

# **CORRESPONDENCE**

**04/29/2019**

**Item 14**

## Jomsky, Mark

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**From:** Masuda, Gene  
**Sent:** Monday, April 22, 2019 8:00 PM  
**To:** Tornek, Terry  
**Cc:** Victor Gordo; Jomsky, Mark; Mermell, Steve; Bagneris, Michele; De La Cuba, Vannia; Sullivan, Noreen  
**Subject:** Request to Agendize the Pasadena Gateway, LLC Project Toxic Substance Remediation Plan for Monday, April 29, 2019

April 22, 2019

Honorable Terry Tornek  
City of Pasadena  
100 N. Garfield Avenue  
Pasadena, California 91101

Re: Request to Agendize Pasadena Gateway, LLC Project Toxic Substance Remediation Plan for Monday, April 29, 2019

Mayor,

We write to you to request that the Pasadena Gateway, LLC clean-up project be placed on the upcoming, Monday, April 29, 2019, City Council Agenda for discussion and action.

Significant concerns have been raised that require a full discussion by the City Council, including the following:

1. Is the proposed testing sufficient to ensure identification of all chemicals and agents at the site that may pose a danger to the public?
2. Is the remediation plan currently contemplated by the developer, Trammell Crow, sufficient to ensure the site is safe and the water table is not affected?
3. We believe the City has a legal responsibility and duty to analyze the current CEQA and RAW findings in order to ensure their accuracy and integrity.
4. We believe the City has a duty to demand the developer meet its obligation to adhere to the safety and remediation efforts the City Council expected when it approved the project in July 2018.

The City Council contemplated a safe and fully remediated site. We need to assure ourselves and the residents of Pasadena that is what will be achieved at 3200 E. Foothill Blvd. Only a transparent and public process will provide that assurance.

Please take action and agendize this matter to ensure this transparent, public process will occur.

Sincerely,

Councilmember Gene Masuda      Councilmember Victor M. Gordo



**Gene Masuda**

Pasadena Councilmember, District 4

City of Pasadena

(626) 744-4740 [gmasuda@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:gmasuda@cityofpasadena.net)

## Robles, Sandra

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**Subject:** FW: GPAHG's comments from 7/16/18 still stand re: toxins to be cleaned at the Space Bank site

**From:** Jill Shook <[Jill@makinghousinghappen.com](mailto:Jill@makinghousinghappen.com)>

**Date:** April 15, 2019 at 6:26:15 PM PDT

**To:** "Jomsky, Mark" <[mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net)>, "Madison, Steve" <[smadison@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:smadison@cityofpasadena.net)>, "Hampton, Tyron" <[THampton@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:THampton@cityofpasadena.net)>, "Morales, Margo" <[mlmorales@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:mlmorales@cityofpasadena.net)>, 'Andy Wilson' <[andy@wilsonforcitycouncil.com](mailto:andy@wilsonforcitycouncil.com)>, "Masuda, Gene" <[gmasuda@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:gmasuda@cityofpasadena.net)>, "Tornek, Terry" <[ttornek@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:ttornek@cityofpasadena.net)>, "Gordo, Victor" <[vgordo@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:vgordo@cityofpasadena.net)>, "Kennedy, John" <[JohnJKennedy@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:JohnJKennedy@cityofpasadena.net)>, "interfaithquaker@aol.com" <[interfaithquaker@aol.com](mailto:interfaithquaker@aol.com)>, 'Michelle White' <[affhsgservices@sbcglobal.net](mailto:affhsgservices@sbcglobal.net)>, Ed Washatka <[ed.washatka@gmail.com](mailto:ed.washatka@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** re: GPAHG's comments from 7/16/18 still stand re: toxins to be cleaned at the Space Bank site

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Dear City Council,

I was pleased that the discussion re: the Space Bank project has been revisited. I spent hours researching this with a former environmental scientist from JPL. We found some very telling facts that you need to be reminded of.. thanks for taking the time to again read the comments that I shared with you on 7/16/18:

As much as I love this project and would be thrilled to see 69 affordable units, and a village like walkable area, it is not enough units. Holly Steet Apt and Westgate did 20%. Larger developments should set aside more affordable units and density bonuses units should counted on top of the inclusionary units. But this is not my main concern.

I feel strongly that it is premature to approve any change of zoning until a full EIR is complete and all the soil is thoroughly tested as well as remediated—which may take years. From the 1940s to 1974—almost 50 years-- this site was the NOTS—Naval Ordnance Test Station. In some reports it is called the Naval Ordnance Torpedo Station which tested torpedoes underground and in a large underground tank filled with water. Due to years of underground exploded ordnance for a period of almost 50 years in Pasadena's history, we must go beyond the more limited streamlined Environmental Assessment (SCEA) and have a full blown EIR before it is rezoned for housing. There are several things that need to be a more though report:

1. When the same chemicals found on this site as those around JPL were declared a superfund site it has taken years and loads of money to remediate... we need full disclosure of the cost to do a thorough clean up

before it is too quickly rezoned. Thankfully at JPL the areas were not rezoned with housing built on it so the remediation can take place.

2. We need to know who will be paying for the cleanup. Trammel Crow said they would do this, but they also have indicated that they would work with the Navy on this. If this is the case, we need to have a commitment in writing by them that they will do so.
3. Also, who will be doing the soil testing? Trammel Crow has built a partnership with Tetra Tech, under their new TETRA Land & Asset Services. This company is only a few blocks from the Foothill site and so it would be a logical choice to do the soil testing. It has been known to cut corners on testing, switching soil samples from very toxic site with less toxic sites in order to minimize the extent of the contamination. I have an article I have submitted that shows how Tetra Tech did this in San Francisco, with a toxic naval site that was contaminated also from the 40s to 1974. In this area people have had a much higher rate of cancers. It feels very like a conflict of interest for a company to be involved in real estate development and also in soil testing. See: <https://sf.curbed.com/2018/1/26/16916742/hunters-point-shipyard-toxic-cleanup>

I love the idea of turning swords into plowshares—of taking what was an instrument of killing and destruction and making it into homes and community. This plan can be a beautiful addition to Pasadena and produce significant housing and affordable units that are sorely needed. But before approval, it needs a more upfront and clear plan showing the full extent of the damaged soil, how it will be remediated, who will do it and how it will be paid for. It must clearly spell out how the extend of the underground plums and vaper seepage and more will be fully remediated and double checked with a company that is not in partnership with Trammel Crow to do real estate development.

Thank your for again considering our research and comments. *Jill Shook*

Jill Shook, Missions Door, Catalyst <http://www.missionsdoor.org/missionaries/shook-jill>

Doctor of Ministry, Bakke Graduate School

Blog: [makinghousinghappen.net](http://makinghousinghappen.net) Website: [makinghousinghappen.com](http://makinghousinghappen.com)

Author/Editor: *Making Housing Happen: Faith Based Affordable Housing Models*

Jill@ [makinghousinghappen.com](mailto:makinghousinghappen.com) Phone: [626\) 675-1316](tel:626-675-1316)

FRANK DUERR

APR 22 2019 11:29AM  
CITY CLERK

P.O. Box 52  
South Pasadena  
California 91031  
626-840-9166  
fduerr@gmail.com

April 22, 2019

Mayor Tornek, City of Pasadena  
100 North Garfield Ave.  
Pasadena, CA. 91109

Re: Request to place the 3200 E. Foothill Blvd Pasadena Gateway on the April 29 Council agenda.

Mr. Jomsky, please distribute to Council members and add to the public record.

Honorable Mayor Tornek,  
I am writing in support of Councilmember Gordo and Councilmember Masuda that the 3200 E. Foothill Blvd Pasadena Gateway project be placed on the City Council agenda for the April 29 meeting.

The residents of east Pasadena have serious concerns about the 3200 E. Foothill Blvd project. There are substantive questions on public safety and the proposed site remediation. There are far too many disputed claims by an environmental scientist and the state's DTSC. Most critical is the DTSC's own statement that the site is an "imminent and substantial" danger<sup>1</sup>. Furthermore, the developer obtained an agreement from the State that gives them liability protection for site toxins and the right to use land-use controls at the site, instead of doing full cleanup<sup>2</sup>.

Because the public comment period is unacceptable and dismissive of our City and the City cannot be equally dismissive. The residents of Pasadena deserve assurance from the City Council that the site is safe to develop and inhabit. April 29 Council meeting is important because unless we hear differently and formally from DTSC the deadline is April 30, 2019.

Thank you,  
Frank J. Duerr  
Resident of Pasadena

1. Kennedy/Jenks, ES, pp. 4, 8.  
[https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/deliverable\\_documents/4649860978/Environmental%20Summary%20Report%20Jenks%20May%2022%202007%20.pdf](https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/deliverable_documents/4649860978/Environmental%20Summary%20Report%20Jenks%20May%2022%202007%20.pdf)  
2. [https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/deliverabledocuments/534094\\_0713/Executed%20Amendment%20to%20PP\\_A12.2017.pdf](https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/deliverabledocuments/534094_0713/Executed%20Amendment%20to%20PP_A12.2017.pdf)

## Jomsky, Mark

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**From:** cityclerk  
**Sent:** Monday, April 22, 2019 11:41 AM  
**To:** Flores, Valerie; Iraheta, Alba; Jomsky, Mark; Martinez, Ruben; Novelo, Lilia; Reese, Latasha; Robles, Sandra  
**Subject:** FW: URGENT: Please Agendize Pasadena's Toxic Waste Site for 4/29 Pasadena Council Meeting

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**From:** Mellem, Araceli  
**Sent:** Monday, April 22, 2019 11:41:21 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** cityclerk  
**Subject:** FW: URGENT: Please Agendize Pasadena's Toxic Waste Site for 4/29 Pasadena Council Meeting

Forwarding per Ms. Kakoussian's request.

Thank you,



Araceli López Mellem  
Office of the Mayor & City Council  
626.744.4111  
[Join the Mayor's Mailing List](#)

**From:** Maro Kakoussian [mailto:mkakoussian@psr-la.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 22, 2019 11:40 AM  
**To:** Mellem, Araceli <AMellem@cityofpasadena.net>  
**Subject:** URGENT: Please Agendize Pasadena's Toxic Waste Site for 4/29 Pasadena Council Meeting

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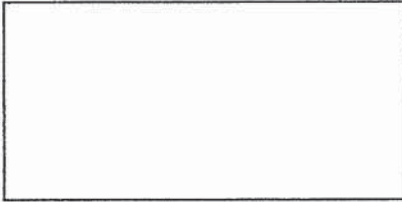
Hi, my name is Maro Kakoussian and I'm a Pasadena resident. I'm concerned about Pasadena Gateways's toxic waste site located at 3200 E. Foothill Blvd. I'm urging Mayor Terry Tornek put Pasadena Gateway Cleanup on the agenda for Pasadena City Council meeting on Mon. April 29, 2019.

Why: The developers, Pasadena Gateway, LLC, is scheduled to break ground on May 1, 2019. The project at this site aims to build 550 apartments (40% 2BR and 3BR), which can be expected to house thousands of children and families over its lifetime. Across the street from this project is a Pasadena City College campus, and next door is a Kaiser Permanente Medical Facility.

Best,  
Maro Kakoussian  
495 Santa Paula Ave  
Pasadena, CA 91107

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**Maro Kakoussian**  
Air & Climate Justice Associate  
**Physicians for Social Responsibility**  
**-LA**



[Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

**O:**  
213-689-9170 ext. 106  
617 South Olive St, Suite 1100  
Los Angeles, CA 90014



## Jomsky, Mark

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**From:** Kristin Shrader-Frechette <kshrader@nd.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 22, 2019 1:33 PM  
**To:** Tornek, Terry; Mermell, Steve; Masuda, Gene; Gordo, Victor; Jomsky, Mark; Kristin Shrader-Frechette; Maurice Shrader-Frechette  
**Subject:** PLEASE AGENDIZE SPACE-BANK SAFETY FOR 4-29-19 COUNCIL MEETING, PER MASUDA-GORDO REQUEST

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4-22-19

Mayor Tornek, City of Pasadena  
100 North Garfield Ave.  
Pasadena, CA. 91109

Re: Request to place the 3200 E. Foothill Blvd Pasadena Gateway on the April 29 Council agenda.

Mr. Jomsky, please distribute to Council members and add to the public record.

Dear Mayor Tornek,

We are writing in support of Councilmember Gordo's and Councilmember Masuda's proposal to you that the 3200 E. Foothill Blvd, Pasadena Gateway Project, be placed on the City Council agenda for the April 29 meeting. We are an environmental scientist (Kristin) and a mathematician and software designer (Maurice) and live in Pasadena.

The residents of east Pasadena have serious concerns about the 3200 E. Foothill Blvd project for three main reasons. First, although the developer promised the city repeatedly that he would do a "thorough and full cleanup of site contaminants"----where hundreds of children and families will live--- the documents released last month by California Toxic Substances control reveal that the site was never, and will never be, tested for RDX and TNT (explosives and propellants that are carcinogens and neurotoxins) which were used in 71% of weapons manufactured and tested onsite.

Second, the site also will never be tested for perfluroalkyls (flame retardants that are carcinogens, neurotoxins, and developmental toxins) which have been used at virtually all military sites since the 1960s.

Third we are concerned because these recently released documents reveal that the developer may have misled the city and its residents about site cleanup and safety. Although Trammell Crow repeatedly promised a "thorough and full cleanup of site contaminants," the documents released last month show, on the contrary, that

1. The developer is being allowed to use land-use controls and not do full cleanup.
2. The main reason the developer says he is doing only partial, rather than full, cleanup of this site---called by California Toxic Substances Control "an imminent and substantial" danger---is that he says partial cleanup costs \$1-2 million less than full cleanup of the site.

3. Because the developer admits he will leave most site carcinogens “in place,” he admits that it is “unknown” whether they “will continue to present” health threats to site residents.
4. Because the developer admits that he will doing testing/cleanup AFTER site construction, he says site residents could be exposed to cancer risks “for more than a year” until he cleans them up.
5. The developer signed an agreement with the state to give him protection from liability for site toxins, in exchange for doing only partial cleanup. We don’t believe that a billion-dollar corporation who cleans up a toxic site should have liability protection, unless citizens have similar protections against the effects oif site toxins.
6. The site has had no groundwater testing, not even testing of all suspected “hotspots.” ne-third of chemical drain locations onsite have never been tested, and site “sources” of chemical contaminants have not been fully located. We don’t believe 550 residences should be built on a site that has not been fully tested.
7. When the state pressed the developer for “evidence” that site carcinogens, “left in place [because of his only-partial cleanup]...will not be a future threat” to residents’ safety, the developer said that providing such safety evidence “is outside the...obligations of Pasadena Gateway.”

Thanks for whatever you can do to ensure that our community is protected, For decades we have seen toxic-waste tragedies, and we should not allow one to happen here in Pasadena because of inadequate site testing and cleanup.

Best,  
Kristin Shrader-Frechette, PhD  
Maurice Shrader-Frechette, PhD  
3690 Mayfair Drive  
Pasadena, CA

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current contact information:

Director, Center for Environmental Justice and Children’s Health  
PO Box 227335  
Los Angeles, CA 90022  
Email [kshrader@nd.edu](mailto:kshrader@nd.edu), Website <https://www3.nd.edu/~kshrader/>

alternate contact information:

Kristin Shrader-Frechette, Ph.D., O’Neill Family Endowed Professor  
Department of Philosophy and Department of Biological Sciences  
University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN 46556

April 24, 2019

Tina Fredericks  
3576 Milton  
Pasadena, CA 91107  
[tina.k.fredericks@gmail.com](mailto:tina.k.fredericks@gmail.com)  
(415) 572-3483

APR 24 10:20AM  
CITY CLERK

The Honorable Terry Tornek  
Mayor of Pasadena

**RE: PUT SPACE-BANK CLEANUP ON ACTION AGENDA FOR 4-29-19 CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Dear Mayor Tornek,

I live in Pasadena with my husband and two young children in East Pasadena. Our children attend Pasadena Unified School District schools. I work at Green Dot in Pasadena. I'm a very involved parent at my children's schools and have served on PTA Board for several years. I'm an active member of the community, working on issues such as healthcare, education, affordable housing, and civic engagement. I've recently become aware of Pasadena City Council approving a 550 unit housing development, where hundreds of children would live, to be built on a toxic site without the requirement of a full site cleanup.

Of 20 site studies, all 20 are incomplete, 3 are potentially fraudulent, & 17 fail to pass US EPA data-validation (anti-fraud) tests. 3 site studies were done by contractors who were fined nearly \$ 1 billion---for repeated fraud at other US toxic-site cleanups. The developer of the housing project says carcinogens, which have no safe dose, will be "left in place," as full cleanup would be "costly and time-intensive." Site assessments say site cancer risks are up to 8,300 times above what regulations allow. Full site clean up would cost \$1-2 million more than a partial clean up. There is no cost too high when lives, especially children's lives, are at stake. For more information, refer to this document: <https://tinyurl.com/yxl8mtmb/>

At the time that this letter was sent, 113 Pasadena residents and community members who have loved ones near the toxic site, signed the Petition to Protect Families' Health and Environment. It asks Mayor Tornek and Pasadena City Council members to call and email Dr. Meredith Williams, director of CA Dept Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) [Meredith.Williams@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Meredith.Williams@dtsc.ca.gov) (916) 322-0504 urging her to re-open the CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) proceedings - that is, open re-assessment the site--- immediately, because of 3 pieces of new information:

- (a) the site was not tested for neurotoxic and carcinogenic RDX and TNT, used in 71% of weapons manufactured onsite
- (b) the site was not tested for neurotoxic and carcinogenic perfluoroalkyls---fire-suppressants used on essentially all military sites; and
- (c) the developer misled the city about safe cleanup.

I hope you take our request into serious consideration.

Sincerely,  
Tina Fredericks  
Pasadena resident, PTA Board member

Petition to Protect Families' Health and Environment (signers listed on next page)

Signers as of 4/24/19 8:00am

Maro Kakoussian	Jeanette Mann, former Trustee PCC	DRS. MAURICE AND KRISTIN
Julie McKune	Melissa Michelson	SHRADER-FRECHETTE
Kenneth Rotter	Lori Gunnell	Paula Shatsky
Anita Ghazarian	Todd A. Brewer	Leah Creter
Chris Barragan	Lance Yamamoto	Daniel plom
Denise Robb	Kevin Wheeler, Pasadena resident /	Valinda Lee
Ellen Finkelparl	voter	Gregory P Beach
Tina Fredericks	Mojgan Ghaemmaghami	Laura Godio
Jenifer Marchain	Shannon Kearns	Marisela Figueroa
Deborah Fath	Robert Bilheimer	Stanley J Baden
Una Lee Jost	Jacquilyne Brooks de Camarillo	Eileen Snyder
Leticia Chino Vargas	Lillian DeGroof	Barbara
Rosalie Schneider	Karen Rowinsky	Monica Muniz
Darrell Park	Todd Jones	Steven Williams
James Farr	Anusha Iyengar	Mika Sawada
Steven Gibson	Taliba Carr	Richard Abdelkerim
Seth Jose Gerdine	Sarah Cole	Lena Bayrakdarian
Tamika Farr	Stephanie Schoen	Nick Bayrakdarian
Andrea Lopez	Christine Johnson	Rick Jordan
Renee Rubin	Tanya Reader	Polina Hristova
Nicholas m. Benson P H D	Nancy Shiffman	Rodolfo E. Garnica
Major Williams	Nancy Staack	Roman C.
Linda Krausen	Kristin Rooney	Linda Perez
Mark Abrams	Anna Walker	Ani Kakoussian
Jessica Claire	Matthew Vasko	Areck Kakoussian
Sheila Sofian	Nora Sarkissian	Ani Kakoussian
Tom Bliss	Al Orjuela	Nancy Monk
Ian James	Christian Orjuela	Victoria Ortiz
Michele Pedrini	Geralyn Yparraguirre-Ong	Erica G. Sorell
Connie Hall Luder	Chris Carlson	Brady Hunt
Cynthia Liu	Genevieve Garcia Montoya	Alicia Romero
Tamiya Cousins	Lucie Sarkissian	Professor Elena Miranda
Teresa Bailey	Jamie Renee Colboth-MacLeod	Madeleine Kang
Danny Alonzo	Lusine Babayan	Stephanie Lopez
Yurica Yamaguchi	Ekaterina Savchenkova	Lisa Lampman
Katherine Winslow	Susan E Pankow	Nicholas Hatch
Kiara Lee	Joe Salas	David Martinez
Patricia Bellali	Kristin Shrader-Frechette	Gary Smith
Alex Montes	Joshua Schwartz	

## Jomsky, Mark

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**From:** Jeanette Mann <jeanette.mann2014@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 24, 2019 8:35 AM  
**To:** Tornek, Terry; Mermell, Steve; Masuda, Gene; Gordo, Victor  
**Cc:** Jomsky, Mark  
**Subject:** Place Councilmembers Gordo and Masuda Request that the 3200 E. Foothill Blvd. Pasadena Gateway project on the City Council Agenda for the April 29 Meeting as an Action Item

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Re: Request: Mr. Jomsky, please distribute to Council members and add to the public record.

Dear Mayor Tornek,

I am writing in support of the request from Councilmember Gordo and Councilmember Masuda that the 3200 E. Foothill Blvd Pasadena Gateway project be placed on the City Council agenda for the April 29 meeting as an action item.

The residents of east Pasadena have serious concerns about the 3200 E. Foothill Blvd project. There are substantive questions of public safety and the proposed site remediation. There are far too many disputed claims by an environmental scientist and the state's DTSC. Most critical is the DTSC's own statement that the site is an "imminent and substantial" danger<sup>1</sup>. Furthermore, the developer obtained an agreement from the State that gives them liability protection for site toxins.<sup>2</sup>

The state's DTSC public comment period is unacceptable and dismissive of our City; the City cannot be equally dismissive. The residents of Pasadena deserve assurance from the City Council that the site is safe to develop and inhabit. Placing this matter as an action item on the April 29 Council meeting is critical because, unless we hear differently and formally from DTSC, the deadline is April 30, 2019.

Thank you,

1. Kennedy/Jenks, ES, pp. 4,

8. [https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/deliverable\\_documents/4649860978/Environmental%20Summary%20Report%20Jenks%20May%2022%202007%20.pdf](https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/deliverable_documents/4649860978/Environmental%20Summary%20Report%20Jenks%20May%2022%202007%20.pdf)

2. [https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/deliverabledocuments/5340940713/Executed%20Amendment%20to%20PP\\_A12.2017.pdf](https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/deliverabledocuments/5340940713/Executed%20Amendment%20to%20PP_A12.2017.pdf)

## Jomsky, Mark

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**From:** Ellie Podway <kruznk9@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 25, 2019 11:30 AM  
**To:** Tornek, Terry; McAustin, Margaret; Kennedy, John; Masuda, Gene; Gordo, Victor; Madison, Steve; Wilson, Andy; Bell, Cushon; Jomsky, Mark  
**Subject:** Space Bank Site  
**Importance:** High

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Dear Councilman and Councilwoman,

We live in Daisy Villa and are greatly concerned about the Space Bank Project. The credibility and validity of a thorough clean up is our priority.

We are requesting you place this issue on your agenda for April 29th.

And we are requesting that you place a hold on any development of this site until credible scientific information can be presented to Council to make an educated and informed decision.

If you ask yourselves , would you want to live there or members of your family living there or friends living there? Simply ask yourselves that ..... Not complex analysis needed . Yes or No? Would like to hear from you what your thoughts are on that one question. We live in a community .... Its a community of humanity ... lets make a decision that takes everyone into account.

Marty and Ellie Podway