

From: noreply@granicusideas.com
To: [Ann Yang](#)
Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Friday, March 22, 2019 10:51:05 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Jeff Arey submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: I oppose the disruption to our recreation, transportation, cable, telephone, internet, water, and gas services that will be incurred with the installation of this South Bay Septic Tank on Valley Street between Herondo Street and 2nd Street. I oppose the hydrological, geological, and atmospheric degradation of my property by implementing such an intrusive project within 30 yards of my property. The installation of such a septic tank would be more appropriately located at other less densely populated sites. For instance, it would be more appropriate for such a septic tank be installed under the uninhabitable high-voltage easement in the non-residential area south of 190th Street and east of Francisca Avenue. Damages suffered by Beachside Condominiums during the installation of the Herondo Street Low Flow Storm Water Diversion project and the following legal ordeal in obtaining a settlement with the contractors has taught our condominium a painfully valuable lesson. The City of Hermosa Beach will be held responsible for losses and damages suffered by residences resulting from locating this harmfully intrusive project between Herondo St and 2nd Street.

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To: [Ann Yang](#)
Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Saturday, March 23, 2019 12:52:17 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Brian Witten submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: The vast majority of Hermosa Beach citizens are against water infiltration in the greenbelt, particularly against doing an infiltration project at the end of the greenbelt where not even a road separates 75 families and their homes from the construction. At last call within the city council meeting, all citizens south of Pier were firmly against doing the water infiltration project in the greenbelt location. If the city council presses forward with an infiltration project at that location, they are clearly doing so against the wishes of the majority of citizens of Hermosa Beach.

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Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Saturday, March 23, 2019 4:41:00 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Maritza Alvarado submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: We would not be in this predicament if the city employees had not VOLUNTEERED our Greenbelt for this monster infiltration project and if the city would have notified us, the residents, several years ago when this happened. We would not have become collateral damage if the environmental analyst would have done her due diligence and not let us become the lead agency, in her words, by "default." We would not be in this predicament if the city employees would have done the proper studies concerning liquefaction, the water table and the impact on the adjacent homes 10-15 feet away from this project, which, by the way, is what the city is calling an "oversight." There are many more failures that could be added to this list, but the bottom line is that the city has failed to put its residents first. Even Redondo Beach doesn't want this project on Francisca Avenue (not even a residential street) because of concerns about potential soil contamination! The honorable thing for the City Council to do is to initiate a dissolution of the MOU. I hope you will make the right decision this time. Respectfully.

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To: [Ann Yang](#)
Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Saturday, March 23, 2019 5:02:21 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Debbie Sanowski submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: The Greenbelt is a Fatally Flawed Site for an Infiltration Treatment Plant. The City Council cannot go forward with this location without imposing a significant personal and property risk of damage on the surrounding residents. A. The Water Table is too High for an Underground Infiltration Project. The design to infiltrate 2,400,000 gallons of water directly into the Greenbelt during every storm event, is inherently defective. With groundwater elevations range between 30 feet to as high as 10 feet below ground level, it doesn't take a genius to realize that the water is too darn high for this project to work as promised. The factual basis of this is detailed by Moorings resident and engineer Alex Reizmanks multiple letters previously submitted to Council. In order to comply with legal regulations given the water table calculations, the bottom of the entire infiltration structure would have to be no more than 5 feet below ground. This is a physical impossibility if the plant is to be buried underground. There is a reason large infiltration projects of this magnitude are not built near the beach, you simply cannot successfully infiltrate into a high water table. B. Homes and Structures are at Risk of due to Soil Subsidence & Liquefaction Hazards Another fatal defect of the Greenbelt site is the liquefaction and soil subsidence risks to the surrounding homes, underground basements and parking structures. These too are detailed in a second letter drafted by Mr. Reizman to this City Council. When Tetra Tech was asked by Mr. Reizman at the May 10, 2018 meet up about the risks of subsidence and liquefaction, Tetra Tech assured him that the infiltration plant would be built to withstand such risks. When a few participants responded, well that's nice for the treatment plant, but what about our homes existing right on top of and next to the structure? Tetra Tech responded that they would be fine. When questioned as to how he knew that the homes would be fine, the employee conceded that there was no study or analysis of impact on surrounding structures completed nor was one planned under the terms of their current contract with the City. Who wouldn't be upset at such a

lack of concern for the surrounding homeowners and their property? C. Zoning Laws. The Greenbelt is zoned OS-1, Restricted Open Space. When I asked Councilman Massey (on Facebook) about the inherent conflict of an industrial sized water treatment plant being built on the Greenbelt, a park zoned open space, Mr. Massey responded that since the project was going underground, zoning laws do not apply. I'm no zoning or land use expert but I'm not entirely convinced that we can rely on this legal conclusion. As the HB City Attorney discussed in his excellent legal analysis on Greenbelt building restrictions, "the physical improvements permitted on the Greenbelt are limited by Sec 17.32.030 to the improvements stated therein."¹² The only underground items enumerated in the Code as permissible for the Greenbelt are: irrigation improvements, erosion control and anti-seawater intrusion wells. All three items are expressly listed in the HB zoning Code as viable improvements as they are "stated therein". Underground stormwater infiltration plants are not included on the approved list. Simply put, if it's not on the list, it can't be built and stormwater infiltration plants are most definitely not on the list. If, as Mr. Massey stated, zoning laws don't apply because the project is underground, why do the zoning laws, as detailed by the City Attorney, discuss what is and what is not permissible to be built under the ground of the Greenbelt? It appears that there is a legal argument to be made that this infiltration project is a zoning, if not other, legal violation. (see Jenkins & Hogin, Memorandum to HB City Council, "Improvements on the Greenbelt" February 22, 2018) We implore the HB City Council to do its duty and protect the interests of the HB residents. If previous Councils or staff made expensive mistakes, do not foist the burden on the residents living on the greenbelt to pay the price. Regards, Debbie Sanowski 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach

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Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Saturday, March 23, 2019 5:36:06 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Cameron Murg submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Too large for this small community - we should do our portion, not Redondo's as well!!!

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Date: Saturday, March 23, 2019 5:40:15 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Lauren Kovnat submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: I live on the green belt. I am appalled at the plans for this project.

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Date: Saturday, March 23, 2019 5:45:11 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Paul Repetti submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Against

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To: [Ann Yang](#)
Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Saturday, March 23, 2019 6:21:44 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Arcadia Keane submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Worst idea ever Put on 190th, plain and simple. Figure it out.

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To: [Ann Yang](#)
Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Saturday, March 23, 2019 6:34:29 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

a lorentzen submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: worst idea ever. actually do what you were elected to do and listen to the people you work for !

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Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Saturday, March 23, 2019 6:35:37 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Brian Hilgers submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: This is a terrible plan against the residences and city of Hermosa Beach! i am so disappointed/upset to say the least! Just because the largest waste water drain is close to the Greenbelt, which is dumping sludge from as far away as So. Bay Galleria-Artisea Blvd., Torrance, Redondo Beach DO NOT DUMP THIS PROBLEM ON HERMOSA BEACH. Destroy Greenbelt/South park. PLEASE do what is right, none of us want pollution in the OCEAN, find a solution with Redondo Beach! It appears this has been ignored with only a false impression you are trying to find other locations. A year as gone by and now it is no further, and no true effort to resolve. You represent HB not the other cities..correct? Brian

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Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Saturday, March 23, 2019 6:54:53 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Myra Telac submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: I oppose the placement of the infiltration project on our lovely greenbelt. Clearly no thought has been given to the residents of this small community.

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Date: Saturday, March 23, 2019 6:59:44 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Judith Mango submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: There is a plethora of scientific evidence that speaks loudly to the inappropriateness of the Greenbelt location for this infiltration project. Stop wasting precious time and do what Redondo Beach has proposed: Prepare a letter dissolving the MOU, forfeit the grant and let each individual city take care of their proportionate share of the runoff. In addition, the current design calls for electric pumps to be installed above ground, which Justin Massey acknowledged at the October 9th City Council meeting is in violation of the zoning laws for the Greenbelt as well as South Park. THIS IS THE ONLY SOLUTION.

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Date: Saturday, March 23, 2019 7:35:40 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Lorie Armendariz submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: I want a clean ocean.

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To: [Ann Yang](#)
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Date: Saturday, March 23, 2019 7:56:24 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Thomas Dvorak submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Oppose

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Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Saturday, March 23, 2019 8:04:16 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Rachel Lozano submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Opposed

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Date: Saturday, March 23, 2019 8:28:54 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Trent Larson submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Oppose the location of the Green Belt Hermosa Beach, and or South Park Hermosa Beach. The infiltration project would seem a natural fit for the Redondo Beach AES property. Wet lands / park lands are part of the planned mixed use for the 51 acres and, the underground pool could be built first and then the park around it. Stuffing the lightening bolt shaped cement pond with holes into our green belt is like trying to put a 10 lbs.of potatoes into a 5 pound bag. Everyone wants a cleaner Ocean, so residents will not oppose the project as long as it's not on very scarce, to extremely rare Hermosa Beach public lands.

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Date: Saturday, March 23, 2019 8:54:17 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Brad Horne submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: No one is saying no infiltration. We are saying NO to the Greenbelt. There are several other places that would be much much better. Herondo street. Under the sand in front of Herondo. The Hermosa city council did this behind our backs and did everything possible to keep the citizens out of it because they are greedy and knew we wouldn't stand for it. They know what they did. And they should be ashamed. And the fact that Hermosa is losing that 3 million dollar grant is the fault of city council. Also, has there been an audit to see where every penny of that grant is? I would be curious to know if it ended up in places it shouldn't have

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Date: Saturday, March 23, 2019 9:34:27 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Matt Rohrer submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: This is not right for Hermosa!

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Date: Saturday, March 23, 2019 10:34:36 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Carol Andrykowski submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: The project is not appropriate for the Greenbelt or South Park. It belongs in an industrial area or at the very least not near any homes or play areas. The city should not rush into making a decision, just because of the possibility of losing the grant. ALL options must be thoroughly reviewed which includes, possible smaller projects and/or having more discussions with other cities and having them take on some of the burden.

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Date: Saturday, March 23, 2019 11:10:52 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Carol Herschelmann submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: City Council has been presented with a compelling amount of information as to the technical, legal and engineering problems of constructing this project on the greenbelt. Everyone wants clean water. Our vehement opposition is to the location, not to the project. It must be easy for Council to want to go ahead with the green belt since none of the members live in the affected properties. Please, I'm begging you, please move the location, I'm in tears as I'm about to watch our life savings literally disappear along with the value and safety of our home.

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From: noreply@granicusideas.com
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Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 12:11:22 AM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Laura Wlitten submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: WE ALL WANT A CLEANER OCEAN, BUT AT WHAT COST?? When last we left our City Council Members, they were going to go back and talk to Redondo and try to partner to find a more appropriate spot on the other side of Herondo where there are not as many homes within 500 feet of the proposed project. I fear this strategy was a ploy to run the clock and say "we don't have time to make a different choice or we'll owe people money." Deadlines and/or owing money was not an issue when it came to oil drilling in Hermosa. While the outcome here is more palatable, A clean ocean is important, but we have to remember the cost to the residents as well. Putting the fecal matter under the Greenbelt with machinery that can break and harm wildlife, people, and homes is not appropriate. This a burden for all 4 cities to bear, but there are hundreds of us living near the Greenbelt who shouldn't be asked to bear the brunt of it with the possibility of broken homes and lower quality of life.

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Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 12:31:07 AM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

May Gordon submitted a new eComment.

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Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Oppose the location. It really shouldn't be located anywhere near residents' homes. It also should not be carved out of our Greenbelt...it has had enough pieces cut out of it to accommodate parking on the Valley side of the street. The Greenbelt needs more trees not fewer. We all want to help clean the oceans but this project needs more space and not be near homes. Suggest Redondo Beach, perhaps Torrance?

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Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 8:08:45 AM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Eric Hollreiser submitted a new eComment.

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Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: This is an assault on things we must hold precious now more than ever: Our Environment, Our Community, Our Property Rights and Our Democracy. *Our environment*: Yes, we all want clean oceans. This must be done while ensuring we do not damage other important parts of our fragile seaside ecosystem. The current Greenbelt proposal (and others) are demonstrably destructive and have not undergone the required level of environmental impact study that should be expected/demanded by all in this 21st Century. *Our community*: The current proposal disrupts the community in immediate, future and potentially permanent ways through construction, noise, environmental and aesthetic damage which will reduce the quality of life and sustainability of our beach community. *Our property rights*: We all understand the value of the soil we live on in the South Bay. This destructive propopsal usurps our rights to defend the value of the residential and recreational land we live and play upon. Moreover, the proposal ignores less-invasive and disruptive sites where this necessary filtration could occur, including commercial-zoned areas such as AES. *Our democracy*: The shameful way in which members of the Hermosa Beach City Council and staff acted (and didn't act) undermines our political system and threatens the role of representative government. The passive indifference of Redondo and Manhattan Beach politicians is also shameful. The Beach Cities should be united in upholding a lifestyle and ecosystem that benefits us all. We will remember this each and every Election Day. Voters must reward Council members who stand up for their constituency and must punish the cowardly politicians who hide their actions, point fingers and cower behind self-interested corporations and their self-serving studies. I urge all South Bay residents, property owners and environmentalists to rise in support of the above values and in opposition of this misguided and poorly executed proposal.

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From: noreply@granicusideas.com
To: [Ann Yang](#)
Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 9:53:00 AM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Susan Moore submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: I OPPOSE this project for the many reasons my neighbors have most eloquently outlined in previous comments. It is not appropriate for a small town where it would be placed so close to people's homes. Clean ocean, absolutely, but not at so high a cost to our community.

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To: [Ann Yang](#)
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Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 11:30:02 AM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Anthony Fitzgerald submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: I strongly oppose this project. Further I will vote against any council member who votes for it as will the five members of my family. What's wrong with putting on it the power station land. It already has retention ponds & is closer to the drain outlet.

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Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 11:35:12 AM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Dianne Doherty submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Strongly oppose.

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From: noreply@granicusideas.com
To: [Ann Yang](#)
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Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 12:24:58 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Randy Maxwell submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Please do not ruin my slice of heaven. There's no reason that this can't be placed at the AES plant as they convert that new development. That would make this project painless for all. They've already committed a large portion of the 46 acres to park lane. If not, this needs to move to the other side of PCH, where the water table is deeper. I can't believe that Torrance and Redondo, with much of more land, cannot come up with a site. Why is it left to the small and only green belt and park lanes we have in S. Hermosa. We're already going to have to put up with the major pollution when they teardown the AES plant. Enough is enough....please leave our community's green areas alone and force the larger cities with many times the watershed to find an area. The Underground power lines shouldn't be an issue anymore because AES is destined to be gone soon.

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Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 1:06:06 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Patrick Fitzgerald submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Strongly Opposed

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Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 1:56:44 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Kelly Moonan submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: THIS CANNOT HAPPEN TO OUR GREENBELT!!! They MUST listen to reason but none of them live near the south end of the greenbelt. The greenbelt is 3 3/4 miles long and there are only houses on 1/4 mile of it at the south end. THATS WHERE THEY WANT TO DESTROY THE GREENBELT AND ALL THE OLD GROWTH TREES!!! This project will take over 2 years to complete and is in these people's FRONT YARDS AND WILL DESTROY ONE OF THE NICEST PARTS OF THE GREENBELT!!! STOP THIS TRAVESTY!!!

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Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 1:56:52 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Natasha Gunn submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: As residents of the mooring townhomes, our front door opens directly on to the green belt. Our daughter is due in 3 weeks, her nursery that we just spent months putting together backs up onto the green belt. The noise, and the amount of dust that our little one, and all homes along the green belt will have to endure for months is extremely unsettling.

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Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 2:03:54 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Kyle Uno submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Highly OPPOSED to the greenbelt project. This is not the correct site, other options such as the strand would be far less impactful to the community and residents. This project has been disgraceful from the start with the lack of transparency. Now that it's down to the wire, do not force this upon the community and make it a very bad situation because of fines and lack of ingenuity on the cities part to find the best solution possible.

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To: [Ann Yang](#)
Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 2:58:03 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Brian Waldman submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Again we find ourselves having to defend our neighborhood, health and home values from bad deals made by our "leaders". Please do the right thing and make our community peaceful for all residents.

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Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 3:10:31 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Joanna Holtmeier submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: I am totally against this Greenbelt project. Joanna Holtmeier

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Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 3:11:47 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Ellen Epstein submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: As a homeowner along the Greenbelt I oppose this project for many of the same reasons noted by others on this page. I urge the City Council to disregard the secretive, short-cut approach it has been taking and embark upon a more open and respectful approach to this very real infiltration challenge by listening to the affected communities and taking the time for considering more fact-based approaches to reaching a solution. The short term "benefit" of potentially avoiding uncertain future fines by approving this bad proposal are surely offset by the certain costs of legal challenges that this inadequate and likely illegal process will bring. This is a destructive and inappropriate proposal and must be rejected.

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Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 3:58:16 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Amy Fitzgerald submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Strongly opposed. Bad idea & remember the Oil Drilling & impact that had on council members who supported it. The same will happen on this issue.

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Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 4:30:43 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Ron Taylor submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: March, 24, 2019 Re: REPORT 19-0191 Proposed Greenbelt Infiltration Project Dear Hermosa City Council Members: While we certainly and wholeheartedly understand the reasons for the proposed Greenbelt Infiltration Project and support such action. However we do not support and must disagree with the irresponsible action to locate such an invasive project in the heart of our local community. The impact of this project would be detrimental, both during construction and operation to the quality of life and health of the surrounding residents. A study was undertaken to determine a site, yet the site itself was obviously not properly evaluated for its suitability and close proximity to neighboring residents and their properties. It seems the tables have turned, as the site's suitability does not seem to be the major concern of the city, but rather it appears to be financial—as penalties and fines are the focus and the reasons...not the impacts and problems for those in the area surrounding the site. The problems will be ongoing for the residents of the proposed project's surrounding neighborhood. Can penalties be used as justification by the city for their action? Excuses are always unacceptable behavior. Excuses set a bad example for everyone, because an excuse, if that becomes our focus, is a way of not taking responsibility. We don't accept excuses when our children give us a reason why they didn't do the right thing. Do we accept or excuse the City now for actions that are not based on what is good for whole? Poor planning only stands to hurt others. And basic good judgement and foresight was not carried through in looking at all of the impacts of this project, but that does not mean we can't come to our senses and do what is right at any moment. Don't let an excuse color your behavior or your own personal integrity. We all need to be responsible for our actions, because they affect others. Please do NOT approve the proposed Greenbelt Infiltration Project, but rather adopt Staff recommended Option 3 - Dissolve the MOU and determine another project location. Respectfully, Ron and Barbara Taylor 114 Monterey Blvd. Hermosa Beach, CA 90254

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Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 6:37:21 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Laurie Peterson submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: OPPOSE!!

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Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 6:39:04 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Beth Coren submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Strongly oppose this project - terrible for the neighborhood!

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Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 6:48:18 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Ron Taylor submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Strongly support a clean ocean; Strongly OPPOSE this project's proposed alternative locations - Greenbelt and South Park.

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Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 7:54:41 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Allen Pangaro submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: This project is inappropriate ANYWHERE in Hermosa! I urge HB residents to read Carla McCauley's letter to City Council from Oct 8th as a refresher that outlines the key issues and what we should demand of our council.

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Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 8:05:48 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Toni C submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Strongly oppose the Greenbelt and South Park locations. It is time to dissolve the MOU.

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From: noreply@granicusideas.com
To: [Ann Yang](#)
Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 8:19:07 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Barbara Pushman-Kaber submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Why would you do this to your residents who absolutely elected you to the Hermosa Beach City Council? I ask you to stand on the greenbelt at the proposed site and just look to the east at our homes. Seriously just stand there and imagine what you are asking of us and our densely populated neighborhood. These are our homes, this is OUR neighborhood and our LIVES!!!!!! Can you honestly and truthfully say you all would support this disastrous location if you and your families lived here like we do? I could make myself available ANYTIME to meet you on the greenbelt. After and only after you look to the east at our homes, the proximity of this proposed "project" and put yourself(s) in our shoes. I would ask you to look me straight in the eye and tell me that we have absolutely nothing to worry about and we the Hermosa Beach City Council think that this is the perfect location for this project. This size/scope infiltration project does belong in Hermosa Beach period.

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Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 8:35:03 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Tracy Kaber submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Strongly oppose this project in Hermosa Beach. ----- Please note there was a typo in the last sentence of my wife's comment below (Barbara Kaber) Should read "This size/scope infiltration project does "NOT" belong in Hermosa Beach.

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Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 10:52:24 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Xavier Haase submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: We have WASTED our time fighting this project because the City of Hermosa Beach DID NOT do its due diligence at the OUTSET of the project, nor was there sufficient NOTICE and TRANSPARENCY about the project in years past. Those of us who have taken up the fight against placing this project on the Greenbelt or in South Park or ANYWHERE in Hermosa Beach have regular, daytime jobs, and we are not getting PAID to research, write, discuss, and speak about this issue. I, as a board member of the Mooring Townhome HOA, do not receive a salary for my work as a board member. But EVERY ONE OF YOU UP HERE, and others not present who work for the city ALL receive salaries. It does not seem equitable that the people who are fighting this project are NOT being remunerated, while the very people that should be representing the INTERESTS of the people of this community ARE being paid salaries for their work, and are being paid handsomely - far more than many of us who are fighting to save our public parklands from destruction. This situation borders on the absurd on a veritable ALICE IN WONDERLAND scale. It just does not make sense, and yet, we have to be told by nameless and UNELECTED bureaucrats who think they know BETTER than the rest of us community members that the south end of the "Greenbelt Infiltration Project is the highest priority project identified in the Beach Cities EWMP." If this project was the "HIGHEST PRIORITY PROJECT," then why weren't the people living ADJACENT to the project notified in a TIMELY manner? Where is the TRANSPARENCY? Where is the concern for the people DIRECTLY AFFECTED by this project not notified sooner — years sooner? This whole debacle is the biggest OUTRAGE that the citizens of this community have EVER had to endure. And we have had to endure this OUTRAGE for MONTHS AND MONTHS now. And WHY? Because you all DID NOT do your homework on this project, nor did you do your due diligence. WE, the citizens of THIS community, have had to do your due diligence for you — and on OUR DIME AND OUR TIME.

We are done with this proposal. We DEMAND that you REJECT this proposal and START OVER FROM SCRATCH. It is the LEAST you can do for the citizens of this community after the missteps you have all made. I repeat, it's the LEAST you can do.

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Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Sunday, March 24, 2019 11:13:07 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Maria Haase submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Not only the Hermosa Beach Staff, but the Hermosa Beach residents demand to: "Initiate a dissolution or an amendment of the MOU and negotiate a suitable substitute or revised MOU and project with the City's partners, relinquish the Grant and forfeit the grant funding". Once again, we want this project to be realized, but NOT in Hermosa Beach! Even the City Manager Staff indicated in the February 4th letter: "On February 4, 2019, staff met with staff from Redondo Beach, Manhattan Beach, and Torrance to discuss how to proceed expeditiously to retain the grant funding and achieve the permit requirements. At this meeting, the Manhattan Beach and Torrance Public Works Directors and Redondo Beach Assistant City Manager expressed that if the original memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the project cannot be accomplished in Hermosa Beach, they would like the Hermosa Beach City Council to prepare a letter dissolving the MOU and forfeiting the grant because they are NOT confident that Hermosa Beach can site a project." The Hermosa Beach City Council needs to support the residents! We have been fighting to keep this project out of our city for one year!!!

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To: [Ann Yang](#)
Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Monday, March 25, 2019 8:30:16 AM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Katie Lee submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Pick just a street not a green area

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From: noreply@granicusideas.com
To: [Ann Yang](#)
Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Monday, March 25, 2019 8:55:20 AM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Dean Stehlik submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: This project is a disaster waiting to happen and needs to be reconsidered for a different location. It is time to do what is right and just for the community of Hermosa Beach, and not make a decision based purely on economics or worse ignorance. Please do the right thing here and stop this project in it's tracks - not just for the current Hermosa Beach residents but for future generations.

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From: noreply@granicusideas.com
To: [Ann Yang](#)
Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Monday, March 25, 2019 9:16:26 AM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Alex Reizman submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: We all share the goal of cleaner oceans. However, the solution must be implemented reasonably, equitably, and most importantly safely. There is a reason why large scale infiltration projects are not sited so close to the ocean: The high groundwater levels simply do not leave room to infiltrate. Council Members please challenge the City Staff to provide you of a single example of similar sized, similar design, similarly ocean proximity sited infiltration project anywhere in California. A single large scale Infiltration project; one that is required to take in over 7 acre-feet of water, is not feasible in Hermosa Beach. Smaller, shallower projects – and ones that are consistent with the Hermosa Beach contribution to the Storm-water outflow should be pursued.

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To: [Ann Yang](#)
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Date: Monday, March 25, 2019 10:05:00 AM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

heather gandy submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: it is time to dissolve the MOU (watershed agreement among Redondo, Torrance, Manhattan, and Hermosa allowing all the neighboring cities water to be filtered in the land beneath our homes.

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Date: Monday, March 25, 2019 10:06:05 AM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Mike Ball submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: It's past time to dissolve the MOU Mike Ball

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Date: Monday, March 25, 2019 10:19:00 AM

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New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Barbara Sabo submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Dear HB City Council, Once again, I speak on behalf of the residents and owners of Beachside Condominiums, at the corner of Valley Drive and Herondo Street. We are adamantly opposed to the massive Greenbelt water infiltration project that remains at the top of the list of priorities for City Council. The simple fact that this project was planned for a specially designated area---the Greenbelt---which is mere feet away from dozens of homes, is a travesty. We well understand the need to preserve the ocean and our beaches; but, channeling all the neighboring cities' run-off through such a heavily built area will quite literally swamp our South Hermosa neighborhood in any rainy season. We will not tolerate any threat to our property and right to a peaceful existence. We strongly recommend that the City move immediately to dissolve the MOU and leave each partner city to solve their own water filtration issues. Thank you. Barbara Sabo, Beachside HOA Secretary FY 2019-20

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Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Monday, March 25, 2019 10:26:48 AM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Mike Williams submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Strongly oppose.

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From: noreply@granicusideas.com
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Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Monday, March 25, 2019 10:59:49 AM

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New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Shanda Pearson submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Strongly oppose. Dissolve the MOU.

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From: noreply@granicusideas.com
To: [Ann Yang](#)
Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Monday, March 25, 2019 11:05:37 AM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Alison Gray submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: This project should not proceed on the Greenbelt and so close to homes and parks.
There are more suitable options and sites for the size of this project.

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From: noreply@granicusideas.com
To: [Ann Yang](#)
Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Monday, March 25, 2019 12:50:56 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Carla McCauley submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Please see the attached correspondence to council opposing the development of a massive infiltration project in our city either on the Greenbelt or at South Park. The only responsible course of action is to dissolve the MOU for the reasons stated.

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Carla A. McCauley
501 Herondo St.
Hermosa Beach, CA 90254

March 25, 2019

Hermosa Beach City Council
City of Hermosa Beach
1315 Valley Drive
Hermosa Beach, CA 90254
citycouncil@hermosabch.org

Dear Councilmembers,

On March 26, 2019 the City Council is being asked, once again, to address the proposal to build a massive water infiltration project in Hermosa Beach. Council is now asked to either place the huge 7.6 acre foot project under the Greenbelt as originally planned or, alternatively, place the same water storage volume under the South Park field with a pipeline directing stormwater to the South Park site under the Greenbelt. As a third option, Council can vote to dissolve the MOU and look to address the stormwater drain through smaller projects.

I write this letter as an addendum to my prior correspondence with the City on these issues, including my October 2018 and June 2018 letters, attached as Exhibit A for reference. I write to make clear my opposition to any continued consideration of development of the Greenbelt for this huge project. However, I am frankly stunned at the cavalier way in which the staff report has shifted its attention to South Park without, apparently, the City conducting a single engineering analysis of the viability of that site, including no analysis of the groundwater levels, liquefaction risks or structural impact on nearby residences. Moreover, the staff report includes a number of misleading statements in the section supporting development of this project at South Park, which I detail below further in my letter.

I recognize that giving up existing grant money is not a pleasant step to have to take and acknowledge that there are real deadlines that our City must comply with in order to avoid fines from the Regional Board. However, there is simply no other alternative but dissolve the MOU and proceed with smaller projects within Hermosa Beach and in other contributing jurisdictions, as was originally

called for in the initial EWMP plans for the Herondo drain.¹ A 7.6 acre foot project is simply too large for our small town. Particularly given Redondo Beach's efforts to negotiate with SCE and the new owners of the AES site to develop parkland across the street from the Herondo drain, our political leaders must insist that Redondo Beach step up and do its share to address its contributions to the storm drain, which far exceed our small city's 10% contribution.

Greenbelt

Absolutely nothing has changed and no additional work has been done by the City or its paid consultants to address any of the problems with locating this huge project on the Greenbelt. Groundwater levels remain too high to properly infiltrate. Liquefaction and subsidence underneath adjacent structures remain valid concerns that have never been addressed by Tetra Tech adequately. Pump noise from an above-ground pumping station has never been properly addressed, nor would locating such a structure on the Greenbelt be permitted by zoning laws given the voter-approved restrictions on building on the Greenbelt. Finally, the City still has not done any analysis of the impact of the project on nearby residences, either during construction or after construction. Thus, there is a real risk that the residences around the project will experience damage during construction given the huge scope of such a project, as evidenced by the photographs we all saw when we toured the Bolivar Park project site, which infiltrates a similar amount of water to that proposed for this project in Hermosa Beach (*See Exhibit B*). There is no way a pit that size can be dug by huge construction machinery, shoring completed, and huge infiltration galleries be dropped into the ground by massive cranes within feet of people's homes, and not cause damage. Finally, there is real risk of subsidence and damage following the completion of construction. Frankly, every time it rained this winter, I kept thinking that if the infiltration project were in the ground at this time, literally millions of gallons of water would be continually flowing underground within feet of my neighbor's homes. I fail to see how such a massive infiltration project could not negatively impact property foundations and cause other damage. But the City has never followed up with any detailed engineering analysis to allay concerns on these points.

¹ As a reminder, in 2016, the draft EWMP called for the strand infiltration trench to infiltrate 2.7 acre feet of water and South Park to infiltrate 1.9 acre feet of water—substantially smaller projects than that proposed for the Greenbelt or South Park currently, and more in-line with Hermosa Beach's volume contributions to the drain.

Rather, staff reports and Tetra Tech presentations have only served to obfuscate matters. Asked to address liquefaction concerns, and Tetra Tech addressed the way it could design the infiltration gallery itself to withstand an earthquake. No analysis was done on how nearby residences would be impacted by infiltration in a liquefaction zone. Asked to address groundwater levels, and Tetra Tech made a fundamental error, using data from a well located up the hill from the Greenbelt to calculate groundwater levels, without adjusting for elevation. Finally, there is a fundamental question about whether our city should have ever placed its trust in a company like Tetra Tech, which has never built a project like this with such high groundwater levels, so close to residences, so close to the beach, and with a novel segmented design to fit in the narrow space that is our Greenbelt.

Any of the problems detailed above negate the feasibility of the Greenbelt for this project. In addition, any honest reading of the law voters approved to zone the Greenbelt as open space simply does not support uprooting all the vegetation and trees in that location (including all of the protected Torrey Pine trees, which are slated for removal under Tetra Tech's plan), turning it into a moonscape for years, redeveloping the space with huge infiltration galleries, and then piling a small amount of dirt on top and "replanting" with native vegetation and an above-ground pump station.

The Greenbelt is not a proper location for this big dig, and the Council should clearly and unequivocally abandon any notion of developing it for such a use during the next council session.

South Park

Equally stunning to the City's misguided effort to develop the Greenbelt for this huge project is how the staff report now sets up South Park as an alternative location without the City conducting even the most basic engineering assessments of the viability of that location. Rather, the staff report uses the objections of those who protested the Greenbelt location as a roadmap to make self-serving statements designed to show how well-suited South Park is for this project in comparison to the Greenbelt. But those statements are misleading in the extreme and deserve scrutiny by this Council.

Construction Schedule/Noise: Staff concludes that construction would be easier and cause less noise given the uniformity of the field location. Again, I direct the council's attention to the photographs we were all provided of the Bolivar Park dig site which infiltrates a similar volume of water as the proposed

gallery for South park. (See Exhibit B.) Like many of us in South Hermosa, I go to the park almost daily with my children because we have no backyard, and I have seen firsthand how heavily used the park is by your constituents. Given the scope of earth removal and heavy machinery required to build an infiltration gallery to address 7.6 acre feet of water, I fail to see how residents will be able to enjoy the park during the 12 months (or more) of construction. Notwithstanding construction fencing, the noise, dust and heavy machinery traffic pose a safety risk to the children who use the park every day, and there will be a tremendous amount of earth removal to accommodate such a huge project, impacting our roads with heavy trucks. In addition, there is a passing note in the noise section regarding the location of the pump station. An above-ground pump station anywhere on the Greenbelt is clearly a prohibited use of the Greenbelt given zoning limitations that, to be overturned, require voter approval. Finally, staff's suggestions for all the ways in which construction schedule and noise at South Park offer improvements over a comparable project on the Greenbelt also serve to reinforce how inappropriate the Greenbelt site is for this project.

Odors: This section regarding odors by staff is misleading. Staff suggests that water remains standing for 48 to 72 hours. Are nearby residents and park-goers going to have to deal with the odor of standing water each time it rains for 2 to 3 days? If so, then wet winters such as the one we have had this year will pose a real nuisance to homeowners and park goers.

Toxic Buildup: The majority, but not all, pollutants are captured by pre-treatment. The rest are infiltrated through the soil, assuming that groundwater levels are low enough to allow for sufficient soil for infiltration. Notably, the City has not conducted any analysis of groundwater levels at South Park. I cannot believe that the City Council is willing to vote to select South Park as a site without knowing with absolute certainty that it will not be introducing a toxic plume into groundwater at this location. Without such basic analysis, the City is simply trading ocean pollution for groundwater pollution at a different location. Perhaps groundwater levels are adequate to allow for infiltration—although I do not trust Tetra Tech to make a proper analysis given its miscalculation of groundwater levels on the Greenbelt. (See Alex Reizman letter dated October 5, 2018). This failure to do any analysis on this point is negligent at best and is an invitation to a future lawsuit. Moreover, staff do not adequately address the build-up of toxic materials in the soil over the 15 to 20 year lifespan of the project in a public park where our children play. Staff's suggestion that the Pier avenue project can provide any guidance as to the lack of potential problems

with pollutants at a South Park location is misleading. The Pier avenue project infiltrates a substantially smaller water volume. Any development of the South Park field for this huge infiltration project will concentrate many more pollutants in a limited area given the water volume. Pier Avenue is not a valid point of comparison and does nothing to allay concerns regarding toxic buildup either on the Greenbelt or South Park field.

Liquefaction: Staff admits that no additional testing has been done to ascertain liquefaction risks at South Park. Moreover, the staff report appears highly disingenuous when it states that “measures were incorporated into the design plans to attenuate potential impacts.” I have read all the Tetra Tech reports and viewed or attended all the meetings regarding Tetra Tech’s plans. When it has made references to attenuating impacts of liquefaction, Tetra Tech has only ever referred to making sure that the infiltration galleries themselves are able to withstand an earthquake. What they do not address is how adding 2.4 million gallons of water per storm surge to a liquefaction zone within feet of homes will impact nearby residences. The real risk here and concern of residents is what will happen to their homes when this project is added nearby, and no one has made any effort to address those concerns with the Greenbelt location or, now, with the South Park proposal.

Adjacent Structure Viability: Reducing vibrations in comparison to what would happen if this project were sited within 10 feet of homes on the Greenbelt does not address whether or not homes adjacent to the dig site at South Park will be impacted by 12 months of heavy machinery digging a huge pit on the field and dropping massive infiltration galleries in the pit. The only way to assess that impact is to have an engineering analysis of nearby residences conducted. That work was never done for the Greenbelt location, and nothing has been done with respect to the South Park site. Notably, staff also does not provide any assessment of the distance from the dig site to homes nearby. For those of us that toured Bolivar Park, homes were notably 50 feet or further away from the dig site. A comparable distance is simply not available in any public space in our densely populated city.

The reality is that staff has proposed South Park as an alternative to the Greenbelt without any appropriate engineering assessments that one would expect would be conducted before such a large project is assessed. Nor will conducting an EIR be a panacea to those ills. In the event the EIR identifies problems with South Park, what is the City’s alternative at that point? It will have kicked the can down the

road, only to be in the same position it currently is in—only with less time to comply with the Regional Board’s deadlines.

Dissolving the MOU

Given the problems with locating such a massive infiltration project in our densely-populated city, the only responsible course of action this Council can take is to dissolve the MOU and address its contribution to the Herondo drain through smaller projects.

Notably absent from the staff report is any mention of expanding the strand infiltration trench to address Hermosa Beach’s approximate 10% volume contribution to the storm drain. Also absent from staff report is any discussion of how the recent sale of the AES site and Redondo Beach’s efforts to negotiate with the developer of that site to create wetlands restoration and parkland might be considered in conjunction with addressing the Herondo drain bacterial levels and possible infiltration or recycling.

I am quite surprised that staff references the Alondra Park project as a “comparable project” that in any way supports including this huge project in Hermosa Beach. Notably, Alondra Park is being designed as a recycling facility with water reused for irrigation of the park. In various meetings with staff and in communications with the City Council, I and others have questioned why Redondo Beach does not look to recycle the water from the Herondo drain and use it to irrigate the future parkland at the soon-to-be former AES site. That suggestion has not been addressed in any staff report and it apparently was never addressed when Hermosa Beach staff met with counterparts from Redondo Beach.

Frankly, one of the limitations of the EWMP is its assumption that cities will only address pollutants through infiltration. But infiltration only makes sense if a community has appropriate soil, groundwater levels and public space to accommodate the type of large scale project required to infiltrate enough water to impact bacteria exceedances. Redondo Beach will soon have the type of land and scale of parkland available to it to accommodate a large project, and it is disappointing that the Regional Board is not being flexible enough with timelines on the existing grant to allow consideration of that space. It also does not appear that the Council has engaged with Al Muratsuchi’s office for assistance with the Regional Board and to secure longer deadline extensions for the grant funds so that this project can be sited in conjunction with Redondo Beach’s plans to require parkland and wetlands restoration as part of the development of the former

AES site. (See, e.g., Easy Reader News, October 30, 2018 “Los Angeles Developer named as AES Power Plant Buyer”).

I am also surprised that other alternatives to infiltration have not been analyzed previously by the many consultants that have worked on this project from the outset, including filtering and disinfection. At the October 9, 2018 council meeting, Kathleen McGowan stated that infiltration is the most cost-effective means of addressing bacteria exceedances, but inappropriately discounted disinfection in my opinion. Specifically, she stated that “bacteria regrows and multiplies in the storm drain system so flow-through systems are ineffective if the treated stormwater is reintroduced into the storm drain and then discharged.” (See video of October 9, 2018 council meeting at 2:29:44.) It is unclear why disinfection and filtering cannot be pursued as alternatives given that reintroduction of any filtered and disinfected water should not be required given that the Herondo drain outlet is located in Hermosa Beach’s jurisdiction and leads directly to the Ocean. Surely a filtering project near the outfall location or some combination of disinfection with an infiltration trench along the strand could address Hermosa Beach’s contributing sources to the Herondo drain to the satisfaction of the Regional Board, particularly if Redondo Beach and Torrance adequately address their significant upstream water contributions. If you do not have sufficient or appropriate land to infiltrate, you have to think outside the box and come up with some alternative solutions. I do not believe our city or the consultants originally retained by Redondo Beach to draft the EWMP (and who admitted during the October 2018 council meeting they identified the Greenbelt as a viable location for infiltration without considering population density or the impact on nearby residences) adequately explored alternatives to infiltration. Given the fact that our City simply cannot accommodate such a huge project, alternatives have to be considered at this point.

Finally, while it is deeply unfortunate that the City will have to forfeit the existing Proposition 1 funds by dissolving the MOU and may have to repay the approximately \$200,000 expended by the MOU partner cities toward Tetra Tech’s design of a Greenbelt project, that course of action is preferable to the massive liability and lawsuits that await our city in the event this project at its current scope is developed either on the Greenbelt or at South Park. While it is always painful to have to forfeit bond money for a project, that is still the right course of action. Frankly, the City’s pursuit of that money was made under false pretenses as the Greenbelt was never a viable location for this project. As for additional costs, no amount of money expended is a small amount for our City, but this

moment in time is the least expensive moment our City can extricate itself from the ill-informed decision to allow such a huge infiltration project to be developed here.

It takes courage and significant political will to both own a mistake and make a substantial course correction. Both are required by you right now. But the stakes are very high for our city. Lawsuits and significant liability exposure await our city if the Greenbelt is developed for this project in amounts that, in my opinion as a trial lawyer who has worked on environmental cases, far exceed anything I have seen quoted by city staff for Regional Board fines/civil litigation or amounts due to other partner cities to unwind the MOU. Moreover, given the absolute lack of engineering and structural studies of the South Park location, selecting that site would be equally negligent.

Most importantly, you as council members have an obligation to think about the lives and concerns of your constituents. I and many other residents have devoted countless hours reading the voluminous record on this matter, writing letters and making public comments at council meetings to educate you about the real risks this project poses to our homes and our families. The stakes are high and on behalf of my family and my neighbors in South Hermosa Beach, I ask you to please do the right thing here and dissolve the MOU.

Thank you for taking the time to address the concerns that I and other residents have raised.

Respectfully yours,


Carla McCauley

EXHIBIT A

Carla A. McCauley
501 Herondo St.
Hermosa Beach, CA 90254

June 17, 2018

Hermosa Beach City Council
City of Hermosa Beach
1315 Valley Drive
Hermosa Beach, CA 90254
citycouncil@hermosabch.org

Dear Councilmembers,

I write to oppose the proposed construction of an infiltration project on the Hermosa Beach Greenbelt. While as an environmentalist and concerned resident of Hermosa Beach, I recognize the need to address the Water Quality Act issues with the Herondo storm drain, this project in its current proposed location on the Hermosa Greenbelt is, simply put, the right project in the wrong place. I ask the council to take a careful look at this project, the engineering studies that have been done to date, and to listen carefully to your constituents who have raised pointed and valid objections to the project at its current location. I urge the council to look for a more adequate solution in a different location that does not pose such tremendous risks to Hermosa Beach residents and massive liability to our city and its taxpayers.

As a lawyer who has worked on environmental litigation in my career, when I first learned of this project in April, I began to read the voluminous environmental and project documents from all available public sources that I and other residents have been able to locate. The more reading I have done, the more shocked I have become at the utter lack of due diligence regarding the proposed project location. Not only do the minimal studies conducted to date raise multiple red flags concerning the safety of the project, but the City is apparently also attempting to avoid conducting a site-specific Environmental Impact Report (EIR) which would likely identify and underscore the impropriety of this location. As a voter, I have also been amazed by the City's continuing failures to properly notify residents regarding this project—a violation of the Brown Act that I believe calls the entire project into question.

These failures, which I detail below, have been all the more stunning to me because I voted for many of the current council members after working with them on the No on O campaign. Given that experience, my hope was that our council formed of its current members would avoid some of the problems our small city government has had

in the past—such as the massive expense borne by our City as a result of a hasty and improperly studied decision to allow oil drilling and a massive oil pipeline project in a densely populated beach City. Yet I feel, with this project, here we are again. Please renew my faith in your leadership. Take a careful look at this project, listen to your constituents, and do the right thing. Find one or more new locations to address the 2 million gallons of proposed infiltration water rather than injecting it in the Greenbelt within feet of people's homes.

Red Flags with Current Engineering Studies

There are a number of red flags with the current project location raised by the engineering studies conducted to date, some of which have been detailed in correspondence by my neighbor Alex Reizman. I share all of Mr. Reizman's concerns regarding those studies and detail several other concerns below. Each issue alone is a reason to relocate this project, but cumulatively, they should make it obvious that this is the wrong place to handle this project.

First, this project is being located in a known liquefaction zone. Basically, dirt turns to liquid in the event of an earthquake. It doesn't take an engineer to understand what happens to homes built on top of that dirt-now-liquid when an earthquake comes. See, e.g., *San Francisco Chronicle*, "Loma Prieta quake at 28: Long-forgotten photos show disaster's depths" (Oct. 17, 2017) ("The Marina was the hardest-hit area in the city, with the ground below the homes and businesses liquefying, causing more than 100 buildings to collapse.") We have all been warned that another earthquake of equal or greater size and scope of the Northridge earthquake will hit. It is only a matter of time. And my City is contemplating injecting 2 million gallons of additional water per storm surge within feet of homes and multi-story apartment buildings built on or near that liquefaction zone? Something does not compute. Moreover, the City's own engineering firm Geosyntec performed 6 soil boring tests on the mulch path of the Greenbelt where this proposed project is to be located. Two of those borings showed liquefaction! Even Geosyntec recommended additional studies had to be performed in light of that finding.

Second, this project is being located in a site with extremely high groundwater levels. That is critical because the entire engineering bet here is that there is sufficient soil between the infiltration gallery and the water table to clean pollutants before they enter our groundwater. The City's own engineering study with its minimal 6 soil borings taken on a single day in late March 2017 showed groundwater levels of 25 feet for 4 of the 6 soil borings. Given current LA County regulations concerning infiltration structures, a minimum of 10 feet must exist between the high water mark of groundwater and the lowest portion of the infiltration structure. Even according to the rosy calculations based on those 6 soil tests, that gives the project only 15 feet, including

dirt to cover up the top portion of the project. There will be no room for the replacement greenery or trees of the type we presently have on our Greenbelt. Moreover, even Geosytec's report does not take into account historical groundwater levels, which based on nearby well data have been as high as 15 feet. With the 10 foot buffer required between groundwater levels and the infiltration gallery, allowing no space for this project to exist without risk of polluting groundwater. Other concerns, given the high groundwater levels, include surface pooling and odors caused by bacteria levels considering the inadequate amount of soil that exists to properly infiltrate and clean the polluted water being injected into our ground.

Third, this project does not provide adequate pre-filtering before the water enters the infiltration gallery, thus exposing our groundwater and Greenbelt to significant pollutants. I specifically asked Mr. Massey during a community meeting about possible pollution and he assured me the project included filtering. What he did not mention is that the project filter is called a gross debris filter. In other words, the filters are designed to capture trash and large particle soils from entering the infiltration gallery, and not to clean any pollutants from the water before entering the infiltration system. The watershed that leads into the Herondo Storm drain primarily runs from Redondo Beach and Torrance, including a light industrial area in Torrance. This project offers zero assurance that heavy metals, including lead, and other pollutants will not be injected into this site. What happens with those contaminants as they filter through the ground? Even if the infiltrated pollution does not reach the groundwater, creating a plume of who knows what toxic pollutants in our groundwater, the pollutants are not leaving the soil. What is to stop them from exposing our children and adult residents who use the Greenbelt to pollution, high bacteria levels, odors and contaminants? Based on what I have read from the details provided to the public to date, I have very little assurance that this project will not expose residents and our environment to harms of this nature.

Finally, I have been amazed that the City is pushing forward with a design plan for an infiltration system without conducting any studies on the impact either construction of this giant project or injection of 2 million gallons of water per storm surge into the soil will have on adjacent residential homes. Homes such as the Mooring and Cochise townhomes are mere feet from the project's borders. The Mooring in particular has condos with partially subterranean structures and the homes are built on a slab. I have reviewed photos and video of Tetra Tech's other infiltration projects, available online, and based on those projects, large machinery such as excavators and pile drivers will be used for dirt and tree removal and for creating retaining walls around the project. We know from the experience of the Beachside Condos during Redondo Beach's storm drain project on Herondo Street the types of damage that work from a single pile driver and/compactor can cause to our residences: Burst pipes and struc-

tural damage, to name just a few issues, all of which led to litigation with the City of Redondo Beach. And yet, the City has not commissioned any study of what this proposed construction will do to homes feet away from this project.

Additionally, the City does not seem to have taken into account what injecting 2 million gallons of water will do to the foundations of homes only feet from this project site. It does not take an engineer to understand that water flows. And where water flows, it undermines the ground around it. The mere fact that the City is relying on 6 soil borings taken from only the Greenbelt mulch trail to gain an understanding of the feasibility of this project, while the main design under consideration from the project covers the entire Greenbelt, shows how deficient the engineering studies have been to date. Furthermore, neither Geosyntec in its report, nor Tetra Tech according to its RFP response and billings to the City, has undertaken any structural analysis of what injection of such a large amount of water will do to adjacent structures. These failures suggest manifest negligence.

No Proposed EIR

Many of the questions and concerns I raise above should be addressed in a site-specific Environmental Impact Report ("EIR"). However, to my surprise when reviewing the Request for Proposal ("RFP") for design bids for this project, the City requested that all bidders budget for preparing a negative declaration under CEQA, and not the creation of an EIR. A negative declaration is prepared only when a governmental entity wishes to avoid an EIR by contending that there are no negative environmental impacts from a project or that any environmental impacts can be mitigated. When asked directly by concerned residents about when an EIR will be drafted, the City's staff has provided contradictory and shifting explanations. We have been told an EIR exists, in the form of the Project EIR prepared by the County of Los Angeles. I have read that document. It covers at a very high level every watershed project in the County. It is certainly not adequate to address the concerns of residents regarding the specifics of this project. More recently, City staff have claimed that "studies" will be completed, without using the word EIR, which has caused confusion among residents. Finally, just days ago, another resident received an email from City staff suggesting that if trees are removed, then an EIR will likely be prepared. I am not sure if these shifting explanations are intended to obfuscate the issue and confuse residents, but that is what has occurred. It is time for the City to commit, once and for all, to doing a site-specific EIR for this project, regardless of whether trees are removed or not. We do an EIR in this city for every major and even minor project, and with good reason. It provides essential information to allow an informed electorate to understanding proposed projects in the community. The recent North School construction project and the oil project are just two examples. Why not this project, which is so obviously huge in scope and with such clear implications for people's lives and homes? It is time for the City Coun-

cil to do the right thing and, if it wants to proceed with a project such as this infiltration project within City boundaries, commit to doing a site specific EIR for whichever location is ultimately selected.

Lack of Notice to City Residents

I first received notice of this project, as all my neighbors did as well, with a March 29th community meeting flyer post-marked March 27, 2018. I received it in my mailbox the same day as the meeting and, as a consequence, could not attend the meeting. No prior mailed notice was given to any resident regarding the possible use of the Greenbelt for an infiltration project prior to that notice. Nor have residents ever been asked to provide opinions regarding alternative locations to the Greenbelt at any stage in this process prior to the March 27th notice.

In fact, I find it surprising that the City manages to send me a notice every year regarding the upcoming triathlon and its road closures, and I receive an email soliciting my opinion about three alternative locations for a new library building, but when the City decides to build a two football-field-sized infiltration project in my backyard, it did not bother to notify a single resident about the project until March 2018, at which time the project was presented as a *fait accompli*.

I have looked through all of the Hermosa Beach city council agendas relating to the project that predate the March 2018 meeting notice, and it is curious how the agenda descriptions relating to this project are all vague and provide no address information for the proposed site location, such that residents might be informed as to what the council was reviewing. As the City is well aware, in this state we have the Brown Act, which has specific requirements regarding providing the public with adequate notice. I do not believe those requirements were met with respect to this project from the outset.

Certainly it is peculiar how early plans for this project have been proposed for various locations, including outside of Hermosa Beach. Indeed, at one time, the responsibility for treating these 2 million gallons of polluted water would have been split between several locations, including Perry Ellison play field in Redondo Beach, the parking lot at the bottom of Herondo Street, and possible alternatives such as the SCE power line easement location on Herondo Street, in addition to the Greenbelt and South Park. Yet, I can find no reported council agenda or discussion anywhere at which our elected officials made a publicly noticed decision to take on this project entirely within our small city's borders, effectively exposing our citizens to massive risks and our city to enormous liability.

I don't throw out that last comment cavalierly. When you are discussing issues such as liquefaction and earthquakes, people's lives are on the line and the city has massive potential exposure should this project cause property damage and loss of life. Similarly, our City is liable in the event of damage to our properties as a result of construction or post-construction damage. Subsidence of buildings and polluted groundwater and soils are not inexpensive issues to address, nor are the lawsuits that arise when those issues are at stake, as everyone on the council should be very aware following No on O. I recognize that the City has an obligation to address issues such as the Water Quality Act permit with an eye toward budget responsibility, but the City is either going to pay a little now or pay a lot later if this project goes through in its current location. And with what ultimate end goal? So that our city, which is responsible only for approximately 10% of this watershed, can clean up the remaining 90% of pollutants flowing downhill from Torrance and Redondo Beach? The math simply does not add up here. It's time to look at alternative locations.

Respectfully yours,


Carla McCauley

Carla A. McCauley
501 Herondo St.
Hermosa Beach, CA 90254

October 8, 2018

Hermosa Beach City Council
City of Hermosa Beach
1315 Valley Drive
Hermosa Beach, CA 90254
citycouncil@hermosabch.org

Dear Councilmembers,

On October 9, 2018, the City Council is being asked, once again, to address the proposal to build a massive water infiltration project in Hermosa Beach. Council is asked to consider alternative sites within Hermosa Beach or, alternatively, to direct the exploration of sites outside of Hermosa Beach in order to comply with the Enhanced Watershed Management Plan ("EWMP") the City first authorized on June 23, 2015 and the terms of the MS4 permit authorized under the auspices of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board ("Regional Board"). Also included in the Staff Report are various statements regarding the additional funds that will need to be allocated for the City's existing engineering firm, Tetra Tech, to conduct additional site analyses, including geotechnical surveys.

As a lawyer and concerned resident and voter, I have now spent many hundreds of hours reviewing the record associated with the EWMP and the City's Council's voting record on these issues, as well as numerous staff reports provided to Council in conjunction with those proceedings; discussing the engineering issues with experts in the field; attending several meetings with City staff; and attending the Council's recent tour of the Manhattan Beach and Bolivar Park infiltration sites.

In my considered opinion, the Council has no other option but to vote to split this massive project in a more equitable distribution among multiple sites across the various jurisdictions with watershed source responsibility for the Herondo Street storm drain. As detailed below, this equitable division is exactly what the original EWMP working plan proposed in June 26, 2014. And yet, by the time a draft of the EWMP was actually presented in 2015, the project had morphed into a

massive, one-shot effort to infiltrate all 7.6 acre feet of water in a single project on the Hermosa Beach Greenbelt—the most densely populated of all the South Bay cities in the watershed and the 60th most densely populated city in all of Los Angeles County (See Los Angeles Times Population Density Map at <http://maps.latimes.com/neighborhoods/neighborhood/hermosa-beach/>). Furthermore, any development of any project within Hermosa Beach's boundaries must be preceded by adequate engineering studies by a neutral, third party engineering firm that does not have a financial stake in completing the project within the City's boundaries (*i.e.*, Tetra Tech). Those studies must expressly take into account the impacts of any project on the people who will live within feet of any proposed construction or infiltration, as well as the surrounding structures that may be impacted by any such construction or infiltration project—work that has never been done at any point in this process.

Background Information: Project History and Scope in Context

Before detailing the basis for my recommendation above, I think it is important to review some of the history of this project to give context. I do not engage in this exercise to point fingers. Rather, the point of understanding past failures is to ensure that one is not doomed to repeat them. We are at a critical juncture. Council can either continue to forge ahead with the project with its current scope, threatening the safety of residents and their homes and exposing the City to massive future liability and numerous lawsuits. Or, the Council can take the courageous and informed step of going back to its partners in the EWMP and explaining why the project as it is currently contemplated simply will not work from a legal and engineering standpoint and then engage those partners in a feasible and legally tenable solutions that will comply with the MS4 permit and ensure our oceans are cleaner.

As the October Staff Report indicates, in February 2013, the Council authorized joining a watershed group comprised of Torrance, Redondo Beach and Manhattan Beach, and developing the EWMP to comply with the Regional Board's MS4 permit. This decision made sense at the time, as it gave the City additional time to meet water quality goals than it would have had on its own, allowed for joint financial responsibility for projects, and gave Hermosa Beach an avenue to comply with the permit requirements with water quality modeling, as opposed to just strict testing requirements, which may have proved more onerous than modeling. Council then entered into an MOU and city staff began working with EWMP

lead, Redondo Beach, to develop the EWMP for submission to the Regional Board for approval.

A June 26, 2014 work plan regarding proposed Regional BMPs proposed at least three separate locations to address the Herondo drain: the Hermosa Beach Infiltration Facility, located at the intersection of Herondo Street and the Strand, with a treatment volume of 2.7 acre feet of water; the Hermosa Beach South Park subsurface infiltration gallery, with a treatment volume of 1.9 acre feet of water; and the Herondo Parking Lot detention basin an infiltration project located in Redondo Beach, with a treatment volume of 2.7 acre feet of water. (See attached chart, Attachment C to Draft Enhanced Watershed Management Program Workplan, available at https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/stormwater/municipal/watershed_management/beach_cities/index.html). By June 23, 2015, however, the draft EWMP no longer proposed splitting water responsibility across jurisdictions. Now the draft called for infiltrating all 7.6 acre feet of water on the Greenbelt in a massive underground infiltration gallery. To put these numbers in perspective, Hermosa Beach is the smallest contributor to the watershed addressed in the EWMP, with 5% total source responsibility, as compared to Manhattan Beach (16%), Redondo Beach (25%) and Torrance (53%) (See March 2018 EWMP Table ES-1 at p. ES-3), but 7.6 acre feet of storage capacity represents the largest capacity project for any of the individually-sited proposed BMPs.¹ Ultimately, this plan with the Greenbelt infiltration project as the main Regional BMP for the Herondo storm drain outfall was included in the EWMP that the Hermosa Beach City Council voted to approve and submit to the Regional Board.

Notably, residents near the Greenbelt project were never provided any mailed notice of this proposed project during this stage of the process; no citizen groups were engaged to determine where it might be appropriate to place any of the pro-

¹ Green street initiatives have larger storage capacity, but they are also spread out over numerous streets in a jurisdiction. Hermosa Beach's proposed Greenbelt project proposes to hold 7.6 acre feet or 319,000 cubic feet of water per storm surge (or 2.4 million gallons of water). The closest similar project proposed in the EWMB is one of three alternative infiltration projects being concerned for a different storm drain in Manhattan Beach, which proposes 198,000 cubic feet of storage (or 1.4 million gallons of water). Redondo Beach's only currently proposed site for treatment of water along the Herondo drain, other than Green Street initiatives, is in Park #3 (Perry Ellison playfield on 190th Street), with 87,100 cubic feet of storage (or 651,000 gallons). (See EWMB Table ES-5 at p. ES-13).

posed projects at any stage of the development of the EWMP; and the city council agenda descriptions simply refer to the EWMP and the vote, with no detailed description of the site location. Rather, one would have to skim through EWMP to determine the Greenbelt was in play for a project like this—not an easy task given the fact that the printed out version of the June 2015 draft EWMP is 12 inches thick. Later votes on the MOU, the Tetra Tech RFP and an ambiguous “stormwater update” similarly avoided references to the address of the site, its size and scope, and failed to include mailed notice to residents—failures that I have previously noted in my June 17, 2018 correspondence to the City Council constitute violations of the Brown Act’s notice requirements.

It is also notable that initial engineering studies conducted by Geosyntec identified a number of what should have been red flags about proceeding with a large infiltration site on the Greenbelt, including liquefaction in two borings (for which they advised further study), and high groundwater levels up to 24.5 feet during their single boring test in March 2017. Unfortunately, these issues were never addressed to the Council at any point, and the Council was asked to proceed with a vote on the RFP for the design firm for the project, with Tetra Tech winning the award and moving forward with a design for the Greenbelt.

One of the reasons a law like the Brown Act is so important, particularly in an area where we live where we have so many engaged and intelligent residents, is that it taps into our community’s network of expertise. I urge you not to discount the learned opinions of people like my friends and neighbors, Alex Reizman and Debbie Sanowski, who have spent countless hours reviewing the legal and engineering records for this project, locating errors and concerns about this project that were not addressed by the City’s own consultants.

Unfortunately, the community has been late to the party in part because the first notice any of us had about this project was a March 2018 notice soliciting input regarding “amenities” to be included on the Greenbelt after project completion. After I and my neighbors raised concerns about the project, the City Council scheduled the June 19, 2018 study session. Interim City Manager John Jalilli then engaged a small group of homeowners from the Mooring, Beachside Condominiums and Cochise Condos (which the Staff Report erroneously characterizes as the “Mooring HOA”), and requested that we put together some alternative locations that might be acceptable for the project and for staff and Council. Those are the only project locations that staff mentions in its current report. No alternatives are proposed based on staff’s own research other than three alterna-

tives within Hermosa Beach which were already addressed during the June 2018 study session. The only thoroughly discussed proposals are the four sites located in Hermosa Beach, and no additional engineering studies have been done that might shed light on the suitability of those sites for a project of the scope proposed for Hermosa Beach.

Given this history, it is now critical that this City Council listen to what the residents and voters of Hermosa Beach are saying in criticism of this project—particularly those of us who have spent countless hours looking very carefully at the record. And while I appreciate the fact that the City acknowledges that the criteria for selecting the project did not properly account for population density and the impact of the project on nearby residents, that acknowledgment means nothing if the Council does not act to place a more reasonably scaled project in a location that is both technically feasible and appropriate to the size and density of our City.

Hermosa Beach Infiltration Proposals

Each of the four alternatives proposed within Hermosa Beach either have serious technical problems or lack sufficient data to allow them to be selected by the Council at this time.

Greenbelt

In my June 17, 2018 letter, I point out the many problems with using the Greenbelt for an infiltration site of this size. I reiterate those concerns here, but also wish to address how Tetra Tech's most recent presentation at the June 2018 study session failed to address any of the concerns I and other residents raised concerning the problems with the Greenbelt site.

Among those issues, the high groundwater levels mean that pollutants cannot be properly infiltrated and may lead to groundwater contamination, pooling and odor. These issues were already thoroughly detailed in Mr. Reizman's June and October letters to this Council. Tetra Tech's proposed solution to the groundwater levels, mentioned in passing and without much clarity at the study session, is to simply seek a "waiver" of the 10 foot buffer requirement between the bottom of the infiltration gallery and the water table. That "solution" is utterly unacceptable and poses incredible risk and liability to our City and its residents, not to mention our groundwater quality. The fact that Tetra Tech also made an obvious mathematical error in its calculation of groundwater levels by failing to account

for the elevation of the nearest historical well data in comparison to the Greenbelt's elevation causes me question all of their conclusions regarding the viability of the Greenbelt.

Tetra Tech's response to the question of liquefaction is similarly misleading. Notwithstanding the fact that an out-of-date map from 1999 states that the Greenbelt and other sites within Hermosa Beach are outside of a liquefaction zone, Geosyntec's own limited boring sample show liquefaction risks for 2 out of 6 borings, as well as possible subsidence in the mulch path of as much as 7 inches.² Tetra Tech even admits in its slides during the study session of subsidence of 6.9 to 9.6 inches. Tetra Tech's conclusions about how it can engineer the infiltration structure itself to withstand an earthquake does nothing to address the concerns nearby residents have regarding their homes withstanding an earthquake after water from the infiltration gallery spreads out underneath their foundations. Many of Tetra Tech's other assertions about liquefaction and its impact on surrounding structures are suspect. There seem to be a number of assumptions they are making regarding impact of the flow of groundwater on adjacent structures without additional testing, and hydrological models Tetra Tech has been using have not been made publicly available for error-checking. Data trumps speculation and outdated assumptions based on old liquefaction maps, and neither Tetra Tech nor any other engineering company has ever conducted an actual analysis of what 2.4 million gallons of water being pumped into the groundwater will do to surrounding structures within 10 to 15 feet away from the infiltration gallery. I for one do not want to risk massive liability to the City and my neighbors' homes and families based on the limited testing done to date on this site on the issue of liquefaction, subsidence and structural impact.

Neither Tetra Tech nor the City has done any analysis, and did not even bother to address at the June 2018 study session, the possible risks to nearby residents' homes during construction itself. I and members of the City Council toured the Bolivar Park site. The photographs from that presentation were more than disturbing when one takes into account that homes on the Greenbelt are only 10 to 15 feet away from the proposed trench and heavy equipment. In contrast, Boli-

² Equally concerning, City Staff asserts in its report that there is no liquefaction risk either at the Greenbelt or any of the alternative sites in Hermosa, without any support for that statement. The Geosyntec borings themselves belie this statement and no soil samples regarding any other alternate location in Hermosa Beach has been conducted to verify this unfounded statement.

var Park homes were 50 feet or more from the field in which that infiltration gallery was built, and no pile-driving was used at that location, as likely would have to be used on the Greenbelt given the narrow space constraints.

Tetra Tech's post-infiltration "trailhead-after" pictures are highly misleading. I am concerned that Tetra Tech's design (which has not been publicly disclosed) will attempt to address high historic groundwater at the Greenbelt site by minimizing soil on top of the structure itself, which will prohibit the type of tree growth the Greenbelt currently enjoys. Notably, the main trees for which Tetra Tech's design proposes removal include the 13 very tall Torrey Pines, which are protected species. None of the proposed tree species listed in Tetra Tech's list of trees to be used as "native" replacements are of the same size. Most are smaller bush-like trees, with the exception of a single eucalyptus species. So our lush Greenbelt with its beautiful Torrey pines will be replaced with smaller species that do not enjoy protected status.

The replacement of the current lush Greenbelt environment with what will undoubtedly be a moonscape for some time to come is also highly concerning because voters in Hermosa Beach voted to preserve the Greenbelt when they agreed to purchase the space, and zoning limitations are highly restrictive. I have reviewed the cursory opinion letter provided by the City Attorney to staff regarding the legality of putting an infiltration gallery of this size under the Greenbelt, and the opinion is both based on false technical assumptions that this infiltration project has something to do with preventing seawater intrusion (it does not) and that this huge infiltration gallery can be construed as a utility. These readings are neither consistent with the language of the zoning statute or the history of the protection of Hermosa Beach's Greenbelt. Moreover, above-ground structures are clearly prohibited under the law, and above-ground structures such as electrical rooms for pumping stations are planned in Tetra Tech's models—a clearly non-permitted use of the space. Just from a common sense perspective as well, razing the Greenbelt to build a massive trench and drop infiltration galleries in the ground with cranes, and then covering up that trench with a small sampling of dirt and replanting "native" shrubs and plants will forever change the Greenbelt in this area in direct contravention of voters' wishes when they voted to preserve this space.

Alternative Hermosa Beach Sites

Many of the alternatives proposed by staff in the staff report suffer from either a severe absence of data or simply pass the buck to neighbors further down the road from the current location, with the same or worse host of potential problems.

No soil tests have been done to ascertain groundwater levels or liquefaction for the Greenbelt outside of the Cochise townhomes, but those homeowners are just as close to the proposed project as the Mooring owners to the current design and the same concerns regarding impact of water flow to their residences also exist, as does concerns regarding damage during construction. Given the well data up the hill, the historic groundwater levels present the same problems for that alternative. No arborist study or assessment of the impact on protected trees has been conducted. And the Greenbelt zoning issues remain the same for this location as with the current location.

Moving the project to South Park is not a panacea either. One of the alternatives proposes a pump station above ground on the Greenbelt, which is a prohibited use. The proposed pipeline will still cause the Greenbelt to be dug up for a substantial distance with an unknown impact on trees, including the Torrey Pine protected species with their deep root systems that extend into the mulch trail south of South Park. South Park's hill is included in a landslide risk area, and no studies have been done to ascertain risks from a massive infiltration gallery on that geotechnical issue. No soil samples to determine groundwater levels or liquefaction concerns have been done. Finally, multiple units from Pacifica Villas are very close to the proposed construction area. Without further data, it is simply impossible to evaluate this site except to note that a project of the size of 7.6 acre feet still poses considerable risks. Certainly, the City should not select this location without substantial additional engineering analyses, and that should be conducted by an engineering firm other than Tetra Tech, which has a financial stake in completing this project.

Redondo Beach Sites

One of the proposals during meetings with city staff concerning projects outside of Hermosa Beach that appears to have been misconstrued in the staff report includes the viability of building a recycled water facility to reuse 100 percent of storm drain water for anticipated future parkland in Redondo Beach at either or both of AES or the power corridor. Santa Monica built a similar system in early

2000's for a cost of approximately \$12 million, creating a state-of-the-art recycling system using storm drain water that it then uses to irrigate parks and for flush toilets. (See Fact Sheet available at https://www.smgov.net/uploadedFiles/Departments/OSE/Categories/Urban_Runoff/UR_SMURRF_Info_Sheets.pdf). Tetra Tech is currently building a pretreatment and storage facility under a parking garage for a separate storm drain in Santa Monica that is diverted to that city's recycling center for reuse. (See <http://www.tetrattech.com/en/multimedia/recycling-stormwater-to-protect-our-beaches> and <https://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/Santa-Monica-Aims-to-Convert-Polluted-Runoff-From-Foe-to-Resource--481327001.html>). Storm drain water is pumped as far as a half mile to the recycling center for processing, and comes from multiple storm drains.

I and others in our small group had proposed to city staff that a possible forward-looking solution to the Herondo storm drain is for Redondo Beach to incorporate the drain water into a recycling solution that could be used now or in a future wetlands restoration or parkland irrigation project being discussed for the current AES site that will be mothballed in 2020. The beach at the drain outfall location would be one possible location, but other locations could include the Redondo marina area or underneath parking areas along the marina. When it became clear that Dominguez Park's history included landfill, making infiltration inappropriate, we also suggested that the City explore a recycling option at that location as well. None of these ideas have been pursued by staff.

In addition, it is disturbing that the SCE easement has always been touted as an alternative location to the Greenbelt for this large project, including in the current edition of the EWMP from 2018. And yet, it appears that staff's only actions to pursue such an easement include a single email to an agent for Redondo Beach who does not appear to be given much information and may not be the appropriate stakeholder to make a decision about the easement's propriety in any event. Furthermore, it is interesting that power line easements are proposed for several BMP's to address the Dominguez Watershed, which is also part of the EWMP, although not one for which Hermosa Beach has responsibility. Those projects also propose "pass-through filtering" once it was determined that infiltration itself was not viable in those locations. (See 2018 EWMP at 3-43). It is unclear why Manhattan Beach and Redondo Beach are able to pursue such an easement and a viable alternative to infiltration for one of their significant projects in the Dominguez Channel watershed, while Hermosa Beach is being required to forge ahead with a manifestly improper infiltration project without properly exploring

an easement with SCE/Redondo Beach and alternatives to infiltration given how problematic groundwater levels are so near the beach.

Finally, the Francisca site discussion notes that AES is an active DTSC COC site, and questions feasibility for infiltration in light of that pollution. And yet, the Greenbelt site itself is across the street and uphill from that site, and I have seen no studies that evaluate any possibility for water flow impacting pollution at that site notwithstanding its proximity. This discrepancy not only calls into question the validity of the Greenbelt site, but also makes me question why issues such as pollutants are addressed as to Redondo Beach locations, but not with respect to our own City's proposed infiltration site.

Solutions for the City Council

Given the concerns voiced by me and by other residents of Hermosa Beach concerning the real problems with housing an infiltration project of this size in Hermosa Beach at any of the proposed locations, the question remains what should the City Council do on Tuesday if none of the options are viable. Part of the reason that none of the solutions posed to the Council are viable is that the project itself is simply too large given our small city's size, density and proximity to the beach, not to mention our total overall percentage of source flows into the watershed itself.

A smaller project, such as the proposed infiltration trench in Hermosa Beach, makes the only sense given these realities. Addressing the Herondo Street drain in one big lump project at the end of the drain line may have made sense to some engineer or consultant who looked at this project back in 2015, but whoever made that decision did so in a vacuum.³ The reality is that there are two cities at the end of the storm drain, and Redondo Beach is one of them. It needs to also take on its proportionate share of responsibility for this drain, and its small "Park #3" project is not representative of that share. I urge City Council members to state on the record that the only feasible way to address this watershed is to ad-

³ I also note that the Staff Report indicates a 2016 Geosyntec report concerning sea level rise analyses may have changed certain assumptions regarding the water treatment volume that can feasibly be addressed at the Herondo parking lot location. However, pushing the excess volume into Hermosa Beach as a consequence is not an acceptable solution to that issue. Moreover, the Greenbelt has similar issues with groundwater levels making a large project untenable, but notably, no proposal was ever made to restrict the size of Hermosa's project as a consequence. These inconsistencies with how different projects have been handled in different jurisdictions is disturbing, to say the least.

dress it through multiple project locations (as was originally contemplated in early working versions of the EWMP), and that it will be requesting Redondo Beach to look for alternatives in its own jurisdiction to handle its proportionate share of watershed contributions.

In addition, any project that does take place in Hermosa Beach of a smaller and more appropriate scope must first be assessed with proper engineering analyses that take into account impact on nearby, existing structures.

Finally, while I acknowledge the fact that hypothetically the Regional Board has in its toolkit various fines that it can assess for failure to comply with the MS4 permit, I find the assessments of the probability of such fines in the current Staff Report and in prior council meetings to be lacking. I have yet to see an evaluation by the city attorney that details what the actual risks are of such fines, when a violation of the permit occurs such that a fine would be anticipated, and whether such fines are apportioned across all watershed members. The permit language itself states that violations of pollution standards may yield some fines by the Regional Board, but it is unclear given exceedances for bacterial levels in effect and the improving water quality marks in recent years that the risks of fines are imminent. Moreover, the deadlines at issue are certainly extendable as the Regional Board has done so in the past with other projects (*i.e.*, 2017 Trash TMDL extensions were granted by the Regional Board). Certainly, the Regional Board would rather have a viable project in design and construction that portends immediate improvement with bacterial levels in the oceans (*i.e.*, moving forward with a project on the Hermosa Beach strand in the near term), rather than awaiting the results of delays from litigation that may span years while this ill-conceived project is litigated in courts--the likely event should this council not heed the call of residents with valid objections to this behemoth project, executed without proper notice to Hermosa Beach residents or appropriate engineering studies.

I also do not think it is in the best interests of this City and its taxpayers to proceed with a plan with obvious problems and potential massive liability for the City, while two years remain prior to the originally proposed 2021 deadline to properly analyze more effective alternatives with proper study and community input. There certainly is no room for dilly dallying on these issues, but rushing to judgment to avoid hypothetical fines, only to expose our taxpayers to tremendous liability and risk down the line, is not an answer.

Thank you for taking the time to address the concerns that I and other residents have raised.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Carla McCauley", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Carla McCauley

Planned and Potential Regional BMPs in the Beach Cities EWMIP Area

BMP ID	Jurisdiction	Data Source	Project Name	Address	BMP Category	Tributary Area Treated (ac)	Treatment Volume (ac ft)	Approx BMP Footprint (ac)
R1	Hermosa Beach	Task 1 Final Report	Hermosa Beach Infiltration Facility - Herondo	Intersection of Herondo St. and the Strand	Infiltration	3000	2.7	1.35445
R5	Hermosa Beach	Task 1 Final Report	South Park Subsurface Infiltration gallery	425 Valley Drive Hermosa Beach, CA 90234	Infiltration	151	1.9	0.48026
R6	Hermosa Beach	SMBBB TMIDL IP J5/6	Valley Park wet pond	526 Gault Ave Hermosa Beach, CA 90234	Wet pond			
R11	Manhattan Beach	Task 1 Final Report	Manhattan Heights infiltration gallery	1600 Manhattan Beach Blvd Manhattan Beach, CA 90266	Infiltration	468	2.6	0.65657
R13	Manhattan Beach	Task 1 Final Report	SMB 5-2 Infiltration Trench	28th Street and Strand, Manhattan Beach	Infiltration	1565	9.1	4.30441
R17	Manhattan Beach	Task 1 Final Report	Polliwog Park infiltration BMP	Polliwog Park	Infiltration	468		
R18	Manhattan Beach	Task 1 Final Report	SMB-5-1 Infiltration trench	Strand and 44th Street through 32nd Street [six outfalls]	Infiltration	51.4	0.47	0.17911
R19	Manhattan Beach	Task 1 Final Report	SMB-5-3 Infiltration trench	Strand and 2nd Street to 18th Street, Manhattan Beach [nine outfalls]	Infiltration	161.4	1.074	0.60916
R21	Manhattan Beach/ Hermosa Beach	Task 1 Final Report	SMB-5-4 Infiltration trench	Strand and 1st Street in Manhattan Beach to 35th Street in Hermosa Beach [2 outfalls]	Infiltration	211	1.2	0.72796
R23	Redondo Beach	SMBBB TMIDL IP J5/6	Alta Vista Park wet pond	801 Camino Real Redondo Beach, CA 90277	Wet pond			
R25	Redondo Beach	Task 1 Final Report	Andrews Park	1801 Rockefeller Lane, Redondo Beach	Infiltration	122	1.6	0.33058
R26	Redondo Beach	Task 1 Final Report	Herondo Parking Lot detention basin and infiltration project	Herondo Street and Strand, Redondo Beach	Infiltration	3000	2.7	0.37190
R27	Redondo Beach	SMBBB TMIDL IP J5/6	Hopkins Wilderness Area constructed wetland	1119 Barbara St Torrance, CA 90503	Constructed wetland			

EXHIBIT B

Tour of Existing Stormwater Infiltration Project Sites



Wednesday, August 29, 2018

(Attendees are responsible for their own transportation to sites)

- 1:15 PM Manhattan Beach Greenbelt Site Tour**
1st Street and Valley Drive, Manhattan Beach CA 90266
- 2:45 PM Lakewood Bolivar Park Site Tour**
3300 Del Amo Blvd., Lakewood CA 90712
Meet at picnic shelter, north of pool
- 3:30 PM Lakewood Mayfair Park Site Tour**
5720 Clark Ave., Lakewood CA 90712
Meet at intersection of Fidler and Bigelow

(The Mayfair Park site is under construction - must have sturdy closed toe shoes, a vest and hard hat to tour site - No Exceptions!)

Hosted by the Cities of Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach and Lakewood



For more information, please contact: Ann Yang at anny@hermosabch.org or (310)750-3605

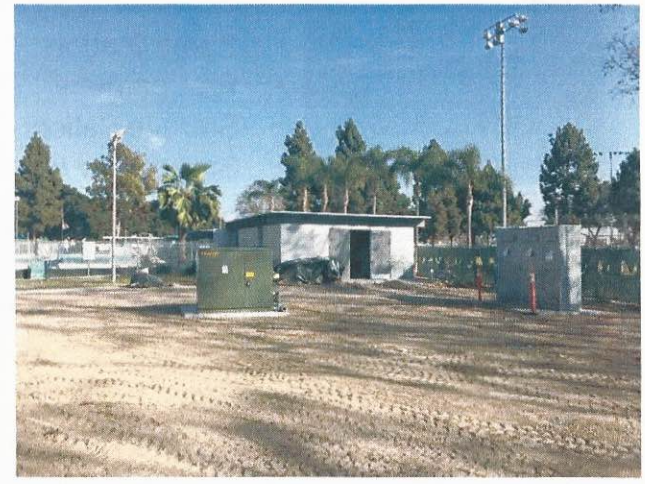
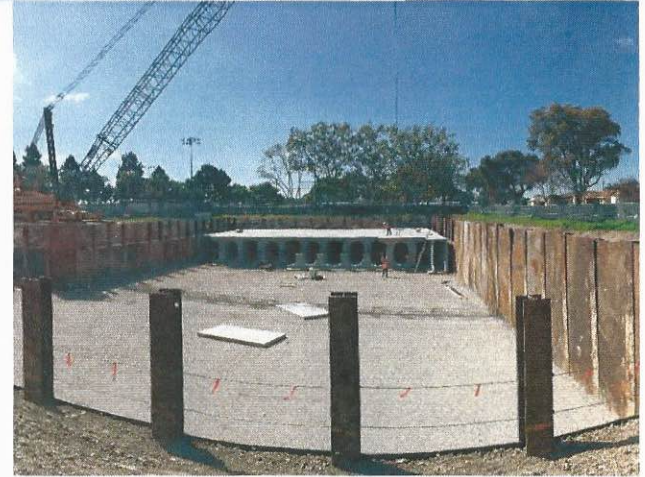
Project Water Quality Benefits

Bolivar Park Stormwater BMP	
BMP Footprint	0.89 ac
Chamber Capacity	8.93 ac-ft (2.9 MG)
Water Quality	Zinc: 121 lbs Lead: 14.8 lbs Copper: 15.42 lbs
Volume Treated during Critical Year (City)	623 ac-ft (184 ac-ft ~16%)
Groundwater Recharge	150-500 ac-ft/year
Irrigation Offset	98-100% \$45k/year (Potable Water)

Existing Park and Excavation



Storage Gallery Installation



From: noreply@granicusideas.com
To: [Ann Yang](#)
Subject: New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)
Date: Monday, March 25, 2019 1:03:46 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Chris Dean submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Far better options across the street. The project is unneeded, dangerous to underlying soil stability and previous projects the same as and similar to this near dense residential housing have been resounding failures.

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Date: Monday, March 25, 2019 1:31:04 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Claudia Berman submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: Where's the FAQ. Still missing. This is a complicated project. We need the FAQ to started and kept up to date.

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Date: Monday, March 25, 2019 2:42:41 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Kathleen Thomas submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: I completely oppose this project. I live on Valley and my living room, as well as bedrooms, are on Valley directly across from the site. The noise and pollution from the project would be horrendous. My parents who are 96 and 90 live with me. This would be awful for them and their health. This is not a project for a densely occupied area. There are properties all along this stretch of the greenbelt. Who in their right mind thinks this project belongs in a densely populated residential neighborhood. I don't see anyone on the council who wants this huge project in their front yard so why do you believe it should be in mine? None of these objections even consider how much the affected residents will lose in the value of their property. Is the City prepared for a massive lawsuit to recover the value we homeowners will lose? I'm guessing my property will drop 25-30% in value. I speak as a REALTOR with 40 years of experience in the Beach Cities. We have had to contend with the AES facility for years.. We are finally possibly getting rid of the plant and all of the stuff that goes with it and you want to put this massive project across the street? This truly makes no sense to do this when so many residents will be affected. I can't imagine what could have possessed the Council to even consider this project in this location. The noise, pollution, and all the other related items this project will produce are not compatible with residential living. When Redondo decided to redo Herondo the noise, trucks, digging and dirt were awful and that was for just a few weeks. You are talking years of work, noise, pollution and heavy trucks and machinery day in and day out. It was a dumb idea and it is still a dumb idea. Let Redondo deal with it. they cause a far larger percent of the problem than Hermosa does. If the City buys the land offered by the new owners of the AES plant (which they plan to do according to Mayor Bill Brand) .. They will make it a park and you could easily put in the system you need under the park. There would be no disruption to the land as it must be cleared anyway. The Council needs to be responsive to the residents of the area not to some

bureaucratic entity!

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Date: Monday, March 25, 2019 3:01:50 PM

[SpeakUp](#)

New eComment for City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Michael Simonson submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: City Council Special Meeting (Closed Session - 5:30 P.M. and Regular Meeting - 7:00 P.M.)

Item: a) REPORT 19-0191 GREENBELT INFILTRATION PROJECT NEXT STEPS
(Environmental Analyst Kristy Morris)

eComment: I am an non-resident owner at 447 Herondo Street. it is time to dissolve the MOU (watershed agreement among Redondo, Torrance, Manhattan, and Hermosa allowing all the neighboring cities water to be filtered in the land beneath our homes).

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