

Brianda Negrete

Public Comment - Community Services

LATE  
DIST

**From:** Mary Nash <mary@revisitmarketing.com> - Group 1  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:39 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Cc:** Dietenhofer, Meighan; Hartmann, Joan  
**Subject:** Comment to be shared with Supervisors - Los Olivos Facilities Request  
**Attachments:** Los Olivos Brief 4-13-23 FINAL.docx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

**Categories:** Public Comment

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Hello, per Meighan Dietenhofer and Joan Hartmann's recommendations, I'm sharing this comment/request for the Budget Workshop to be held on Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup>. Please let me know if I need to do anything else/differently? I'm not familiar with this process. Thank you!

Mary

Mary Nash  
Los Olivos Chamber of Commerce  
[www.losolivosca.com](http://www.losolivosca.com)  
[mary@revisitmarketing.com](mailto:mary@revisitmarketing.com)  
949-421-7920

**DATE:** APRIL 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2023  
**TO:** SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
**FROM:** LOS OLIVOS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**SUBJECT:** SUPPORT FOR LOS OLIVOS FACILITIES

**OVERVIEW:** Los Olivos is a small, thriving town which attracts thousands of visitors throughout the year and generates significant revenue for Santa Barbara County. It is an unincorporated town without any of its own funding sources to support basic infrastructure. The Los Olivos Business Association, now the Chamber of Commerce, was founded in 1978 by local businesses to provide some means of financing basic services. Membership dues are voluntary – the town has no way to mandate or enforce the payment of dues. This has been especially challenging during the pandemic as businesses were forced to close temporarily, or permanently. Membership dues pay for portable restrooms and marketing of the town and member businesses, including a printed town map which is distributed to hotels and visitor centers throughout Santa Barbara County. A BID is in the initial concept stages, which would likely consist of a small percentage added on to retail sales in town. This would fund the restrooms and other town services, as well as other projects which would help to preserve and promote the historic town. If approved, this will likely take a couple years or more to implement.

**BUDGET:** Voluntary Membership dues provide approximately \$43,000 every year. In addition, a small amount of money is raised through business sponsorships and events. Major expenses include \$2900/month for restroom rental and service. So far this year, we are operating at a \$5000 loss and expect this to continue or worsen throughout the year. In early 2021 we were forced to remove the restrooms due to lack of dues and were only able to reinstate them because of the grant.

**ISSUE:** Los Olivos has been designated a “Special Problems Area” by the state due to ground water situation, aging septic systems, and lack of a sewer system. Many businesses are restricted from letting customers use their restrooms due to these challenges. A CSD has been created to address the problem, but the project is still in the early stages and is years away from being implemented. In the meantime, it is critical that we have public restrooms in town for visitors. Unfortunately, the current portable restrooms are suboptimal. They are designed to be temporary, and since the town is so busy, they quickly become full and dirty most days of the week. This budget of \$2900/month only allows us to provide rental, and cleaning/pumping on Thursday – Saturday. There are regular complaints from visitors who are frustrated that a charming and seemingly affluent town cannot afford to provide reasonably decent facilities for their visitors who are often spending significant money during their visit. It is an embarrassment for the town and its businesses, as well as for Santa Ynez Valley and Santa Barbara County.

**SUPPORT:** Los Olivos is seeking financial support from the County of \$75,000 per year for a five-year period to assist us with economic recovery, and to bridge the gap until a solution is implemented through the CSD, and/or until we can implement a BID and become financially self-sufficient, which is our goal. This money will be used to pay for the current restrooms (\$34,800) and expand services provide daily pumping and cleaning so that it is at least less offensive to visitors and locals. This will allow the Chamber of Commerce to use these limited funds focus more appropriately on promoting and supporting the town and it’s businesses through marketing and events. We anticipate that the result

would be greater satisfaction from visitors, additional visits and more time spent in town generating revenue, satisfied business owners, and much happier residents. With the Inn at Mattei's Tavern now up and running, we anticipate more visitors with money to spend. Now is the perfect opportunity to address this most important issue of Los Olivos.

We appreciate the consideration and assistance of Santa Barbara County. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Shelby Sim (Visit SYV)

Jefferson Woeste (J.Woeste in Los Olivos) (President)

Jim Tauber, Lefty's Coffee Shop

Keith Saarloos, (Saarloos and Sons Winery)

Jonathan Rosenson (Coquelicot Winery),

Dave Elcon (Inn at Mattei's Tavern),

Greg Ryan (Bell's, Bar Le Cote Restaurants),

Greer Schull (Fess Parker Family)

Christina Larner (Larner Winery, LO General Store)

Suzanne Jakkola, Jakkola Accounting Services (Treasurer)

Liz Dodder, Marketing

Mary Nash, Membership

**Brianda Negrete**



**From:** Peter Conn <pconnt43@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 9:08 PM  
**To:** sbcob; Supervisor Das Williams; Lavagnino, Steve; Laura Capps; Joanne St. John; Bob Nelson; Miyasato, Mona  
**Cc:** Camarena, Eva  
**Subject:** Housing for our County Park Rangers, especially Rocky Nook in 2023-2024 Budget

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair, 1st District Supervisor Das Williams; Vice Chair, 5th District Supervisor Steve Lavagnino; 2nd District Supervisor Laura Capps; 3rd District Supervisor Joan Hartman, 4th District Supervisor Bob Nelson, and County Administrator, Mona Miyasato,

We are requesting that as many County Parks as possible have reinstated or newly created permanent resident ranger housing put into the annual budget of the Board of Supervisors. This would be a significant step to creating a guarantee for locally employable staff residing in the area where they are employed. It would be a significant contribution to guaranteed affordable workforce housing that helps people and the planet by reducing commute time, improving community services and knowledge and improving workforce morale.

For the 2023-2024 County Budget Year we are requesting that the well designed and built, unused cottage in Rocky Nook County Park in Mission Canyon be refurbished to become, once again, the dwelling of the main Rocky Nook Park Ranger and that the host program there be discontinued.

The cottage was the home of the park ranger for more than 50 years from when it was built in 1932 to when it was remodeled into County Park Headquarters c.1984. The small, Spanish style building with historic landmark rock foundation on one side is a masterfully designed and well built house /office. It could and should be used for Resident Ranger housing once again.

This Rocky Nook Park cottage would help create affordable workforce housing for a County employee.

Removing the so called Park Host would return several parking spaces back to public use that are now occupied by the temporary host trailers in this small park. It would remove the incongruous trailers and all the "host's" stuff from the view of Park visitors and from Mission Canyon Rd. A live-in Ranger would provide more consistent service and community knowledge in this park.

Please budget the remodel / repair of the Rocky Nook Park cottage into Ranger Housing during the 2023-2024 budget year.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Peter and Paulina Conn  
2612 Foothill Rd.

Santa Barbara, CA 93105  
805 682-5183

## Brianda Negrete

---

**From:** Melanie Backer <melbacker@me.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 2:39 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Cc:** Melanie Backer  
**Subject:** Santa Barbara Park Service - urge for more funding for staff -

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I live in Guadalupe, CA. where we can no longer ride our bikes to the Guadalupe Dunes, Drive to the Dunes or walk to the Dunes ...

It is the upmost importance that Northern Santa Barbara County residents and citizens get proper and safe access to the Rancho Guadalupe Dunes Preserve again.

I urge all of you to **increase the budget for the Santa Barbara Parks department for staff. The county needs a Park Planner, and a Capital Project manager, as well as other staff to help with disaster and recovery.**

Please increase the budget for our parks so we all have equitable access to our beautiful beaches, parks and outdoor recreational space.

Thank you,

Melanie Backer  
Guadalupe, CA 93434  
cell number (310) 779-0402