

Beth, Margarete@Waterboards

From: Frenchie Perry <frenchie.perry@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, August 02, 2014 12:20 PM
To: Beth, Margarete@Waterboards
Subject: Palo Alto Flood

Dear WaterBoard,in

We live at [REDACTED] Palo Alto, where we have been since 1974, raising our kids and grandkids, growing old, and paying taxes. Our house flooded in 1998. In the sixteen years since 1998, nothing substantial has been done to avoid another flood. Wars have been fought, the world changed by the Internet, the Stanford campus rebuilt in major ways, Town and Country has been redone, many buildings have been built in Palo Alto, and major and largely unnecessary projects, like California Avenue, planned, funded and started. But nothing substantial has been done to avert another flood.

The problem is not that anyone has doubts that such a flood will occur. There have been close calls. The El Nino we are hoping for, to relieve the drought, is quite likely to produce one. Our house, and the many others in the path of the water that will flow from the Chaucer Street Bridge to the Bay, will be flooded again.

The problem is wholly of Palo Alto's own making, in concert with other cities and San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties.. The Chaucer Street Bridge is a joke, more of a glorified culvert than a bridge.

What is the problem? There is no mystery about what needs to be done. The Chaucer Street Bridge needs to be replaced. Changes to downstream bridges need to be made so that the flooding is not simply diverted to other communities.. The flow of San Francisqito Creek through the Palo Alto Golf Course needs to be rationalized, using the golf course as a flood plain, the present route through the Golf Course being another problem Palo Alto created. .

The problem seems to be that it takes a great deal of time for the responsible agencies to figure out how to get someone else to pay for the improvements and take responsibility. We are dealing with some of the wealthiest cities and counties in the world. This is disgusting. Sixteen years of politicians and government agencies passing the buck.

For crying out loud, get started on substantial improvements! Do something!

Sincerely

Frenchie Perry and John Perry