

April 11, 2006

Letter to Editor
The Beach Reporter
400 S. Sepulveda Blvd., Suite 247
P.O. Box 1329
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

Regarding: "Caught in a time warp", 04/06/06

In his letter published on April 6th, Lance Widman states that the CRSE forced a "six-month delay", due to their suit regarding Valley School's construction. Mr. Widman said, "This caused construction costs to increase more than \$100,000 for each month it was delayed."

Now let me get this straight.

Does he REALLY expect us to believe that this construction cost increase, which by his calculation totals \$600,000, would *never* have occurred had construction simply continued? This contract was apparently open-ended enough to allow such increases during the delay. Mr. Widman expects us to believe that, magically, all construction costs would have been stable had there been no delays caused by that nasty evil-doer CRSE group? Something tells me the monthly construction increases would have happened anyway. Who the heck is doing the cost control on this?

Mr. Widman then finishes up his letter stating that, "Measure 'A' provides \$13.1 million to finish Measure 'J' projects. It also makes significant additional improvements in our schools." And to think I thought I was getting that with Measure "J".

This is a great lesson to teach our kids. Budgets don't really matter and if you use up all your money, just charge up some more on the taxpayer dime. Sheesh.

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