

RESPONSE: Hahamongna Watershed Park Multi Benefit Multi Use Project

Hugh Bowles

to mbmuproject, bbogaard, district1, mmcaustin, jmcintyre, nsullivan, vdelacuba, smadison, tornek, mbagneris, jacquerobinson, mbeck, Don, Laura, Christle, Leeona, Marietta, meb787, me, cholden

This e-mail is in response to the City of Pasadena's Initial Study for the Hahamongna Watershed Park Multi Benefit Multi Use project.

The attached .pdf file is a "Hahamongna Watch Report". The report questions the legitimacy of the City using the \$1MM grant from the State of California to construct a soccer field in Hahamongna. The grant requirements stipulate that the money must be spent in an urban area with "high youth crime and unemployment". The City's grant request states it will bring soccer to "one of the last remaining natural areas in the region". The Report compares the grant requirements under the 2002 Resources Bond Act with the City's grant application.

As an addendum to the Report, I would like to add that I have spoken to a coach at the Villa Parke Soccer League -- one of the key beneficiaries cited by the City, although Villa Parke is 6 miles from Hahamongna. While the League is eager for more playing space, unlit fields are an issue. The grant requires the field to be lit until 7 p.m. during the school year. The Report points out that the Arroyo Seco Design Guidelines state that no lighting will be allowed on multi purpose fields in the Arroyo Seco. During the winter, the field will likely be unavailable for more than half the intended time required by the grant.

Additional comment on the Initial Study:

1. The City needs to consider in the EIR the potential cumulative impact of conducting this project at the same time the County will be excavating silt from the basin. Both projects involve the destruction of existing riparian habitat and will have a significant effect on wildlife.
2. In an assessment of the increase in traffic, the City must allow for the fact that many soccer parents will drop their children off at the field, then return to pick them up later. This is a potential doubling of the traffic flow.

Please add these comments and the "Watch Report" to the administrative record for the project.

Please confirm the receipt of this e-mail.

Sincerely,

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cc:
Pasadena City Council