

ATTN: Ms. Barbara Buikema and CAWD Board of Directors
Carmel Area Wastewater District
P.O. Box 221428
Carmel, California 93922

With a copy by email to: Buikema@cawd.org

Subject: Opposition to the Funding Plan for Corona Road Mandated Sewer Project Assessment

Dear CAWD Board of Directors,

I am writing as a concerned homeowner in the Corona Road area to express my strong opposition to the proposed funding plan, a mandated assessment across all homeowners, for the wastewater service and new sewer lines project.

To be clear, I am not in opposition to the availability of sewer in the neighborhood. However, the proposed assessment of at least \$69,000 per parcel (or ~\$150,000 over 30 years) poses an undue financial hardship, especially for those of us who are living on fixed incomes. Further, this proposed assessment places an undue financial burden on homeowners with functioning onsite wastewater treatment systems (OWTS) who do not wish to connect to the proposed sewer line.

In the event that CAWD is unable to fund this project or otherwise procure grant funding for this project, I propose an alternative approach—an opt-in system. Under this approach, as previously presented by CAWD, homeowners would pay the assessment fee only upon choosing to connect to the sewer line. This allows for flexibility based on individual circumstances and ensures a fair distribution of costs so that those with functioning OWTSs are not unfairly burdened.

I request the CAWD Board of Directors to consider this alternative, respecting the diverse needs of our community. I also urge acknowledgment of the potential financial hardship a mandated assessment could impose, particularly on many members of our community with fixed incomes.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I trust that the CAWD Board of Directors will carefully consider the concerns and preferences of homeowners in the Corona Road area before making any final decisions.

Sincerely,

Signature:  _____

Name: Leila Banijamali

December 11, 2023

Date