



Regarding the upcoming agenda item on the SRF Loan for the Los Osos Wastewater Project, I would urge you to seriously consider a 0% loan. This county has never done an affordability study on this project. The latest census data shows that far more people have fallen into the poverty level than lawmakers and planners have presumed. Los Osos is no different. Combining the recent downturn with the demographics in this community will mean the economic destruction of this town will be even worse than planned. A 0% SRF loan would help offset some of that destruction.

From day one, the RWQCB believed a false narrative about this community -- that we were all a bunch of "anti-sewer obstructionists" -- when in reality we were a bunch of "move the sewerists." For that we were punished, with 45 people singled out for extra punishment via CDOs. Instead of help moving the sewer, we were constantly knee-capped with fines and "trials," none of which helped the County move the process forward any faster.

You now have a chance to change that incorrect narrative and help this community. The sewer project is moving along, the community got what they struggled for --a better system with the plant out of town, *exactly* what the TAC and common sense called for -- and now they need your help: A 0% interest loan.

Thank you.

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