

July 23, 2021

TO: Santa Cruz LAFCO
701 Ocean Street, Room 318-D
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

FROM: Mike Tapia, Board President, Alba Parks and Rec District.

Re: The future of the Alba Parks and Rec District.

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JUL 26 2021
Santa Cruz LAFCO

Dear Santa Cruz LAFCO Members,

To say that the past year has been challenging for the Alba Parks and Rec District is a bit of an understatement. As you know, the Alba School House *burned to the ground* in the CZU fire of August, 2020. All of our Board Members' properties were also damaged by that fire to one degree or another. Some of us lost our homes entirely.

Up to that point---and for the preceding five years since the *last* LAFCO auditor's report---our Board was taking care of business: We held regular Board Meetings. We always kept minutes and proper documentation. Our books were thorough and complete and up to date, etc.

Our house was in order.

And then, it burned down. Literally. Along with virtually *all* our files and books and paperwork. And, in fact, a large part of our entire mountain.

Point being: I think it's fair that the unprecedented circumstances of the last year be taken into account when considering any audit of our District. I don't see how anyone could disagree.

Since the CZU fire we have been in a virtual holding pattern, awaiting the decision of the San Lorenzo Unified School District Board of Trustees as to what they are going to do with the property where the School House stood for over 125 years. It has always been our hope they will choose to **rebuild** the School House. We still technically have a lease on the property through 2024, and are spearheading a grass-roots movement for rebuilding that is gaining steam and has tremendous community support.

The SLV Board is finally scheduled to address this issue during their August 4th Board Meeting.

Once this decision is made, we will know what the landscape is going to look like moving forward into the future. And that will dictate much of our future as well.

So please do not make any decisions as to the disposition of the Alba Parks and Rec District until we know the future of the Alba School House and the parcel upon which it stood. This little building was far more to us than just some historic eye-candy. It really was the center of our mountain community.

Thank you so much.

Mike Tapia
Board President, Alba Parks and Rec
408-807-1674