

**From:** Kirk Palmer <kirkpalmer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 9, 2020 1:36 PM  
**To:** Poling, Jeanie (CPC) <jeanie.poling@sfgov.org>  
**Cc:** Hong, Seung Yen (CPC) <seungyen.hong@sfgov.org>; ECN, BalboaReservoirCompliance (ECN) <balboareservoircompliance.ecn@sfgov.org>  
**Subject:** Re: Balboa Reservoir Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report

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Hi Jeanie,

I have written the mayor also. New housing is not "essential", in this context. Essential is preserving the lives, safety, and well-being of citizens in the short term.

You say that you have put my on your email list. But, as I have said, I and others **SHOULD HAVE BEEN** on these lists for a long time, and yet we are **NOT** getting notices. This is unacceptable practice.

Sincerely,  
Kirk Palmer

On Thu, Apr 9, 2020 at 1:14 PM Poling, Jeanie (CPC) <[jeanie.poling@sfgov.org](mailto:jeanie.poling@sfgov.org)> wrote:

Hello Mr. Palmer,

Thank you for your comments and your interest in the Balboa Reservoir project.

Mayor Breed has determined that housing production is an essential service, and so we at the Planning Department are continuing our work and are doing our best to allow for public participation during the shelter-in-place order. Thank you for your patience as we work out the technical kinks in the process.

We do maintain an email list of interested parties for both the environmental review and approvals processes. Seung Yen and I will make sure you are on our email lists, and we will notify you of future meetings and publications.

Sincerely,

**Jeanie Poling, Senior Environmental Planner**

San Francisco Planning Department  
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400 San Francisco, CA 94103  
Direct: 415.575.9072 | [www.sfplanning.org](http://www.sfplanning.org)  
[San Francisco Property Information Map](#)

**REDUCED CAPACITY DURING THE SHELTER IN PLACE ORDER** -- The Planning Department is open for business. Most of our staff are working from home and we are [available by e-mail](#). Our [Public Portal](#), where you can file new applications, and our award-winning [Property Information Map](#) are available 24/7. Similarly, the [Board of](#)

[Appeals](#) and [Board of Supervisors](#) are accepting appeals via e-mail despite office closures. To protect everyone's health, all of our in-person services at 1650 and 1660 Mission Street are suspended, and the Planning and Historic Preservation Commissions are cancelled until April 9, at the earliest. [Click here for more information.](#)

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**From:** Kirk Palmer <[kirkpalmer@gmail.com](mailto:kirkpalmer@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, April 9, 2020 9:29 AM

**To:** Poling, Jeanie (CPC) <[jeanie.poling@sfgov.org](mailto:jeanie.poling@sfgov.org)>

**Subject:** Re: Balboa Reservoir Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Ms. Poling,

I am writing to express my shock and dismay at the manner in which the proposed Balboa Reservoir project is being reviewed and, potentially, approved. I have only this morning, courtesy of NextDoor, become aware that there was a (virtual) Balboa Reservoir CAC meeting last night and that there is a (virtual) Planning Commission meeting on this topic today. I, and many of my fellow community members, have attended numerous meetings in the past and have communicated via phone, mail, or email with the City about concerns we have pertaining to this project. And, yet, none of us received any sort of notification of these meetings. No emails. No phone calls. No letters. Nor, have there been flyers posted in community settings about these meetings. That is disconcerting; frankly, that is appalling.

And, these meetings --- at these times --- are clearly a huge challenge to the citizenry with regard to review and input. People are struggling to obtain food and other necessities, to try to keep employed, to try to save small businesses, to deal with COVID-19 or other health issues, etc. As such, their attention is---understandably--not on the planning commission. Thoughtful and legal development is critical in the LONG term, but it certainly doesn't seem so urgent right now.

Please, please, take appropriate steps to make sure that (1) the concerned public IS given appropriate notice regarding meetings/developments, and (2) NO decisions are made on advancing projects that require exceptions to policies and restrictions WITHOUT genuine opportunity for adequate public participation.

Frankly, I strongly believe that non-essential government activity (not life-saving) should be totally on hold until things return to normal. I am not accusing anyone of deliberately attempting to skirt Sunshine Laws, but---for whatever reason---this is certainly a case of the government conducting important business, on controversial topics, at a time when the public's attention is, and SHOULD BE, elsewhere.

Sincerely,

Kirk Palmer

On Wed, Aug 7, 2019 at 11:51 AM Poling, Jeanie (CPC) <[jeanie.poling@sfgov.org](mailto:jeanie.poling@sfgov.org)> wrote:

To all interested parties:

The San Francisco Planning Department published a draft supplemental environmental impact report (SEIR) for the Balboa Reservoir project today. The document is available at <https://sfplanning.org/environmental-review-documents>.

**The public comment period for the draft SEIR is August 8<sup>th</sup> to September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 p.m.** During this period, you can submit comments on the adequacy of the draft SEIR:

- orally or in writing at the Planning Commission public hearing on Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup>;
- via email to [CPC.BalboaReservoir@sfgov.org](mailto:CPC.BalboaReservoir@sfgov.org); or
- mailed or delivered to Jeanie Poling, Senior Planner, San Francisco Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, CA 94103.

During the public comment period, Planning Department staff will not respond to comments on the content of the draft SEIR but can answer questions concerning the overall environmental review process.

Following the public comment period, Planning Department staff will review the comments and prepare a responses to comments document. **The draft SEIR and the responses to comments document will be the final SEIR.** The Planning Commission will hold a hearing to certify the adequacy of the final SEIR. The Planning Department will notify the public when the department publishes the responses to comments document and will schedule the final SEIR certification hearing.

Please refer to linked notice of availability and the draft SEIR for more details.