

From: Pamela < >

Sent: Friday, November 30, 2018 5:21 PM

To: Parks and Recreation Commission 1; Parks and Recreation Commission 2; Parks and Recreation Commission 3; Parks and Recreation Commission 4; Parks and Recreation Commission 5; Parks and Recreation Commission 6; Parks and Recreation Commission 7; Parks and Recreation Commission 8; Parks and Recreation Commission 9; Parks and Recreation Commission 10; PRCCITIWIDE@sanjoseca.gov; The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo; District1; District2; District3; District4; District5; District 6; District7; District8; District9; District 10
Cc: Meyer-Calvert, Teresa; Burnham, Nicolle; City Clerk
Subject: Light Tower Site Selection and Process

Dear Chair Flores and Commissioners, Mayor Liccardo and San Jose Councilmembers, I'm a long-time resident and homeowner in the city of San Jose. My family regularly uses our parks and greatly values the local birds and wildlife of our area. In fact, a big part of our outings are specifically to enjoy these natural aspects of our area. As an example, our recent kayak outings in Calero Reservoir led to the discovery of Western and Clark's grebes actually nesting in the Reservoir area and I was the first to document this for the local Audubon Society. What a wonderful experience for all of us to enjoy, along with the many Bald Eagles, Osprey and many other wildlife there and in many other locations we are fortunate to have around our city.

I'm writing today to ask the Commission to recommend to the City Council:

- This Light Tower development be considered elsewhere, further from any of our waterways than is currently planned now
- Please develop and require wildlife-friendly design criteria for the Light Tower Corporation project
- Please engage the Greenprint Steering Committee and the Parks and Recreation Commission in the evaluation of design criteria and project submissions

Very respectfully and happy holidays,
Pamela Warren
Cesar Galindo

From: Carolyn Straub <

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Sent: Monday, December 3, 2018 10:35 AM

To: Parks and Recreation Commission 1; Parks and Recreation Commission 2; Parks and Recreation Commission 3; Parks and Recreation Commission 4; Parks and Recreation Commission 5; Parks and Recreation Commission 6; Parks and Recreation Commission 7; Parks and Recreation Commission 8; Parks and Recreation Commission 9; Parks and Recreation Commission 10; PRCCITIWIDE@sanjoseca.gov; The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo; District1; District2; District3; District4; District5; District 6; District7; District8; District9; District 10
Cc: Meyer-Calvert, Teresa; Burnham, Nicolle; City Clerk
Subject: Fwd: Light Tower Site Selection and Process

Dear Chair Flores and Commissioners, Mayor Liccardo and San Jose Councilmembers,

We are interested in a wise election process for a light tower, for more reason than just wildlife - this being very important as well..

In the 1800s, San Jose built a "light tower" See photo.

The tower proposed now for 2019 seems a throwback to an earlier age when San Joseans were all agog with "progress" before the coming of today's environmental law. We don't think a huge modern light tower with beaming lights would be forward looking.

In fact the Lick Observatory at Mt. Hamilton does display information about what is needed for skies studies - a low-light atmosphere and in and around San Jose.

You can have a light tower if you wish - but our interest in such a thing - is with ***low-level LED lighting. Lights in addition that point downward.***

Wouldn't this seem more reasonable for a lovely city along the Guadalupe River that prides itself on what we hope is beauty?

An International Design Contest in 2019....quite showy.

We hope that the city of San Jose can create a design that would benefit our birds and wildlife. Or none at all.

Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Straub
Steve McHenry
San Jose
District 7

SCVAS members

From: Kristin Dessau < >

Sent: Tuesday, December 4, 2018 10:19 AM

To: The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo; District1; District2; District3; District4; District5; District 6; District7; District8; District9; District 10; Burnham, Nicolle; City Clerk

Subject: Light Tower Site Selection and process.

Dear Chair Flores and Commissioners, Mayor Liccardo and San Jose Council members,

My name is Kristin Dessau and I am a fourth generation resident of San Jose. The environment and recognition of the needs of wildlife, particularly in our remaining riparian corridors and intersections with open space are of great concern for me as a citizen and a grandmother. San Jose cannot refer to itself as "green" and sustainable without inclusion of ecological ramifications for its projects. We are a microcosm of a planet in crisis and we can get it right or continue a long pattern of ignoring and abusing nature.

This development should be considered elsewhere, further from any waterways
The City should develop and require wildlife-friendly design criteria for the Light Tower Corporation project

The City should engage the Greenprint Steering Committee and the Parks and Recreation Commission in the evaluation of design criteria and project submissions

In support of the Sierra Club and its
Loma Prieta Chapter, Conservation Committee, Wildlife Sub-committee

From: Martin Gothberg <

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Sent: Tuesday, December 4, 2018 7:53 AM

To: Parks and Recreation Commission 1; Parks and Recreation Commission 2; Parks and Recreation Commission 3; Parks and Recreation Commission 4; Parks and Recreation Commission 5; Parks and Recreation Commission 6; Parks and Recreation Commission 7; Parks and Recreation Commission 8; Parks and Recreation Commission 9; The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo; District1; District2; District3; District4; District5; District 6; District7; District8; District9; District 10

Cc: Meyer-Calvert, Teresa; Burnham, Nicolle; City Clerk

Subject: Light Tower Site Selection and process

Dear Chair Flores and Commissioners, Mayor Liccardo and San Jose Councilmembers,

As a past Board Member of Guadalupe River Park & Gardens, I was concerned to hear through the local Sierra Club chapter of the apparent restrictions on the selection process for the proposed Light Tower. While the thought of a beautiful light tower structure may please visionaries, please consider the impact to all living things and the fact that all biological phenomena respond to light. Our biological clocks and our health have evolved to use light cues. Light impacts growth and seasonality in trees, it affects fish migration and spawning, migratory birds are attracted to light, and all animal reproduction is triggered by light. It is important to keep unnatural light pollution in check, especially near sensitive habitats. Please note:

1. This development should be considered elsewhere, further from waterways
2. The City should develop and require wildlife-friendly design criteria for the Light Tower Corporation project
3. The City should engage the Greenprint Steering Committee and the Parks and Recreation Commission in the evaluation of design criteria and project submissions

Martin Gothberg
Board Member (2000-2005), GRP&G
Santa Clara, CA

From: Mary Buxton <>
Sent: Wednesday, December 5, 2018 5:42 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject:

Dear SJ City Clerk:

Re: December 11 - SJ City Council meeting

18-1647	1	5.2	Neighborhood Services	Actions Related to the Landmark Site Selection for the San José Light Tower.
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Please attach this correspondence to this item on the agenda. Thanks!

Dear Chair Flores and Commissioners, Mayor Liccardo and San Jose Councilmembers:

I am a member of the Sierra Club Loma Prieta Executive Committee and a climate activist with 350 Silicon Valley. I worked in downtown San Jose for 20 years and have been a resident of Silicon Valley for 40+ years. Because I care about the City of San Jose and its parks, fish, birds and wildlife, I have recently attended a meeting on the Diridon plan. Now I'm writing to you to ask for a change in the planning process for the Light Tower project.

Please recommend to the city council:

1. This development should be considered elsewhere, further from any waterways.
2. The City should develop and require wildlife-friendly design criteria for the Light Tower Corporation project.
3. The City should engage the Greenprint Steering Committee and the Parks and Recreation Commission in the evaluation of design criteria and project submissions.

It will be a better result if this is done now.

Thanks so much for listening!

Sincerely,

Mary Buxton

Sierra Club, Loma Prieta Chapter, Executive Committee
Concerned Silicon Valley Resident

From: Brian Carr [mailto:Brian.Carr@sanjoseca.gov]
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2018 8:56 PM
To: 'TheOfficeofMayorSamLiccardo@sanjoseca.gov'; 'District9@sanjoseca.gov'
Subject: Light Tower in Guadalupe River Park

Dear mayor Liccardo and Council Member Rocha,

The proposed light tower in Guadalupe River park is another example of the tendency to disregard the value of parks and open space. Time and time again we see proposals to build on our dwindling natural areas. This proposal, in particular, is inappropriate. It would place the tower near the confluence of Los Gatos Creek and the Guadalupe River, a valuable area for wildlife and birds. Of course we know many birds are attracted to light sources at night which are a major cause of mortality.

I hope you will reflect the will of the people of San Jose to protect our parks. We should be protecting more rare open space, not degrading them.

Respectfully,

Brian Carr
San Jose

From: Md Boyd []

Sent: Monday, December 10, 2018 12:24 PM

To: The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <TheOfficeofMayorSamLiccardo@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: No on San Jose Light Tower / Instead a Statehouse Replica Building

Dear Honorable Mayor Sam T. Liccardo,

As a native of San Jose, I commend ideas to recreate historical structures from San Jose's past. However, I do not believe a new Light Tower structure would be the best historical structure from San Jose's past to recreate.

Since there are no letters supporting this proposal (all oppose), I believe I have a better idea.

Instead of a recreated Light Tower, how about a Statehouse Replica Building. San Jose should showcase the fact that San Jose was the home of California's first State Capitol Building. San Jose already has a replica of the Light Tower at San Jose's History Park.

Here's a link to my report submitted to the Santa Clara County Historical Commission on November 17, 2011 and accepted unanimously. Agenda item #8

[2011/11/17 06:30 PM Historical Heritage Commission Regular Meeting - Web Outline - The County of Santa Clara, California](#)

2011/11/17 06:30 PM Historical Heritage Commission Regular Meeting - Web...

I concluded that the estimated cost (in 2011) for the Statehouse Replica Building is \$2 million.

I performed the above report as part of an internship for state Senator Jim Beall when he was a member of the state Assembly.

Sincerely,

Marc Boyd

From: Kathy Kleinstein <>

Sent: Friday, December 7, 2018 4:24 PM

To: Parks and Recreation Commission 1; Parks and Recreation Commission 2; Parks and Recreation Commission 3; Parks and Recreation Commission 4; Parks and Recreation Commission 5; Parks and Recreation Commission 6; Parks and Recreation Commission 7; Parks and Recreation Commission 8; Parks and Recreation Commission 9; Parks and Recreation Commission 10; PRCCITIWIDE@sanjoseca.gov; The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo; District1; District2; District3; District4; District5; District 6; District7; District8; District9; District 10; Meyer-Calvert, Teresa; Burnham, Nicolle; City Clerk; The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo

Subject: Light Tower Issues

I am a long-time San Jose resident, and while I have no issue with the idea of creating an iconic landmark in San Jose, I have serious concerns with the light pollution that a light tower might create. It is important to protect the night skies for present and future generations and to avoid the negative impacts of adding more artificial light in wildlife corridors.

For the stargazers amongst us: Have you ever tried to watch a meteor shower or look at planets from your backyard in San Jose? These experiences have become somewhat esoteric due to the light pollution in our skies, but they are experiences our children should have the opportunity to enjoy. Please do not add to the already excessive amount of unnatural light in our night skies. And please don't forget the effects of light pollution for the astronomers at Lick Observatory.

And for the urban wildlife: If you must build a light tower, the choice of location should take into consideration the needs of our beleaguered urban wildlife. To choose the confluence of two major waterways, the life blood of our urban wildlife, and to add unnatural light to the stresses of those organisms is unwise. And let's not forget the migrating birds, many of which migrate at night, when unexpected unnatural light can cause deadly confusion.

Even if we choose to ignore the fact that we are not the only species that deserves consideration, we should all recognize the sense of wonder and renewal that we feel when we watch an egret fishing in the creek or a sparrow flitting from branch to branch or when we look up and see a meteor streaking by.

If we must have a light tower, please keep it away from waterways and require a wildlife-friendly design. Please engage the Greenprint Steering Committee and the Parks and Recreation Commission in the development of design criteria and evaluation of project submissions.

San Jose's skies already suffer from enough light pollution. Please do not add to the problem. It is not good for us. It is not good for wildlife.

Thank you,
Kathy Kleinstein

From: shabbir@shabbirlatif.com < >

Sent: Thursday, December 6, 2018 2:24 PM

To: Parks and Recreation Commission 1; Parks and Recreation Commission 2; Parks and Recreation Commission 3; Parks and Recreation Commission 4; Parks and Recreation Commission 5; Parks and Recreation Commission 6; Parks and Recreation Commission 7; Parks and Recreation Commission 8; Parks and Recreation Commission 10; 'George Adas'; The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo; District1; District2; District3; District4; District5; District 6; District7; District8; District9; District 10

Cc: Meyer-Calvert, Teresa; Burnham, Nicole; City Clerk

Subject: Light Tower Site Selection and process

Dear Chair Flores and Commissioners, Mayor Liccardo and San Jose Councilmembers,

I am a resident of San Jose and very much interested in the city of San Jose and its parks, fish, birds and wildlife

Please ask the Commission to recommend to the city council:

This development should be considered elsewhere, further from any waterways

The City should develop and require wildlife-friendly design criteria for the Light Tower Corporation project

The City should engage the Greenprint Steering Committee and the Parks and Recreation Commission in the evaluation of design criteria and project submissions

Thank you,

Peace & Joy!

Sml☺ Shabbir Latif

From: Freda Hofland < >

Sent: Wednesday, December 12, 2018 11:03 AM

To: City Clerk; The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo

Subject: re light structure design

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Light Tower Corporations representatives:

When you meet to discuss the design competition criteria for proposals for a structure in Arena Green Park, please consider the environmental aspects of such a structure very thoughtfully. Criteria should require "do no harm" to the environment, including light pollution.

Sincerely,
Freda Hofland

From: Bonnie Wong < >

Sent: Tuesday, December 11, 2018 8:53 PM

To: City Clerk

Subject: Light Tower Project

Please make sure the design criteria for this project protects fish and wildlife from light pollution.

From: Lisa Bourgeault < >

Sent: Wednesday, December 12, 2018 10:10 PM

To: City Clerk

Subject: iconic landmark structure

Dear City Clerk,

I understand that the city will solicit proposals for a landmark structure in Arena Green Park. Please take into consideration the impact of light pollution on the fish and wildlife who need the Guadalupe River and Los Gatos Creek for their survival. Light can frighten away wildlife from an important water source and it can interrupt the cycle of the fish when the water is pierced by light. Please do anything you can to mitigate this problem.

Sincerely,

Lisa Bourgeault

From: Kim < >
Sent: Tuesday, December 11, 2018 9:53 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Landmark Structure in Arena Green Park

City Council Members,

When reviewing designs for the new landmark structure in Arena Green Park please consider the location on the confluence of the Guadalupe River and Los Gatos Creek where light pollution near these important waterways can have harmful impacts to fish and wildlife.

Thanks,
Kim Lemmer

From: J'Carlin < >
Sent: Wednesday, December 12, 2018 8:15 AM
To: City Clerk
Cc:
Subject: Arena Green Park project lighting.

While lighting city parkways is critical for the people using the park, it can be harmful to the fish, wildlife, and vegetation that make the park attractive to those users. Modern LED lighting can be directed to specifically light certain areas and avoid spillover to other areas. Modern auto headlights can light the lane ahead of the vehicle without spillover to an adjacent oncoming lane, and with just enough vertical spillover to illuminate overhead reflective signs. Any lighting design for Arena Green Park should be used to control usage to public use areas of the park. An additional virtue of this kind of lighting plan is that any person not in the lighted areas could be considered suspicious and treated accordingly.

Carlin Black
SCAG, WNAC, and TVAC

From: reira@aol.com < >
Sent: Monday, December 17, 2018 3:45 PM
To: city clerk@san joseca.gov
Subject: San Jose Light Tower

City Council Members,

Please require design criteria to protect fish and wildlife at your next meeting with the Light Tower Corporation. Thank You, Linda Reis