



Carmel Valley Association

preserving the beauty, resources, and rural character of the Valley since 1949

To: Carmel City Council
From: Carmel Valley Association
Carmel Valley CA 93924

PO Box 157

January 30, 2025

re. Rio Park

Dear Mayor Dale Byrne, and
Councilmembers Jeff Barron, Hans Buder, Bob Delves, Alissandra Dramov,

The Carmel Valley Association (CVA) wishes to make known to the City Council its support for the granting of a long-term lease of Rio Park to the Carmel Area Wastewater District (CAWD) at a nominal cost for enhancement of outdoor recreational activity in our region.

The flooding that inundated Mission Fields during the '95 winter has roughly a thirty-year return period and the park appears to have the same challenges for development, so we think its highest and best use is recreational. Our members living on both sides of Highway 1 are enthusiastic about eventually being able to walk safely between the Palo Corona Regional Park trail system and the City of Carmel without having to navigate a dangerous highway. While the CVA's board recognizes that Rio Park is not a necessity for access to the CAWD bridge, it is our view that an enhanced Rio Park would function as a pleasant resting place while walking to and from either side of the river. Recreational amenities are attractive to tourism, as well.

It is the CVA's hope that we can announce to the general membership at our March meeting that the Carmel City Council in its wisdom has granted a lease.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne Gawain, President, Carmel Valley Association

MAIL P.O. Box 157, Carmel Valley, CA 93924

WEB www.carmelvalleyassociation.org | EMAIL president@carmelvalleyassociation.org