[Your Address]

[City, State, Zip Code]

[Today's Date]

Hon. Joe Goethals, Mayor of San Mateo

 [OR Hon. David Lim, Deputy Mayor of San Mateo] [OR Hon. Rick Bonilla]

 [OR Hon. Maureen Freschet] [OR Hon. Diane Papan]

San Mateo City Council

330 West 20th Avenue

San Mateo, CA 94403

Dear Mayor Goethals [or Deputy Mayor Lim or Councilmember Bonilla, Freschet, or Papan],

I am writing to express my opposition to the placement of an underground sewage storage tank in Fiesta Meadows Park. I respectfully ask you to conscientiously consider this matter and put families first.

I have called Fiesta Gardens home for [\_\_X\_\_] years. During this time, I have come to appreciate our neighborhood for its many unique assets:

* peaceful and safe streets
* close-knit, family-oriented community, where neighbors know each other, generations of families stay in the neighborhood, and organized gatherings draw us together
* a rare combination of single-family homes and jointly-shared pool, cabana, and playground with Fiesta Meadows, a treasured public open space, in our midst

Fiesta Gardens is a gem in the bustling Peninsula, and I strongly feel that the proposed project would severely compromise the **quality of life**, **safety**, and **desirability** of our charming neighborhood in the following ways:

1. We would all be exposed to **dust**, **hazardous material**, **noise**, **and exhaust** for four long years. This would affect everyone but particularly the young, elderly, or compromised.
2. Our **neighborhood-owned playground, pool, and cabana would be subject to the effects of construction.** These facilities could be rendered unusable for the duration of the project.
3. **Our homes, streets, and community facilities would sustain serious, long-term damage** due to construction and heavy traffic.
4. **We would** **lose our much-needed park**, which our entire neighborhood and many other San Mateo residents count on. It is used heavily each day by a wide spectrum of people, from toddlers in day care to senior residents who take daily strolls, from moms pushing strollers to dogs taking their owners for a walk, from die-hard joggers to kids practicing on bikes.
5. **Construction** **traffic would** **compound the existing unbearable gridlock** in our small, enclosed neighborhood.
6. **Our** **home values would decrease** due to loss of desirability during construction and mandatory listing of a sewage tank on our disclosures following construction.
7. As with all equipment, **the storage system would age and run the risk of failure**.

I am further concerned about the toll such a project would take on the school children at neighboring Fiesta Gardens International School, the businesses at Fiesta Gardens Shopping Center, the local soccer community, school soccer teams, and the adjoining Borel Creek, which runs out to the Bay.

With the utmost respect, I am asking you to prioritize the well-being of the Fiesta Gardens neighborhood as you consider your decision. I hope you will agree that construction of a sewage storage tank is completely incompatible with a residential, family-filled neighborhood like ours and that you will opt instead for a location that 1) does not take away a valuable community asset used by all of San Mateo for four long years, 2) is not located next to a school, playground, pool, and creek, 3) has better road access, 4) does not single out one neighborhood to bear the burden of a city-wide problem, and 5) does not subject hundreds of families to years of turmoil, safety concerns, and disruption.

**There are indeed better options. With the greatest respect, I urge you to remove Fiesta Meadows Park from consideration as a site for an underground sewage storage tank.**

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

Concerned Fiesta Gardens Resident