

2546 Rolling Hills Ct.  
Alamo, CA 94507

February 11, 2025

**VIA EMAIL AND HAND DELIVERY**

Watsonville City Council  
275 Main Street  
Suite 400 (4th Floor)  
Watsonville, CA 95076

**Re: Ongoing CEIBA Reckless Student Drop-off and Pick-Up Protocols on Pine and Second Streets in Violation of Conditions of Approval 28 and 29**

Members of the Council:

I am presenting our neighborhood report on **yet another** CEIBA protocol endangering students and motorists in the industrial zone.

As has been unequivocally demonstrated by multiple licensed traffic engineers, CEIBA routinely ill-advisedly uses truck routes, highways, and industrial operational lots for its student drop-off and pick-up protocols. One of many critical hazards is CEIBA's expanded student drop-off and pick-up protocols on Second and Pine Streets —an industrial zone area adjacent to a trucking operation that has written an opposition letter regarding the risks of having CEIBA students, often distracted by mobile devices and headphones, near trucking areas. Despite several formal complaints submitted to CEIBA and City Staff, no corrective action has been taken.

According to CEIBA documents, City Planner Justin Meek recommended this hazardous unstudied offsite area, egregiously exacerbating adverse impacts on the industrial zone and creating a substantial safety risk for students and motorists.<sup>1</sup>

Each day, as many as seventy CEIBA students are dropped off or picked up along Second Street and Pine Street near Southwest Trucking's operations and even in the middle of the intersection of Pine and Second Streets. Parents routinely block driveways, double-park, and dangerously pick up and drop off students in the presence of semi-truck traffic.

---

<sup>1</sup> April 18, 2022 email from CEIBA's real estate consultant, Elizabeth Sanborn Falcon, to Hexagon Transportation Consultants (with a cc: to CEIBA Principal Josh Ripp) stating that Justin Meek recommended two alternative student drop-off/pick-up sites: (1) First Street requiring students to walk across Highway 129 and (2) Pine Street next to Southwest Trucking.



*CEIBA parents pick up students in the middle of the intersection in the presence of semi-truck traffic.*

Parents routinely line up along Pine and Second Streets and park in red zones, obstructing visibility and impeding traffic flow.



*CEIBA parents line up by Southwest Trucking to pick up students and park in the red zone, impacting visibility.*

Parents drop off and pick up students in violation of municipal codes, CEIBA's conditions of approval, and CEIBA's school policy, and then execute unsafe and illegal U-turns.



*CEIBA parents picking up students in violation of municipal code and Conditions of Approval.*



*Concurrence of four illegal U-turns after CEIBA student pick-up/drop-off.*

It is notable that every Watsonville City Manager has refused to enforce CEIBA's conditions of approval, despite the fact that three CEIBA students have been injured in the industrial zone—two pedestrians and a bicyclist—all struck along truck corridors in the industrial zone.

I urge the City Council to put an end to City Staff **recommending** that CEIBA use highway shoulders, truck routes, unsafe overcrowded beer distributor lots, and active industrial corridors for student pick-up and drop-off. It's unethical, reckless, and a blatant violation of CEIBA's Conditions of Approval. Enforce the rules **before** another preventable injury happens.

Respectfully,

Marta Bulaich