

**To: City Council of Palo Alto**  
**From: Residents of Palo Alto**

**The current practice of permitting dewatering (the construction practice of pumping out ground water and pouring into our storm drains) is simply wasteful of an increasingly scarce resource. We request that the City**

- **Mandate better practices for underground construction. For example, use of cut-off walls, where groundwater is a problem.**
- **Require that all pumped out groundwater be beneficially used or locally recharged to the aquifer.**

**These are some measures that can protect our groundwater and reduce impacts to our natural and built environment.**

**Additionally, with climate change and sea level rise, groundwater levels are expected to rise also. Some best practices to minimize flooding in areas with a high water table include:**

- **Prohibit underground construction in those areas in which the groundwater level is expected to surface during or after a 20-year storm by the year 2066,**
- **Ensure that underground construction does not adversely affect raised groundwater levels during heavy storms.**

**We hereby request the City of Palo Alto to require construction practices that protect and make wise use of our groundwater and implement land use policies that account for climate change and the importance of our soils for stormwater management.**

**Signature pages are attached.**

Returning petitions:

a) Mail or deliver to 2225 Webster St., Palo Alto

b) Sign, scan and e-mail to [info@savepaloaltosgroundwater.org](mailto:info@savepaloaltosgroundwater.org)

c) Sign online

<https://www.change.org/p/palo-alto-city-council-mandate-best-practices-for-underground-construction>

