

Valley Water
Board of Directors

June 23, 2020

SUBJECT: Hearing on Coyote Creek Flood Protection Project—Agenda Item 2.7

Dear Board of Directors:

Thank you for holding community meetings on this Project, most of which I attended. I reside on Arroyo Way in San Jose, located in Reach 7 of this Project on Coyote Creek. My property is not directly affected by the Project but is across the street. However, all four of my neighbors on the creek side of our block now face being bought out or having their homes elevated.

After the 6/17 meeting I learned that one of my neighbors, Grace Pugh, had an idea that appears to address concerns about safety in the Coyote Creek floodplain while Anderson Dam is being re-built. She emailed it to Mr. Villareal and Ms. Villalobos-Galindo on 6/18, and I copied it below.

In essence Grace suggested that Valley Water place the funds you were going to use to purchase or elevate 10 properties in Reach 7 in an account and then wait and see if there is damage or destruction from flooding. Should this occur these homeowners would be compensated. But if their homes are intact by the time the re-built dam is filled, then the problem should be solved. You get to keep your money and creek dwellers remain in their un-altered homes. This would be a win-win, and is worth exploring even if it means a brief continuance of today's hearing.

In the event that the Board decides between only the two Preferred Alternatives, Plans 7 & 10, I strongly request the Board to select Plan 10 which, as I understand it, gives Valley Water the option of acquiring or elevating each property. That said, in fairness to my neighbors and the other homeowners in Reach 7, I think their wishes as to acquisition or elevation should be honored.

Our Naglee Park neighborhood is historic and many residents have made it home for multiple decades. After more than 29 years on Arroyo Way I can attest to the closeness of our particular block. I urge the Board to not disrupt or displace my neighbors.

I appreciate all the effort that has gone into communicating with us and your consideration of my request.

Respectfully,

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(attachment follows)