have been legislated out and cattle, sheep, goats, chickens, geese etc are eliminated when anyone complains.)

While the peafowl are being hotly debated in Palos Verdes Estates, the horses are being legislated out of Rancho Palos Verdes and the gray/fox squirrel population is exploding everywhere (less one on Grayslake). In some areas, the raven population is getting pretty nasty, too.

What our cities and community associations need to do is aggressively control increases in the populations and increases in the territories of the invasive critters and plants. A price list should be established. Residents should be able to request and pay for having these critters removed from any area that they were not living on when each given city incorporated. Feral, non native critters and invasive non-native plants should not be tolerated on publicly owned property.

Best regards,

SEPARATOR PAGE
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Teresa Takaoka

From: Minas <yerelian@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 02, 2018 12:19 AM
To: Teresa Takaoka
Subject: Slide are

Planting trees with deep roots,
Roots acting capillaries suck the water up and slow down the slide or maybe even prevent it.
Any other band aid (such as recommended) require costly maintenance to be effective and is not reflected in the report \$\$\$.
When Finding the source of the springs under ground that are causing the slide, then a real solution can be more effective.
Minas Yerelian

SEPARATOR PAGE
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Teresa Takaoka

From: SUNSHINE <sunshinerpv@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2018 6:18 PM
To: CC
Cc: gtaccini@cox.net; huffdeborah8@gmail.com; ccf214@cox.net; eileenfrere@earthlink.net; diamor22@aol.com; lindorfer1@cox.net; jrrcarlton@aol.com; exleyhouse@hotmail.com; begr8full@msn.com; mmcarman@cox.net; rstirling@cox.net; fstirling@cox.net; nbarber310@cox.net; saxhouse1@gmail.com; aliderek@gmail.com; jdcradio@gmail.com; jstasio@cox.net; cc@rpv.gov; Deborah Cullen; EZStevens@cox.net; Mickey Rodich <mickeyrodich@gmail.com>; leneebilski@hotmail.com; pvpasofino@yahoo.com; smhvaleri@cox.net; Krista Johnson <kristamjohnson@cox.net>; amcdougall1@yahoo.com
Subject: Do the people have a voice?

Dear Madam Mayor and City Council,

Too many public comments, concerns and suggestions are being ignored and/or being obfuscated into some "twilight zone". Thank you ever so much for attempting to schedule Special Council Meetings to address the Budget, the General Plan and the Natural Communities Conservation Plan (NCCP).

Personally, I do not think that you need any more public input in order to redirect a previous City Council's direction about the General Plan. Direct Staff to stop pursuing their proposed changes. You are going to have to direct them, specifically, to produce a current Land Use Map. (Oh, that means you have to fund the Staff Time to save the draft version and produce one in which the proposed changes have been deleted.) Well, that is what So Kim told me.

My next request is that you fund the Staff Time to run a "search and replace" on the draft General Plan Update. Delete all mention of sustainable development and sustainability with something like an original RPV GOAL.

Once that is done, I am sure that you will see that the Draft NCCP is not compliant with the RPV General Plan. No further discussion required. The NCCP, as a regional planning tool, was so absurd that none of the other cities on the Peninsula bought into it. Make it go away.

Why not combine all of the council's policies etc. into one document? Nobody reads them, anyway. The RPV Coastal Specific Plan speaks to a "Viewing Station" but the term is not defined in the Glossary. After much debate, a definition was agreed upon. Did it get added to the Glossary? No. It is a "Council Policy". And the site which started the whole ruckus is undergoing a Staff Level review of proposed modifications to the entitlements. Well, they are not proposing more blockage of the ocean as viewed from PV Drive West.

Please stop the degradation of the City of Rancho Palos Verdes. The PVP Land Conservancy has changed their Mission Statement. They are organized and pushy. A Delphi Technique workshop does make for a community consensus. Only three of you five may be able to save us. The question is... Which three?

There ain't no such thing as a "done deal" until the Council gets to vote on which monies are committed.

That bring up The Budget.

...S 310-377-8761

In a message dated 1/23/2018 12:16:21 AM Pacific Standard Time, ezstevens@cox.net writes:

Hi,

I was the only one that attended the Traffic Safety Committee meeting tonight. A total of 3 people attended on the other subjects.

I was totally disappointed in Mr. Elias Sassoon & his assistant Nadine & the City Council in not giving us more insight about the grant proposal for the bike lane construction.

Mr Sassoon said that it was a done deal & that it was ready to go to the final design phase with the new Trump entrance for the 12 future homes. He also stated that Trump would help pay for the plans & the construction of the entrance & the widened bike lanes (that was also needed for emergency vehicles to pass cars) & making the center divider smaller. He said that this had to go out to bid for construction (fast track) before June 30 to meet the requirements for the Grant & the City Council to approve everything.

Mr. Sassoon said that I still had one more opportunity to address the City Council before this happened. But like he stated this is a done deal & The Traffic Safety Committee really should not have been involved with this whole process at all.

I told Mr. Sassoon & the Committee I was very disappointed with the way this was handled & we only received the notice by accident a few months ago.

I suggested that the grant money should be shifted to where it is really needed like at PV Dr. S & La rotunda to the San Pedro line & PV Dr East were you just have a single white line for a bike path not where we already have a nice 4 foot path.

I told him this is like when they came into Seaview about 5 years ago & replaced all our Handicap side walk ramps with new ones when areas that had none should have been done first.

Please help.

Edward Stevens

32418 Conqueror Dr

From: SUNSHINE [mailto:sunshinerpv@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2018 4:08 PM

To: mickeyrodich@gmail.com; EZStevens@cox.net; leneebilski@hotmail.com; pvpasofino@yahoo.com; smhvaleri@cox.net; peter.vonhagen@daumcommercial.com; john@johncruikshank.us; kristamjohnson@cox.net; annamcdougall@cox.net; dshive@lasd.org

Subject: Fwd: URGENT. Public Comments Requested

Hello neighbors who see the bigger picture,

The RPV Staff is marching forward on this Grant Application. We have until February 2, 2018 to attempt to influence what the Consultant presents as the Feasibility Study which will direct the Request For Proposal (RFP) which will become the substance for a Federal Infrastructure Improvement Grant. Putting the pro's and con's of grants aside, we all need to push for this one to be for what the community actually needs, all within a focused area.

Safe Bike Lanes as currently described are not needed. The current RPV Conceptual Bikeways Plan (CBP) calls for conventional 4 ft. wide Class II bike lanes along both sides of PV West and PV South. The 6 foot wide "safe" bike lanes should not be introduced in the plan for reconstructing PV South across the active PB, Klondike and Abalone Cove landslides. Although the roadway profile is not mentioned, yet, one can bet that they will be slipped in later if we don't object to them, now.

The current RPV Conceptual Trails Plan (CTP) calls for a pedestrian/equestrian (unpaved) pathway along the seaward side with no designated crossings to the landward side in the landslides area. The RPV Trails Network Plan (TNP) calls for lots of multi-use non-motorized trails across the PB landslide. Subsequent to the TNP, we now have a PB Preserve Trails Plan and a Coastal Vision Plan. And, the TNP has been undergoing an "update" for more than 17 years.

The existing trails are simply leftovers from farming roads and social trails which were here when the City incorporated. An actual "Plan" which includes both engineering for erosion control and planning for circulation needs has not yet been produced. Now is our opportunity to get that, at least partially, on "Other Peoples Money" (OPM).

Notice who is managing the public input on this project.

Public Comments should be submitted to Teri Takaoka, Deputy City Clerk, at TeriT@rpvca.gov.

Inquiries can be directed to Deborah Cullen, Director of Finance, at 310-544-5304 or via email at DCullen@rpvca.gov.

Where are our Staff Engineers (PE) and Staff members of the American Institute of City Planners (AICP)? If these people are not defending our current General Plan, it is up to "We The People" to speak up and at least attempt to avoid the "Errors and Omissions" which RPV's history is so fraught with. ...S 310-377-8761

PS: Good news. Yesterday, Sunday afternoon, a neighbor was going northbound on PV Drive West and passed by three Sheriff patrol cars worth of Deputies handing out citations to misbehaving bicyclists.

Send comments on Trails Network Plan and Feasibility Study

Dear trails advocates,

Now is a big opportunity to get the City of Rancho Palos to move forward with some major trail improvements. Notice the new deadline for them to receive comments. February 2, 2018 which is coming up soon.

Following is a link to see the Feasibility Study. The important things are what is not in it. Here is a list of what I think should be included. Choose one or however many you are willing to request.

1. Coordination with Trails Network Plan update
2. Engineering design for improving trails for erosion control and rain water run-off management.
3. Design a trails plan based on user recreation quality opportunities as described in the PV Loop Trail Project's Mission, the CA Coastal Conservancy's "three strings in a yarn" and the TRAILS DEVELOPMENT / MAINTENANCE CRITERIA of July 4, 2012.
4. Design a water control structure near the top of Portuguese Canyon which creates a TYPE 2 "bridge" which will restore the trail connection to the Fire Station on Crest Road and the perimeter trail around the north side of the Portuguese Bend Nature Reserve.
5. Design a water control structure near the top of Paint Brush Canyon which creates a TYPE 2 "bridge" which will restore the trail continuity on the perimeter trail around the northeast side of the Portuguese Bend Nature Reserve.
6. Design a restoration of the Crenshaw extension which will implement the PUMP Committee's concept to restore the north south main connection for

emergency access, south side evacuation and improve the PV Loop Trail continuity between the Forrestal Reserve and the Filiorum Reserve.

7. Reconsider the Gateway Park Vision for at least a trailhead to take the burden off of Del Cerro Park. It is a better trail experience to go uphill on the way out and downhill on the way back.

All of these individual suggestions point to a community desire to have the public's use of this public property considered along with the desire to control the landslide and reduce the cost of maintaining Palos Verdes Drive South. We should get as much "bang for our buck" in this grant opportunity. Plus, adding more scope later never seems to get done. There is still no trail across San Ramon Canyon and it would have been a very small matter when all the heavy equipment was on-site.

The Consultant has been advised to minimize damaging the "habitat". This was not an issue the last time the City took on this objective and moved a million yards of dirt. Since we are going to scar the area, anyway, and the habitat came back better than ever last time, our trails network should be designed and implemented as a coordinated part of this project.

You all need to say so. Now. Follow the instructions on the following Notice and please, blind copy me. Call or email if you have questions. Staff knows what all the technical terms mean. Your memo need not be very specific. Designing the trails was brought up at a workshop and Staff chose to ignore it. It will take a flood of letters to make them stop doing that.

...S 310-377-8761

In a message dated 1/19/2018 12:33:27 AM Pacific Standard Time,
listserv@civicplus.com writes:

[View this in your browser](#)

Draft Portuguese Bend Landslide Feasibility Study – Public Comments Requested

At the January 16, 2018 City Council meeting, the Draft Portuguese Bend Landslide Feasibility Study was presented to the City Council. Based on the level of community interest and the number of public comments received, the City Council directed Staff to compile the public comments and provide responses for the City Council's consideration at a future special meeting.

The City wants to hear from you and is continuing to accept public comments until Friday, February 2, 2018. Public comments submitted between December 22, 2017 and February 2, 2018 will be provided to the Consultant (DBS&A) for responses.

[Click here](#) to view the Draft Portuguese Bend Landslide Feasibility Study.

[Click here](#) to view the January 16, 2018 City Council Staff Report on the Draft Portuguese Bend Landslide Feasibility Study

Public Comments should be submitted to Teri Takaoka, Deputy City Clerk, at TeriT@rpvca.gov.

Inquiries can be directed to Deborah Cullen, Director of Finance, at 310-544-5304 or via email at DCullen@rpvca.gov.

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