

## Disposing of Blackberry

Virginia Whitehead <vwhitehead@cityofgrassvalley.com>

Fri 6/3/2022 6:42 AM

To: Public Comments <public@cityofgrassvalley.com>

You don't often get email from wahillfire@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good Evening.

When it comes to blackberry, it must be sent to landfill. It is horrible to deal with and illegal!

Washington Hill residents would do more if we had a practical disposal method for blackberry.

We would like the City of Grass Valley to check into getting "BAGSTER" service into GV through Waste Management. This is a large flexible bag that can be purchased by residents for approximately \$30.00. WM picks up for a fee which I suppose would be covered by us. If you could -2247 check out this as a possible remedy to our blackberry issue it would be greatly appreciated!

Perhaps there are other ideas being discussed that we are unaware of. We are also looking into hiring a goat herder. It is all quite expensive! We are really trying to harden our homes and neighborhood.

Thank You and have a good day and a nice weekend!

Virginia Whitehead

BAGSTER

**Voice Mail (50 seconds)****PATRICIA COTTER**

Mon 6/13/2022 11:43 AM

To: Public Comments &lt;public@cityofgrassvalley.com&gt;

Hello, my name is Patricia Carter. I live at 501 K St in Grass Valley and I was calling to voice my support for LGBTQ pride and come month proclamation. I'm really excited about it. It's been really thrilling to see the flags and downtown Nevada city. We brought our granddaughter. It's progressive and in the right vein of how LGBTQ pride is moving, and I think it's a really, really important signal to the people of Nevada County. So thank you. And I am fully in support and I look forward to next year's Pride too. Thank you. Bye.

You received a voice mail from [PATRICIA COTTER](#).

**Thank you for using Transcription! If you don't see a transcript above, it's because the audio quality was not clear enough to transcribe.**

[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

**Voice Mail (3 minutes and 11 seconds)****WIRELESS CALLER**

Tue 6/14/2022 4:45 PM

To: Public Comments &lt;public@cityofgrassvalley.com&gt;

This is Sandra Spargo. I live at 230 illicium place and Morgan ranch. As you review this evening's resolutions regarding Morgan Ranch West and Morgan Ranch Unit 7's myriad of resolutions about drainage improvements, please consider strong water drainage on the city block long landscape easement that Parallels Ridge Rd. The easement is composed of 19 private lots, 19 owners who have no expertise regarding stormwater laws and frankly, they cannot stop the ditches pollution directly into Slate Creek. The ditch is shallow, nonlinear built of river rock sinking into mud. The ditch is mainly original, built in 2001 and now covered with pine needles and flora. There is a dilemma between Morgan ranch restrictions and the city of Grass Valley resolutions, Morgan. Branches declaration of restriction states owners are responsible for maintaining all such easements in all facilities there in at the same time, homeowners pay property tax to the city on the landscape easement and a city tax for its upkeep. Morgan ranch restrictions pirate odds with resolution of zone one regarding Morgan ranch lighting and landscaping act of nineteen seventy two, the resolution includes the city 's care of quote, the repair, removal, or replacement of any improvement, UN quote. Page two sixty five did the agenda Morgan ranch unit seven states quote the maintenance operation and servicing of drainage improvements dot dot dot in the routine administration of the district including the maintenance, operations and servicing of the drainage improvements. That's accordingly storm drainage paralleling Ridge Road is an improvement per the city 's definition of Morgan ranch unit seven 's definition of drainage as an improvement. So what takes precedence? A strong water dish is an improvement. The city 's resolution, supported by their landscaping admitting act of nineteen seventy two and the Benefit Assessment Act of nineteen eighty two or Morgan Ranch Ranch is declaration of restrictions. He is still ladder. Backyard fencing needs to include in date for easement access and standards followed to current laws to replace this 22 year old stormwater ditch your help in clearing up this matter is appreciated and I have a sent to tailor a three page letter with pictures. Thank you very much. Good evening.

You received a voice mail from [WIRELESS CALLER](#).

**Thank you for using Transcription! If you don't see a transcript above, it's because the audio quality was not clear enough to transcribe.**

[Set Up Voice Mail](#)



June 14, 2022

Sandra Spargo  
230 Elysian Place  
PO Box 2244  
Grass Valley, CA 95945

City Council Members  
City of Grass Valley  
125 East Main Street  
Grass Valley, CA 95945

Re: What Takes Landscape Easement Precedence--the City's Resolution or Morgan Ranch Restrictions?

Dear City Council Members:

As you review this evening's resolutions regarding Morgan Ranch West's and Morgan Ranch Unit 7's myriad of resolutions about drainage improvements, please consider stormwater drainage on the City's block-long landscape easement that parallels Ridge Road. The easement is composed of 19 private lots, 19 owners, who have no expertise regarding stormwater laws, and, frankly, cannot stop the ditch's pollution directly into Slate Creek.

#### **Stormwater Ditch Location and Construction Standards**

The block-long stormwater ditch flows into Slate Creek, passing through 19 lots. A portion of the ditch runs within backyard fencing and a portion runs outside backyard fencing. (The City approved no gates within backyard fencing to access landscape easements.) Of the portion outside backyard fencing, Scope Landscaping occasionally maintains the ditch approximately on five lots near the front entrance to Morgan Ranch. The rest of the ditch is neglected on 14 lots.

Please find below the current condition of the shallow, non-lined, river rock stormwater ditch, portions located outside backyard fencing. These portions are original, built in 2001. In the first two pictures, the ditch is covered with pine needles and flora.

In the third picture, a portion of the ditch is located within a lot's backyard fencing. Thus, due to flooding, the owner dug a channel under the backyard fence to guide stormwater flow outside the ditch to the landscape easement. Stormwater runs over the easement and onto the sidewalk along Ridge Road. Neighbors have been flooded up to their homes' foundations, and, so, seek a way to control stormwater away from their homes. Most of the block-long ditch is original construction--shallow, unlined and river rock that has sunk into the mud. Owners do not want to spend money to repair/update their portion of the ditch due to cost. No inspection occurs of the entire ditch to ensure no flooding, water blockage, nor pollution into Slate Creek.





Pollution flows from Woodcrest Way and from the First Baptist Church's property. Three buildings on First Baptist church property encompass 31,928 sq. ft. Thus, at least 31,928 sq. ft. of roofing sheds stormwater. In addition, the 47,815 sq. ft. parking lot sheds stormwater. Total hard surface stormwater runoff equals 79,743 sq. ft.

Pollution comes from cars in the parking lot, as well as trash, including used condoms. Moreover, besides churchgoers using the parking lot, students of Nevada Union High School use the lot.

Portions of the ditch's 22-year-old construction is no match for stormwater volume that carries pollution directly into Slate Creek.



This picture shows the construction of the original stormwater ditch in 2001. Note its shallowness, allowing record rains to flood, as did the torrents of rain during the winter of 2017.

Note that the ditch is being constructed within backyard fencing yet to be built. My observation is that the majority of owners neglect maintenance, unless heavy rains are threatened or flooding occurs. One new owner on Elysian Place did not know there was a stormwater ditch within her backyard, because it was covered with weeds.

### **The Dilemma with Between Morgan Ranch Restrictions and the City of Grass Valley**

Morgan Ranch's *Declaration of Restrictions* states the following in *Section 4.9, Restrictions on Grading and Drainage*: (a) *Certain lots contain drainage easements as shown on the Subdivision Map. OWNERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAINING ALL SUCH EASEMENTS AND ALL FACILITIES THEREIN.* (Written in bold.)

Perhaps, in 2001, when the developer constructed an inadequate stormwater system, there were an absence of laws--such as the *City of Grass Valley's Design Standards for Storm Drainage* or *California's Storm Drain Regulations* or *California's Storm Water Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems*.

I am positive that this block-long stormwater ditch that parallels Ridge Road meets none of the law's current standards. The City has left this stormwater ditch behind, burdening homeowners without expertise with upkeep, burdening market values and pocket books when forced to deal with flooding.

At the same time, homeowners pay property tax on the landscape easement and a tax for its upkeep.

## **So, What Takes Precedence?**

Morgan Ranch Restrictions are at odds with Resolution of Zone 1 - Morgan Ranch, No. 1 includes the City's care of *The repair, removal or replacement of any improvement.*

Page 265 of the agenda, Morgan Ranch Unit 7, states, *The maintenance, operation and servicing of drainage improvements . . . . , . . . in the routine administration of the district, including the maintenance, operations and servicing of the drainage improvements.*

Thus, accordingly, storm drainage paralleling Ridge Road is an *improvement* per the City's definition of Morgan Ranch Unit 7's definition of drainage as an improvement.

So, what takes precedence? A stormwater ditch is an improvement. The City's Resolutions, supported by the *Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972* and the *Benefit Assessment Act of 1982* or Morgan Ranch's *Declaration of Restrictions*?

If the latter, backyard fencing needs to include a gate for easement access and standards followed according to current laws to replace this 22-year-old stormwater ditch.

Who will pay for a block-long, updated stormwater ditch and gates to allow owners' access to landscape easements? The City disallowed gates when approving developer design.

Your help in clearing up this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Sandra Spargo