

Bob Robertson

Subject: FW: Request For An Agenda item "Bayshore Dr Low Pressure Grinder Pump Sewer Project "

From: Tania Goldman <tigoldman@hotmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 7:26 AM

To: Board Of Commissioners <boc@ctsfl.us>; Bob Robertson <rrobertson@ctsfl.us>

Subject: Fw: Request For An Agenda item "Bayshore Dr Low Pressure Grinder Pump Sewer Project "

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Good morning,

I would like the following correspondence to be posted on the Tarpon Springs webpage dedicated to the Bayshore Sewer Project. I was specifically promised by Mr LeCouris that ALL correspondence would be made public.

Thank you,
Tania Goldman
[917-750-0370](tel:917-750-0370)

From: Mark LeCouris <mlecouris@ctsfl.us>

Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 10:50 AM

To: Tania Goldman <tigoldman@hotmail.com>

Cc: Janet Adams <janet.flhomes@gmail.com>; John Koulianos <jkoulianos@ctsfl.us>; Panagiotis Koulias <pkoulias@ctsfl.us>; Frank DiDonato <fdidonato@ctsfl.us>; Mike Eisner <meisner@ctsfl.us>; Board Of Commissioners <boc@ctsfl.us>; Costa Vatikiotis <cvatikiotis@ctsfl.us>; Nick Makris <nmakris@ctsfl.us>; Paul Smith <psmith@ctsfl.us>; Bob Robertson <rrobertson@ctsfl.us>; Mark LeCouris <mlecouris@ctsfl.us>

Subject: RE: Request For An Agenda item "Bayshore Dr Low Pressure Grinder Pump Sewer Project "

It would not be productive to go line by line and dispute the assertions you have made in this e-mail. You are absolutely incorrect on many of the words you have used including dismissive, blatant disregard, bulldoze, misleading, condescending, among others. We have heard your concerns both at a meeting with staff on May 6 and at a Commission meeting the next night. We immediately responded to you with my first letter to your residents which I strongly disagree with your assessment of that letter as "lacking in substantive solutions". We are actively researching everything you have given us and formulated a section of our City webpage for all information that comes in. I responded to you with a second e-mail asking for the information you said the City Manager and City Commission was not aware of. I stated in that letter that we would research it and set up a meeting to discuss. The meeting would include the update on all we are looking into from my first letter. Again, to be clear, these meetings will NOT be to put a hard stop of putting the infrastructure in the City right of way for any residents in your area that truly need this and have been waiting a long time for this necessary infrastructure. We

have heard the voices of the residents and will continue to listen and work on what we have committed per my letter. The City will explore any other options that may come up in our future meetings with residents. Please send me the additional information I requested and a meeting will be set up as we did on May 6. I understand that Vice Mayor Mike Eisner is going to request the City Commission designate him to be the liaison for the Board of Commissioners at these meetings with residents and staff which I support. Mark LeCouris City Manager

From: Tania Goldman <tigoldman@hotmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 8:56 AM

To: Mark LeCouris <mlecouris@ctsfl.us>

Cc: Janet Adams <janet.flhomes@gmail.com>; John Koulianos <jkoulianos@ctsfl.us>; Panagiotis Koulias <pkoulias@ctsfl.us>; Frank DiDonato <fdidonato@ctsfl.us>; Mike Eisner <meisner@ctsfl.us>; Board Of Commissioners <boc@ctsfl.us>; Costa Vatikiotis <cvatikiotis@ctsfl.us>; Nick Makris <nmakris@ctsfl.us>; Paul Smith <psmith@ctsfl.us>; Bob Robertson <rrobertson@ctsfl.us>

Subject: Re: Request For An Agenda item "Bayshore Dr Low Pressure Grinder Pump Sewer Project "

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Mr. LeCouris,

We are writing to express our profound frustration and disappointment with your response to a request to place our issues on the upcoming agenda. Your email is not only dismissive of the genuine concerns raised by residents but also reflects a blatant disregard for the impact this project will have on our community.

Firstly, let me remind you that this project, while under legal contract, directly affects the lives of many residents. We understand the importance of infrastructure, but that does not give you the authority to bulldoze over the legitimate worries of the people YOU SERVE. Your refusal to consider an agenda item, suggests that the city prioritizes contracts over community well-being.

The temporary hold we requested was not an attempt to derail the project but to ensure that all relevant facts and concerns are adequately addressed. The brief hold you mentioned, following the last Commission meeting, was clearly insufficient, as significant issues remain unresolved. Your claim that there is no information warranting a further hold-up is unfounded and dismissive of the serious concerns we have raised.

Your assertion that no disinformation has been proven is misleading (please see below Bayshore Sewer Omissions, Contradictions and Misinformation by City). We have consistently provided credible sources and will continue to do so. However, the burden of proof should not solely rest on us. As City Manager, it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to actively seek out and verify information from all stakeholders, not just passively await submissions from residents.

Additionally, your suggestion to re-read your letter and consider options that exclude a project delay is condescending. We are fully aware of the content of your communications and have found them lacking in substantive solutions that address our core concerns.

In conclusion, the manner in which you have handled this situation is unacceptable. The residents deserve to be heard and taken seriously. We demand that you reconsider your position and engage in a meaningful dialogue with the community. A meeting should be set up immediately to discuss our concerns in detail, with a genuine willingness to consider all options, including a hold on the project.

We expect a prompt and respectful response to this email, outlining a concrete plan for addressing our concerns.

Sincerely,
Tania Goldman
Janet Adams

***Bayshore Sewer Omissions, Contradictions and Misinformation by City (to name a few)

OMISSIONS

Florida State Statute 381.00655 (1)(a) states "The publicly owned or investor- owned sewerage system must notify the owner of the onsite sewage treatment and disposal system of the availability of the central sewerage system. No less than 1 year prior to the date the sewerage system will become available, the publicly owned or investor-owned sewerage system shall notify the affected owner of the onsite sewage treatment and disposal system of the anticipated availability of the sewerage system and shall also notify the owner that the owner will be required to connect to the sewerage system within 1 year of the actual availability."

Source: handout at May 6, 2024 meeting by Bob Robertson, Project Administration, City of Tarpon Springs

The first omission: by this statute and City reckoning of completion of project, residents should have been notified in November 2023 of the impending sewerage project. In fact residents were made aware on or around April 23 by the contractor's representative asking for equipment location. Notice from the City about the project came days later in an undated flyer titled "Notice of Construction."

Second omission: Notice that the owner will be required to connect came for the first time with the above cited "Notice of Construction" as #11 in the City's FAQ sheet, also undated, and delivered end of last week of April.

CONTRADICTIONS

First contradiction on cost:

#6 of the City's FAQ sheet answers the question "How much does it cost to connect?" but lists only the costs the resident pays the City, some \$2,000.

Only when we get to #8 of the FAQ sheet do we see that there is plumbing, grinder pump purchase and installation cost as well. And only when we read the separate 2022 Alternatives Analysis do we see the projected cost to each household at \$15,000. This analysis was made available online only on May 8, per the memo to residents from Mark LeCouris on that same date.

Second contradiction on funding for residents' expense:

Residents were told during the May 6 meeting that there is no grant funding available for residents' expense, yet it is widely reported in the Tampa Bay Times that Hillsborough County is using grant funds to pay their residents' installations.

By May 9/10 the City announces that it has indeed found a grant source and is applying for \$500K.

Related third contradiction on funding:

The 2022 Analysis pegs each household's expense at \$15,000. There are 60 households involved, with a total of \$900,000. Why apply for only half the amount needed?

MISINFORMATION

On cost of grinder pump

Again, #8 of the City's FAQ sheet states that a grinder pump can be had for \$400.

An internet search of current state of the art pumps yields very different pricing:

[https://www.rcworst.com/myers-vrf20a-21-vr2-residential-submersible-grinder-pump-2-0-hp-230v-1-ph-automatic-20-](https://www.rcworst.com/myers-vrf20a-21-vr2-residential-submersible-grinder-pump-2-0-hp-230v-1-ph-automatic-20-cord.html?feed=Froogle&gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQjw6auyBhDzARIsALIo6v8HGsl7X-MdouiG32OHrXokl3vS4n3HhMs4UuSOE58--2QwVGJy9kaApMhEALw_wcB)

[cord.html?feed=Froogle&gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQjw6auyBhDzARIsALIo6v8HGsl7X-](https://www.rcworst.com/myers-vrf20a-21-vr2-residential-submersible-grinder-pump-2-0-hp-230v-1-ph-automatic-20-cord.html?feed=Froogle&gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQjw6auyBhDzARIsALIo6v8HGsl7X-MdouiG32OHrXokl3vS4n3HhMs4UuSOE58--2QwVGJy9kaApMhEALw_wcB)

[_MdouiG32OHrXokl3vS4n3HhMs4UuSOE58--2QwVGJy9kaApMhEALw_wcB](https://www.rcworst.com/myers-vrf20a-21-vr2-residential-submersible-grinder-pump-2-0-hp-230v-1-ph-automatic-20-cord.html?feed=Froogle&gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQjw6auyBhDzARIsALIo6v8HGsl7X-MdouiG32OHrXokl3vS4n3HhMs4UuSOE58--2QwVGJy9kaApMhEALw_wcB)

\$2,816.00

or

<https://www.septicsolutions.com/septic-parts/submersible-pumps/sewage-grinder-pumps/lsg202a-liberty-omnivore-lsg-200-series-20-hp-grinder-pump>

\$1,949

Why promote a lowball pump when there are so many tales of failure and disfunction?

QUESTIONS REMAIN

Why did the City preempt the 2022 Analysis by installing a segment of LPSS sewer on Bayshore to a lift station that served the gravity system in Bayshore Heights?

Why was this work done on such a small section that in-house resources were used? What was the urgency?

Sent from my iPhone

On May 20, 2024, at 10:45 AM, Mark LeCouris <mlecouris@ctsfl.us> wrote:

Ms. Adams and Ms. Goldman, this is a project under a legal contract and is vital to many residents of your community .At this point , there can be NO HOLD on proceeding with completion of the infra-structure of this project. Based on the residents that came to the last Commission meeting, we did put a several days hold on the project to review all information presented by you and review our presentation of facts. There was no information to warrant any further hold-up of the contract. We agreed per my letter to the residents to further study other ways to assist residents including grants to possibly offset the costs. Please re-read the letter to see the options we are working on based on your input. These options do not include any stop or delay in the project. You mention disinformation however I have seen no proof of that presented by either of you. I will be glad to review factual information from named sources on anything you say is disinformation. Please send these to me immediately and they must include name and contact information if you are citing a source. I will await your response. After an analysis of your new information, the City will set up a meeting to discuss our research of the information you have given us. All correspondences will be posted on the City website dedicated to this project. Mark LeCouris City Manager

From: Janet Adams <janet.flhomes@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 20, 2024 10:08 AM
To: Mark LeCouris <mlecouris@ctsfl.us>; John Koulianos <jkoulianos@ctsfl.us>; Panagiotis Koulias <pkoulias@ctsfl.us>; Frank DiDonato <fdidonato@ctsfl.us>; Mike Eisner <meisner@ctsfl.us>; Board Of Commissioners <boc@ctsfl.us>; Costa Vatikiotis <cvatikiotis@ctsfl.us>
Cc: Nick Makris <nmakris@ctsfl.us>; Paul Smith <psmith@ctsfl.us>; Bob Robertson <rrobertson@ctsfl.us>
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Dear City Manager and Commissioners,

I am respectfully requesting that the City Manager and Commissioners to place the agenda item "**Bayshore Dr LP Grinder/Pump Sewer**" to be placed on the docket for the very next commissioner meeting.

I have been informed by Mr. LeCouris's secretary Trish, it must be requested no later than this **Thursday, May 23, 2024**.

We are requesting a hard stop for further review be placed on the agenda for the "Bayshore LP Grinder/Pump Sewer Project" .

We need to be heard, as much disinformation has been given out to the residents, and I am quite sure the City Manager and all the commissioners are not yet aware of all these facts.

The Citizens of Tarpon Springs are counting on our board to stand up for truth & transparency, but more importantly, stand up for the citizens of Tarpon Springs.

Please confirm receipt of this email.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet & Nick Adams

**Your Home Sold
GUARANTEED
Or I'll Buy It!**

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