
From: Camille Leung <cleung@smcgov.org>

Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2021 12:11 PM

To: Ann Stillman <astillman@smcgov.org>; Mark Chow <mchow@smcgov.org>

Cc: Amy Ow <aow@smcgov.org>

Subject: Work on lower Polhemus Road just north of Ascension Drive?

Hi Ann and Mark,

I got this comment from the public in relation to the Highlands Estates project:

Did the work lower Polhemus Road just north of Ascension Drive years ago - which resulted in a landslide that required significant local resident expense to resolve with a giant retaining structure - go through same approval process with the same oversight committee?

Do you know what project this is referencing? A DPW project? Can you help me in answering this question.

Thanks!

From: [Camille Leung](#)
To: [Mark Chow](#); [Ann Stillman](#)
Cc: [Amy Ow](#)
Subject: RE: Work on lower Polhemus Road just north of Ascension Drive?
Date: Thursday, July 22, 2021 12:59:42 PM

Hi Mark,

Thanks for the response! Marc Rarden was the commenter.

P&B is processing a request for more grading associated with the construction of Lots 5-8 of the Highlands Estates and released an EIR Addendum, for which there was a courtesy comment period, in which we got the comment.

I believe the “approval process and oversight committee” the person was referring to is the EIR and permitting process through Planning, which was probably has a much less rigorous process as it was for an emergency wall repair, than the process for the 11-lot subdivision.

I think I have enough information to respond.

Thank you!

From: Mark Chow <mchow@smcgov.org>
Sent: Thursday, July 22, 2021 12:09 PM
To: Camille Leung <cleung@smcgov.org>; Ann Stillman <astillman@smcgov.org>
Cc: Amy Ow <aow@smcgov.org>
Subject: RE: Work on lower Polhemus Road just north of Ascension Drive?

Hi Camille,

Do you happen to know the name of the person that provided the comment? I ask because we received a comment from someone at one of our sewer rate meetings regarding a retaining wall in the Ascension Drive vicinity that was built by private homeowners and failed due to faulty design.

The County did construct a retaining wall along Polhemus Drive below Rainbow Drive, north of Ascension Drive in around 1999 due to a landslide caused by the 1996-97 winter storms. FEMA reimbursed the County for cost of the work in the County road right of way but I believe the homeowners participated to pay for the project as well. In terms of the approval process and oversight committee for this project, I was not working for the County at that time so I don't have the information to share. All the persons closely involved in the project have either retired or left County employment. We can review archived records but it will take some time.

I thought the Highlands Estates Project was already approved. Can you clarify what approval process and oversight committee the person was referring to?

Mark