

April 30th 2007

Dear Jacqui,

I would like Richard Robinson and Patrick Wright to see the enclosed information.

On October 24, 2006 the Conservancy held two Conservancy sponsored, publically announced and advertized public meetings.

The residents who ~~has~~ attended these meetings heard not a mention of activities 1-4 - including viewing platforms <sup>to</sup> be built on this side of the meadow.

It was only because of Bob Blaney requested an informal meeting ~~with~~ that ~~you and~~ residents here had a chance to speak out.

Many people around this area have not received the March 13th public

announcement. you yourself said that "a stack" of such mailed notices were returned to you. Therefore, the public comment period should be extended another 30 days.

There was a short discussion about shifting viewing stations to the Tahoe Woodlands neighborhood (April 24th informal meeting). Residents there were not informed that some issues that might impact them could be discussed at the meeting. Therefore it was improper that such comments from the audience were commented upon by Conservancy staff. It's not fair to Woodlands residents and potentially

pits one group of neighbors <sup>against</sup> another  
another group. Such a discussion  
may also be a violation of the Brown  
act.

I once believed that the Conservancy  
was a pretty trustworthy and competent  
organization. I now believe that its  
words are either unreliable or flat out  
manipulative and dishonest. You  
have become just another sort of developer

Gloria Hrostenian

P.O. Box 106  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96156  
April 29, 2007

Jacqui Grandfield  
California Tahoe Conservancy  
1061 Third Street  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96156

Dear Ms Grandfield:

The abstract and abstruse language used to describe your Upper Truckee River and marsh restoration project does not speak to the facts on the ground as many of us near to the proposed project experience them every day. So I have walked around Barton Meadow and the neighborhood adjacent to the proposed project and taken pictures. I hope that these photos together with my accompanying comments will show you some of what we experience and persuade you that Alternatives 1-4 which including permanent viewing platforms, water swales with earth mounds, boardwalks and a bike path along the lake are terrible ideas and must be rejected. Further, the legal right-of-way through the Harootunian beach area must be kept open so that people in the area can continue to enjoy the beach and pier. This is what my expectation was when I and my sisters sold the property to the Conservancy.

The Barton Meadow has been poorly managed by the Conservancy and sometimes contributes to the degradation of the fragile environment that it is its core mission to protect. Further, as you can see in the following two photographs, the Conservancy has ignored the partial and continuing destruction of El Dorado Avenue--an already crumbling street--where Capistrano Avenue dead-ends into it. I received a stern rebuff from a Conservancy staff member when I described how the riders of mountain bikes accelerated and enjoyed a flying leap off the edge of the street and onto the dirt path described by the Conservancy sign as a "restoration project". This problem has been getting worse for as long as I can remember and now poses a danger to walkers and the many recreational bike riders who stay on the street. The Conservancy does not possess enforcement power; the police department is already overstretched and that leaves the neighbors to deal with problems as they arise.



Over the years, hunks of El Dorado Avenue have drifted down hill. Eventually, they will become pulverized, enter Trout Creek which is a few hundred feet down-slope, and there be carried into Lake Tahoe.



This Conservancy owned fence has been down for more than a year. Disregard for neighborhood values erodes our morale and reinforces the negative attitude of those around who also do not bother to repair their property.

Amidst so many unmaintained empty buildings, an explosion of vacation rentals and so many crumbling streets--many of the worst of them adjacent to your proposed project area--we struggle to hang on to our sense of neighborhood.

As you heard from those who angrily expressed their opinions at the March 24th meeting, many of us feel that a more extensive and complicated Conservancy presence here will further weaken our neighborhood.



In Al Tahoe the streets surrounding the proposed project are riddled with hundreds of potholes and four inch cracks. Often the cracks have cracks and among these sprout weeds--the flora of abandoned neighborhood infrastructure.

Cracks speed oil and sediment-rich water downhill into sensitive meadow areas, Trout Creek and on into Lake Tahoe. The following photographed areas have all been taken within a few blocks of the meadow--El Dorado and San Francisco Avenues, Argonaut, Fresno and others. Whose interests are you serving by suggesting that more people use these streets to access viewing platforms? We desperately need help here, not another punch in the gut.



















