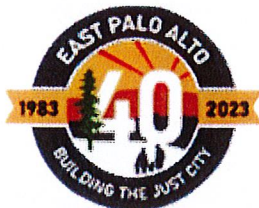


**Additional Document Submitted by City of
East Palo on February 7, 2024 for Item #4,
Reconsideration of LAFCo File 22-09**

Rob Bartoli

From: John Le <jle@cityofepa.org>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 2:22 PM
To: Castella, J. Leah
Cc: Sominskaia, Iudis Dasha; Joan Cox
Subject: RE: Rate Payer Letter
Attachments: Proposed Rate Payer Letter - Jan 30 2024--jle edits.docx

Here you go.



John D. Lê

City Attorney

Phone (650) 853-5901

Email jle@cityofepa.org

Web www.cityofepa.org

2415 University Avenue, 2nd Fl.
East Palo Alto, CA 94303

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From: Castella, J. Leah <LCastella@bwsllaw.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 6:25 PM
To: John Le <jle@cityofepa.org>
Cc: Sominskaia, Iudis Dasha <ISominskaia@bwsllaw.com>; Joan Cox <jcox@centralsan.org>
Subject: Rate Payer Letter

John,

I just want to confirm that you indicated on our call that the attached letter (which is the same as the one I sent to you yesterday) is acceptable to the City.

Regards,

J. Leah Castella | Partner

Pronouns: she, her, hers

1999 Harrison Street, Suite 1650 | Oakland, CA 94612-3520

m - 415.640.8903 | t - 510.273.8780 | f - 510.839.9104

jle@cityofepa.org | www.cityofepa.org



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EAST PALO ALTO SANITARY DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Ofelia Bello, Director

901 Weeks Street
East Palo Alto, CA 94303
Phone: (650) 357-9021
Fax: (650) 325-5173
www.epasd.com
Akin Okupe, M.B.A, P.E., General Manager

January *, 2024

Dear Ratepayer,

On February 7, 2024 at 2:30 pm in the Board of Supervisors Chambers at 400 County Center, Redwood City, the LAFCo Board will consider the following:

Reconsideration of: (1) City of East Palo Alto Proposal: To establish the East Palo Alto Sanitary District, an independent special district, as a subsidiary district of the City of East Palo Alto ("City's Proposal"); and 2) East Palo Alto Sanitary District Alternative Application: To retain the District's governance model; amend its Sphere of Influence (SOI) to be coterminous with its geographic service boundaries; and remove the District's territory from the SOI of the West Bay Sanitary District.

In addition, the document entitled "EPASD Statement" that was mailed on November 22, 2023 was inadvertently mailed to you instead of the media. That communication contained information on possible rate increases resulting from the City's Proposal. We want to clarify that, on the issue of rate increases, the City's Proposal calls for, at a minimum, initially increasing the annual sewer service charge first from \$600 to \$690, and by 5% per year thereafter, such that it would reach \$1,238 by the year 2036. [However, as noted by the LAFCo Board a "subsidiary district proposal does not directly result in the rate increase, as any rate changes would be subject to a Proposition 218 rate setting process"](#). That communication also mentioned that the District was in discussions with the City concerning "funding expansion of the sewer system to accommodate new development". Although the City and the District have had discussions about funding expansion of the sewer system to accommodate new development in the past, there are no ongoing communications on this issue.

If you have questions about this issue in the meantime, please contact Verenice Cano Rodriguez: VRodriguez@epasd.com

Sincerely,



EAST PALO ALTO SANITARY DISTRICT

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Dennis C Scherzer
Board President

Sewer Overflow

395 E. O'Keefe

Date: January 19th 2024

Time: 09:35:13 AM

The following information is (not) a narrative, and is a reflection of my expertise of this utility in support of the Engineering Division and The Public Works Department.

There was a sewer overflow that occurred within the street, and in front of the address 395 E. Okeefe. It is apparent that the sewer overflow was caused by a sewer main backup. The backup caused a massive rise above a (manhole shelf), ultimately breaching through the sewer manhole cover and into the City right of way. **(See pic #1. Below).**

When a massive overflow occurs, it is primarily the utility operators' responsibility to report this type of overflow within two hours of its known occurrence. Within this reporting, there is a (reporting form) that is triggered.

The agency that you would report to is essentially a branch of the California State Water Board, titled (CIWQS) California Integrated Water Quality System. Of the CIWQS, (all) spills are referred to as categories 1-through -4, and (all) categories are based on their containment and uncontainment. Thus, category #1 is an uncontained flow of one gallon. A category #2 is anything greater than one thousand (1000) gallons uncontained, a category #3 is 990 down to 50 gallons, and a category #4 is a 50-gallon recovery.

[Picture #1.](#)



Picture #2

-Showing significance of the overflow while in route to the City's storm utility .



Picture #3

-Shows that the traffic had driven through the overflow without any warning from the utility provider/operators, and no contact was initiated by the utility provider to the City regarding the initiation of traffic control.



Picture #4

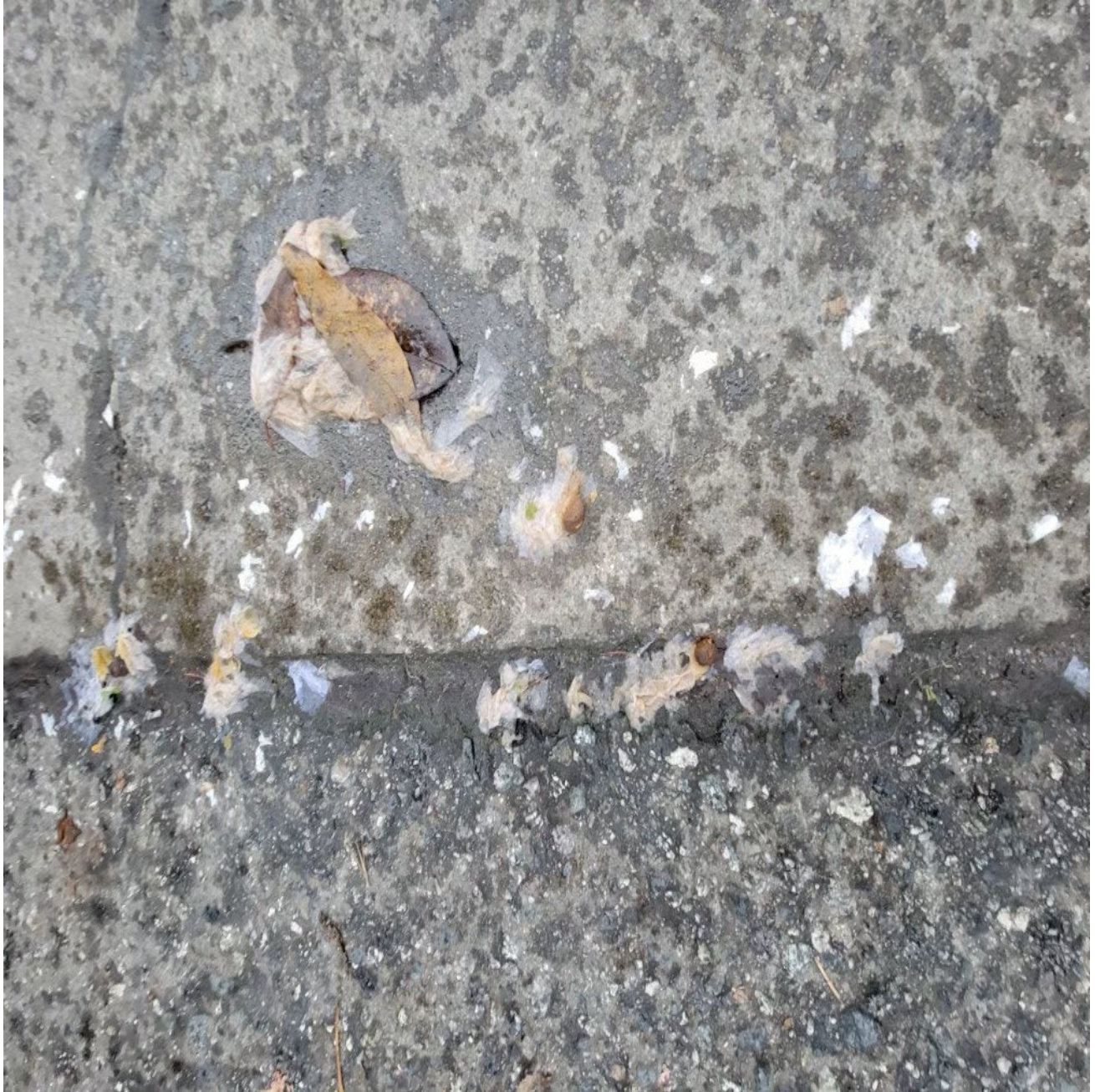
-Shows the overflow uncontained and reaching the storm with other remanence in tow.



When the sewer finally stopped its breach through the sewer manhole cover, the City's street was left with remanence. Measures for this type of clean-up consist of different water sources used in the protection of integrated water qualities such as unchlorinated water. This would mean a separate unchlorinated water reservoir delivered on site for clean-up purposes. (See Pic #5)

Picture #5

-Shows remanence of unremoved facies exposed to the public



Picture #6

-Shows that there was a possible dichlorination tablet or a solution unknown to the City that was used.



Picture #7

-Shows remanence of sewer substances



Picture #8

-Shows remanence of sewer solids



The next couple pictures show what a reporting form in detail would consist of.

Reporting Form Part -One

Appendix B1

WBSD CALL-OUT REPORT
 Weather: _____ Day of the Week: **S-M-T-W-TH-F-S** Take Picture(s)

1. Name of caller: _____ Phone Number: _____
 2. Address: _____ Cross Street: _____

3. Called out by: _____ at: _____ a.m. / p.m. Date: _____
 Arrival Time at site: _____ a.m./p.m. Date: _____
 Source Control called out at: _____ a.m. / p.m. Date: _____

4. Reported as: private c/o overflowing Overflowing manhole Back up in home

4A. Is there a mainline stoppage: YES NO
 5. Estimated GPM: _____ Flow Height in Inches: _____
 6. Were you able to retrieve the entire overflow? Yes No
 7. Was the overflow returned to sanitary sewer? Yes No Partial N/A
 8. Overflow saturated into soil? Yes (Est'd Volume _____) No N/A
 If yes to 6, 7 or 8 above did we clean up affected area? Yes No N/A

9. Overflow to: _____ Est. volume of SSO: _____
 Direct Inlet Est. volume Recovered: _____
 Section of Storm Drain line Est. volume Not Recovered: _____
 Drainage Ditch Lined Unlined
 Channel Lined Unlined
 Paved Surface Curb Gutter Lined Unlined
 Ultimate Destination _____ Est'd Volume: _____
 Line cleared at: _____ a.m. / p.m. Duration of overflow: _____
 Blockage caused by _____ Op(s). Performed _____

10. Is the overflow contained YES NO If yes, How & Where, _____

Clean up methods used: Vacuum/pump Hosed down & street swept Enzymes

11. Mainline: u/s _____ to d/s _____
 Overflowing manhole ID # _____ at _____

Method(s) used to estimate SSO Volume: San Diego Method Surface Area
 # SFR's U/S of Blockage SSCSC Method Soil Saturation

| 12. Staff | Unit | Time Called | T/A | Time Completed |
|-----------|-------|-------------|-------|----------------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

Reported by: _____ Date: _____
(Print Name)

13 **Affected Agency:** Town of Atherton Town of Portola Valley
 Menlo Park East Palo Alto Unincorporated San Mateo County
 Unincorporated Santa Clara County

Lucity# _____ eRes. eCom. Event I.D. # _____ Cert. # _____ Time: _____
 Category: 1 (Surface Water Impact Drainage Channel- MS4 not recovered) Implement Sampling Protocol
 Category: 2 (>1K gallons, fully recovered) Category: 3 (<1K gallons fully recovered)
Method used to determine start time of SSO? Reported time _____
 Interview with Customer Complete Form C4-Start Time Determination

Estimated Cost incurred: \$ _____

MD-506 (Rev.08/18/20)

Reporting Form Part-Two

Emergency Contact Phone List
FOR WSSO EMPLOYEES REFER TO PHONE LIST

| Time | Contact | Business # | Fax # | Pager-Cell | Home # |
|------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------|
| 1) | Jed Beyer | 650-321-0384 | 650-321-4265 | 650-477-6428 | |
| 2) | Rupert Sandoval | " | " | 650-477-6427 | |
| 3) | Albert Patino | " | " | 650-477-6426 | |
| 4) | Quinten Green | " | " | 650-422-0293 | |
| 5) | Sergio Ramirez | " | " | 650-477-9885 | |
| 6) | Bobby Hulsmann | " | " | 650-477-6413 | |
| 7) | Bob Scheidt | " | " | 650-477-6416 | |
| 8) | Heath Cortez | " | " | 650-477-6386 | |

Category-1 Reporting Requirements Within 2-HOURS

Cal-OES, (Name) _____ 1-800-852-7550
 Cal-OES Control # _____
 Affected Town or City _____ Representative Name: _____
 Town of Atherton _____ 650-752-0532
 Howard Young, Town of Portola Valley _____ 650-851-1700
 City of Menlo Park Engineering _____ 650-330-6740

Submit Draft Report to CIWQS within 3 Business days of SSO for Category 1 & 2 SSO Events, Certify report within 15 days of SSO end date.

For spills greater than 50,000 gallons, implement Sampling Protocol, Start SSO technical Report. Refer to Reference R1 page 5 located in OERP at Appendix A8. Update Cal-OES if the spill estimate and known impacts have substantially changed.

Category 3 spills certify report within 30 calendar days of the end of the month in which SSO occurred

Residential Back Ups & Claims
 Carl Warren & Co. (Alan Dialon) MT25-502-6701 Emergency 855-763-5898
 RMC 1-800-400-5058 PM-Rich 1-510-856-7137

Outside Agency Contact
 June Wong, Public Health Lab Ofc 650-573-2500 Cell 650-339-2322
 Menlo Park Police Dept. 650-330-6300
 Menlo Park Code Enforcement 650-330-6377 PGR 650-496-8562
 Phelipe Cohen, Searsville Lake 650-851-6814 C 650-274-3782
 SM Haz-Mat 911
 MP Public Works (Call MPPD Dispatch) 650-330-6317
 Greg Smith, SMCEHD W650-599-1679C650-867-9434

Attach Completed Post Spill Assessment Form & Documents _____
 Reports to O/S Agencies _____ Picture(s) Taken _____ Public Notification _____ On-going investigation _____
 SSO Technical Report Completed on _____
 Signs Posted, Locations: _____
 Sampling Protocol Implemented _____

Comments _____

MD-506 (Rev 08/18/20)

In conclusion, after a sewer overflow, and in addition to immediate CIWQS reporting, there was no cleaning protocol that was initiated. When following a cleaning protocol there should not be any remanence/evidence that an overflow occurred and is considered a (CWEA) California Water Environment Association standard operation and service to the community that it serves.

Kevin L.
Engineering Division
Public Works Inspector
Public Works Supervisor