

**02/02/18 - 02/06/18**

From: patty mayall  
Date: Fri, Feb 2, 2018 at 2:37 PM  
Subject: Re: Spraying  
To: "Dentler, Joan" <Joan.Dentler@sen.ca.gov>

Hi Joan,

Thank you for your time and help which my Advisors and I always appreciate. We met last weekend and are most concerned about Hwys. 84 & 35 being sprayed, as this is the time of year when it starts. I'm proposing one idea that I hope might help an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with Caltrans to not broadcast spray herbicides on Hwys. 84 & 35 in SMC.

We understand that they do not broadcast spray Hwy. 84 east of Hwy. 35, so why not extend this to the west side of 84 and to 35 ?

I have had no response to my email or phone message to Jeff Weiss, the new Caltrans Public Info Officer for SMC. No response from Caltrans since October.

It seems that this is part of the problem when staff members change which does not help with trusting that the history will be related, that our No Spray signs will be respected, that we will be given notice, or that our community's concerns are a priority.

In 2016, Caltrans' Gidget Navarro stated, "we will provide timely advance notice to all interested parties" in an email to me and in the HMB Review, Feb. 3, 2016 article, "Caltrans Postpones Spraying Hwy. 84. Agency looks at other options to control weeds" and Caltrans Spokesman Bob Haus stated, "we're looking at several options to do a lot less with the spraying itself" which is not what the official records show of their actual spraying ( which are posted on our website along with past news articles). Thousands of gallons of potentially toxic chemicals continue to be broadcast sprayed on the state roads in SMC and within our major watersheds.

It's quite maddening given that Caltrans does not spray in areas like the Topanga Creek Watershed where they have a formal agreement on this :

<http://www.topangamesessenger.com>

My Advisors and I are troubled by the fact that we cannot achieve a written agreement with Caltrans to not broadcast spray on Hwys. 84 & 35 in order to protect our residents' only water sources.

As you know, we have been "stating our case" and requesting help on this issue from our representatives since 2012 when our county supervisors passed the Resolution ending broadcast spraying on county roads.

Caltrans and all of us know that there are alternatives to broadcast spraying for weeds, yet there are no alternatives for other water sources for residents along 84 & 35.

We all live downstream from these roadways that impact the La Honda Creek and San Gregorio Creek Watersheds.

Would an Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) be possible, stating that Caltrans will not broadcast spray herbicides on SMC State Hwy. 84 and Hwy. 35?

I know that MOUs are done with public works departments to not broadcast spray herbicides on roads near schools, for example. Last week, I spoke with Lisa Estridge of Ca. Dept. of Pesticide Regulation regarding the Healthy Schools Act which helps to protect children from pesticide exposure, and she also mentioned MOUs as an option with public agencies.

As staff and priorities change at Caltrans, our community needs an agreement in writing for clarity and consistency.

Please let me know if I can be of any help on this, and I look forward to hearing from you.

With gratitude,  
Patty Mayall  
Director, Protect Our Watershed San Mateo County  
[www.protectourwatershed.org](http://www.protectourwatershed.org)

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From: patty mayall  
Date: 2/2/18 3:36 PM (GMT-08:00)  
Subject: Post NO Spray Signs ! And an Update  
To: Group Update

Greetings All,

Caltrans could begin broadcast spraying herbicides on the state highways ( 84, 35, 1, 92, 280) : this IS the time of year when it has been done in the past.

I have had no response since October, 2017, from the new Public Info Officer for SMC Jeff Weiss, despite my emailing and calling for an update a few weeks ago. At the same time, I copied and called Sen. Hill's Aide Joan Dentler who wrote back to me today (her email and my reply are below).

On October 2, 2017, in response to some of my questions, Jeff sent an email stating "Caltrans has plans to spray along these routes (Hwys. 280, 84, 35, and 1) but has not defined the timetable or the exact areas that will be sprayed."

Please post your NO SPRAY signs NOW, as we do not know if or when we will receive any notification. Please share this email with your neighbors and post it on local sites.

If you would like a free, laminated sign on a wooden post, please contact me.

Please contact Caltrans' Jeff Weiss to voice your concerns and to request notification:

510-286-5543

Jeffrey.Weiss@dot.ca.gov

As you can read below, we are attempting another way to at least stop the broadcast spraying on Hwys. 84 & 35 which I hope that Joan and Sen. Hill will pursue.

Please contact their office, as the more voices the better: 650-212-3313

With gratitude,  
Patty Mayall  
Director, Protect Our Watershed San Mateo County  
[www.protectourwatershed.org](http://www.protectourwatershed.org)

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On Mon, Feb 5, 2018 at 5:56 PM, (local resident) wrote:

Dear Ian, Janet, and Shelly,

I am writing to ask Redwood City adopt a policy to ban the use of herbicides by Redwood City Public Works. I think the three of you are pro environment.

In January I noticed that spraying was done along Jefferson from the PCC up to Emerald Hills Golf Course and also on the outside and inside of the weather station on Sunset Way in unincorporated RWC. I learned it was done by RWC, not S.M. Co.

In speaking with the person who did the spraying (Alex), I discovered Glyphosate was used. I spoke with Vanjay and then Terence Kyaw, Assistant Public Works Director, who said RWC would use up the Glyphosate and then spray with a different product. I asked why the weather station was sprayed because in the past goats were brought in or weed whackers were used. He said their Supervisor said spraying would be more "cost effective". This is an unacceptable choice and I encourage the use of non-toxic, chemical-free methods. Of course it's cheap to use chemicals, but that doesn't make it the right choice.

Adults, children, and pets walk through these sprayed areas, exposing themselves to the toxic chemicals. The front of Redwood Parents Nursery School also was sprayed. (I have contacted RWC in the past regarding spraying done in parks and in front of Schaberg Library where no signs were posted warning about the spraying.)

I wrote to Supervisor Horsley who confirmed that the County has a ban on spraying herbicides on and along unincorporated County. He said he would have his Chief of Staff notify the City of Redwood City of their policy and would suggest that RWC adopt a similar policy.

I look forward to your response.

(Anonymous local resident)

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From: Ian Bain <ibain@redwoodcity.org>  
To: (Anonymous local resident)  
Cc: Council-Janet Borgens <jborgens@redwoodcity.org>; Council-Shelly Masur <smasur@redwoodcity.org>; GRP-City Council <council@redwoodcity.org>; MGR-Melissa Stevenson Diaz <mdiaz@redwoodcity.org>  
Sent: Mon, Feb 5, 2018 6:03 pm  
Subject: Re: Spraying of Glyphosate

Dear (local resident's name),

Thank you for your note bringing this to our attention. I was just informed of this yesterday. I was also contacted by Supervisor Pine about this, who informed me that the County has updated its practices to include stopping the use of Glyphosate. I have informed our City Manager and she is looking into the County's policies so that we may consider adopting them in Redwood City as well.

Respectfully,

Ian Bain

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From: Council-Janet Borgens <jborgens@redwoodcity.org>  
To: (local resident)  
Sent: Mon, Feb 5, 2018 6:40 pm  
Subject: Re: Spraying of Glyphosate

Hi (local resident's name)

Thank you for this information and concern .

Very much appreciated .

Let's look into this. I agree especially in a time when everyone should be thinking and using environmentally safe products . Why aren't we??

Thank you  
Janet Borgens

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From: patty mayall  
Date: 2/6/18 11:58 PM (GMT-08:00)  
To: Group update  
Subject: RWC Spraying Update

Greetings All,

THANK YOU to those of you responding to the recent broadcast spraying done on Jefferson Ave., to RWC area residents, and to the city and county officials for taking action!

As you can read below, one mighty resident (who preferred privacy) achieved the most positive response from her calls and emails which began on Jan.16th.

On Feb. 5th, she received these inspiring replies from RWC Council member Janet Borgens and Mayor Ian Bain. County Supervisor Don Horsley and Supervisor Dave Pine helped significantly on this effort also. Please join me in thanking all of them!

In 2012, our county supervisors ended broadcast herbicide spraying and some of our cities have also, yet we are surrounded by Caltrans highways that are broadcast sprayed with toxic chemicals year after year. Hopefully, together, we will change this in 2018.

Here is proof that your voices and actions DO make the difference!

With gratitude,

Patty