

Supplemental Item –
Correspondence for Item 7 - Grover Beach
Lodge Time Extention

Agenda Item No. 7
Correspondence for Grover Beach
Lodge Time Extention

(CC Mtg 7/26/2021)

7/26/2021 City Council Presentation

by Elizabeth Doukas

Public Hearing, Item No. 7, Development Application
10-03, Time Extension for the Grover Beach Lodge Project.

Concerning the amount of monies expended for this project going on decades now with no project completed, several years ago when then Councilperson Mariam Shah talked about the monies expended thus far, it was around \$900,000.

Additionally, this city turned down \$2.5 million by our former Mayor John Shoals because he had his own "vision" of what he wanted this lodge to be and did not accept the state monies because they were then going to be directing how this project was to be completed after years of our city failing to bring this project to completion.

These monies included project design by RRM Design Group, the former employer of former Mayor John Shoals, water main improvements made as part of the Grand Avenue Master Plan, and all necessary infrastructure improvements. Some of these moneys for the needed water main improvements, around \$200,000 plus, came from our "water fund," which had recently had a 6% water rate increase to help fund these project costs and further needed infrastructure improvements.

Mind you, the project "developer" was to bear all of these costs, but your citizens ended up paying the bill, after repeated attempts by many to stop this conduct in direct conflict with the original Bid contract.

Several years ago there was a "project re-design," which moneys then were around another \$200,000 to the various consultants, engineers, etc.

In my estimation, there have been expenses paid by your citizens in the millions for this project, including a re-re-design after Pismo Beach did not allow use of their water lift station, which had to be moved and built, expenses again borne by your citizens and our water fund.

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For those citizens following this project over these many decades, it has been a complete drain to our water fund and budget to outlay expenses that were never part of our responsibilities, but instead should have been paid by the developer.

We are blessed to have one of the very few open spaces for recreational use right here on the Central Coast. The parking area proposed for this lodge is completely full on weekends, all your citizens and visitors get to access the beach from this available parking, and any hotels should be placed more appropriately, as they are in the works, at the Oak Park/El Camino Real development areas.