

On Mon, Jul 28, 2025 at 3:28 PM Belle Wood <bwood@bcpud.org> wrote:

Hi Leila,

I hope you had a great camping trip. I am following up on the request from Smiley's to park on BCPUD property at the Resource Recovery Location. Firstly, please thank Blair for coming to the meeting in your place. She did a good job of representing Smiley's and the request.

The board is supportive and understanding of the need for parking that Smiley's employees and/or guests will require when the 31 Wharf construction is underway. However, at the meeting some of the board members expressed concern about the "fruit tree" location that was proposed, especially in proximity with the footpath that runs directly adjacent to the area and the safety issues that moving vehicles would present in that well-traveled area. Ultimately the board directed me to look further into it, talk with you, and report back at the August meeting.

I agree that the footpath presents a safety issue and is likely not the right spot. Additionally, in looking at a map of the area on the Marin County website, I noticed that the proposed area seems to be almost entirely in the County of Marin's public right-of-way for Olema Bolinas Road. That could pose a problem as I am not sure if a parking lot would be considered an obstruction to that right-of-way. Furthermore, I believe that much of the area is considered a seasonal wetland and we could run into other issues related to environmental regulations. In light of this information, I circled back with Mickey to see if he would re-think the idea of allowing a parking area in his compost pile. He was reticent to allow a fixed area due to his operational needs and suggested that people could park on the compost with prior notice, when it was needed, which I think is not what we want to do.

With all these roadblocks, I think that the Resource Recovery Site is not going to work as the appropriate location for off-street parking. The board suggested that perhaps the Bolinas Hardware Store's back lot might be a better solution. They have an already fenced-in area north of the buildings that might work. Another option was to talk with the owners of 20 Brighton (the old apartment building next to the Bolinas post office) and see if they might be willing to work something out with you. As I stated before, perhaps the Lessin property downtown would serve your needs as it seems like it is currently set up well to allow parked vehicles.

I am sorry if this is not the response that you were hoping for, and I wish you the best of luck in finding an alternate place for Smiley's off-street parking needs. Please feel free to reach out if you want to discuss this any further.

Sincerely,

--belle