

Parking and Traffic Issues in the San Pablo Dam & Castro Ranch Areas

In the last few months the area of SPD Rd. from Canyon Oaks Dr. to the South entrance of Tri Lane have become more of a problem in Two areas.

1. TRAFFIC.

While the nearby areas are patrolled by FOUR police agencies, there is no one taking responsibility for the safety and comfort of the nearby residents.

East Bay Parks patrols inside the SP Reservoir

CC Co Sheriff does not do traffic

Richmond PD only patrols inside Canyon Oaks

CHP is here every few months.

It has been several years since we have seen a concentrated enforcement. I personally watched the officer write tickets almost as fast as he could get back out to radar the cars.

A few weeks ago, there was a roll over accident, but it was not an isolated incident.

There have been a few spectacular ones in the past and no wonder based on what we experience daily. Our sound wall in front has been hit twice in solo car encounters from loss of control.

A few weeks ago, the guard rail up the road was crushed

In front of the Canyon Oaks of El Sobrante homes, SPD road goes from Four lanes to Two.

There is no passing until it becomes Four lanes and Camino Pablo in Orinda. That is about Eight miles of no passing

Consequently there is a constant race to beat slower cars from the traffic light going SB from Castro Ranch.

WE FEAR FOR OUR LIVES when we enter SPD Rd. I have had cars pass uphill, over the double double zebra striping on the left as well as on the right curb parking area.

I estimated the speed in the 70 to 80 MPH. Every weekday morning it is the derby.

There used to be White pylons to indicate the end of the lane past Canyon Oaks. They are gone.

I do not profess to have a solution for these issues, but the TOTAL lack of traffic enforcement is intolerable. We pay taxes to FOUR police agencies and NONE will deal with this issue.

A long term solution will probably involve a traffic light

The same issue is trying to enter SPD Rd from Tri Lane in front of Lakeridge at 6350 SPD Rd.

It is a blind inside curve but dealing with the racing cars coming along from the merging lanes is very challenging. I am not a timid driver, but it tests my prowess.

Lakeridge Health Club has a petition sign up sheet at the front desk asking for some CHP enforcement.

2. PARKING.

San Pablo Dam Road from Tri Lane to Orinda is posted with "No Parking" signs.

There are no signs from Tri Lane to Canyon Oaks Drive. This has become a nuisance.

The home's entrances along this stretch of SPD Rd. face the opposite way onto other streets.

There is never a need for the local residents to park on SPD Rd.

The area has, of late, become storage areas for truck trailer dump truck combinations that do not live nearby. I did complain at a previous Board of Supervisor meeting, and there was a temporary relief. Only when I complained to EBAY MUD, the trucks were removed.

It is an on going "Whack-a-mole" job for the CHP or Sheriff to tag the various motorhomes, 5th wheel homes, etc. for owners unwilling to pay storage in commercial lots. Now we have people living in trailers and a bus by the side of the road This is such a waste of police enforcement resources. Why not have a community service officer?

Even better, just post "NO Parking Anytime" signs. There are no houses impacted as they face the other way onto Tri Lane and there is a deep ditch between. I am sure they are also tired of people living on the road in back of their homes.

To recap:

Short term, we need some immediate relief from the insane driving by providing increased patrols. I would like to see the CHP here a few times a week, not a couple of times a year

Long term, some traffic study to calm the merging race in front of our homes with a traffic light desirable. Maybe squeezing the multiple lanes to single ones earlier.

The extension of the "No Parking" signs on BOTH sides of SPD Road from Canyon Oaks all the way to join the other signs.

9/18

I have solved some of the truck parking issues. The dump trucks belonged to contractors working for Ebay MUD in Orinda and I have gotten wonderful and immediate help so at least the dump trucks will park elsewhere

3. HOARDER OF VEHICLES AND STUFF

We have lived here since 2001 [17 years] Many many many times I have tried to have something done with two pickup trucks parked on the corner of Tri Lane and San Pablo Dam Road. Now a total wrecked car has joined the storage It looks awful. Really, can we not do anything about eyesores?

Thank you. Ed Hofler 925 320 1037 cell. eahofler@gmail.com