

To demonstrate their concern and opposition to Creekside Memorial Cemetery, on August 16th 2014 about 450 community residents organized and hiked from the Windemere community in San Ramon a short distance to the proposed site of Creekside Memorial Cemetery. It was the largest hike that Save Mount Diablo Land Conservation Director Seth Adams has ever led. Photos by Juan Pablo Galván.

Land Use Summary for Save Mount Diablo Communications -

Creekside Memorial Cemetery

What is the Project?

- A proposal by Corrie Development Corporation to construct a cemetery (Creekside Memorial Cemetery; Figure 1) on a 220 acre property located off Camino Tassajara.
- 2. The cemetery includes a lower area and an 'upper garden' area that sits at the top of a prominent ridge. The upper and lower cemetery areas will be connected by a road.

Why does Save Mount Diablo oppose the Project?

- 1. The local community is very concerned about the effects the cemetery would have on the hills they enjoy, water resources, traffic, their children, property values, and cultural values.
- 2. The project would extract much more water than the aquifer can handle. This is the 3rd drought year.
- 3. The project lies right next to the protected Hidden Valley Open Space area, the Tassajara Ridge Regional Trail, and future protected open space areas and degrades the recreation value of the trail (Figures 2 and 3).
- 4. The road and upper gardens would trisect the property, fragmenting rare wildlife habitat. California red-legged frog and California tiger salamander have been found in two ponds that would lie on either side of the upper gardens (Figures 1 and 3). The road and upper gardens would make it more difficult for these threatened species to travel between these ponds.
- 5. The entryway to the proposed cemetery would destroy rare alkaline meadow habitat that supports rare plant species, including Congdon's tarplant and San Joaquin spearscale.

How can people help?

- 1. The Contra Costa Board of Supervisors will decide the fate of this project.
 - a. If you live in the Alamo Creek neighborhood, Blackhawk, or the unincorporated area of Tassajara Valley, contact Supervisor Mary Piepho: (925-252-4500, 925-240-7261), <u>Dist3@BOS.CCCounty.us</u>; or email her Field Representative (Ms. Jennifer Quallick) at <u>jennifer.quallick@bos.cccounty.us</u>
 - b. If you live in the town of Danville or the City of San Ramon, contact Supervisor Candace Andersen: (925-957-8860), <u>supervisorandersen@bos.cccounty.us</u>

- 2. The City Councils of Danville, Dublin, Livermore and Pleasanton can influence the Board of Supervisors. San Ramon is already sending a letter to the County stating their opposition to the cemetery. If the other cities do the same, that can help sway the County Board of Supervisors. Ask your City Council to oppose the cemetery.
 - a. Danville Town Council (passed resolution supporting cemetery in 2005) : (925) 314-3378
 - i. Mayor Mike Doyle: (925) 837-5406; mdoyle@danville.ca.gov
 - ii. Vice Mayor Karen Stepper: (925) 275-2412; kstepper@danville.ca.gov
 - iii. Councilmember Newell Arnerich: (510) 366-0716; arnerich@danville.ca.gov
 - iv. Councilmember Renee Morgan: (925) 918-3999; rmorgan@danville.ca.gov
 - v. Councilmember Robert Storer: (510) 343-4415, (510) 614-6200; storer@danville.ca.gov
 - b. **Dublin** City Council (Alameda County, but passed resolution supporting cemetery in 2005):
 - i. Mayor David Haubert: (925) 833-6665; <u>david.haubert@dublin.ca.gov</u>
 - ii. Vice Mayor Abe Gupta: (925) 833-6661; <u>abe.gupta@dublin.ca.gov</u>
 - iii. Councilmember Don Biddle: (925) 833-6664; <u>don.biddle@dublin.ca.gov</u>
 - iv. Councilmember Kevin Hart: (925) 833-6662; <u>kevin.hart@dublin.ca.gov</u>
 - c. Pleasanton City Council (Alameda County, but passed resolution supporting cemetery in 2005):
 - Mayor Jerry Thorne, Vice Mayor Jerry Pentin, Councilmember Karla Brown, Councilmember Arne Olson, Councilmember Kathy Narum: (925) 931-5001; <u>mayorandcitycouncil@cityofpleasantonca.gov</u>
 - d. Livermore City Council (only one out of all Tri-Valley cities that did not support cemetery in 2005):
 - i. Mayor John Marchand: (925) 960-4020; <u>mayormarchand@cityoflivermore.net</u>
 - ii. Vice Mayor Laureen Turner: (925) 960-4018; <a href="https://www.etaureen.etaure
 - iii. Councilmember Stewart Gary: (925) 960-4019; swgary@cityoflivermore.net
 - iv. Councilmember Bob Woerner: (925) 960-4017; <u>bwoerner@cityoflivermore.net</u>
- 3. Read the environmental review documents here: <u>http://ca-contracostacounty2.civicplus.com/4710/Creekside-</u> <u>Cemetery</u>

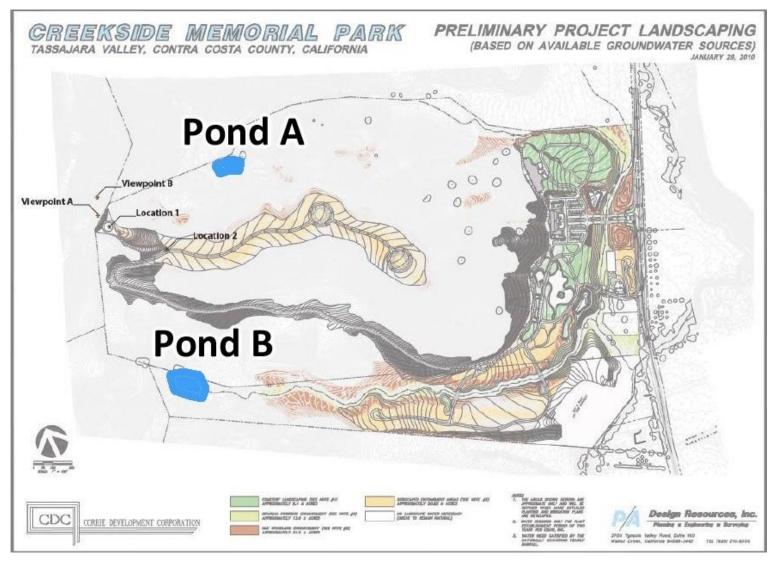


Figure 1. The upper gardens (tan shading, center of the figure) in the middle of the property sit at the top of the steep ridge, and together with the road break a movement corridor for wildlife between Pond A and Pond B. The gray shadowing in the figure shows the amount of fill and grading that would be required due to the steepness of the property. Pond sizes are not to scale. Note the large buildings planned on the lower portions of the property near Camino Tassajara.



Figure 2. The Creekside Memorial Cemetery would negatively impact future protected open space to the north and the protected Hidden Valley Open Space area and Tassajara Ridge Trail to the west.



Figure 3. Creekside Memorial Cemetery would lie just a half mile (2,700 ft.) from the Windemere community.