

From: Streamline <noreply@specialdistrict.org>
Sent: Thursday, July 31, 2025 9:39 AM
To: BoardComment
Subject: New form submission received: Written Public Comment



CAMBRIA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Written Public Comment

First Name:	Loree
Last Name:	Parral
Address:	[REDACTED]
Phone Number:	
Email:	[REDACTED]
Written Public Comment:	<p>CCSD Director, Board members, and Finance Committee, We are lucky enough to live in Cambria with all its charms and benefits but clearly the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve is the greatest asset our town has. It does not take an expert to see how this unique and wondrous property brings so much to all who live here, who visit, both now and for future generations. The Central Coast has many lovely enclaves and cities but nowhere is there such a unique place with its protected open space, oceanfront trails, and a native Monterey pine forest. The CCSD current approach to drastically cutting the budget for maintenance and capital projects on The Ranch is short sighted and dangerous. After all the effort and resources to save this property from development twenty five years ago, why would it make sense to not support it, maintain it, and cherish it? That means spending time, money, and resources. While it may be a current trend in governing bodies to look for economic shortcuts, giving the Ranch short shrift is not a smart approach. Sincerely, Loretta (Loree) Parral</p>

Written Comment to be read at::	Resources & Infrastructure Committee Meeting
Written Comment to be read at::	Finance Committee Meeting
Written Comment to be read at::	Fire Protection Committee
Written Comment to be read at::	PROS Committee Meeting

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From: Streamline <noreply@specialdistrict.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 7:20 PM
To: BoardComment
Subject: New form submission received: Written Public Comment



CAMBRIA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Written Public Comment

First Name:	Eleanor
Last Name:	Etter
Address:	[REDACTED]
Phone Number:	[REDACTED]
Email:	[REDACTED]
Written Public Comment:	<p>I'm writing to encourage CCSD to meet its obligations enumerated in the documents written and agreed to at the purchase of the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve some 25 years ago. It's concerning that "preservation", one of the key obligations of CCSD with respect to the Ranch, which at its core is a proactive duty (as opposed to "repair" or "recover" which is a reactive duty), seems to be being neglected. "Preservation" is not doing the least possible and waiting for complaints, or even worse, disasters. . Over time, the forest portions of the Ranch have been noticeably degraded by an ever increasing amount of downed and dying trees. CCSD has failed to document or significantly ameliorate these conditions, as would expected of an organization responsible for such care. The amount of poison oak on the Ranch has increased making stepping off the trail by even a foot perilous in many locations. The problem is obvious on a casual walk through many parts of the forest. The lack of attention and methods used to control invasive species on the Ranch is concerning for a number of reasons. - Non-native invasive species grow rapidly in the spring and die early in the summer season. Dead invasive species are</p>

extraordinarily flammable and can be very dangerous, not just to the Ranch but to the entire community. The tragic Lahaina fire came about largely due to ignoring poorly maintained, highly flammable invasive species on undeveloped land. Add to that winds off the ocean, many wooden houses, and a lack of sufficient water - the very same conditions found in Cambria - and the outcome shouldn't have been a surprise. Lahaina was doomed with the first spark. It doesn't matter how much money we've invested in fire engines or FireWise meetings, a poorly maintained Ranch is a clear and present fire hazard in Cambria. - Despite the best and ever increasing efforts of highly seasoned volunteers, the battle with invasive species is not under control. The lack of sufficient attention by CCSD is obvious, especially this year when rains came at inopportune times. The presence of hardworking volunteers isn't meant to be a reason for CCSD to walk away from obligations which were agreed to and which are funded by taxpayer dollars. - Increased reliance on herbicides is causing growing concern in our community, despite assurance to the contrary. This is especially true when they are used because important work that could have been done earlier in the growing season wasn't done. Likewise, over use of mowing to control the invasive species, would mean the absence of blooming native wildflowers where mowing occurs. The stunning wildflower seasons on the Ranch that have attracted and been enjoyed by thousands of people, locals and visitors alike, would not have happened except for the yearslong diligence of volunteers who made mowing less needed. It was the volunteers' great pleasure to do the work of nearly 3 full time employees over the last decade but that effort didn't mean it wasn't still the obligation of CCSD. Coyote bush, notably along the fire road, has grown larger over recent years. Regular walkers on the Ranch have noticed this and shared their concerns about the lack of attention. Ultimately, this overgrowth can cause diminished grasslands. More importantly, however, older, poorly tended older coyote bush with dead branches can contribute to fire spread. You may ask, if the FFRP volunteer force is so good and willing to do all this work, why should CCSD do it, especially when CCSD has other obligations? Obviously, there are many jobs the volunteers cannot or should not do, since they don't have tractors and chain saws nor are they insured for injuries caused by such tools. The most important reason, simply put, CCSD has a legal obligation to do so as explained in agreements executed at the purchase of the Ranch. It's CCSD's job. CCSD is also the recipient of tax dollars (and grants, if they effectively pursue them) to pay for performance of those obligations. Those obligations are "must do's" as opposed to "nice to do's". We have just seen the tragic results of local

	<p>governmental entities deciding they can't afford to do preventive services when Kerville, TX chose to buy 8 new police cruisers but not a \$50,000 rising water alert system. A poorly maintained Ranch could be a perfect case for the "penny wise, pound foolish" adage. A well cared for Ranch is an absolute requirement not only for the safety and well-being of Cambria but for attracting visitors who spend money in Cambria while they're here. Thank you for the work you do for our community. Sincerely, Ellie Etter</p>
Written Comment to be read at::	Resources & Infrastructure Committee Meeting
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