

## Deborah Lopez

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**From:** Stuart Kasdin  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 05, 2019 11:33 AM  
**To:** Michelle Greene; Deborah Lopez  
**Subject:** FW: Today's meetings

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**From:** Kevin Grose [kevin@thatsgrose.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 05, 2019 11:31 AM  
**To:** Paula Perotte; Stuart Kasdin; Roger Aceves; mbennett@cityofgoleta.org; Kyle Richards; Sheri Grose  
**Subject:** Today's meetings

Good morning All,

My wife and I, unfortunately, will not be able to attend either of today's meetings. I would like to add to the growing list of opinions that you are receiving from our fellow Goletans.

On the eucalyptus trimming issue. I posted a rather verbose plea to our neighbors to speak up to you all to get these these trees trimmed or at the very least allow SCE to trim them on their dime. I heard bits and pieces of information, rumors, here say, etc since posting my letter. Most of us in the Ellwood neighborhood work and volunteer in our community. We don't have time to get involved in the political process. It is not a lack of interest or apathy; but a lack of time. It is troublesome, whether accurate or not, that the perception in our neighborhood is that one or two of our neighbors have the power or access to stop the SCE project. This is a project that many of us welcome and that quite frankly our neighborhood needs to keep our youngest members and homes safe. I realize that this can be a costly project, but if SCE is willing to do some of this work on their dime why not take them up on it?

On the issue of the overpass. I believe that we were initially told this would be a foot/bike bridge. I think that that type of bridge is highly needed. I do not see how adding cars and on/off ramps to that area would be helpful at all. The last thing that that stretch of Hollister needs is another signal. Many of us in the Ellwood neighborhood use the Winchester exit to get on and off the freeway. It may be slightly longer, but it is way more convenient than sitting through the lights and traffic at Storke and Hollister. The foot/bike bridge was for the safety of our students and other pedestrians. Adding vehicles to that mix will not ensure the students' and other pedestrians' safety.

Thanks for taking the time to hear all of us out. And thank you for your time and service to our city.

Kevin & Sheri Grose  
296 Pebble Beach Drive

March 5, 2019

Honorable Mayor Perotte and fellow City Council members

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today regarding the State mandated tree pruning efforts of SCE in the Ellwood Mesa Area.

My name is Maeton Freel, I and my family have been residents of Goleta since 1979. I am a professional biologist and worked for over 27 years as the Forest Biologist and later Ecosystem Staff Officer for the Los Padres National Forest. As such, I have had extensive experience working with wildlife, timber and fire resources and have seen all too often the damage wildland fire can cause. I am speaking today because I am greatly concerned for the health and safety of my family and fellow citizens of Goleta due to the ever worsening problem related to hazard trees and power line interactions in my own neighborhood and the state in general.

Two major safety issues exist related to the eucalyptus groves in our neighborhood. The first is the high potential for the untrimmed trees to fall and cause downing of SCE power lines with the potential to ignite a wildfire immediately behind our homes which could threaten the entire community during sundowner or other intense weather events during dry seasons of the year. The second is the potential for these huge trees to cause property damage to our homes and possibly injure or kill anyone who might be present when one of these 3 to 5 ton trees falls.

Since the heavier rains last month we have experienced at least three larger and apparently healthy trees falling in our neighborhood. One of those trees did indeed cause the downing of an SCE line and caused significant damage to one residence. Thankfully no one was injured...this time!

This is an unacceptable situation for the residents of this area and immediate actions need to be taken to address these significant health and safety issues.

We are all too familiar with the impacts of wildland fire on communities across the state which have devastated entire towns and resulted in over 100 deaths in just the past two years. Due to the high risk rating designation of our area by Cal Fire we as a community need to take every means available to reduce the risk of a catastrophic wildfire here. The Thomas fire of 2017-18 and Holiday Fire just last July are just two examples of how easily such an event can occur in our community.

Several of the residents of the Santa Barbara Shores and adjacent sub-divisions of Ellwood Mesa had conversed about this issue on the Nextdoor computer application which led to the circulating of a petition respectfully requesting the Council and City to support the efforts of SCE to complete the trimming, topping or other pruning deemed by them necessary to fully protect the SCE power lines and the homes and families adjacent them in our area. I herein am submitting that petition which with only a few days of circulation has over 70 signatures of local residents in support of this critically needed work.

The following are just a few of the statements or management direction which already exist in City plans along with a few comments about them.

**MBHMP - Page 5 - Referencing the Goleta Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) of 2012.**  
**Second paragraph, line 6:**

**“The protection of human life and safety is the highest priority for all fire management strategies in Goleta, followed by the protection of property.** Given that the CWPP has been approved, activities under the CWPP would occur in Ellwood Mesa Open Space regardless of the MBHMP because the CWPP was developed with consideration of the Monarch butterfly aggregation sites in Ellwood Mesa.”

**Page 7 – Defining activity zones:**

**Fuel Reduction Zone (30 – 100 ft) from structures:** “Thin or trim trees that do not provide protection to Monarch butterfly aggregation sites.” **“Leave larger trees – unless toppling hazard”**\* \*As defined by the City arborist. The main problem with this directive is that neither the City Arborist nor any arborist can fully predict which large tall eucalyptus trees are likely to fall. Yes, dead and dying trees are identifiable but due to the poor root systems and moist soils which occur along the creek areas, even green, healthy eucalyptus trees have fallen and continue to fall even without severe wind events.

**Page 12: Tree Management Program:** This program includes the following covered activities.

“Selectively prune or remove standing dead, dying, or vulnerable trees that pose a threat to public safety or monarch aggregation sites”. As stated earlier, the trees between Pebble Beach and Santa Barbara Shores Drives and further down Devereux Creek would fall into the class of “vulnerable trees” as evidenced by their actively falling within the past couple weeks.

**Community Wildfire Prevention Plan -Page 28: Second Paragraph:** Some species of eucalyptus trees found on Ellwood Mesa, including blue gum, have deciduous bark, which is shed annually and presents a fire hazard. The bark catches fire readily and streamers from the loose bark tend to carry fire into the canopy and cast firebrands ahead of the main fire front. The leaf litter, which is the accumulation of dead, dry and oily leaves, is also a fire hazard as it is extremely flammable.

This statement again confirms the hazardous nature of the eucalyptus trees which comprise almost 100 percent of the aggregation and other groves of trees in the study area. The CWPP documents that eucalyptus is the hottest burning tree species in the Ellwood Mesa area and the potential for this highly flammable fuel to be ignited by a falling power line is one of the most significant sources of wildfire in this area.

Another unique factor of the small grove of eucalyptus between Pebble Beach and Santa Barbara Shores is a forestry factor known as “wind throw”. This small stand of very tall senescent trees being only two to three trees wide in places is highly susceptible to wind throw due to the extreme height and mass of their canopies coupled with direct exposure to high winds, and the weakened root anchorage resulting from years of drought make them very susceptible to falling. Having the creek run nearby also results in saturated soils which add to the instability of the root systems. This wind throw factor adds to the definition of these trees as vulnerable hazard trees with a high potential to fall and strike the power lines which run along both the east and west boundary of the SB Shores-Pebble Beach grove.

The time for studies and looking into matters has passed. The City needs to proceed to support this work to be in compliance with the State mandated trimming program of SCE and to be in compliance with your own management direction provided in numerous planning documents including the Goleta Community Wildfire Protection Plan; Ellwood-Devereux Coast Open Space and Habitat Management Plan; and Monarch Butterfly Habitat Management Plan just to name a few.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input to this important management activity.

## Petition to take action to protect our families, homes and other property within the Santa Barbara Shores and adjacent sub-divisions of Goleta

Since the most recent rains we have experienced at least three large eucalyptus trees falling along Elwood Canyon Creek which runs through our housing area. Thankfully no one was injured although one of the trees did hit and damage a residence on Newport Drive. If any one of these 3 to 5 ton trees had fallen in a slightly different direction they could have crushed one or more houses and potentially injured or killed anyone who may have been inside at the time.

The City and Coastal Commission last summer had approved the trimming and removal of similar hazard trees by SCE along the grove of eucalyptus west of Pebble Beach Drive and the lines and homes there are now safe from tree damage. We deserve the same level of protection in our part of the neighborhood!

In order to preclude a catastrophe from happening we the undersigned respectfully request the City of Goleta to support or approve all permits required for Southern California Edison to complete the trimming, topping or other pruning deemed necessary to protect the SCE power lines and the homes and families adjacent to them.

Name	Address	Phone/Email
Mary Blangnette	334 Santa Barbara Shores Dr.	805-968-5990
Sue Ann Parson	7668 Newport Dr.	805-570-3965
Jerry Miller	7571 Palos Verdes	805-968- <del>4871</del> 4871
Jennie Grell	7567 Palos Verdes Dr.	805-845-9724
Deanna Gilman	7523 Palos Verdes Dr.	805-968-6912
Ellie Schuman	7535 Palos Verdes Dr.	805-639-1109
J. M. Roberts	7551 Palos Verdes Dr.	(805) 968-3982
Gregg Horner	7557 Palos Verdes	(805) 637-0230
Ruby Hughes	7566 Palos Verdes	(805) 397-2037
Reanne Wheeler	7572 Palos Verdes	(805) 639-2726

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Name	Address	Phone/Email
DAN BENISHER	7653 ANCHOR DR	805-698-0478
Richard J. McLean	353 Pebble Bl	(805) 968-7101
MICHAEL HONER	7632 Anchor Dr Goleta	805 450 7608
MICHAEL ETHIER	7626 ANCHOR DR.	805-455-9545
Miles Wallace	7617 Pismo Beach Cille	805-350-1371
Harry Homburger	404 Santa Barbara Shores	(805) 968-7263
Paul	110 Santa Barbara Shores	805-968-7326
Edward Claret	360 Santa Barbara Shores	(805) 252-8889
Kirk Sloan	370 Santa Barbara Shores	805-729-1817
Anthony B. Banger	394 Santa Barbara Shores	1-805-968-5990

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Name	Address	Phone/Email
John Loftis	211 Pebble Beach Drive	805-660-3924 john@UCSBalumni
Susanne Kyre	235 Pebble Beach Dr.	805-403-6372 suskyre@gn
Loechyn Weigro	253 Pebble Beach Dr.	805-448-2347
Rick Goeden	261 Pebble Beach Dr.	805 453-2604
Sallynn Hill	265 Pebble Beach Dr.	(805) 746-6038
Danielle Besancon	303 Pebble Beach	805 364-5143
John SHARKEY	312 PEBBLE BEACH	805 637 2519
MARY LUI	304 PEBBLE BEACH	805-637-9081
Josh Foxen	330 Pebble Beach Dr.	805-450-9432
MARINER KUMAKURA	340 Pebble Beach Dr.	503-407-1126

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Name	Address	Phone/Email
BRADY MIST	230 SANTA BARBARA SHORES	805 637 2802
Mark J. Weinberg	230 Santa Barbara Shores	805 252-9787
Maria E. Ruiz	1160 Santa Barbara Shores Dr.	(805) 779-8196
Jose R. Marquez	7593 Sea Gull Dr	805-895-8469
GEORGE W. JONES	7581 SEA GULL DR	805 252-1125
Ellie Jones	7581 Sea Gull Dr	(805) 252-1105
Lidia Reyes	7582 Sea Gull Dr.	(805) 453-5139 / lreyes
Ulises Reyes	7612 Newport Dr.	(805) 422-9756
MICHAEL MILLER	7628 CARAMEL BEACH DR	(805) 324-2227
Paul J. Rube	252 PEBBLE BEACH DR	805 685-1115



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Name	Address	Phone/Email
Suzuka Kowalchuk	7408 Newport Dr. Goleta	805-886-2850 / suzfrankin7@gmail.com
Jeff She-mun	281 SANTA BARBARA Shores	805 294-2568
Leonard Barrios	245 Santa Barbara Shores	805 324-2210
Jason Trenchard	231 Santa Barbara Shores	805 727 4736
AARON AUSTIN	225 SB SHORE	805 680 2863
Emily Austin	225 SB Shores Dr.	805 680 3402
Daniel Rubio	21 SB Shores Dr.	805 574 - 3732
Gary Coulson	219 SB Sh. Dr.	805-284-6251
David Taylor	219 Santa Barbara Shores	805-720-7080
Joe Adams	224 SB Shores	805 717-0730

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Name	Address	Phone/Email
<u>Mark Freil</u>	<u>273 S.B. Shores Dr.</u>	<u>(805) 570-4853 / mark@freil.com</u>
<u>MARK EGGLESTON</u>	<u>286 SB Shores Dr.</u>	<u>805 705-6491 mark@swimbanet.com</u>
<u>Bryith Eggleston</u>	<u>286 SB Shores Dr.</u>	<u>805-403-4437 mb2@eggleston.com</u>
<u>JOHN DORMAN</u>	<u>295 S.B. SHORES DR.</u>	<u>805-685-4433 - JDORMAN@TESTAMENTS</u>
<u>Cheryl Johnson</u>	<u>280 " "</u>	<u>(805)</u>
<u>John Dorman</u>	<u>267 " "</u>	<u>jdorman@comcast.net</u>
<u>Julio Pizano</u>	<u>253 " "</u>	<u>jpizano1026@gmail.com</u>
<u>JOAN FAIRFIELD</u>	<u>252 SANTA BARBARA SHORES</u>	<u>JFAIRFIELD@aol.com</u>
<u>Luke Roberts</u>	<u>7602 Newport Drive</u>	<u>luherdot@history.ucsb.edu</u>
<u>Yachiyo Roberts</u>	<u>7602 Newport Drive</u>	<u>yachiyo@roberts@gnucb.com</u>



This petition has collected  
17 signatures  
using the online tools at [ipetitions.com](https://www.ipetitions.com)

Printed on 2019-03-05

Add potential property damage and fire threat to round out the list.

I don't write this to draw an emotionally heated response. I'd love to have to a boring logical exchange of ideas. I have only heard about opposition and don't really have any details; maybe there isn't. The who does not matter to me; rather, I am only interested in the why someone would be opposed to maintaining these beautiful trees. We mow our lawns, we trim our roses, heck I just had one of our neighbors groom my dog. I just don't understand why we would not maintain our trees. They are a great big part of our neighborhood, and we need to care for them.

Stuart, as always thank you for your time and concern. I would love to hear the city's position.

Kevin Grose  
296 Pebble Beach Drive

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9.	Name: Gil Tahanian	on 2019-02-18 15:07:46
	Comments:	

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10.	Name: Brigitta Eggleston	on 2019-02-18 19:26:12
	Comments:	

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11.	Name: Joyce Buck	on 2019-02-18 20:36:32
	Comments:	

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12.	Name: Maureen Horner	on 2019-02-19 00:51:15
	Comments:	

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13.	Name: Candace Templeton	on 2019-02-19 01:24:21
	Comments: Trees threatening homes need to be trimmed	

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14.	Name: Amy Slonaker	on 2019-02-19 01:36:16
	Comments:	

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15.	Name: Michael Mills	on 2019-02-19 03:59:36
	Comments:	

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16.	Name: Lori Clayton	on 2019-02-24 21:12:12
	Comments:	

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17.	Name: Per Blix	on 2019-03-02 04:57:06
	Comments:	

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