

**Lara Christensen**

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**From:** Charles Bourbeau  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:09 PM  
**To:** Lara Christensen  
**Subject:** FW: Monolith

Don't know how this got into or from my city email. Must have screwed up using my phone.

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**From:** Charles Bourbeau <cbourbeau@atascadero.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 5, 2020 3:01 PM  
**To:** Charles Bourbeau <bourbeaucharles@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Monolith



Sent from my iPhone

**Lara Christensen**

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**From:** Charles Bourbeau  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:08 PM  
**To:** Lara Christensen  
**Subject:** FW: Atascadero Monument Replacement

Monolith email.

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**From:** David Naisuler <dave@stollerstudio.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 3, 2020 7:48 PM  
**To:** Heather Moreno <hmoreno@atascadero.org>; Charles Bourbeau <cbourbeau@atascadero.org>; Roberta Fonzi <rfonzi@atascadero.org>; Susan Funk <sfunk@atascadero.org>; Heather Newsom <hnewsom@atascadero.org>  
**Subject:** Atascadero Monument Replacement

Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor and City Council Members,

This letter is in regards to the recent events regarding a monument in Atascadero that was illegally erected and subsequently torn down by militant white supremacists and religious bigots.

Stoller Studio has been making sculpture for 25+ years in public settings. Though illegally placed, we here at the Studio are pained to see the abuse of an innocent yet playful and thought provoking icon in our fair state, which prides itself on welcoming all creeds and colors in the best of the American spirit.

We would like the opportunity to erect a new monolith as a statement of freedom and tolerance for all. It would be set in a location of your choosing (if not the location of the original), and financed by donors from around the state. We have deep experience installing in civic environments: With our familiarity with heavy and durable materials as well as engineered and permitted construction methods and techniques, the new monolith would be impossible to harm while maintaining a lightness of aesthetic and a surety of communication.

Please allow us to help Atascadero make a statement to California, the country and the world that it will continue on as a bastion for freedom and tolerance, and that we will both as citizens and a nation persevere in the remaking this country's ideals while enduring these divisive times.

As both a former Arts and Culture Commissioner For the Town of Los Gatos and as a sculptor, I would be privileged to discuss this over Zoom with you in any capacity, and at your convenience.

Respectfully,  
- - David Naisuler

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**David Naisuler**  
**Director, Stoller Studio Inc.**  
394-A Umbarger Rd San Jose, CA 95111  
408 206 7424  
[dave@stollerstudio.com](mailto:dave@stollerstudio.com)  
[www.stollerstudio.com](http://www.stollerstudio.com)

[https://www.vice.com/en/article/qjpk7/mysterious-monolith-update-racists-destroy-california-monolith-proclaim-christs-superiority-to-space-aliens?utm\\_source=Iterable&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=curated\\_vice\\_daily\\_1023202](https://www.vice.com/en/article/qjpk7/mysterious-monolith-update-racists-destroy-california-monolith-proclaim-christs-superiority-to-space-aliens?utm_source=Iterable&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=curated_vice_daily_1023202)

<https://atascaderonews.com/news/vandals-remove-object-from-pine-mountain/>

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**Lara Christensen**

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**From:** Charles Bourbeau  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:07 PM  
**To:** Lara Christensen  
**Subject:** FW: City of Atascadero News Release - Monolith Update

Monolith email.

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**From:** Lisa Cava <lcava@atascadero.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 3, 2020 2:16 PM  
**To:** Terrie Banish <tbanish@atascadero.org>; Press <Press@atascadero.org>  
**Subject:** Re: City of Atascadero News Release - Monolith Update

stupid buttinsky's

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**From:** Terrie Banish  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 3, 2020 1:03 PM  
**To:** Press  
**Subject:** City of Atascadero News Release - Monolith Update



## News Release:

**City of Atascadero**  
**6500 Palma Ave.**  
**Atascadero, CA 93422**  
**(805) 461-5000**

**For Immediate Release:** December 3, 2020  
**Contact:** Deputy City Manager, Terrie Banish, 805-470-3490

# Monolith Update

On the afternoon of Wednesday, December 2, 2020, the City of Atascadero received reports from hikers of a steel Monolith or Obelisk structure at the top of Pine Mountain in Stadium Park.

As of early this morning, the Monolith had disappeared. The City has received the actual video that has surfaced on social media showing a group of men from out of the area removing the Monolith and replacing it with a plywood cross. The video shows them replacing the structure and talking amongst themselves.

“We are upset that these young men felt the need to drive 5 hours to come into our community and vandalize the Monolith. The Monolith was something unique and fun in an otherwise stressful time,” said Mayor Heather Moreno.

The Atascadero Police Department has not received any reports to date that the Monolith had been removed and/ or stolen. Currently, the Atascadero Police Department is reviewing the video and looking into this incident further. We will provide updated information as soon as it’s available.

The steel 3-sided structure stood about 10 ft. tall and appeared to weigh an estimated 200 pounds. The area of Stadium Park offers a 2 mile looping trail up to the top or you can take a more challenging trail with a higher level of difficulty to the top that would be about a 30-minute hike. The altitude of Pine Mountain sits at 1300 ft. and there is no vehicle access to bring something that large to the top. The City owns and maintains 75 acres of the Stadium Park area and the five-acre entrance is owned and maintained by the Atascadero Land Preservation Society (ALPS). At this time, neither the City nor the ALPS have any information on how the structure found its way to the top of the mountain or who placed it there.

If you have any information about the Monolith, please contact the Atascadero Police Department at (805) 461-5051.

For further information, please contact Terrie Banish at (805) 470-3490, [tbanish@atascadero.org](mailto:tbanish@atascadero.org). The area of Pine Mountain where the Monolith was located, can be found at [www.visitatascadero.com/things-to-do/hiking-and-biking/](http://www.visitatascadero.com/things-to-do/hiking-and-biking/) and click on Stadium Park.

***Terrie Banish***

Deputy City Manager | Outreach, Promotions, Events  
City of Atascadero | City Manager’s Office  
6500 Palma Ave | Atascadero, CA 93422  
Direct: 805.470.3490 | Mobile: 805.235.2539



**Lara Christensen**

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**From:** Charles Bourbeau  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:07 PM  
**To:** Lara Christensen  
**Subject:** FW: City of Atascadero News Release - Monolith Update  
**Attachments:** City of Atascadero News Release - Monolith Update!.doc; Monolith removed 1.jpg; Monolith removed 2.jpg

[Monolith email.](#)

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**From:** Terrie Banish <tbanish@atascadero.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 3, 2020 1:03 PM  
**To:** Press <Press@atascadero.org>  
**Subject:** City of Atascadero News Release - Monolith Update



## **News Release:**

**City of Atascadero**  
**6500 Palma Ave.**  
**Atascadero, CA 93422**  
**(805) 461-5000**

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**Contact:** Deputy City Manager, Terrie Banish, 805-470-3490

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***Terrie Banish***

Deputy City Manager | Outreach, Promotions, Events  
City of Atascadero | City Manager's Office  
6500 Palma Ave | Atascadero, CA 93422  
Direct: 805.470.3490 | Mobile: 805.235.2539



## Lara Christensen

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**From:** Charles Bourbeau  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:06 PM  
**To:** Lara Christensen  
**Subject:** FW: Query from Mashable re Pine Mountain monolith

Monolith email.

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**From:** Charles Bourbeau <cbourbeau@atascadero.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 2, 2020 5:17 PM  
**To:** Amanda Yeo <ayeo@mashable.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Query from Mashable re Pine Mountain monolith

Just heard about it a few minutes ago. I'll have to check it out.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 2, 2020, at 4:57 PM, Amanda Yeo <[ayeo@mashable.com](mailto:ayeo@mashable.com)> wrote:

Hi Atascadero City Council

My name is Amanda, I'm a reporter at Mashable. I'm writing an article on the monolith that appeared on Pine Mountain on Wednesday. Do you have any statement or comment on the matter? Are there any plans for it, and do you have any indication of where it might have come from?

Further, do you have any photographs of the monolith that we may embed on our website?

Cheers  
Amanda

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**Lara Christensen**

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**From:** Charles Bourbeau  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:05 PM  
**To:** Lara Christensen  
**Subject:** FW: Query from Mashable re Pine Mountain monolith

[Monolith email.](#)

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**From:** Amanda Yeo <ayeo@mashable.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 2, 2020 4:57 PM  
**To:** City Council <CityCouncil@atascadero.org>  
**Subject:** Query from Mashable re Pine Mountain monolith

Hi Atascadero City Council

My name is Amanda, I'm a reporter at Mashable. I'm writing an article on the monolith that appeared on Pine Mountain on Wednesday. Do you have any statement or comment on the matter? Are there any plans for it, and do you have any indication of where it might have come from?

Further, do you have any photographs of the monolith that we may embed on our website?

Cheers  
Amanda

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**Lara Christensen**

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**From:** Heather Moreno  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:30 PM  
**To:** reguyintheoc@aol.com  
**Cc:** Rachelle Rickard; Lara Christensen  
**Subject:** Re: Monolith

Good afternoon,

I appreciate your interest and concern re this matter. The Police Department is aware of the matter and responding appropriately.

Warm regards,

Heather Moreno  
Mayor, City of Atascadero

*"Your representative owes you, not his industry only, but his judgment; and he betrays instead of serving you if he sacrifices it to your opinion." ~ Edmund Burke*

---

**From:** reguyintheoc@aol.com <reguyintheoc@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 9, 2020 11:31:18 AM  
**To:** Heather Moreno  
**Subject:** Monolith

Dear Mayor Moreno:

The recent appearance of the monolith on Pine Mountain was for most of us some much needed whimsy and a respite to all the misery that 2020 has brought. The mystery of its appearance only added to the fun.

In response to this appearance, a group of young imbecilic supporters of Donald Trump, claiming to act on his direct orders and those of the anti-American fascist group QAnon, behaving in a way reminiscent of the Nazis during WWII in destroying what they termed "entartete Kunst" (degenerate art) in Germany, who are apparently Christian fanatics exhibiting the same tactics as those Nazis, drove from Southern California to vandalize and destroy this art allegedly in the name of Jesus Christ, and erect a cross in its place. Apparently nothing has been done to arrest these criminals and charge them with vandalism and destruction of public property, although one of them gloated by posting videos filmed through night goggles of the entire crime spree and this has been posted to his twitter account, under the name of CultureWarCriminal.

Why has there been no effort to find and charge these criminals since clearly they are holding up their collective middle fingers to everyone in Atascadero and in fact to ALL

Americans through their act of fascist thuggery? **They need to be publicly identified and jailed for this action or they will do it again, or another fascist, proto-Nazi act, somewhere else, perhaps something involving a much more violent act, if they are not charged.**

Hopefully you and/or the city of Atascadero is working with your police department or local investigators to identify and pursue these repulsive criminals, and bring them to justice.

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**Lara Christensen**

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**From:** Heather Moreno  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:19 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Fw: Your comment about the Monolith in the Tribune Shows You don't Show Concern for the Safety of Atascadero residents

Moreno\_Email #1

Warm regards,

Heather Moreno  
Mayor, City of Atascadero

*"Your representative owes you, not his industry only, but his judgment; and he betrays instead of serving you if he sacrifices it to your opinion."* ~ Edmund Burke

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**From:** Heather Moreno  
**Sent:** Friday, December 4, 2020 1:32 PM  
**To:** Dave Pecci  
**Cc:** Jeffrey Wilshusen  
**Subject:** Re: Your comment about the Monolith in the Tribune Shows You don't Show Concern for the Safety of Atascadero residents

Mr. Pecci,

Thank you for your email and your concern. The City takes the safety of our residents seriously and City staff works hard to provide a safe and beautiful City for residents and visitors to enjoy. The monolith showed up Wednesday afternoon and before City staff had an opportunity to evaluate the structure, it had been removed in the middle of the night by a group of outsiders. When City staff went to assess the structure on Thursday morning, it and the cross that we are told the group left in its place, were gone. City staff found the cross later in the afternoon, but have not found the monolith. The area where these structures appeared and disappeared is not accessible by vehicle and can only be accessed by hiking in and hiking out. This is a passive recreation area that is not routinely monitored by the City and the City was made aware of its appearance, and subsequent disappearance at much the same time as the public.

My comments were not meant to encourage unsafe behavior or in any way downplay the risks associated with public gathering. Instead, I was trying to highlight our disappointment that outsiders would take it upon themselves to travel such a significant distance to remove the object, rather than allowing the City the opportunity to address its appearance and removal, if the situation warranted that. I did note that it was something fun in the sense that it was different and unique and encouraged the community to explore Stadium Park and to get out in the fresh air. While we cannot control the actions of others, we do routinely remind people of the importance of following safety protocols and social distancing and wearing masks.

Thank you again for your input and genuine concern. We want our town to remain a beautiful, safe place to live and work and we will continue to do our best to keep it that way.

Warm regards,

Heather Moreno  
Mayor, City of Atascadero

*"Your representative owes you, not his industry only, but his judgment; and he betrays instead of serving you if he sacrifices it to your opinion."* ~ Edmund Burke

---

**From:** Dave Pecci <dpecci25@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, December 3, 2020 4:28 PM

**To:** Heather Moreno

**Cc:** Jeffrey Wilshusen

**Subject:** Your comment about the Monolith in the Tribune Shows You don't Show Concern for the Safety of Atascadero residents

Hi Mayor Moreno and Representative of the Police Department,

To quote Mayor Moreno's comment in the newspaper; ("We are upset that these young men felt the need to drive five hours to come into our community and vandalize the monolith," Mayor Heather Moreno said in a news release. "The monolith was something unique and fun in an otherwise stressful time.")

With a global pandemic on hand and tons of Atascadero citizens unemployed and the potential safety hazard of the monolith and the people who put up the cross in the city both run a safety risk for residents of the city. I am appalled the city hasn't stated what they have done to ensure both the cross or monolith are safe for individuals. I would think as mayor your first concern is if the cross and monolith safe and I believe it doesn't seem safe especially for people to gather during a pandemic to see it or for people to bring it up there.

Nowhere in either news article was it stated if any representative from the police or city investigated the monolith to see if it was a bomb or safe to be up there for the public. Instead, your new comment in the paper encourages the monolith as a tourist attraction when most people don't care and would enjoy nothing be up there. You also make it sound like you encourage large gatherings of people to see the monolith and spread COVID-19.

My dad and I own an apartment complex in Atascadero and we both feel the city and police are not invested in the safety of the public or for private businesses in the city.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my concern,

David Pecci

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**Lara Christensen**

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**From:** Heather Moreno  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:19 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Fw: Mysterious Monolith video

Moreno\_Email #2

Warm regards,

Heather Moreno  
Mayor, City of Atascadero

*"Your representative owes you, not his industry only, but his judgment; and he betrays instead of serving you if he sacrifices it to your opinion." ~ Edmund Burke*

---

**From:** Terrie Banish  
**Sent:** Friday, December 4, 2020 12:02 PM  
**To:** Heather Moreno; Rachele Rickard  
**Cc:** Lara Christensen  
**Subject:** RE: Mysterious Monolith video

Thank you for sharing!

---

**From:** Heather Moreno  
**Sent:** Friday, December 4, 2020 7:14 AM  
**To:** Rachele Rickard <[rrickard@atascadero.org](mailto:rrickard@atascadero.org)>  
**Cc:** Lara Christensen <[lchristensen@atascadero.org](mailto:lchristensen@atascadero.org)>; Terrie Banish <[tbanish@atascadero.org](mailto:tbanish@atascadero.org)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Mysterious Monolith video

In case anyone wants to see it. And to note, the guy was wearing a mask. 😊

Heather Moreno, MA, CPA  
Mayor, City of Atascadero

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Mark Frazier <[fritter63@me.com](mailto:fritter63@me.com)>  
**Date:** December 3, 2020 at 18:31:58 PST  
**To:** Heather Moreno <[hmoreno@atascadero.org](mailto:hmoreno@atascadero.org)>  
**Subject:** Mysterious Monolith video

Or is it an obelisk?

Hi Heather,

Here is a link to the video I made of our visit to the monolith on Wednesday. I can't make the video public/searchable as it would get

Flagged for a music copyright violation by YouTube, but feel free to pass the link around to the city council, etc.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hvAZiokRrh4>

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**Lara Christensen**

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**From:** Susan Funk  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 8, 2020 11:22 PM  
**To:** Lara Christensen  
**Subject:** Fw: Atascadero Monument Replacement (lower priority)

re public records request on monolith

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**From:** Susan Funk  
**Sent:** Friday, December 4, 2020 1:59 PM  
**To:** Rachelle Rickard  
**Subject:** Fw: Atascadero Monument Replacement (lower priority)

Rachelle,

Would it be appropriate for me to bring this matter up at personal considerations Tuesday and offer to be on a task force with the Mayor or other member as appropriate to vet this offer and work with city staff on it? Our unexpected moment of fame was more like 15 seconds than 15 minutes, so I'm not sure it is enough to attract the funding that a stable monolith sculpture would require, but it seems a low-risk opportunity to add a tourist attraction to our community, even if its just a novelty item.

I actually rather like the Pine Mountain location for that reason despite inaccessibility that will exclude a lot of people -- having to hike up to it adds to the mystique, and hikers could celebrate their treks at many nearby locations, including Wild Fields, Sylvester's, or Dead Oak Brewing, or Malibu Brew for the health-conscious ones. Terrie could make good use of a steady flow of Instagram posts tagged to the Atascadero Monolith from randomly sourced visitors. Also, that's not land that can be used for other recreational purposes, and putting a sculpture up there won't interfere with current uses. Funding would need to include camera installation so that APD could check activity there without having to hike up, obviously.

I do still wonder who was the original installer. It would have to be someone already familiar with that location.

Thoughts?

Susan

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**From:** David Naisuler <dave@stollerstudio.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 4, 2020 1:33 PM  
**To:** Susan Funk  
**Cc:** Rachelle Rickard  
**Subject:** Re: Atascadero Monument Replacement

Glad to hear back from you Susan.



No, we are not the originator's of the monolith, but we do appreciate what we feel it represents. We do believe that the monoliths are from disparate auteurs, and as such even with few numbers they imply a movement to simple beauty, which many perceive as an ode to new future that integrates disparate elements (technology and nature) than an inscrutable enigma. I'd thought the monuments were a cute phenomenon until the Atascadero one was taken down, which changes the light in which they are cast.

Certainly all property rights and equal access issues would have to be settled as part of the site choice farther down the line should general sentiment be open to creating space. I'd enjoy any conversation you and the City might wish to have, and will wait for you to gather input "outside of committee." I do have a connection to Cal Poly that I would likely enlist as a local liaison, I'm sure it would be an invigorating experience to "make it right" with the co-operation of the Atascadero City Council.

Best regards,  
- - David

**David Naisuler**  
**Director, Stoller Studio Inc.**  
394-A Umbarger Rd San Jose, CA 95111  
408 206 7424  
[dave@stollerstudio.com](mailto:dave@stollerstudio.com)  
[www.stollerstudio.com](http://www.stollerstudio.com)

On 12/3/2020 9:26 PM, Susan Funk wrote:

IHi David,

Thank you for reaching out with creative and generous offer. I deeply appreciate the power of art to express communal values and aspirations. Additionally, as a person of faith, it grieves me to see people do such unholy, destructive acts in Christ's name. Art and faith are not mutually exclusive!

You don't mention whether or not you were the source of the original monolith. However, I like the idea of a replacement that could be dedicated by local leaders of all faiths and no faith to serve as a symbol of tolerance and welcome — especially if you are willing to raise the donations to fund it. (Our City government is very thinly funded and could not afford to buy it.)

I assume you checked Google Earth or a topological map before making this offer, so you already know that if we want to be welcoming of those who are not able-bodied and physically fit, the site from which the original monolith was stolen is going to be a problem in that regard. (I did not see it in situ, but I have hiked up there often enough to have a pretty good idea of the trek involved. If you need photos, let me know.)

I have copied the city manager so that she knows I would be interested in our exploring your generous offer further. Since you are familiar with public processes in California, this request should not surprise you, but please respect the Brown Act by being careful not to forward or share this message to or discuss my views with any other member of our Council, or reveal their views to me.

I hope we will have the opportunity to meet, at least over Zoom. Meanwhile I thank you for your generous spirit that takes a moment of fun and mystery that others perversely tarred with a very un-Christian and in-American act, and envisions it becoming an opportunity for coming together as a welcoming community.

Regards,

Susan

Susan Funk  
Atascadero City Council Member  
805-461-1440 office  
805-206-5705 texts  
[Sfunk@atascadero.org](mailto:Sfunk@atascadero.org)

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**From:** David Naisuler <[dave@stollerstudio.com](mailto:dave@stollerstudio.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 3, 2020 7:48:20 PM  
**To:** [hmoreno@atascadero.org](mailto:hmoreno@atascadero.org) <[hmoreno@atascadero.org](mailto:hmoreno@atascadero.org)>; [cbourbeau@atascadero.org](mailto:cbourbeau@atascadero.org) <[cbourbeau@atascadero.org](mailto:cbourbeau@atascadero.org)>; [rfonzi@atascadero.org](mailto:rfonzi@atascadero.org) <[rfonzi@atascadero.org](mailto:rfonzi@atascadero.org)>; [sfunk@atascadero.org](mailto:sfunk@atascadero.org) <[sfunk@atascadero.org](mailto:sfunk@atascadero.org)>; [hnewsom@atascadero.org](mailto:hnewsom@atascadero.org) <[hnewsom@atascadero.org](mailto:hnewsom@atascadero.org)>  
**Subject:** Atascadero Monument Replacement

Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor and City Council Members,

This letter is in regards to the recent events regarding a monument in Atascadero that was illegally erected and subsequently torn down by militant white supremacists and religious bigots.

Stoller Studio has been making sculpture for 25+ years in public settings. Though illegally placed, we here at the Studio are pained to see the abuse of an innocent yet playful and thought provoking icon in our fair state, which prides itself on welcoming all creeds and colors in the best of the American spirit.

We would like the opportunity to erect a new monolith as a statement of freedom and tolerance for all. It would be set in a location of your choosing (if not the location of the original), and financed by donors from around the state. We have deep experience installing in civic environments: With our familiarity with heavy and durable materials as well as engineered and permitted construction methods and techniques, the new monolith would be impossible to harm while maintaining a lightness of aesthetic and a surety of communication.

Please allow us to help Atascadero make a statement to California, the country and the world that it will continue on as a bastion for freedom and tolerance, and that we will both as citizens and a nation persevere in the remaking this country's ideals while enduring these divisive times.

As both a former Arts and Culture Commissioner For the Town of Los Gatos and as a sculptor, I

would be privileged to discuss this over Zoom with you in any capacity, and at your convenience.

Respectfully,  
-- David Naisuler

--

**David Naisuler**  
**Director, Stoller Studio Inc.**  
**394-A Umbarger Rd San Jose, CA 95111**  
**408 206 7424**  
[dave@stollerstudio.com](mailto:dave@stollerstudio.com)  
[www.stollerstudio.com](http://www.stollerstudio.com)

[https://www.vice.com/en/article/qjpk7/mysterious-monolith-update-racists-destroy-california-monolith-proclaim-christs-superiority-to-space-aliens?utm\\_source=iterable&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=curated\\_vice\\_daily\\_102320](https://www.vice.com/en/article/qjpk7/mysterious-monolith-update-racists-destroy-california-monolith-proclaim-christs-superiority-to-space-aliens?utm_source=iterable&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=curated_vice_daily_102320)  
[2](#)

<https://atascaderonews.com/news/vandals-remove-object-from-pine-mountain/>

**ATTENTION:**

This email originated from outside the City's network. **Use caution when opening links and attachments.**

**ATTENTION:**

This email originated from outside the City's network. **Use caution when opening links and attachments.**

**Lara Christensen**

---

**From:** Susan Funk  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 8, 2020 11:21 PM  
**To:** Lara Christensen  
**Subject:** Fw: Atascadero Monument Replacement

re records request on monolith

---

**From:** Susan Funk  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 3, 2020 9:26 PM  
**To:** David Naisuler  
**Cc:** Rachelle Rickard  
**Subject:** Re: Atascadero Monument Replacement

IHi David,

Thank you for reaching out with creative and generous offer. I deeply appreciate the power of art to express communal values and aspirations. Additionally, as a person of faith, it grieves me to see people do such unholy, destructive acts in Christ's name. Art and faith are not mutually exclusive!

You don't mention whether or not you were the source of the original monolith. However, I like the idea of a replacement that could be dedicated by local leaders of all faiths and no faith to serve as a symbol of tolerance and welcome — especially if you are willing to raise the donations to fund it. (Our City government is very thinly funded and could not afford to buy it.)

I assume you checked Google Earth or a topological map before making this offer, so you already know that if we want to be welcoming of those who are not able-bodied and physically fit, the site from which the original monolith was stolen is going to be a problem in that regard. (I did not see it in situ, but I have hiked up there often enough to have a pretty good idea of the trek involved. If you need photos, let me know.)

I have copied the city manager so that she knows I would be interested in our exploring your generous offer further. Since you are familiar with public processes in California, this request should not surprise you, but please respect the Brown Act by being careful not to forward or share this message to or discuss my views with any other member of our Council, or reveal their views to me.

I hope we will have the opportunity to meet, at least over Zoom. Meanwhile I thank you for your generous spirit that takes a moment of fun and mystery that others perversely tarred with a very un-Christian and in-American act, and envisions it becoming an opportunity for coming together as a welcoming community.

Regards,

Susan

Susan Funk

Atascadero City Council Member  
805-461-1440 office  
805-206-5705 texts  
Sfunk@atascadero.org

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---

**From:** David Naisuler <dave@stollerstudio.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, December 3, 2020 7:48:20 PM

**To:** hmoreno@atascadero.org <hmoreno@atascadero.org>; cbourbeau@atascadero.org <cbourbeau@atascadero.org>; rfonzi@atascadero.org <rfonzi@atascadero.org>; sfunk@atascadero.org <sfunk@atascadero.org>; hnewsom@atascadero.org <hnewsom@atascadero.org>

**Subject:** Atascadero Monument Replacement

Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor and City Council Members,

This letter is in regards to the recent events regarding a monument in Atascadero that was illegally erected and subsequently torn down by militant white supremacists and religious bigots.

Stoller Studio has been making sculpture for 25+ years in public settings. Though illegally placed, we here at the Studio are pained to see the abuse of an innocent yet playful and thought provoking icon in our fair state, which prides itself on welcoming all creeds and colors in the best of the American spirit.

We would like the opportunity to erect a new monolith as a statement of freedom and tolerance for all. It would be set in a location of your choosing (if not the location of the original), and financed by donors from around the state. We have deep experience installing in civic environments: With our familiarity with heavy and durable materials as well as engineered and permitted construction methods and techniques, the new monolith would be impossible to harm while maintaining a lightness of aesthetic and a surety of communication.

Please allow us to help Atascadero make a statement to California, the country and the world that it will continue on as a bastion for freedom and tolerance, and that we will both as citizens and a nation persevere in the remaking this country's ideals while enduring these divisive times.

As both a former Arts and Culture Commissioner For the Town of Los Gatos and as a sculptor, I would be privileged to discuss this over Zoom with you in any capacity, and at your convenience.

Respectfully,  
-- David Naisuler

--

David Naisuler  
Director, Stoller Studio Inc.  
394-A Umbarger Rd San Jose, CA 95111  
408 206 7424  
[dave@stollerstudio.com](mailto:dave@stollerstudio.com)  
[www.stollerstudio.com](http://www.stollerstudio.com)

[https://www.vice.com/en/article/gjpk7/mysterious-monolith-update-racists-destroy-california-monolith-proclaim-christs-superiority-to-space-aliens?utm\\_source=Iterable&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=curated\\_vice\\_daily\\_1023202](https://www.vice.com/en/article/gjpk7/mysterious-monolith-update-racists-destroy-california-monolith-proclaim-christs-superiority-to-space-aliens?utm_source=Iterable&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=curated_vice_daily_1023202)

<https://atascaderonews.com/news/vandals-remove-object-from-pine-mountain/>

**ATTENTION:**

This email originated from outside the City's network. **Use caution when opening links and attachments.**

**From:** Susan Funk  
**Sent:** Friday, December 4, 2020 1:59 PM  
**To:** Rachelle Rickard  
**Subject:** Fw: Atascadero Monument Replacement (lower priority)

Rachelle,

Would it be appropriate for me to bring this matter up at personal considerations Tuesday and offer to be on a task force with the Mayor or other member as appropriate to vet this offer and work with city staff on it? Our unexpected moment of fame was more like 15 seconds than 15 minutes, so I'm not sure it is enough to attract the funding that a stable monolith sculpture would require, but it seems a low-risk opportunity to add a tourist attraction to our community, even if its just a novelty item.

I actually rather like the Pine Mountain location for that reason despite inaccessibility that will exclude a lot of people -- having to hike up to it adds to the mystique, and hikers could celebrate their treks at many nearby locations, including Wild Fields, Sylvester's, or Dead Oak Brewing, or Malibu Brew for the health-conscious ones. Terrie could make good use of a steady flow of Instagram posts tagged to the Atascadero Monolith from randomly sourced visitors. Also, that's not land that can be used for other recreational purposes, and putting a sculpture up there won't interfere with current uses. Funding would need to include camera installation so that APD could check activity there without having to hike up, obviously.

I do still wonder who was the original installer. It would have to be someone already familiar with that location.

Thoughts?

Susan

---

**From:** David Naisuler <[dave@stollerstudio.com](mailto:dave@stollerstudio.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 4, 2020 1:33 PM  
**To:** Susan Funk  
**Cc:** Rachelle Rickard  
**Subject:** Re: Atascadero Monument Replacement

Glad to hear back from you Susan.

No, we are not the originator's of the monolith, but we do appreciate what we feel it represents. We do believe that the monoliths are from disparate auteurs, and as such even with few numbers they imply a movement to simple beauty, which many perceive as an ode to new future that integrates disparate elements (technology and nature) than an inscrutable enigma. I'd thought the monuments were a cute phenomenon until the Atascadero one was

taken down, which changes the light in which they are cast.

Certainly all property rights and equal access issues would have to be settled as part of the site choice farther down the line should general sentiment be open to creating space. I'd enjoy any conversation you and the City might wish to have, and will wait for you to gather input "outside of committee." I do have a connection to Cal Poly that I would likely enlist as a local liaison, I'm sure it would be an invigorating experience to "make it right" with the co-operation of the Atascadero City Council.

Best regards,  
-- David

**David Naisuler**  
**Director, Stoller Studio Inc.**  
394-A Umbarger Rd San Jose, CA 95111  
408 206 7424  
[dave@stollerstudio.com](mailto:dave@stollerstudio.com)  
[www.stollerstudio.com](http://www.stollerstudio.com)

On 12/3/2020 9:26 PM, Susan Funk wrote:  
IHi David,

Thank you for reaching out with creative and generous offer. I deeply appreciate the power of art to express communal values and aspirations. Additionally, as a person of faith, it grieves me to see people do such unholy, destructive acts in Christ's name. Art and faith are not mutually exclusive!

You don't mention whether or not you were the source of the original monolith. However, I like the idea of a replacement that could be dedicated by local leaders of all faiths and no faith to serve as a symbol of tolerance and welcome — especially if you are willing to raise the donations to fund it. (Our City government is very thinly funded and could not afford to buy it.)

I assume you checked Google Earth or a topological map before making this offer, so you already know that if we want to be welcoming of those who are not able-bodied and physically fit, the site from which the original monolith was stolen is going to be a problem in that regard. (I did not see it in situ, but I have hiked up there often enough to have a pretty good idea of the trek involved. If you need photos, let me know.)

I have copied the city manager so that she knows I would be interested in our exploring your generous offer further. Since you are familiar with public processes in California, this request should not surprise you, but please respect the Brown Act by being careful not to forward or share this message to or discuss my views with any other member of our Council, or reveal their views to me.



I hope we will have the opportunity to meet, at least over Zoom. Meanwhile I thank you for your generous spirit that takes a moment of fun and mystery that others perversely tarred with a very un-Christian and in-American act, and envisions it becoming an opportunity for coming together as a welcoming community.

Regards,

Susan

Susan Funk  
Atascadero City Council Member  
805-461-1440 office  
805-206-5705 texts  
[Sfunk@atascadero.org](mailto:Sfunk@atascadero.org)

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---

**From:** David Naisuler <[dave@stollerstudio.com](mailto:dave@stollerstudio.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, December 3, 2020 7:48:20 PM

**To:** [hmoreno@atascadero.org](mailto:hmoreno@atascadero.org) <[hmoreno@atascadero.org](mailto:hmoreno@atascadero.org)>; [cbourbeau@atascadero.org](mailto:cbourbeau@atascadero.org) <[cbourbeau@atascadero.org](mailto:cbourbeau@atascadero.org)>; [rfonzi@atascadero.org](mailto:rfonzi@atascadero.org) <[rfonzi@atascadero.org](mailto:rfonzi@atascadero.org)>; [sfunk@atascadero.org](mailto:sfunk@atascadero.org) <[sfunk@atascadero.org](mailto:sfunk@atascadero.org)>; [hnewsom@atascadero.org](mailto:hnewsom@atascadero.org) <[hnewsom@atascadero.org](mailto:hnewsom@atascadero.org)>

**Subject:** Atascadero Monument Replacement

Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor and City Council Members,

This letter is in regards to the recent events regarding a monument in Atascadero that was illegally erected and subsequently torn down by militant white supremacists and religious bigots.

Stoller Studio has been making sculpture for 25+ years in public settings. Though illegally placed, we here at the Studio are pained to see the abuse of an innocent yet playful and thought provoking icon in our fair state, which prides itself on welcoming all creeds and colors in the best of the American spirit.

We would like the opportunity to erect a new monolith as a statement of freedom and tolerance for all. It would be set in a location of your choosing (if not the location of the original), and financed by donors from around the state. We have deep experience installing in civic environments: With our familiarity with heavy and durable materials as well as engineered and permitted construction methods and techniques, the new monolith would be impossible to harm while maintaining a lightness of aesthetic and a surety of communication.

Please allow us to help Atascadero make a statement to California, the country and the world

**Lara Christensen**

---

**From:** Casey Bryson  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:07 PM  
**To:** Casey Bryson  
**Subject:** Photos

















Sent from my iPhone

CRM20-000140

CRM Issue #: CRM20-000140 Due : 12/6/2020

CRM20-000140

Status	CLOSED	Title	PARKS QUESTION OR ISSUE	Created
Type	PARKS QUESTION OR ISSUE	Assigned	Tess Ramirez	Updated
Subtype	BROKEN EQUIPMENT	Category	QUESTION OR ISSUE	Due
Created Via	EMAIL			Completed

Location Details

Name \_\_\_\_\_

APN \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

APN \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Description & Resolution

Public Description (viewable online)

I am a former inhabitant of the beautiful Santa Ynez valley and spent much time in the beautiful parks and preserves, and always appreciated them. I am appalled by the actions that have taken place regarding the silver monolith, and am reaching out from Washington from to implore you to take action and arrest the five men who have vandalized Pine mountain park. It is your civil duty to act and apprehend those who break the law, and there is live stream evidence of them vandalizing the monument, going off trail, potentially endangering native flora and fauna, and conspiring to frame others for their actions. For these reasons I ask that you please apprehend these criminals and have them face trial, our parks and diversity or far too precious to be wontonly destroyed. Thank you for your time.

Resolution

object was neither placed nor removed by the City. It has been removed by unknown individuals.

Log & History



Date	Entry
------	-------

-----Original Message-----

From: Val Houdyshell [<mailto:valh@pacbell.net>]

Sent: Thursday, December 3, 2020 4:32 PM

To: Terrie Banish <[tbanish@atascadero.org](mailto:tbanish@atascadero.org)>

Subject: Monolith and Stadium Park Trail

I live at the corner of Pinal and Escarpa. Because of the publicity of the monolith our quiet neighborhood is now jammed with cars and people.

The upper trailhead to Stadium Park is located here. The monolith is fun. However, due to all of the people coming to this location to see the now nonexistent monolith they are parking their cars on our narrow road and making it hard for us to get into our driveway.

I am also concerned that if a fire engine or ambulance had to get to our house they would have a very difficult, if not impossible, time doing that. This is not a safe or desirable situation. I understand that this will hopefully be a short-term amusement, but I would really like someone to let people know 1) the monolith is gone, and 2) if they want to park and hike to Pine Mountain they should use the main Stadium Park entrance off of Capistrano. I believe (but not certain) that when people google Stadium Park/Pine Mountain it directs them to the small area at Pinal and Escarpa, as opposed to the main, larger entrance at Capistrano. If this congestion does continue, the City will have to do something to control the parking and people using this location for the safety of the neighborhood.

Thank you, Valene Houdyshell

[f](#) Post Overview ⓘ

Susan Funk Atascadero City  
Council Member



December 5 at 10:43 AM · 📍

The monolith is back! Its local makers have outed themselves. Let's reject fear and bigotry and pull together in the spirit of fun in which this monolith was made, and enjoy some COVID-safe outdoor exercise, fun and beauty in this grim and stressful year.



YOURTANGO.COM

The Metal Artists Behind The California  
Monolith Explain How It Got There — And...

Boost Post

## Comments

Done

15

6 Shares

Most Relevant ▾



Dan Cook

Wiley Coyote meets  
Monolith - Roadrunner  
suspected



2d **Haha** Reply Message 🤔 1



Comment as Susa...



**Lara Christensen**

---

**From:** Lara Christensen  
**Sent:** Friday, December 11, 2020 4:27 PM  
**To:** Terrie Banish  
**Subject:** RE: Monolith and Stadium Park Trail

I believe Rachelle called her. She was the VM that Lisa had forwarded.

-----Original Message-----

From: Terrie Banish <tbanish@atascadero.org>  
Sent: Friday, December 11, 2020 4:20 PM  
To: Lara Christensen <lchristensen@atascadero.org>  
Subject: FW: Monolith and Stadium Park Trail

Lara,

Do we know if we did talk to this person?

-----Original Message-----

From: Val Houdyshell [mailto:valh@pacbell.net]  
Sent: Thursday, December 3, 2020 4:32 PM  
To: Terrie Banish <tbanish@atascadero.org>  
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Thank you, Valene Houdyshell

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As both a former Arts and Culture Commissioner For the Town of Los Gatos and as a sculptor, I would be privileged to discuss this over Zoom with you in any capacity, and at your convenience.

Respectfully,  
-- David Naisuler

--

**David Naisuler**  
Director, Stoller Studio Inc.  
394-A Umbarger Rd San Jose, CA 95111  
408 206 7424  
[dave@stollerstudio.com](mailto:dave@stollerstudio.com)  
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[https://www.vice.com/en/article/gjpk7/mysterious-monolith-update-racists-destroy-california-monolith-proclaim-christs-superiority-to-space-aliens?utm\\_source=Iterable&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=curated\\_vice\\_daily\\_1023202](https://www.vice.com/en/article/gjpk7/mysterious-monolith-update-racists-destroy-california-monolith-proclaim-christs-superiority-to-space-aliens?utm_source=Iterable&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=curated_vice_daily_1023202)

<https://atascaderonews.com/news/vandals-remove-object-from-pine-mountain/>





**ATASCADERO  
POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
5505 EL CAMINO REAL  
ATASCADERO, CA 93422  
(805) 461-5051

CFS EVENT DETAIL	
CAD EVENT NUMBER	<b>2012050002</b>
CALL TYPE	<b>INFO</b>

**CALLS FOR SERVICE INFORMATION**

AGENCY	CAD EVENT NUMBER	CASE NUMBER	AGENCY NUMBER	DATE AND TIME	CALL TYPE	CALL TYPE EXPLAINED	FINAL CALL TYPE
APD	2012050002			12/05/2020 00:23	INFO	INFORMATION/UNUSUAL EVENT	INFO
LOCATION				APT/SUITE/BOX	CITY	RESPONSE ZONE	RESPONSE AREA
5505 EL CAMINO REAL					AT		
CALL SOURCE	LOCATION COMMENT						
P	APD BY PHONE						
COMMENTS							
RP HAS INFORMATION OF THE IDENTITY OF THE MAIN SUBJECT WHO TORE DOWN THE MONOLITH IN ATASCADERO							
[REDACTED]							
PRIMARY UNIT	DISPOSITION	DISPOSITION COMMENTS					
COM4	HBO						
F-911	DISPATCH	ARRIVED	CI FARFD	CI OSFD			
	00:30:01	00:00:00	00:54:17	00:54:17			

**UNITS STATUS RECORDSxxx**

TIME	UNIT	STATUS	COMMENT	LOCATION	DISPO
12/5/2020 0:30:01	COM4	D		5505 EL CAMINO REAL	
12/5/2020 0:54:17	COM4	C	CLEARED BY CAD2		HBO

**LINKED NAMES**

UNIT	REASON	NAME ( OR DL)	DOB
RP		ANON	



**ATASCADERO  
POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
5505 EL CAMINO REAL  
ATASCADERO, CA 93422  
(805) 461-5051

CFS EVENT DETAIL	
CAD EVENT NUMBER	2012050007
CALL TYPE	INFO

**CALLS FOR SERVICE INFORMATION**

AGENCY	CAD EVENT NUMBER	CASE NUMBER	AGENCY NUMBER	DATE AND TIME	CALL TYPE	CALL TYPE EXPLAINED	FINAL CALL TYPE
APD	2012050007			12/05/2020 02:33	INFO	INFORMATION/UNUSUAL EVENT	INFO
LOCATION				APT/SUITE/BOX	CITY	RESPONSE ZONE	RESPONSE AREA
5505 EL CAMINO REAL					AT		
CALL SOURCE	LOCATION COMMENT						
P	APD BY PHONE						
COMMENTS							
RP LEFT VM MESSAGE 12-4-2020							
RP ADV THE SUBJ WHO LIVE STREAMED TAKING DOWN THE MONOLITH AND PUTTING UP THE CROSS, ASSOCIATED WITH USERNAME							
[REDACTED]							
PRIMARY UNIT	DISPOSITION	DISPOSITION COMMENTS					
COM4	HBO						
F-911	DISPATCH	ARRIVED	CI FARFD	CI OSFD			
	02:34:35	00:00:00	02:34:41	02:34:41			

**UNITS STATUS RECORDSxxx**

TIME	UNIT	STATUS	COMMENT	LOCATION	DISPO
12/5/2020 2:34:35	COM4	D		5505 EL CAMINO REAL	
12/5/2020 2:34:41	COM4	C	CLEARED BY CAD2		HBO

**LINKED NAMES**

UNIT	REASON	NAME ( OR DL)	DOB
RP		[REDACTED]	



**ATASCADERO  
POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
5505 EL CAMINO REAL  
ATASCADERO, CA 93422  
(805) 461-5051

CFS EVENT DETAIL	
CAD EVENT NUMBER	2012040011
CALL TYPE	MCA

**CALLS FOR SERVICE INFORMATION**

AGENCY	CAD EVENT NUMBER	CASE NUMBER	AGENCY NUMBER	DATE AND TIME	CALL TYPE	CALL TYPE EXPLAINED	FINAL CALL TYPE
APD	2012040011			12/04/2020 02:26	MCA	MISC CITIZEN ASSIST	MCA
LOCATION				APT/SUITE/BOX	CITY	RESPONSE ZONE	RESPONSE AREA
5505 EL CAMINO REAL					ATASCADERO		
CALL SOURCE	LOCATION COMMENT						
P	APD BY PHONE						
COMMENTS							
RP CALLED TO INQUIRE ABOUT THE MONOLITH AFTER READING A "VICE ARTICLE" / RP WAS CONCERNED AS TO WHY IT WAS BEING INVESTIGATED BY OUR AGENCY/ RP CALLED FROM BLOCKED NUMBER AND ADVISED HE WAS NOT AN ATASCADERO RESIDENT/ ADV HE DOES NOT HAVE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION TO ASSIST THE INVESTIGATION							
[REDACTED]							
PRIMARY UNIT	DISPOSITION	DISPOSITION COMMENTS					
COM4	HBO						
F-911	DISPATCH	ARRIVED	CI FARFD	CI OSFR			
	02:36:36	00:00:00	02:36:40	02:36:40			

**UNITS STATUS RECORDSxxx**

TIME	UNIT	STATUS	COMMENT	LOCATION	DISPO
12/4/2020 2:36:36	COM4	D		5505 EL CAMINO REAL	
12/4/2020 2:36:40	COM4	C	CLEARED BY CAD2		HBO

**LINKED NAMES**

UNIT	REASON	NAME ( OR DL)	DOB
RP		[REDACTED]	



**ATASCADERO  
POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
5505 EL CAMINO REAL  
ATASCADERO, CA 93422  
(805) 461-5051

CFS EVENT DETAIL	
CAD EVENT NUMBER	2012020074
CALL TYPE	SUS

**CALLS FOR SERVICE INFORMATION**

AGENCY	CAD EVENT NUMBER	CASE NUMBER	AGENCY NUMBER	DATE AND TIME	CALL TYPE	CALL TYPE EXPLAINED	FINAL CALL TYPE
APD	2012020074			12/02/2020 15:48	SUS	SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES	SUS
LOCATION				APT/SUITE/BOX	CITY	RESPONSE ZONE	RESPONSE AREA
5699 CAPISTRANO AVE					AT		
CALL SOURCE	LOCATION COMMENT						
P	STADIUM PARK						
COMMENTS							
RP CONCERNED THAT OUR AGENCY IS NOT INVESTIGATING THE MONOLITH AT THE TOP OF STADIUM PARK							

PRIMARY UNIT	DISPOSITION	DISPOSITION COMMENTS			
A14	HBU				
F-911	DISPATCH	ARRIVED	CI FARFD	CI OSFD	
	15:58:54	16:36:50	16:57:47	16:57:47	

**UNITS STATUS RECORDSxxx**

TIME	UNIT	STATUS	COMMENT	LOCATION	DISPO
12/2/2020 15:58:54	A14	D		5699 CAPISTRANO AVE	
12/2/2020 15:58:54	A19	D		5699 CAPISTRANO AVE	
12/2/2020 16:36:50	A19	AR		5699 CAPISTRANO AVE	
12/2/2020 16:36:50	A14	AR		5699 CAPISTRANO AVE	
12/2/2020 16:57:45	A14	C	CLEARED BY CAD2		HBU
12/2/2020 16:57:47	A19	C	CLEARED BY CAD2		

**LINKED NAMES**

UNIT	REASON	NAME ( OR DL)	DOB
RP		ANON	

**News Release:**  
**City of Atascadero**  
**6500 Palma Ave.**  
**Atascadero, CA 93422**  
**(805) 461-5000**



**For Immediate Release:** December 3, 2020  
**Contact:** Deputy City Manager, Terrie Banish, 805-470-3490

## Monolith Update

On the afternoon of Wednesday, December 2, 2020, the City of Atascadero received reports from hikers of a steel Monolith or Obelisk structure at the top of Pine Mountain in Stadium Park.

As of early this morning, the Monolith had disappeared. The City has received the actual video that has surfaced on social media showing a group of men from out of the area removing the Monolith and replacing it with a plywood cross. The video shows them replacing the structure and talking amongst themselves.

“We are upset that these young men felt the need to drive 5 hours to come into our community and vandalize the Monolith. The Monolith was something unique and fun in an otherwise stressful time,” said Mayor Heather Moreno.

The Atascadero Police Department has not received any reports to date that the Monolith had been removed and/ or stolen. Currently, the Atascadero Police Department is reviewing the video and looking into this incident further. We will provide updated information as soon as it’s available.

The steel 3-sided structure stood about 10 ft. tall and appeared to weigh an estimated 200 pounds. The area of Stadium Park offers a 2 mile looping trail up to the top or you can take a more challenging trail with a higher level of difficulty to the top that would be about a 30-minute hike. The altitude of Pine Mountain sits at 1300 ft. and there is no vehicle access to bring something that large to the top. The City owns and maintains 75 acres of the Stadium Park area and the five-acre entrance is owned and maintained by the Atascadero Land Preservation Society (ALPS). At this time, neither the City nor the ALPS have any information on how the structure found its way to the top of the mountain or who placed it there.

If you have any information about the Monolith, please contact the Atascadero Police Department at (805) 461-5051.

For further information, please contact Terrie Banish at (805) 470-3490, [tbanish@atascadero.org](mailto:tbanish@atascadero.org). The area of Pine Mountain where the Monolith was located, can be found at [www.visitatascadero.com/things-to-do/hiking-and-biking/](http://www.visitatascadero.com/things-to-do/hiking-and-biking/) and click on Stadium Park.

## Lara Christensen

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**From:** Tess Ramirez  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 9, 2020 11:30 AM  
**To:** Lara Christensen  
**Subject:** FW: City of Atascadero Issue: CRM20-000139

-----Original Message-----

From: PUBLIC WORKS <tramirez@atascadero.org>  
Sent: Thursday, December 3, 2020 1:17 PM  
To: gfevans@gmail.com; Tess Ramirez <tramirez@atascadero.org>  
Subject: City of Atascadero Issue: CRM20-000139

Thank you for submitting your question or issue. Issue CRM20-000139 has been resolved by City staff.

### Details:

Issue: CRM20-000139  
Issue Type: PARKS QUESTION OR ISSUE / SAFETY ISSUE  
Created: 12/03/2020  
Resolved: 12/03/2020

Description: A group including the internet persona CultureWarCriminal allegedly left a structure in Pine Mountain last night as well as spewin racial slurs and hate. also according to the reported article they filed a phoney 911 call to Atascadero PD. I would like assurances that the city is taking down their hastily constructed monumemnt as i am sure it does not meet safety standards and i am worried it may hit a civilian when it topples. I am filing this because the police department did not comment on the article and as a citizen and neighbor living in the area i want to be sure that the Police department does not view these actions as acceptable.

<https://www.vice.com/en/article/qjpk7/mysterious-monolith-update-racists-destroy-california-monolith-proclaim-christs-superiority-to-space-aliens>

Resolution: As of early this morning, the Monolith had disappeared. The City has received the actual video that has surfaced on social media showing a group of men from out of the area removing the Monolith and replacing it with a plywood cross. The video shows them replacing the structure and talking amongst themselves.

"We are upset that these young men felt the need to drive 5 hours to come into our community and vandalize the Monolith. The Monolith was something unique and fun in an otherwise stressful time," said Mayor Heather Moreno.

The Atascadero Police Department has not received any reports to date that the Monolith had been removed and/ or stolen. Currently, the Atascadero Police Department is reviewing the video and looking into this incident further. We will provide updated information as soon as it's available.

The steel 3-sided structure stood about 10 ft. tall and appeared to weigh an estimated 200 pounds. The area of Stadium Park offers a 2 mile looping trail up to the top or you can take a more challenging trail with a higher level of difficulty to the top that would be about a 30-minute hike. The altitude of Pine Mountain sits at 1300 ft. and there is no vehicle access to bring something that large to the top. The City owns and maintains 75 acres of the Stadium Park area and the five-acre entrance is owned and maintained by the Atascadero Land Preservation Society (ALPS). At this time, neither the City nor the ALPS have any information on how the structure found its way to the top of the mountain or who placed it there.

If you have any information about the Monolith, please contact the Atascadero Police Department at (805) 461-5051.

Thank you for contacting the City of Atascadero.

**ATTENTION:**

This email originated from outside the City's network. Use caution when opening links and attachments.

**Lara Christensen**

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**From:** Tess Ramirez  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 9, 2020 11:22 AM  
**To:** Lara Christensen  
**Subject:** FW: street complaints due to the monolith traffic

***Tess Serna Ramirez***  
Public Works Department  
City of Atascadero  
805 470 3486

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**From:** Tess Ramirez  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 3, 2020 11:52 AM  
**To:** Patti Deirmenjian <[Pavilion@atascadero.org](mailto:Pavilion@atascadero.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: street complaints due to the monolith traffic

Atascadero Land Preservation Society. Sorry.

I wanted to add, because one of those callers did complain about traffic on the public street. It's a street that is open to the public, we can't do anything about that.

***Tess Serna Ramirez***  
Public Works Department  
City of Atascadero  
805 470 3486

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**From:** Patti Deirmenjian <[Pavilion@atascadero.org](mailto:Pavilion@atascadero.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 3, 2020 11:50 AM  
**To:** Tess Ramirez <[tramirez@atascadero.org](mailto:tramirez@atascadero.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: street complaints due to the monolith traffic

Thank you! Quick question – what is ALPS?

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**From:** Tess Ramirez <[tramirez@atascadero.org](mailto:tramirez@atascadero.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 3, 2020 11:48 AM  
**To:** Patti Deirmenjian <[Pavilion@atascadero.org](mailto:Pavilion@atascadero.org)>; Dawn Patterson <[dpatterson@atascadero.org](mailto:dpatterson@atascadero.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: street complaints due to the monolith traffic

Thanks for asking, Patti! If they have a complaint about people trespassing on their property, they should report it to the Police Dept. Nick did say the object was removed by an unknown party overnight, so it should not be an ongoing issue. We don't maintain that trail, it's maintained by ALPS.

***Tess Serna Ramirez***  
Public Works Department  
City of Atascadero  
805 470 3486



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**From:** Patti Deirmenjian <[Pavilion@atascadero.org](mailto:Pavilion@atascadero.org)>

**Sent:** Thursday, December 3, 2020 11:23 AM

**To:** Dawn Patterson <[dpatterson@atascadero.org](mailto:dpatterson@atascadero.org)>; Tess Ramirez <[tramirez@atascadero.org](mailto:tramirez@atascadero.org)>

**Subject:** street complaints due to the monolith traffic

Good Morning Ladies! I just transferred a call to you from a resident complaining about the traffic on her street. Should I forward those calls to you if more come in or is there a blanket statement you would like me to tell them?

(I don't want to burden you with more calls than you already receive!)

Thank you!

Patti

**Patti Deirmenjian**

CITY OF ATASCADERO

**6500 Palma Ave., Atascadero CA 93422**

Direct (805) 470-3178 | Office (805) 461-5000

Direct Fax: (805) 470-3179 |

[www.atascadero.org](http://www.atascadero.org)

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