

Maria Vargas

From: Carisa Duran
Sent: Wednesday, April 05, 2017 8:20 PM
To: Colt Esenwein
Subject: Fwd: Native American /Archaeologic Observers & Soil Remediation Needed for Aptos Village Traffic Improvement Project

FYI

----- Original message -----

From: Becky Steinbruner <ki6tkb@yahoo.com>
Date: 4/5/17 6:59 PM (GMT-08:00)
To: Zach Friend <Zach.Friend@santacruzcounty.us>, John Presleigh <John.Presleigh@santacruzcounty.us>, Jack Sohriakoff <Jack.Sohriakoff@santacruzcounty.us>, Richard Simmer <Richard@jmadonna.com>
Cc: Erik Chalhoub <echalhoub@register-pajaronian.com>, Tarmo Hannula <thannula@register-pajaronian.com>, Todd Guild <tguild@register-pajaronian.com>, Gomez Phil <pgomez@hearst.com>, Debra Monroe <debra.monroe@kion546.com>, Carisa Duran <Carisa.Duran@santacruzcounty.us>, Mark Christensen <Mark.Christensen@santacruzcounty.us>, John Gerbrandt <John.Gerbrandt@santacruzcounty.us>, Annie Murphy <Annie.Murphy@santacruzcounty.us>, Wanda Williams <Wanda.Williams@santacruzcounty.us>, Annmarie Sayers <annmarie_sayers@indiancanyonvillage.org>, "Woodward Lucinda@Parks" <Lucinda.Woodward@parks.ca.gov>, "Lauchner Shannon@Parks" <Shannon.Lauchner@parks.ca.gov>, Jaime Loichinger <jloichinger@achp.gov>, Clinton Blount <CBlount@albionenvironmental.com>, Rae Schwaderer <raeschwaderer@gmail.com>, Bill Anderson <bill@fedshra.org>, "L. David Nefouse" <L.David.Nefouse@santacruzcounty.us>, Becky Steinbruner <ki6tkb@yahoo.com>
Subject: Re: Native American /Archaeologic Observers & Soil Remediation Needed for Aptos Village Traffic Improvement Project

Greetings, All,

Today, I met at the Aptos Village Phase I Traffic Project construction site with Mr. Christensen and Ms. Duran to discuss the issue of having a Native American observer and qualified archaeological observer at the excavation site. They stated that there is no requirement for such an observer to be present during excavations unless there is a significant archaeological artifact found intact in the project site. When I asked who would determine whether anything of historic significance is found during excavation, they stated that the contractor's equipment operator would be responsible.

I asked Mr. Simmer if his equipment operator is trained to recognized artifacts of historic and pre-historic value? He replied "No, not for on this project." I returned to Ms. Duran and Mr. Christensen to ask if they were trained to observe and recognize historically-significant artifacts during this excavation work. Mr. Christensen said he would monitor the work when present.

This afternoon, while Mr. Christensen, Ms. Duran and Mr. Simmer were talking near their trucks on Aptos Street, the equipment operator saw something shining in the disturbed earth. He called to the co-worker standing nearby to investigate. The co-worker found a small clear glass bottle, looked at it, and threw it back in front of the excavator. I called out not to throw it back in, that it could be a significant artifact. "Do you want it?" the man asked.

At that point, Mr. Christensen ran over and retrieved the bottle. I explained that a local resident told me that when buildings across Soquel Drive were constructed in the late 1990's, construction workers found all sorts of Chinese cultural artifacts...opium bottles, etc. I asked Mr. Christensen if he would make a note of the finding? "No." he said.

At the end of the work day, I asked Mr. Christensen if he intended to research the bottle's significance? "No" he said. I asked if I could take it to my neighbor, Mr. Sandy Lydon, to look at. He gave it to me.

*****I later determined, with research, that the botte found today in the excavation is of 1800's vintage. I therefore insist that from this point forward, there be Native American and qualified archaeological observers present at all excavation.

Please respond.

Sincerely,
Becky Steinbruner

On Tue, 4/4/17, Becky Steinbruner <ki6tkb@yahoo.com> wrote:

Subject: Re: Native American /Archaeologic Observers & Soil Remediation Needed for Aptos Village Traffic Improvement Project
To: "Zach Friend" <Zach.Friend@santacruzcounty.us>, "John Presleigh" <John.Presleigh@santacruzcounty.us>, "Jack Sohriakoff" <Jack.Sohriakoff@santacruzcounty.us>, "Richard Simmer" <Richard@jmadonna.com>, "Becky Steinbruner" <ki6tkb@yahoo.com>
Cc: "Erik Chalhoub" <echalhoub@register-pajaronian.com>, "Tarmo Hannula" <thannula@register-pajaronian.com>, "Todd Guild" <tguild@register-pajaronian.com>, "Gomez Phil" <pgomez@hearst.com>, "Debra Monroe" <debra.monroe@kion546.com>, "Carisa Duran" <Carisa.Duran@santacruzcounty.us>, "Mark Christensen" <Mark.Christensen@santacruzcounty.us>, "John Gerbrandt" <John.Gerbrandt@santacruzcounty.us>, "Annie Murphy" <Annie.Murphy@santacruzcounty.us>, "Wanda Williams" <Wanda.Williams@santacruzcounty.us>, "Anmarie Sayers" <anmarie_sayers@indiancanyonvillage.org>, "Woodward Lucinda@Parks" <Lucinda.Woodward@parks.ca.gov>, "Lauchner Shannon@Parks" <Shannon.Lauchner@parks.ca.gov>, "Jaime Loichinger" <jloichinger@achp.gov>, "Clinton Blount" <CBlount@albionenvironmental.com>, "Rae Schwaderer" <raeschwaderer@gmail.com>, "Bill Anderson" <bill@fedshra.org>, "David Nefouse" <David.Nefouse@santacruzcounty.us>, "Becky Steinbruner" <ki6tkb@yahoo.com>
Date: Tuesday, April 4, 2017, 5:02 PM

Greetings, All,

I have received no replies from anyone regarding the significance of the excavation areas planned for the Aptos Village Phase I Traffic Improvement Project. I spoke with Mr. Richard Simmer, construction foreman, this afternoon. He stated that he intends to have his crew begin excavation in earnest for the new bus bay tomorrow.

Let me repeat that this soil was brought to the location by Chinese laborers in the 1880's. The origin of the soil is unknown, but potentially has significant historic and possibly pre-historic artifacts buried within.

Does the County intend to have a Native American observer and qualified archaeological observer at the excavation site tomorrow? The County websites claim that preserving historic and cultural resources is important to local government land use policies. Private landowners are all required to do archaeological assessments before building on sites known to contain historic and pre-historic significance. Will the County abide by it's own Code requirements?

Please require a Native American observer and qualified archaeological observer to be actively overseeing any and all excavation in the Aptos Village Phase I and Phase II Traffic Improvement Projects.

I am also registering a protest against the bus bay design. Last week, it was pointed out by a Metro official that the bay will not be wide enough to accommodate a bus getting out of the lane of traffic when making a stop. This will create hazardous conditions for Metro bus drivers, passengers, as well as motorists and cyclists trying to navigate the area with limited line-of-sight visibility. If the bus is stopped, it

will essentially create a traffic block, but motorists who see a green light at the traffic signal will most likely still attempt to pass the stopped bus. Passengers who are placing their bicycles on the front of the bus will be placed in harm's way.

Please reconsider this design and make the bay wider to accommodate the full width of the bus or remove this portion of the improvements from the Phase I Project.

I realize that Mr. Aguirre from Metro approved this design, but all Route 71 Metro drivers have stated "it is an accident waiting to happen." Is Public Works willing to assume liability for these potential hazards?

Please acknowledge receipt of this message.

Sincerely,
Becky Steinbruner

On Tue, 3/28/17, Becky Steinbruner
<ki6tkb@yahoo.com>
wrote:

Subject: Native American /Archaeologic
Observers & Soil Remediation Needed for Aptos Village
Traffic Improvement Project
To: "Zach Friend" <Zach.Friend@santacruzcounty.us>,
"John Presleigh" <John.Presleigh@santacruzcounty.us>,
"Jack Sohriakoff" <Jack.Soahriakoff@santacruzcounty.us>,
"Richard Simmer" <Richard@jmadonna.com>
Cc: "Carisa Duran" <Carisa.Duran@santacruzcounty.us>,
"Mark Christensen" <Mark.Christensen@santacruzcounty.us>,
"John Gerbrandt" <John.Gerbrandt@santacruzcounty.us>,
"Annie Murphy" <Annie.Murphy@santacruzcounty.us>,
"Wanda Williams" <Wanda.Williams@antacruzcounty.us>,
"Annmarie Sayers" <annmarie_sayers@indiancanyonvillage.org>,
"Woodward Lucinda@Parks"
<Lucinda.Woodward@parks.ca.gov>,
"Lauchner Shannon@Parks"
<Shannon.Lauchner@parks.ca.gov>,
"Jaime Loichinger" <jloichinger@achp.gov>,
"Clinton Blount" <CBlount@albionenvironmental.com>,
"Rae Schwaderer" <raeschwaderer@gmail.com>,
"Bill Anderson" <bill@fedshra.org>,
"David Nefouse" <David.Nefouse@santacruzcounty.us>,
"Becky Steinbruner" <ki6tkb@yahoo.com>
Date: Tuesday, March 28, 2017, 11:36
PM

Dear Gentlemen,
I am writing to ask that you include
a
Native American observer and a
certified archaeological
observer to be present and actively
observing all railroad
bed and bus bay excavation work in the
Aptos Village Traffic

Improvement Project (Phase I and II). The need for this was borne out to me this evening during a discussion with a well-respected local historian about the history of the railroad in Aptos Village.

According to the historian, the railroad bed in this area has not been disturbed since 1882-1883, when Southern Pacific Railroad replaced the narrow gauge track with standard gauge track. He said that the areas east of the Trout Gulch Road intersection and west of the Aptos Creek Road intersection were brought up to level grade with fill from an unknown local source, with all of the work accomplished by Chinese laborers. He stated that, to his knowledge, these areas have not been disturbed since.

He further stated that there has never been an historic assessment conducted of the actual railroad bed. Albion's studies for the Aptos Village Project were confined to the Project area but did not include the railroad bed.

It is unknown where the fill material originated for the area to be excavated as part of the Phase I Aptos Village Traffic Improvement Project, which requires 200' of railroad track be removed and the railbed excavated to 31" deep. It is entirely possible that there are historically-significant artifacts buried in the soils within this work envelope.

When Soquel Creek Water District installed the new water distribution main last year in the Aptos Village Project, the District had three observers actively observing excavation at all times. Those observers told me there were significant historic and pre-historic artifacts found during the trenching

work. If the fill material for the railroad bed were taken from this area, there exists the very real possibility that there will be artifacts in the railroad bed excavation soils.

I respectfully ask that no excavation work for the railroad bed or the new westbound Metro bus bay be initiated until this issue is thoroughly discussed with Albion representatives, the County Historic Resources Commission, and Ms. Annmarie Sayers. I respectfully request that no excavation work in the railroad bed or the new westbound Metro bus bay proceed without a Native American observer and qualified archaeological observer actively observing all work and reporting to County Public Works staff.

Further, because the area in discussion is an old railroad bed, I ask that, once cleared by Native American observers and qualified archaeological observers, all excavated soils be sampled for contamination and properly disposed at a landfill certified for remediated soils. I do not feel that any of the soil excavated should be used as fill in the Aptos Village Project construction site or anywhere else, given the historic use of the railroad bed and the commonly-associated contaminants inherent.

I am writing you to bring these issues to your attention and ask that no further construction work proceed in these areas until discussed and properly accommodated. I have not read or heard discussion regarding these issues during any Department of Public Works meetings with the prospective contractors last October or in a recent community meeting or in any of the Project

documentation.

I ask this in consideration of
the
greater public health and safety and
for the preservation of
significant historic and cultural
resources for future
generations.

Please respond in writing to inform
me
of your decision and intended
actions.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,
Becky Steinbruner
831-685-2915

Maria Vargas

From: Colt Esenwein
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 4:20 PM
To: Paia Levine
Cc: Colt Esenwein
Subject: Re: phone message

Paia,

On the day that the bottle was found, Carisa looked up the bottle and found it here:

<https://www.glassbottlemarks.com/fletchers-castoria-pitchers-castoria/>

I then contacted an archaeologist that I have engaged in the past on other design and construction projects. Her name is Jenny Hildebrandt of Drake Haglan and Associates. I shared the link to the bottle and asked her if we needed to do anything.

She called the bottle an isolate because it was a single bottle and nothing else. She said that yes the bottle was old but it was not significant or considered a resource because it was an isolated find. She said that there were more items found at that location that it may have been a resource such as a historic trash pile which could have been significant. She also said that the find, in itself, did not necessitate full time monitoring.

I relayed this information to Carisa, told her to educate the inspectors on what to do in the future.

Hope this helps.

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 7, 2017, at 3:53 PM, Paia Levine <Paia.Levine@santacruzcounty.us> wrote:

Hi Colt...can you give me a call when you see this?
Thank you,
paia

Paia Levine
Principal Planner
Sustainability and Special Projects
County of Santa Cruz Planning Department

Maria Vargas

From: Steve Wiesner
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2017 11:03 AM
To: John Presleigh
Cc: Colt Esenwein; Marcela Tavantzis; Jack Sohriakoff
Subject: Fwd: Aptos Village

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Matt Johnston <Matt.Johnston@santacruzcounty.us>
Date: March 10, 2017 at 10:52:27 AM PST
To: Steve Wiesner <Steve.Wiesner@santacruzcounty.us>, Carisa Duran <Carisa.Duran@santacruzcounty.us>, Tim Nguyen <Tim.Nguyen@santacruzcounty.us>
Cc: Paia Levine <Paia.Levine@santacruzcounty.us>, Wanda Williams <Wanda.Williams@santacruzcounty.us>
Subject: Aptos Village

Hi Steve,

I just spoke with Tim about the up-coming start of DPW work at Aptos Village and I had a few recommendations regarding how to deal with the conflict around this project. As you know there have been concerned citizens who have been following the project closely, with multiple FOIA requests of both Planning and DPW, there have been citizen monitors and protesters at the site; as such, this project is under a microscope and it is imperative that all conditions and requirements are followed and documented.

With the presence on site of multiple contractors, inspectors and other staff, a strategy of how to interact with the public should be devised and should be consistent among all staff working on the project. A single contact from your department should be identified to be the point person to respond to any concerned citizen for any questions or document requests regarding this project; in our department to date it has been Wanda Williams. You should also identify someone on site to be the point who can receive written comments from those folks who have concerns or direct them to the department point. All other staff associated with the project should be directed to refer questions to the on-site staff during construction, and that staff should have the card of the department point person, so they can be directed to submit written comments to the point. All of this should be relayed at a pre-construction meeting and should be considered a training requirement, much like for dealing with endangered species, in that everyone who works on the project site should be familiar with the process for dealing with issues raised by the public at the site.

I would recommend also, due to the intense scrutiny this project has been under to date, that the inspectors and the onsite supervisors meet daily prior to work commencing to go over the day's activities and any conditions or requirements that might pertain to that work, and that these and all meetings be well documented.

These folks definitely have a right to be heard and to respectfully monitor the work to ensure compliance; having a plan to address the issues raised in advance will help keep your staff on task and will give the public a clear process to be heard. I'm happy to discuss this further with you when you return.

Matt Johnston
Environmental Coordinator

County of Santa Cruz
(831) 454-3201

Maria Vargas

From: Carisa Duran
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2017 11:50 AM
To: Colt Esenwein
Subject: FW: Aptos Village

FYI

Project is on track to begin 3/20/17. We can talk about this further at our Monday staff meeting.

Also, I am interested in seeing the letter Becky sent last related to this project and response returned.

Thanks. - Carisa

From: Matt Johnston
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2017 10:52 AM
To: Steve Wiesner; Carisa Duran; Tim Nguyen
Cc: Paia Levine; Wanda Williams
Subject: Aptos Village

Hi Steve,

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Matt Johnston
Environmental Coordinator
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