

From: [Melissa Cure](#)
To: [Melissa Cure](#)
Subject: FW: Stow Grove Park Building
Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 8:01:21 AM

From: Lisa Kus <lisakus1@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 10:28 PM
To: JoAnne Plummer <jplummer@cityofgoleta.org>
Subject: Stow Grove Park Building

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello.

There doesn't seem to be any historical value. Sadly, we cannot afford to save this building or maintain it going forward. It should be removed to avoid any safety or hazard issues.

We are likely to go into debt over other projects. Hard recommendations need to be made by city staff and hard choices made by city council.

Lisa Kus

From: [Melissa Cure](#)
To: [Melissa Cure](#)
Subject: FW: Stow Grove Park
Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 7:58:34 AM

From: Phil Resch <eugenep47@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 7:39 PM
To: JoAnne Plummer <jplummer@cityofgoleta.org>
Subject: Stow Grove Park

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi JoAnne.....Phil Resch here.
Congratulations on your new position!

Re: the Caretakers Cottage

I cannot attend, in person or virtually. Please forward my comments to the appropriate folks.

Given the housing shortage for all.....especially those who could never afford it.....let's take care of "our own".

I realize that there is a cost to everything however, I would carefully look at alternatives to fund this venture.

Thank you.
Phil Resch
71 Bristol Pl

Please excuse all typos:)

From: [Melissa Cure](#)
To: [Melissa Cure](#)
Subject: FW: Stow Grove Park Cottage and Garage - Letter to the Commission
Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 10:46:18 AM

From: ferminamurray <ferminamurray@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 9:55 AM
To: JoAnne Plummer <jplummer@cityofgoleta.org>
Cc: Robin Cederlof <RobinHCederlof@gmail.com>; Ron Nye <rlnye@cox.net>; Lisa Prasse <lprasse@cityofgoleta.org>; Cecilia Brown <brownsknight1@cox.net>
Subject: Re: Stow Grove Park Cottage and Garage - Letter to the Commission

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am sorry this is late, but I hope you could distribute copies to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Thank you!

Fermina B. Murray • Consultant Historian

442 Danbury Court • Goleta, CA 93117 • Tel. (805) 448-4011
Email: ferminamurray@gmail.com • Business License: 038789

February 19, 2025

City of Goleta
Parks and Recreation Commission

Subject: Stow Grove Park Caretaker Cottage and Garage

Dear Chair S. Courtney Walton and Commissioners:

I am a local historian, presently serving the City's Historic Preservation Commission. However, I am writing as an individual resident to voice my suggestions about the Caretaker Cottage and Garage at Stow Grove Park. Please consider the following suggestions:

- The buildings are over 50 years old, and under the City's Preservation Ordinance, any plans for alterations or demolition of the structures must be reviewed by the Historic Preservation Commission.
- The Cottage could be easily refurbished and adapted to meet the needs of the Library that is closing in April for two years' renovation. I honestly think the cost of such renovation will be much cheaper than the \$600,000 predicted by the staff report.
- The garage structure could be utilized for books storage. For example, the former

detached garage of the landmark Main-Begg Farmhouse has been renovated to become a community space at the cost of \$75,000. I believe there are many ways to evaluate projects and cut costs without jeopardizing the integrity of the buildings.

- Another option to save the Cottage is to ask La Patera Elementary School whether they have a need for the building, and if so, could the school district help with the renovation budget and become a lease tenant of the Parks and Recreation.
- Or could the Cottage be saved with minimal repairs and be used as the headquarters of the Parks and Recreation Department? The building could be used during the weekends for demonstration exhibitions, and children's nature projects, or educational displays about City parks and recreational resources.

As you know, Goleta has very few remaining historical cottage buildings of this type. Even though the structures date to 1965, their size, scale, location, and original purpose is something to recognize and celebrate. We can celebrate the City's past legacy by renovating and adapting a new use for the structures. Please consider saving the buildings. Thank you, Fermina Murray