

Steven Paige
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Subject: The biggest salvage archeological dig in the history of California.

First DEIR question: Why is there no appendix on Archeological Resources? I would expect in a complete DEIR a 150 page detailed description of the Archeological resources of Los Osos and description of updated mitigation based on new technology (STEP, or STEP- STEG Sewers) approved by the Chumash Council. Didn't this happen on the last sewer project? With 260,000 cubic yards of potential Archeological sifting material, the Los Osos sewer trenching/archeological dig could turn into the biggest Archeological extravaganza in the history of California with the cost passed on to homeowner's. I should know I spent a whole summer doing salvage archeology at Little Pico Creek for UCLA as a Archeo. undergrad when the State expanded Hwy. 1 in 1969. The dig was 100 by 450 feet with 36 burials and a \$70,000 dollar budget. How many 'villages' will be found in the trenching here? Leaving this extended finding out of the DEIR is the Counties continued dalliance with wasting the homeowner's money by a got-cha cost later on for 'Archeology'. The Chumash should have a say in what goes on here early in the process. What will this dig cost Los Osos Homeowner's if the Chumash step in and sue to stop the project in the final stages of the EIR approval? Have you included that in the budget? STEP directional drilling and certification of existing septic tanks would eliminate 2/3 the Archeological impacts of a trenched gravity sewer. It would cost a mere \$600 dollars for each homeowner to certify their existing tank for primary treatment. This of course beats \$10,000 dollars for a new tank and landscaping. Step Design-Build documents should require an on site tank testing alternative which has the added benefit of saving the homeowner from digging up his property and APCD-GHG and Energy Footprint enviornmental offsets for the County. The County is ignoring expected archeological requirments in the EIR at the expense of the Los Osos homeowner's. It's the buy now pay more later plan. The Archeological considerations of STEP haven't even been brushed aside here, they are as important as any other consideration. If ignored our shared history is lost forever. Simple math proves a point. The crossectional area of a trench 4 feet wide and 12 feet deep compared to directional boring area the size of a tea saucer. The answer is your increased odds at hitting Archeological pay dirt. You do the math.

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