

** Agenda Item #1: Letter asking to
be read into the record*

Feedback on Bay point Storm Water Renovation Plan

Subject: **27-foot sunset view Mound in my back yard**

My name is Frederick Vanore and my wife Jeanne live at 14088 Yacht Club Blvd, Seminole Fl 33776. In my almost 20 years in Pinellas County this is the first time I have had to address the County Commissioners.

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The 27-foot subject mound is proposed to be built a few feet from my and 12 of my neighbors' properties as a result of digging a new pond by the Pinellas County Bay pointe storm water planning team. When I saw the preliminary plan that sought our input several of us tried to get more details and finally got initial feedback that the mound would be 51 feet tall!! After several weeks about 10 neighbors finally met with Pinellas's administrators on the project at the site. The Pinellas lead Jennifer Shannon clarified that the height was 27 feet above ground and not 51 feet as originally told to us. Instead of going into anymore details of how the mound height information was not readily revealed in the previous presentations, here are the issues concerning a 27-foot mound in the northeast corner of the Bay point property.

1. **It's a safety issue especially for local children and grandchildren.** They will try to ride their bikes down this mound and get hurt. Teenagers will probably hang out there and potentially could develop into a drug issue. I reviewed this with Pinellas County Sheriff's department, and they agreed there are risks associated with this type size mound in our neighborhood.
2. **Managing this mound: It would be the highest public controlled mound in Pinellas County.** Right now, it's hard to get the county to cut the grass on level ground twice a year. How will they maintain a 27 Foot mound?? With that size how do we know the hazardous waste will not become more hazardous having no experience controlling that size. How will they

measure the amount of hazardous leakage. Should we try this if there are other alternatives.

3. **No use for a sunset outlook.** Every neighbor we interviewed said they had no reason to climb three stories to watch a sunset which can be seen outside their door or by walking a block. Even at that height the Gulf water can't even be seen. They were more concerned about children and teenagers' safety.
4. **Property values decrease.** Finally, the mound will be an eye sore and our now beautiful look at landscape and trees will be blocked by a 27-foot mound. It's not just our values but also the entire neighborhood will be affected.

At our meeting with Jennifer and her team we suggested and showed them several areas on the property where they could make several lower than 9-foot mounds and reduce the 27-foot mound like the rest of the smaller mounds in the plan. Initial feedback from Jennifer is that after review with the planners the sunset mound will remain and may be reduced somewhat by adding to other exciting mounds, but no new mounds would be considered.

I asked that the County Commissioners order the Pinellas Bay Point planning group to find a resolution by adding more smaller mounds or other creative solutions. Lastly, if some of the hazardous waste must be moved off site to solve the problem, I feel our community deserves this type of consideration.

Thank you for your diligent efforts.

Fred Vanore

7-25-23