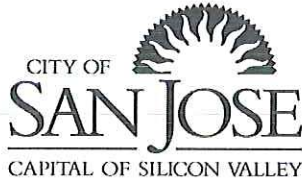


RULES COMMITTEE: 9/4/2019

Item: E

File ID: 19-294



Memorandum

TO: Honorable Mayor &
City Council

FROM: Toni J. Taber, CMC
City Clerk

SUBJECT: The Public Record
August 23 – August 29

DATE: September 4, 2019

ITEMS FILED FOR THE PUBLIC RECORD

Letters from Boards, Commissions, and Committees

Letters from the Public

1. Letter from Santa Clara & San Benito Counties Building & Construction Trades Council, dated August 21, 2019, regarding Buy Clean California Act (AB 262).
2. Letter from Darryl Rosario, dated August 26, 2019, regarding 397 Blossom Hill Road (CP18-022 & T18-034).
3. Letter from Blair Beekman, dated August 27, 2019, regarding A letter from Blair Beekman. _____ S.J. consent calendar items. Tuesday August 27, 2019.
4. Letter from Jesus Flores, dated August 27, 2019, regarding Imminent Displacement of Local Family Owned Businesses.
5. Letter from Blair Beekman, dated August 28, 2019 regarding A letter from Blair Beekman - 2. _____ A correction - S.J. consent calendar items. Tuesday August 27, 2019.

Toni J. Taber, CMC
City Clerk



Santa Clara & San Benito Counties Building & Construction Trades Council

2102 Almaden Road Suite 101, San Jose, CA 95125-2190 • Phone 408.265.7643 • Fax 408.265.2080

David Bini
Executive Director

Robert Baldini
President

August 21, 2019

Boilermakers 549
Brick & Tile 3
Carpenters 2236
Carpenters 405
Carpet & Linoleum 12
Cement Masons 400
Drywall Lathers 9144
Electricians 332
Elevator Constructors 8
Glaziers 1621
Heat & Frost Insulators 16
Iron Workers 377
Laborers 270
Laborers 67
Millwrights 102
Operating Engineers 3
Painters District Council 16
Painters 507
Plasterers 300
Plumbers & Steamfitters 393
Roofers & Waterproofers 95
Sheet Metal Workers 104
Sign, Display 510
Sprinkler Fitters 483
Teamsters 287
UA Local 355

Affiliated with:
State Building and
Construction Trades
Council of California
California Labor
Federation, AFL-CIO
California Labor C.O.P.E.
South Bay AFL-CIO
Labor Council

Mayor Sam Liccardo and City Council Members
200 East Santa Clara Street, 18th Floor
San Jose, CA 95113

RE: Buy Clean California Act (AB 262)

Dear Mayor Liccardo and City Council Members,

On behalf of the Santa Clara & San Benito Counties Building & Construction Trades Council I write in support of the implementation of AB 262, which will utilize the state's purchasing power to assist California's goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

In 2017, the legislature passed Assembly Bill 262, allowing the State of California to put the "Buy Clean" concept to work. The policy requires State agencies assigned to public works projects to purchase certain construction materials such as structural steel, carbon steel rebar, mineral wool board insulation, and flat glass, from manufacturers that have invested in cutting their greenhouse pollution.

The pollution is disclosed through an Environmental Product Declaration (EPD). Under "Buy Clean" suppliers must prove that materials meet California emission standards.

Cities and Counties in California have the option of adopting similar policies at the local level. We urge the City of San Jose to consider such a policy.

Sincerely,

David Bini
Executive Director

cc: Dave Sykes, City Manager



From: Darryl R
Sent: Monday, August 26, 2019 10:28 PM
To: The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo <TheOfficeofMayorSamLiccardo@sanjoseca.gov>
Cc: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: FW: 397 Blossom Hill Road (CP18-022 & T18-034)
Importance: High

Error... Re-sending....

From: darryl_r
Sent: Sunday, August 25, 2019 5:28 PM
To: 'mayoremail@sanjoseca.org' <mayoremail@sanjoseca.org>; 'District1@sanjoseca.gov' <District1@sanjoseca.gov>; 'District2@sanjoseca.gov' <District2@sanjoseca.gov>; 'District3@sanjoseca.gov' <District3@sanjoseca.gov>; 'District4@sanjoseca.gov' <District4@sanjoseca.gov>; 'District5@sanjoseca.gov' <District5@sanjoseca.gov>; 'District6@sanjoseca.gov' <District6@sanjoseca.gov>; 'District7@sanjoseca.gov' <District7@sanjoseca.gov>; 'District8@sanjoseca.gov' <District8@sanjoseca.gov>; 'District9@sanjoseca.gov' <District9@sanjoseca.gov>; 'District10@sanjoseca.gov' <District10@sanjoseca.gov>; 'City.clerk@sanjoseca.gov' <City.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>
Cc: 'ruth.cueto@sanjoseca.gov' <ruth.cueto@sanjoseca.gov>; 'Planningcom4@sanjoseca.gov' <Planningcom4@sanjoseca.gov>; 'Planningcom1@sanjoseca.gov' <Planningcom1@sanjoseca.gov>; 'Planningcom7@sanjoseca.gov' <Planningcom7@sanjoseca.gov>; 'Planningcom2@sanjoseca.gov' <Planningcom2@sanjoseca.gov>; 'Planningcom3@sanjoseca.gov' <Planningcom3@sanjoseca.gov>; 'Planningcom5@sanjoseca.gov' <Planningcom5@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: 397 Blossom Hill Road (CP18-022 & T18-034)
Importance: High

To: City Council Members & Members of the Planning Commission

I am a resident of District 2 and live fairly close to the proposed Senior Housing Project (CP18-022) at 397 Blossom Hill Road.

The purpose of this email is to communicate to you the sentiments of nearby residents who will be directly affected by the proposed project.
For that purpose I have attached three (3) detailed discussions on the subject posted on our Nextdoor neighborhood social network:

File: Nextdoor#1_397-Blossom-Hill-Rd.pdf

File: Nextdoor#2_397-Blossom-Hill-Rd.pdf

File: Nextdoor#3_397-Blossom-Hill-Rd.pdf

To summarize, most residents are not opposed to housing for Seniors, but are opposed to choice of location because of the many detrimental effects this project will have on:

- Safety/Crime
- Additional problems with Homelessness
- Noise
- Traffic

- Many other problems for local residents

"It will add to the current conditions that have made a once family friendly place into what those of us who live around the four corners have been calling a War Zone".

Please hear the voices/concerns/angst of the majority of the local residents and consider another more suitable location for the proposed housing project.

Respectfully,
Darryl Rosario
District 2 Resident

Attachments:

Nextdoor#1_397-Blossom-Hill-Rd.pdf,
Nextdoor#2_397-Blossom-Hill-Rd.pdf
Nextdoor#3_397-Blossom-Hill-Rd.pdf

Blossom Hill Senior Apartments - Catholic Charities Project

(/news_feed/?post=121604501)

I am very new at this and late in the game, but I did some research utilizing Catholic Charities website. First of all, I do believe there is a need for Senior housing. There are 9 completed housing communities by Catholic Charities they are:

Los Gatos - 13 units

Kings Crossing - 13 units

Met North - 71 units

Met South - 31 units

Paseo Senter @ Coyote Creek - 218 units

San Tomas Garden - 100 units

Sunset Square - 96 units

Sierra Vista I (Mountain View) - 34 units

Westwood (Santa Clara) - 42 units

**Then there are 3 Family Supportive Housing:

Kings Crossing (separate building) -35 units

Maravilla Townhomes & Cottages (Campbell) - 40 units

Sobrato House -Youth Center - 19 units

AS FAR AS I CAN TELL NONE OF THE ABOVE COMMUNITIES OFFER AN ON-SITE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES. Blossom Hill Senior Apartments Community will be the first one designed in that community by Catholic Charities. The communities listed above, I believe offer resources and referrals (to the residents living there) but they do not have an on-site office offering this particular service(s) which Blossom Hill will have AND services offered not only to the residents living there but to the OUTER community.

Also, the above listed communities serve from extremely low income, homeless youth (Sobrato House) to moderate income population. I may have overlooked the homeless population in the above listed communities, but Blossom Hill will provide 40 to 49 units to homeless seniors.

Also notice the number of units listed in the communities above. The largest is Paseo Senter with 218 units. If you are familiar with Senter Road, there are many offices that offer assistance for the needy in that immediate area. So I believe that the city is using the opportunity to create housing for seniors (which is needed) to develop another area like Senter Road, in another part of the city, this time in South San Jose.

I hope that I am wrong, but all indications are this project will be a hub for the homeless, mentally ill and with that comes the increase of crime! I don't believe the city and Catholic Charities are being transparent with the planning. That was evident in the meeting I attended on Monday night. Very controlled, questions addressed (5 of them) just did not give me the feeling they were interested in our concerns.

I bought my home in this community 26 years ago because it was a nice area, I have seen a considerable amount of deterioration and this project will change the demographics ten fold in our community.

3 days ago · 27 neighborhoods in General (/general/)



Thank



Reply



20



31



Darrell Brinkman (/profile/2662310/), Comanche · 3 days ago






Until the sick priests and cover up artists are jailed, forget em

Thank



Reply





1

 Cynthia Terra (/profile/431573/), Calero · 2 days ago 
It would be interesting to know how many residents are actually housed at Paseo Senter/218 units. Blossom Hill Senior Apartments/147 units could potentially house over 300 residents. Paseo Senter is not rated (/inbox/) very high on Yelp!! Desiree you could be correct...this project could be a hub for the homeless like Senter Road. Maybe that is why the Urban Village is on hold.



Thank Reply  4

 Broc Plumlee (/profile/41162259/), Blossom Valley · 2 days ago 
It is incredibly disheartening to see this same sentiment come up every single time this is discussed. "Help the homeless/addicted/ill. Oh but not in MY nice neighborhood no no no." Should we bring back leper colonies? Ship them all to an island? Lock them up? Give them their own cities? How exactly do you propose to fix this problem, if NOBODY actually wants to help because it might affect their wealth? BTW, the incredibly over-inflated Bay Area property values WILL be going down, soon, and I promise it won't be because of disadvantaged people getting help. Maybe when half the neighborhood is underwater on their mortgage and need help themselves will people come to their damn senses again. We are ALL human.

Thank Reply  9

 Cynthia Terra (/profile/431573/), Calero · 2 days ago 
Broc - If you have been following this project you know it is not opposed by most for the reasons you have stated. There's been much community involvement in the past two years. If you have not participated or attended a meeting please try to be available for the next one which I'm sure will be announced on Nextdoor in the near future.

Thank Reply   6

 Broc Plumlee (/profile/41162259/), Blossom Valley · 2 days ago 
Cynthia Terra (/profile/431573) sadly the loudest seem to be opposed to it for exactly the reasons stated, the opening post being a prime example. "Changing the demographics" "a hub for the homeless and mentally ill" "increase in crime", it sounds like a lot of pearl-clutching and scare tactics. I will definitely be following the meetings from now on, thank you for the heads up!

Thank Reply  3



Desiree Salguero (/profile/8070993/), Comanche · 2 days ago



Broc Plumlee (/profile/41162259) I respect your opinion and I stand by mine. Yes, I would like my "nice" neighborhood to stay nice (btw, it's not as nice as it use to be). There is something hinky about how this project is being presented. I pay property taxes and I should have a say so of what happens in my community! There are hidden agendas behind this project and the tip is the mental health services. The focus has been on Senior Housing (which I do believe is needed) but when they speak of first floor of commercial space, residence on the second floor and up, open courtyard and no security guards, mental health services open to the public that can pay (I'm sure on a sliding scale), partnership with Second Harvest (I've been told that it's only for the residents) are they really going to turn away homeless people?

This area is not the right area for such a project, we've had too many issues with the homeless and mentally ill in the parking lot at Walgreen's and CVS. I've called 911 to help this woman who was in the CVS parking lot, who was screaming and hallucinating. Fire and paramedics arrived and the woman refused any medical attention. The only way a person would receive psychiatric attention is if he/she is a danger to herself or others. This woman posed no threat of that and refused medical. She was left alone.

and that was only one example, remember Quentin? Police could not (not would not) could not take down his make shift home on the sidewalk by the gas station and Walgreen's. So yeah, my "nice" neighborhood has been changing dramatically and not improving.

Thank Reply

😊❤️ 15



Broc Plumlee (/profile/41162259/), Blossom Valley · 2 days ago



Desiree Salguero (/profile/8070993) honestly I am absolutely thrilled you are actively involved in the community, no sarcasm, that is sorely needed. You are absolutely correct, you pay taxes, it is 100% your right to be heard and have a say in anything that affects your community. I think more what I'm trying to say is if you have an existing homeless and mentally ill population in your community, wouldn't it be best to get them direct access to care and services so they can become productive members of society and/or get the treatment they need so they aren't a danger to themselves and the public? Wouldn't actively addressing the problem as a community actually improve the community as a whole to the point where people like Quentin can become contributing citizens instead of living on a sidewalk? It won't work like a light switch, it will take a lot of time and effort and there will be growing pains, absolutely. But I think we as a community are strong enough to make it happen. I definitely agree with you on the area of transparency and who is seeing benefits behind the scenes from this deal. That should be completely transparent and openly available to anybody in the community. Sadly, there will be concessions to be made on all sides, it won't be perfect, but I'd like to hope it would be progress. Everything else just feels like burying our heads in the sand to me.

Thank Reply

😊❤️ 4



Robert Wood (/profile/30529191/), Comanche · 2 days ago



I'm not a fan of the NIMBY attitude as well but totally understand and share the similar sentiment that it's not an appropriate location, not the best location, and that this neighborhood has seen a decline since the police initially ignored the area and homelessness moved from the jungle to here. (/inbox/)

Honestly, a project of this scale to serve the homeless and at risk of homeless seniors seems to be more fitting in Monterey on a large lot there, then the smaller lot on a crowded "suburban" Main Street. The area is already inundated with people who need help and refuse help on their own, moderate to high traffic depending on time of day, and lack of preventive policing of the area.

Thank Reply

😊 6



Robert Wood (/profile/30529191/), Comanche · 2 days ago



I'd also be against the cities proposition last year about placing teacher "dorm" style housing in one of the priciest and exclusive parts of San Jose as they proposed before. It's about prime location for what they want to do, not about where ever there's space.

Thank Reply

😊 1



Lorraine Johnson (/profile/284033/), East Santa Teresa Foothills · 2 days ago



Wow! Another personal attack, this time on Desiree because of her views. Don't worry **Desiree (/profile/8070993)**, many agree with you. Just a few posts up, I added a comment re: a deputy shot by a sniper from a subsidized building where homeless & some mentally ill lived. He is still on the loose. This could be an example....

Thank Reply

😊 1



Mary Anne Devine (/profile/13077068/), Blossom Valley · 2 days ago



You can have serious concerns about this project without being a heartless NIMBY. Thanks for your research, Desiree. At some point, the city council has to balance the interest of Charities Housing with the interests of the neighbors. Neighbors participated in discussions about the urban village concept several years ago and envisioned retail and restaurants that would make the area a destination while providing jobs for the residents. The current plan provides social services ; it does not seem to be commercial in the way most of us imagine "commercial." The project is also way too big for the neighborhood.

Thank Reply

😊 6



Broc Plumlee (/profile/41162259/), Blossom Valley · Edited 2 days ago



Lorraine Johnson (/profile/284033) I don't think you understand what a personal attack is. There was no name calling or expletives used, just adult discussion. Did I miss something?

Thank Reply



Lorraine Johnson (/profile/284033/), East Santa Teresa Foothills · 2 days ago

Broc Plumlee (/profile/41162259), uh yes, you missed it last night.

Desiree was called a hypocrite directly, i.e "you're a hypocrite" but it was taken down. (/inbox/)

Thank

Reply



1



Dennis Pizzo (/profile/13217251/), Cottle-Lean · Edited 1 day ago

It's to my understanding that the medicinal building next door says

As soon as it's complete they are not renewing their leases...

I know I'll use other locations

Thank

Reply



Lorraine Johnson (/profile/284033/), East Santa Teresa Foothills · 2 days ago

Dennis Pizzo (/profile/13217251) ...did you mean to say...the Medical Building next door & when the development is finished all the drs in the building will not be renewing their leases OR will the building owner not renew & kick all of them out?

Thank

Reply



Cynthia Terra (/profile/431573/), Calero · Edited 2 days ago

Maybe that's what CH is hoping for.....more property!!

Thank

Reply



3



Jacquie Heffner (/profile/196485/), East Santa Teresa Foothills · 2 days ago

Does anyone have any evidence that the Medical Building will not be renewing leases or that the current occupants will be moving if the proposed building goes in?

I was told by someone that they heard the Michael's was closing due to the Charities Housing building, I called Michael's and they said they were not closing.

We can agree to disagree on this issue, but at a minimum we should try to make sure information is correct and verified.

Thank

Reply



2



Desiree Salguero (/profile/8070993/), Comanche · 2 days ago

Lorraine Johnson (/profile/284033), yes I read that last night and I'm not offended. The person who wrote that does not know me.

Thank

Reply



1



Cynthia Terra (/profile/431573/), Calero · 2 days ago



For those who have questions/concerns regarding the project located at 397 Blossom Hill Rd, San Jose I encourage you to write Ruth Cueto, Planning Department, City Council and the PLANNING COMMISSION. (/inbox/)

Below is an email I received for Ruth Cueto from the Planning Department.

Hi Cynthia,

The PLANNING COMMISSION is the deciding body for Conditional Use Permits, such as the one Charities Housing is seeking. Once the Planning Commission meeting date is set, those within a 1,000-ft radius of the project site will be notified via mail, as will anyone else who requested to be placed on the notification list. The Planning Commission meeting is a public meeting, held in the evening, and will be another opportunity for the public to give comments on the project. You can find past agendas here: <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?NID=6214> (<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?NID=6214>). Conditional Use Permits may be appealed to the City Council; you can find additional information here: <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?nid=1755> (<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?nid=1755>).

Planning Department

Ruth Cueto, ruth.cueto@sanjoseca.gov
(<mailto:ruth.cueto@sanjoseca.gov>).

Members of the Planning Commission

Shiloh Ballard, Chair Planningcom4@sanjoseca.gov
(<mailto:Planningcom4@sanjoseca.gov>)
John Leyba, Vice Chair Planningcom1@sanjoseca.gov
(<mailto:Planningcom1@sanjoseca.gov>)
Michelle Yesney Planningcom7@sanjoseca.gov
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Pierluigi Oliverio Planningcom2@sanjoseca.gov
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Peter Allen Planningcom3@sanjoseca.gov
(<mailto:Planningcom3@sanjoseca.gov>)
Melanie Griswold Planningcom5@sanjoseca.gov
(<mailto:Planningcom5@sanjoseca.gov>)

City Council:

1. Mayor Sam Liccardo – mayoremail@sanjoseca.gov
(<mailto:mayoremail@sanjoseca.gov>) (408) 535-4800
2. Charles "Chappie" Jones, District 1 – district1@sanjoseca.gov
(<mailto:district1@sanjoseca.gov>) (408) 535-4901
3. Serjio Jimenez, District 2 – district2@sanjoseca.gov
(<mailto:district2@sanjoseca.gov>) (408) 535-4902
4. Raul Peralez, District 3 – district3@sanjoseca.gov
(<mailto:district3@sanjoseca.gov>) (408) 535-4903
5. Lan Diep, District 4 – district4@sanjoseca.gov
(<mailto:district4@sanjoseca.gov>) (408) 535-4904



Daniel Kionka (/profile/15110956/), Del Robles · 2 days ago

I felt manipulated by the Monday night meeting. They made it sour!! so wonderful. Finally at the end they let slip that 1/3 of the places go to the homeless. They ignored our questions about the homeless. It was all misdirection talking only about the well-qualified senior renters. (/inbox/)

Thank Reply

😊 1



Desiree Salguero (/profile/8070993/), Comanche · 1 day ago

Dennis Pizzo (/profile/13217251) I spoke to one of the building managers with GD Dommer Real Estate that oversees the 393 Good Samaritan Medical Plaza (next to the proposed project) who said that they are not planning on closing the medical building anytime soon.

Thank Reply

😊 2



Desiree Salguero (/profile/8070993/), Comanche · 1 day ago

Just to clarify on my post regarding the medical center, the building will not be closed, but it's up to the individual clients in the building that may not renew their lease.

Thank Reply

😊 3



Frank Rainey (/profile/37008616/), Comanche · Edited 1 day ago

I completely support this project. This issue needs to be addressed and why not start right here in THIS COMMUNITY!

Thank Reply

😊 1



Patty Houston (/profile/4166238/), Calero · 1 day ago

There are many reasons we should not start right here in this COMMUNITY, read all the comments...

Thank Reply

▼



Desiree Salguero (/profile/8070993/), Comanche · 1 day ago

Frank Rainey (/profile/37008616) because that size of a project does not fit in that area. Take a walk around the fenced area of ACO. Go to the back of the building and just imagine a four story building containing 140 units, parking spaces and offices on the first floor offering services to the public! Drive Blossom Hill in that general area, any time of the day, traffic is horrendous! Just imagine how that project will impact the daily lives of the residents in this area.

We do need senior housing but this project is way too big for that area.

Thank Reply

😊 2



Frank Rainey (/profile/37008616/), Comanche · 1 day ago

Not the perfect project ok. At this point we have a homeless crisis and I'm cool with any project that houses people, even if traffic is affected and even if it's too big.

Thank Reply

😊 1

▼



Desiree Salguero (/profile/8070993/), Comanche · 1 day ago



I respect your opinion.



Thank Reply

(/inbox/): 2



Patty Houston (/profile/4166238/), Calero · 1 day ago



I respect your opinion too.

Thank Reply

😊 1



Emma Martinez (/profile/40109464/), Oak Grove · 1 day ago



They'll call cops for everything. I'm concerned because of the shootings involving mentally ill. Cops make mistakes too. They need security 24/7 not calling cops 😞

Thank Reply

😊 3



Jeanmarie Finigan (/profile/9908899/), East Santa Teresa Foothills · 20 hr ago



When is the next mtg

Thank Reply

😊 1



Raghu Gundlapalli (/profile/8461220/), Cottle-Lean · 15 hr ago



Broc Plumlee (/profile/41162259): I am ok government helping homeless people, but not by closing park & ride.

I park at blossom hill VTA & go to work everyday, city has decided to close park & ride, build low income housing, where should I park ? Should I drive to work instead of taking bus ?

85/87 are already awful.

Government would have to spend billions to solve this problem.




Government should focus on expanding public transportation system to put pressure on home prices. Not close park & rides to build low income housing. I would happily live in Morgan hill if there was good public transportation system.

Thank Reply

😊❤️ 5

Add a reply...


(/inbox/)

-  Home (/news_feed/)
-  Hayes (/neighborhood_feed/)
-  Map (/map/)


Neighborhood

-  Businesses (/local-businesses?is=nav_bar)
-  For Sale & Free (/for_sale_and_free/?init_source=more_menu)
-  Offers New (/offers?is=nav_bar)
-  Events (/events/)
-  Real Estate (/real-estate?is=sidebar)
-  Crime & Safety (/crime_and_safety/)
-  Lost & Found (/lost_and_found)
-  Documents (/documents/)
-  General (/general/)

Groups

-  All groups (8) (/groups/?is=nav_menu)

Topics

-  All Topics New (/channels/?is=nav_menu)


Directories

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Deborah Dionne (/profile/513355/), Comanche LEAD  1




Blossom Hill Apartments (Affordable Housing for Seniors)

(/news_feed/?post=121337079)

I attended the CSJ Meeting regarding the Blossom Hill Apartments (Affordable Housing for Seniors). When the meeting ended I still had many unanswered questions so I walked over to Kathy Robinson, Director of Housing Development at


Charities Housing to see if she could answer some of them. I asked her how many of the 147 units would be allocated for homeless seniors. As of last night 46 apartments will be allocated for homeless seniors that may be alcohol and/or drug addicted. I asked if these individuals would be receiving treatment for their addictions and she replied they will offer them treatment but cannot force them to get treatment. I explained to Kathy that Snell & Blossom Hill are already having issues with homeless with addiction problems and this will only make this area worse, she just looked at me and gave no response. Also, I was told individuals selected to live in this apartment complex will be seniors that will come from all over the area with no priority treatment for seniors currently residing in South San Jose. I also asked if there would be security on the premises as I thought I heard earlier in the meeting there would be. Kathy replied no just CH staff. Needless to say, I left the meeting with more questions and concerns than when I arrived. Many individuals I spoke to after the meeting felt the same. (/inbox/)

5 days ago · 27 neighborhoods in General (/general/)

 Thank

 Reply ▾

   37  59

 Jennifer Castro (/profile/7993419/), Del Robles · 5 days ago ▾

So is there any recourse in petitioning/voting against this? Or is it a done deal...going to happen?

Thank

Reply

Jacquie Heffner (/profile/196485/), East Santa Teresa Foothills · Edited 5 days ago
Charities Housing made it clear last night that they will have lighting and security cameras as well as 24/7 staffing at the front desk and two onsite managers. If there are problems with all those elements in place they would also add security.

(/inbox/)

This non profit has 25 years of building and managing buildings, they have never had to hire extra security for any of their buildings.

Again, if people who live at the development cause problems they will be evicted (as Kathy stated repeatedly last night). No one can force someone into treatment, and Housing First with Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) is a model that works.

<http://endhomelessness.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/housing-first-fact-sheet.pdf> (<http://endhomelessness.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/housing-first-fact-sheet.pdf>)

"There is a large and growing evidence base demonstrating that Housing First is an effective solution to homelessness. Consumers in a Housing First model access housing faster and are more likely to remain stably housed. This is true for both PSH and rapid re-housing programs. PSH has a long-term housing retention rate of up to 98 percent."

The elements that people are concerned with are not part of the Planning Department review. Vetting, extra security, where the applicants come from will not be considered when this project is approved or denied. The funding that Charities Housing has so far secured requires that they provide 30% of the units for Permanent Supportive Housing, this element cannot be changed and is the model being used throughout the county, they are locked in for 55 years and must adhere to the 30/70 ratio.

The Housing Authority will provide housing vouchers for the 49 units that will be for the formerly homeless/homeless seniors. Charities Housing cannot get more vouchers from the Housing Authority and without the vouchers Charities Housing would run out of funds to run the building as they cannot house people for free.

Thank Reply

😊 5

Doug Merrill (/profile/9523518/), West Santa Teresa Foothills · 5 days ago

This entire meeting was a scam, setup by the city. They would only take the written questions that they liked and they ignored all of the real questions. Everyone there was opposed to this project (except for the fake people with pre-made "we love seniors" signs). This entire neighborhood is at a breaking point. There are so many homeless and mentally ill people already here, we CANNOT allow this to destroy our neighborhood. Fight now or this is the end of any hope for all of us!!!

Thank Reply

😊❤️👍 10

Doug Merrill (/profile/9523518/), West Santa Teresa Foothills · 5 days ago

If you love your neighborhood, please let your elected representatives know that you are opposed to this project. Best wishes to everyone.

Thank Reply

😊👍 7



Tanya Georges (/profile/10963359/), Blossom Valley · 5 days ago



So I keep hearing we can't force people into treatment, which leads me to 2 conclusions for those who refuse treatment -

(/inbox/)

as some of these substances discussed are illegal surely it is a breach of their housing agreement rules in their rental contract (which everyone else has to sign when renting) they will end up being evicted for using them in their home putting them right back on the street, probably at blossom/snell intersection as I doubt once being made homeless they would travel far.

Alternatively they will stick to their housing rules and not partake whilst on the property. Doubting they will go far for their quick fix so probably just outside the complex - blossom hill and snell intersection

Seems a bit of a lose lose. Blossom/snell looks to suffer either way once they are housed

As we all have to sign contracts with elements we don't like and with many rules whilst paying ridiculous rental prices, why can them getting treatment not be part of the housing agreement.

If they are in that bad a situation and really need help that would be a fair price. They would be receiving affordable help in every aspect of their lives and I'm sure the public would be a lot more open to this option

Thank Reply

😊❤️ 3



Doug Merrill (/profile/9523518/), West Santa Teresa Foothills · 5 days ago



The city is hoping you will all be quite and that you'll let them get away with this. They know that they can't "dump" people in the Willow Glen or the "Rose Garden" area of San Jose.

I just want to let everyone know that I feel strongly that we are all brothers and sisters. Life is truly not fair and I spend a great deal of my time donating to those who are disadvantaged. However, I truly believe that our neighborhood cannot handle anything more than we've already been given.

Again, best wishes to everyone.

Thank Reply

😊❤️ 6



Desiree Salguero (/profile/8070993/), Comanche · 5 days ago



(/inbox/)

Last night's meeting was an eye opener for me. This is the first time I attended a meeting regarding the Catholic Charities (former ACO) project which is called the Blossom Hill Senior Apartments. Let me make it clear that I am in support for Senior housing BUT there are portions of this proposal that are quite alarming and the folks that LIVE IN THIS AREA SHOULD BE MADE AWARE OF!

-not only will 40-49 units be designated for homeless seniors, drug and alcohol services will be offered at the site but not forced to participate.
-NO security guards will be on the property (though Catholic Charities are hanging their hats that in their 25 years of managing properties, they never had to hire security for their properties!) Times ARE different today, social issues have changed dramatically in 25 years so have the problems with homelessness, mental illness, drugs, alcohol abuse and CRIME! Laws have changed due to people voting for propositions that make some crimes having police write citations instead of booking them into jail. AND making jail doors a revolving door so the jails don't get overcrowded, so don't blame the police, blame yourself if you voted for these law changes that make criminals continue to break laws without real consequences in the court system.

With that said, how do you think this will affect the area of this proposed project? Well let's start with this:

The drawing of the four story complex will have a beautiful courtyard with trees tables and umbrellas. This courtyard is to draw (I forgot the exact wording used) to invite the "outer community" to visit it along with the services that will be offered on the first level (which is called the commercial area and community center). This courtyard will NOT be gated off, and not only available to the residents at the senior housing, but available to the outer community (the public). It was mentioned that this will not be a public park, but it will not be gated, open to the public and no security guards. What kinds of activity do you think an open courtyard on Blossom Hill will attract?

Yes, of course SJPd will answer calls to that area, because it will be in the PD jurisdiction. But wait there's more....services, what services? Mental health services: these services will not only be made available to the seniors living at this complex, but to the "outer community" REGARDLESS OF AGE. I asked the representative from Catholic Charities (I apologize for forgetting her name) if the mental health services will be a 24/7 operation. She could not give me a definite answer but did mention that beds will be available if needed on as needed basis.

There will be offices situated there to help with resources for the "outer community" and a community center that can be used by anyone.

Also, it was mentioned last night that they will be in partnership with Second Harvest to pass out food for those who need the assistance (I'm assuming this will be available "outer community."

So...how will this impact the area where WE LIVE.... think about it, there's a lot there that "they" are not being transparent about.

Ending this post with, next time there is a townhall meeting regarding this project, the voices of the residents that live in the area of the proposed Senior Housing project should be heard, not just the outside folks that will not have their daily lives impacted with monstrosity of a project, with the various serious implications this will have at our front door steps!

Thank Reply



Jacquie Heffner (/profile/196485/), East Santa Teresa Foothills · 5 days ago



Doug Merrill (/profile/9523518) The city actually took many questions last night that had nothing to do with the planning process, they tried to get as many issues covered as possible. Many of the questions had no bearing on the approval/denial by Planning of this development.

(/inbox/)

I am not a "fake person" nor were the people sitting with us, most of whom were either residents of our district or live close to the proposed development (Snell divides D2 and D10, many people who live in D10 are closer than those of us in D2) About half the room was against, half the room was supportive.

My Aunt and Uncle have lived in this area for almost 60 years, they live about four blocks from this proposed development, they support this development. I live about 1 mile (as the crow flies) from this development, have lived here for 25 years and am supportive of this development.

In my opinion this proposed development will be an asset to our community, providing much needed Senior Low Income Housing, a new building on Blossom Hill (with a very nice design). I understand that my opinion is not shared, and I understand the concerns that people are raising.

Clearly our community is divided on this proposal, my hope is that when this is all over we come together to work on issues that will enhance our quality of life and make our neighborhood a better place to live.

The issues that people are concerned with can be addressed, now, by the community, and some in our neighborhood are doing just that, working on making the area safer, cleaner and better. I intend to get more involved with those people who have been working to clean up that area.

Thank Reply

😊 1



Doug Merrill (/profile/9523518/), West Santa Teresa Foothills · 5 days ago



Hi Jacquie Hefner, thank you for your thoughtful response. I just want you to know that I appreciate everything that you said. Most of us were not happy about the obviously "pre-made" "We Love Seniors" signs. We were all very annoyed that they ignored all of the "real" questions from EVERYONE there who opposed this project. We Will Not Allow this to be built in our neighborhood!

Best wishes

Again, if you feel our neighborhood has more homeless and mentally ill people than we can handle, please let your representatives now NOW!!!

Thank Reply

😊 5



Laura Lebas (/profile/5054446/), East Santa Teresa Foothills · Edited 5 days ago

Jacquie Heffner (/profile/196485) An expert on homelessness Ralph da Costa Nunez disagrees with the Housing First model to deal with homelessness. He actually did an article in the Huffington post 1/14/2016 stating Housing First could actually stimulate homelessness. This comes from an expert who has studied and has worked with homeless for almost 3 decades.

https://www.huffpost.com/entry/is-hud-stimulating-homele_b_10106572
(https://www.huffpost.com/entry/is-hud-stimulating-homele_b_10106572)
Take a few minutes and watch a video where he breaks homelessness into categories.

Although he speaks about the NY homeless issues it can be applied to homelessness to any area. His motto is homelessness is not a housing issue.

<https://youtu.be/jvdog9rY-DY> (<https://youtu.be/jvdog9rY-DY>)

Thank Reply

😊 +1 16



Doug Merrill (/profile/9523518/), West Santa Teresa Foothills · 5 days ago

Hi Desiree Salguero,

Great comments. I'm also someone who supports housing for seniors. However, that is NOT what this project is for. The city thinks this their best chance to dump their problems in an area that already has more problems than it can handle. Ask your representatives if they are also trying to do this in Willow Glen or the Rose Garden areas of San Jose. No, they are hoping they can leave YOU with the ENTIRE problem.

Thank Reply

😊 +1 9



Susan Ostler (/profile/6712533/), Oak Grove · 5 days ago

They did not ever say they would add more security. Way more than half were obviously against it.

Thank Reply

😊 4



Cynthia Terra (/profile/431573/), Calero · Edited 5 days ago



(/inbox/)

I attended the meeting last night and was very disappointed that the attendees were not given an opportunity to personally express their concerns. It was handled like in the past....write your questions down and they will be answered according to category, etc. Questions selected were generic and did not address the real concerns of the residents in our community. After the meeting Kathy Robinson, Director of Development Charities Housing, confirmed that 46 units of the 147 housing units for seniors, 62 and older, will house chronically homeless seniors, who may have substance abuse/mental health issues. Treatment will be available to them, but it is not mandatory. This is not a good mix for our most vulnerable!!! Also, last night we learned that Catholic Charities and Second Harvest will be utilizing the facility to provide services to the greater community. Services are not restricted to an age group. I have volunteered at Catholic Charities (a great organization), but I know the large amount of people/traffic it draws.....too much for the area.

The 147 unit housing project has 108 parking spaces, 44 of which are allocated for commercial use. There does not appear to be enough parking for the residents, visitors, caregivers, staff and clients receiving services. Total bicycle spaces allotted is 42. I doubt that frail elderly seniors (as they have been described in the past) will be riding bicycles. I would like to know the maximum number of residents permitted to reside in the complex.

An analysis of the projects potential effects on the environment to determine if the project will have adverse affects on the peace, health, safety, welfare of the people living/working in the surrounding area was to be conducted, as well as an independent study on the impact of supportive housing, focusing on police, fire and EMS response. The Planning Department indicated they are reviewing the studies. I think the analysis should have been conducted before the project was in the final planning phase???

Thank Reply

😊❤️ 6




Janet Susnitzky (/profile/2951188/), Hidden Glen South · 5 days ago



Does anyone know what/who the other 101 units would be for?

Thank Reply

 Jacquie Heffner (/profile/196485/), East Santa Teresa Foothills · 5 days ago
Cynthia Terra (/profile/431573) Just a few comments:

(/inbox/)

1.) The concerns that some in the neighborhood have are not issues that are part of this Planning process (evictions, vetting of residents and so on). The Planning Department has to follow guidelines on criteria for approval or denial, issues not listed in their criteria cannot be considered by them.

2.) Catholic Charities will be providing the same services that are already provided by others in the community. Their Behavior Health services are comparable to what Kaiser offers on Cottle. Catholic Charities will not be offering all of their services at this facility, and one will need to be signed up to use their services. Having these services here will allow those of us who live nearby to use the services being offered (not all who will use the services will come here from other places.)

3.) Second Harvest will only be providing food for the residents, not for the general public. There is an existing Food Panty at St. Julies which does service our zip code (and about 5 or 6 other zip codes), they are on Cottle/St. Julies/Curie. (I used to volunteer there) and are open three days a week. I don't remember ever having any of the neighbor complain about the Food Pantry (and it is in the middle of nothing but housing).

4.) Charities is actually providing more parking then they are required to provide. There will be a mix of seniors at this development, some at 62 might be frail, while others who are in their 70's are robust and could well ride a bike (as my husband who is 71 does). Most of the units are studios, for 1 -2 people. Charities Housing has found that only about 5% of the studios will house two people.

102 studios (1 - 2 people max)
15 Jr 1 bedroom (1 -2 people max)
15 1 bedroom (3 people max)
13 2BR (5 people max)
1 2BR (5 people max- Staff unit)
1 3BR (7 people max)- Staff Unit

5.) You cannot analyse the impact of a development before the plans are finished and planning has determined that they are acceptable. At that point, when everything has been planned, the reviews can be done, but they are not usually done before the design part is finished.

Thank Reply



Dave Lujan (/profile/5212740/), West Santa Teresa Foothills · 4 days ago
If it's the Kathy Robinson that was running Oak Grove Youth Football years ago.... don't trust her!!

Thank Reply

 +1 2



Susan Ostler (/profile/6712533/), Oak Grove · 4 days ago
Umm, the CH rep said that anyone who walks in and pays the fee can be treated there.

Thank Reply

 1



Cynthia Terra (/profile/431573/), Calero · Edited 3 days ago



In response to Jacquie Heffner's comments:

(/inbox/)

1) Many of the questions regarding the project were not answered at last night's meeting, such as parking, design of complex, unit breakdown/maximum # of residents at complex, etc., cause a few of us asked those questions.

2) I would assume that most people seeking behavioral service will be those referred by CH or other such agencies. Most people who have health insurance will be referred elsewhere.

3) As far as the Food Pantry goes - CH was not clear as to whom the pantry would service. If it does service the general public the traffic/congestion and lack of parking will present issues. I have volunteered at Catholic Charities and it is very difficult to find parking, especially on waste pick-up day, as no parking signs are posted for those days. Volunteers are asked to refrain from parking in CC parking lot, as it is reserved for clients.

4) If some of the seniors are "robust" I'm sure they would prefer to use a vehicle as their means of transportation. Thank you for providing the breakdown of units. If I calculated correctly, the minimum/maximum amount of people residing in the complex could be anywhere from 168-356 residents. It is my guess that CH will try to accommodate as many homeless seniors as possible, as they should.

5) This project has been in the planning stages for approx. two years. I'm not sure what the design process has to do with the impact this project has on peace, health, safety, welfare of the people living/working in the surrounding area and/or the impact of housing of this nature, has on police, fire and EMS response in our community. In the event of an emergency or natural disaster a complex serving a senior population will generate a higher need for first responders.

Just my thoughts.....

Thank Reply

😊 1



Mary Anne Devine (/profile/13077068/), Blossom Valley · 4 days ago



Desiree- thank you very much for the thoughtful recap of the meeting. This presentation certainly raises many questions for the neighborhood residents. The "commercial" aspect of the development is troubling particularly as it will provide services to the "outer" community, whatever that is. Did anyone ask Charities Housing if they have any experience with a mixed use development like this? As opposed to residential only?

Thank Reply



Erin Hegarty (/profile/145033/), Cottle-Lean · 4 days ago



When is the next meeting? I am absolutely against this project and will definitely begin a proactive approach to defeat this project - to include attending meetings!! In addition to many other negatives that will come from this project, I have a vision of a Second Harvest food line out front every morning. No Thank You!! Absolutely not !

Thank Reply

😊 7



David Beadle (/profile/1545164/), Blossom Valley · 4 days ago



We are in Silicon Valley, the leader in tech in the world...



How come this community event was not streamed on the net or shown on public access ??

(/inbox/)

Did anyone record it. Was the city there to document the event on video ?

We are in Silicon Valley, city lazy to record this hot topic ?

Thank Reply

😊 7



Vincent Verret (/profile/3233875/), Cottle-Lean · Edited 4 days ago



Reach out to our illustrious Council Member Sergio Jimenez
District2@sanjoseca.gov (mailto:District2@sanjoseca.gov)
<https://www.facebook.com/D2SergioJimenez/> (<https://www.facebook.com/D2SergioJimenez/>)
Ph: (408) 535-4902

Last nights meeting was such a priority to our Council Member that it didn't even make his events calendar.

Call him, email him, and then remember to vote these self serving individuals from office. It is your neighborhood, it is my neighborhood and we need to fight for our homes and future.

Thank Reply

😊 5



Andrea Gravelle (/profile/4301120/), Blossom Valley · 4 days ago



Jacque Heffner (/profile/196485) a couple of questions. Do you work for Charities Housing? Do you live within 3 blocks of the development like I do? I apologize if these questions have already been posed.

We've been in our home for 20 years now and work very hard to maintain it. I'm just interested to know what's in it for you? I understand that people need housing but unless requiring the residents to be in a program towards sobriety is part of the equation, it's not going to work and will make this area that we have invested in go in a very different direction, even more than it already has.

Thank Reply

😊 8



Linda Boman (/profile/11070705/), Blossom Valley · 4 days ago



I've been delivering Meals On Wheels for several years and sometimes deliver to CH facilities. I've never encountered anyone causing problems inside nor outside of these housing projects. In fact I've been pleasantly surprised at the cleanliness of the buildings. There has always been someone in the lobby area and all floors were clean, nicely painted with plants and window benches. Everyone I encountered was friendly and helpful.

I was unsure of this project when first introduced several years ago but, after being inside some several times, I'm now in full support of this housing.

Thank Reply

😊❤️ 5



Mike Bauer (/profile/683086/), Cottle-Lean · Edited 4 days ago



My personal opinion is that it's already a done deal. They will go through all the motions to let us think we have a say, but we don't. What's a few more drug addicted criminals in an area that's already a swirling cesspool of mentally ill inhabitants. They'll fit right in, no one will even notice another person to avoid at all costs. I just hope that someone with a brain that works for the city had the intelligence to insure added police patrols and presence in the area to quell the onslaught of crime about to rain down upon us, the poor schmucks that always end up paying the bill.

(/inbox/)

Thank Reply

😊 5



Barbara Moehrlin (/profile/4712479/), Blossom Trails · 4 days ago



Cynthia Terra (/profile/431573) Cynthia Terra (/profile/431573)

Thanks Cynthia. Great comments, questions & insight! I am for Senior housing & against this plan. In addition traffic planning does not seem to be in the picture for this highly used street (Blossom Hill) & surrounding area! We must all use the ballot box to express our displeasure at the city of SJ's attention to our neighborhoods.

Finally where is the county in this planning process. Mental health services are already stressed. Where will those services come from? The mental health & public health offices on Santa Teresa Blvd. were closed several years ago & staffing of both departments were eliminated from this area!

Thank Reply

😊 7



Lorraine Johnson (/profile/284033/), East Santa Teresa Foothills · 4 days ago



Mike Bauer (/profile/683086), I agree with you & several others here as well. Re: security..there will be none...no security, no police..only one Catholic Charities staff member on the premises. I'd like to know what happens now....now that they had their required meeting..what's next and when?

Thank Reply

😊❤️ 3



Gill Cortez (/profile/8994922/), Blossom Valley · 4 days ago



Been reading thru the thread and can't find anything on what is next step. Does it go before the city council for a final vote or is it still open for neighborhood input?

Thank Reply

😊 2



Karen Lynn (/profile/868630/), Calero · 4 days ago



I disagree with housing first! They need treatment first because how will they pay for housing if they cannot kick the drug and alcohol problem??? Will we, as tax paying citizens be paying for their bad habits too. Mandatory treatment should be enforced if they want to live there. End of story!!! This is ridiculous!!!

Thank Reply

😊❤️ 11



Mel Amezcua (/profile/1160973/), Vista Park · Edited 4 days ago



(/inbox/)

I came from a neighborhood that already went through everything that you all are going through. We got to know Kathy Robinson very well. Liccardo wouldn't speak to us either. We would track him down, and he would roll his eyes at us. It was a done deal.

Ultimately, we lost. The city won their monstrous 4-story buildings smack in the middle of our community, near 3 elementary schools. Pic attached. Sadly, 100% of the folks there will have drug/alcohol/mental issues!!! Imagine how that feels. I sold.

One thing i havent seen on this thread is how long is the lease agreement proposal for? The one in my old neighborhood was given a 85 year lease.



([https://d3926qxcw0e1bh.cloudfront.net/post_photos/d4/13](https://d3926qxcw0e1bh.cloudfront.net/post_photos/d4/13/d413c0ab893964cd0dfa99eec5305b34.jpeg)

/d413c0ab893964cd0dfa99eec5305b34.jpeg)

Thank Reply



3



Darryl Rosario (/profile/255500/), Hayes · Edited 4 days ago



I was at the meeting last night. Here is some info gathered:

- NO; its NOT A DONE DEAL
 - It will be at least 3 years more before completion of this project
 - The "Planning Commission" will make a final decision on whether this project gets final approval (Not sure when we/the-residents will get to vote on this)
 - The overall timeline between today & the final buildout in 3 years is unclear (see attached flowchart, shown with NO TIMELINE)
 - So we need to mobilize & express our concerns, as many have in this thread, about the problems associated with the location of this project.
- Here is info on the 2 principal contacts for this project:
- (1) Ruth Cueto, Project Manager, City of SJ Planning Division
Email: ruth.cueto@sanjoseca.gov (mailto:ruth.cueto@sanjoseca.gov)
Phone: 408-535-7886
- (2) Kathy Robinson, Director of Development, Charities Housing
Email: krobinson@charitieshousing.org
(mailto:krobinson@charitieshousing.org) Phone: 408-550-8311
- Feel free to call/email these 2 contacts with any unanswered questions about this project.
- Most of us are not opposed to "Senior Housing" but this location choice is fraught with too many problems.



4



Desiree Salguero (/profile/8070993/), Comanche · 4 days ago



Mel Amezcua (/profile/1160973) 55 years.

Thank Reply



2



Desiree Salguero (/profile/8070993/), Comanche · 4 days ago



Does anyone know if Catholic Charities have done this before, residential apartments (2nd floor and up) with offices on the first floor that provide services like mental health services that's available to the public etc.?

Thank Reply



(https://d3926qxcw0e1bh.cloudfront.net/post_photos/1d/b3

😊 2



4

Thank Reply

Thank Reply

Thank Reply



✓

(<https://www.linkedin.com/in/jacquie-heffner-6224281/>)

Thank Reply



✓

Thank Reply



Julie Heaton (/profile/220851/), Hayes · Edited 4 days ago



(/inbox/)

Keep in mind, most of the homeless that are already in our area will not be living in this complex. So this situation is being added on top of what we're dealing with right now. I remember one community meeting where the police lieutenant who attended said they don't respond to homeless calls any longer because (1) homelessness is not a crime and (2) we have the homeless advocates to take care of it. Well, I just received an email response from "HomelessConcerns@sanjoseca.gov (mailto:"HomelessConcerns@sanjoseca.gov")" that I sent them a week ago. I read between the lines and heard this: Sorry it took so long to get back to you and we're spread too thin to take care of the problem.

(Actual response: Thank you for your email to the Housing Department, Homelessness Response Team with your concerns. Your report is well received and we will deploy outreach to offer services. We are currently experiencing a high volume of email and phone reports and apologize that our response to your email is delayed. We will deploy outreach to offer services to the individuals. Please dial 911 if you are witnessing any illegal or unsafe activity and report the behavior.)

Mind you, my original email was about all the homeless who are moving back and setting up camps along the RR tracks on Monterey Highway, an issue they are well aware of. Clearly those folks have been offered services and have turned them down or don't qualify. They will still be there long after this Charities Housing project has been completed.

Thank Reply

😊 · 13



Nancy Leras (/profile/2960596/), Blossom Valley · 3 days ago



I am DELIGHTED to FINALLY see that people are talking about this subject. Some residents of Blossom Valley have been trying to bring awareness for quite some time. Please be aware that some folks have spent thousands of their own dollars to create and deliver flyers to EACH home in District 2. There have been numerous attempts to engage District 2 residents and yet there has been little or no response until this meeting. There has been only a handful of volunteers from District 2 who have spent significant hours getting information circulated. There have been meetings in peoples homes and they have been well-publicized on Next Door and yet the turnout is always small. If we REALLY care about this then we must have our voices heard at City Hall. We must DO SOMETHING ! You may email Ruth Cueto (ruth.cueto@sanjoseca.gov (mailto:ruth.cueto@sanjoseca.gov)) who is the planning commissioner assigned to this project. You may also email Sergio Jimenez (District2@sanjoseca.gov (mailto:District2@sanjoseca.gov)) who is the District 2 representative. You must include Project #CP18-022 / T18-034 in your subject line. I do believe we should have the option of voting on this, and I would vote "NO". I have the facts and I've been to a meeting with Charities Housing. I've heard what they have to say from their own mouths. Be VERY careful what you choose to believe. Remember you will have to LIVE with the results. Think about what we were promised when Cottle was developed. It's been FULL of CRIME and we were promised another "Santana Row". PAY ATTENTION to what is going on in YOUR neighborhood. Take ACTION as you see fit. Thank you.

Thank Reply

😊 4



Julie Heaton (/profile/220851/), Hayes · 3 days ago



Nancy Leras (/profile/2960596) I think some of these people on here are hearing about it for the first time because they just moved to the area or just got onto Nextdoor. I've been going to meetings for what seems like 2 years now and finally it's gotten to this stage. I went to another CH meeting at the ST Library about a year ago and it was the same as this one sounded, i.e., CH made their pitch, no one was allowed to ask questions and instead we had to write them on cards and they chose which ones they wanted to answer. Nothing has changed. The mayor has been contacted in the past, Sergio has been contacted in the past and all they do is give us lip service. Hopefully something will get going again now. I think some people, however, got very weary of all their work and not seeing any results. I agree with some above who said they think it's a done deal, it sure seems that way.

(/inbox/)

Thank Reply



Patty Houston (/profile/4166238/), Calero · 3 days ago



@ Julie the meeting on the 19th, we wrote questions on cards and they were screened, just like every meeting with Sergio, his staff censors them.

As neighbors, I hope we all are talking with our neighbors to ensure everyone is aware of this project. So many neighbors are not on ND and/or didn't received the flyer. Thanks.

Thank Reply

😊 3



Sheila Khani (/profile/30028392/), Oak Grove · 3 days ago



Nancy Leras (/profile/2960596) Just FYI. Please call and email Ruth and others in Sergio's office and the Mayor's. Don't be discouraged by this. They must hear us. I emailed Ruth and expressed my objection to the homeless housing. She sent me a 1 liner: "Hi Sheila,

Thank you for your feedback on the proposed project.

Best,

Ruth

Ruth Cueto

Planner | City of San José, PBCE

ruth.cueto@sanjoseca.gov (mailto:ruth.cueto@sanjoseca.gov) | (408) 535-7886"

Thank Reply

😊 3



Helga Renfro (/profile/25561272/), Blossom Valley · 3 days ago



Patty Houston (/profile/4166238) when is Sergio up for re-election??? Never gain should anybody vote for him or Liccardo.

Thank Reply

😊 4

Darryl Rosario (/profile/255500/), Hayes · 3 days ago

"San Jose senior housing faces backlash from neighbors "... hot off the press today...

<https://www.marinij.com/2019/08/21/senior-housing-development-faces-backlash-from-neighbors/> (<https://www.marinij.com/2019/08/21/senior-housing-development-faces-backlash-from-neighbors/>)

(/inbox/)

😊 5

Patty Houston (/profile/4166238/), Calero · Edited 2 days ago

Sheila Khani (/profile/30028392) this is from another post I thought would be useful for our neighborhoods:

Whether yay or nay on the ACO project at 397 Blossom Hill Rd., please contact our city gov. workers:

Planning Dept. Project File # CP18-022

1. Ruth Cueto

ruth.cueto@sanjoseca.gov (<mailto:ruth.cueto@sanjoseca.gov>) Planner II

2. Ruth's Supervisor:

Martina Davis

Martina.Davis@sanjoseca.gov (<mailto:Martina.Davis@sanjoseca.gov>)

City Council:

1. Mayor Sam Liccardo – mayoremail@sanjoseca.gov

(<mailto:mayoremail@sanjoseca.gov>) (408) 535-4800

2. Charles "Chappie" Jones, District 1 – district1@sanjoseca.gov

(<mailto:district1@sanjoseca.gov>) (408) 535-4901

3. Sergio Jimenez, District 2 – district2@sanjoseca.gov

(<mailto:district2@sanjoseca.gov>) (408) 535-4902

4. Raul Peralez, District 3 – district3@sanjoseca.gov

(<mailto:district3@sanjoseca.gov>) (408) 535-4903

5. Lan Diep, District 4 – district4@sanjoseca.gov

(<mailto:district4@sanjoseca.gov>) (408) 535-4904

6. Vice Mayor Magdalena Carrasco, District 5 – district5@sanjoseca.gov

(<mailto:district5@sanjoseca.gov>) (408) 535-4905

7. Devora "Dev" Davis, District 6 – district6@sanjoseca.gov

(<mailto:district6@sanjoseca.gov>) (408) 535-4906

8. Tam Nguyen, District 7 – district7@sanjoseca.gov

(<mailto:district7@sanjoseca.gov>) (408) 535-4907

9. Sylvia Arenas, District 8 – district8@sanjoseca.gov

(<mailto:district8@sanjoseca.gov>) (408) 535-4908

10. Donald Rocha, District 9 – district9@sanjoseca.gov

(<mailto:district9@sanjoseca.gov>) (408) 535-4909

11. Johnny Khamis, District 10 – district10@sanjoseca.gov

(<mailto:district10@sanjoseca.gov>) (408) 535-4910

Thank Reply



Helga Renfro (/profile/25561272/), Blossom Valley · 3 days ago



Thank you for posting this. I have already done this a while back more than once but never heard back from any of them. Living so close to that location I was against this project from the beginning and I have not wavered from that. Especially seeing the deterioration of our neighborhood daily I am actually more and more against this. I think the details are foggy at best and I honestly do not trust anybody that is backing this project. The crime rate in our once fairly crime free and clean and safe city has changed 100%. I am glad I am not raising my children here now. My kids are all gone now they are in their 50's and 40's. I raised them here when this area was great and we did not see homeless and drug addicts etc running around everywhere. Ca has the largest number of homeless than any other state. I do not see this change ever and all there is left to do is to leave California. Sadly I have to admit that.

(/inbox/)

Thank Reply

😊 1



Desiree Salguero (/profile/8070993/), Comanche · 3 days ago



Mary Anne Devine (/profile/13077068/), stand by.

Thank Reply

😊 2



Julie Heaton (/profile/220851/), Hayes · 3 days ago



Darryl Rosario (/profile/255500) Didn't someone say Sergio wasn't even in attendance at the meeting? The article you linked insinuates he was there and commented on the differing viewpoints.

Thank Reply

😊 1



Patty Houston (/profile/4166238/), Calero · 3 days ago



Julie Heaton (/profile/220851) Sergio was there.

Thank Reply



Julie Heaton (/profile/220851/), Hayes · 3 days ago



Patty Houston (/profile/4166238) Oh, okay. I guess the person who posted this didn't see him there, or maybe he was just saying it didn't make it onto his calendar..

Reach out to our illustrious Council Member Sergio Jimenez
District2@sanjoseca.gov (mailto:District2@sanjoseca.gov)
<https://www.facebook.com/D2SergioJimenez/> (<https://www.facebook.com/D2SergioJimenez/>)
Ph: (408) 535-4902

Last nights meeting was such a priority to our Council Member that it didn't even make his events calendar.

Call him, email him, and then remember to vote these self serving individuals from office. It is your neighborhood, it is my neighborhood and we need to fight for our homes and future.

Thank Reply

😊 1



Lorraine Johnson (/profile/284033/), East Santa Teresa Foothills · 3 days ago
 SJ Mercury News article, front page



(/inbox/)



([https://d3926qxcw0e1bh.cloudfront.net/post_photos/63/f1](https://d3926qxcw0e1bh.cloudfront.net/post_photos/63/f1/63f1bc6807d6c5b37cc8971e05dbe05d.jpg)

[/63f1bc6807d6c5b37cc8971e05dbe05d.jpg](https://d3926qxcw0e1bh.cloudfront.net/post_photos/63/f1/63f1bc6807d6c5b37cc8971e05dbe05d.jpg))

Thank Reply

😊 2



Lorraine Johnson (/profile/284033/), East Santa Teresa Foothills · 3 days ago
 Next page continued



([https://d3926qxcw0e1bh.cloudfront.net/post_photos/35/de](https://d3926qxcw0e1bh.cloudfront.net/post_photos/35/dec381af267686a866217e8f85ce87.jpg)

[/35dec381af267686a866217e8f85ce87.jpg](https://d3926qxcw0e1bh.cloudfront.net/post_photos/35/dec381af267686a866217e8f85ce87.jpg))

Thank Reply

😊 1



Mike Bauer (/profile/683086/), Cottle-Lean · 3 days ago



Lorraine Johnson (/profile/284033) well there go our property values.

Thank Reply



Lorraine Johnson (/profile/284033/), East Santa Teresa Foothills · 3 days ago



It will be horrible **Mike (/profile/683086)**! Although I'm not close to it as I'm on the foothill side of Santa Teresa, I think it will be detrimental for our entire area. We already have the homeless now, traversing the neighborhoods, walking the distance from Monterey Hwy. They clean them out, they come back again. This new development does not belong in an already congested area. They should use some parking lot land not so close to residential neighborhoods AND have security to boot, which this proposed development will NOT have 😡

Thank Reply



Mike Bauer (/profile/683086/), Cottle-Lean · 3 days ago



Lorraine Johnson (/profile/284033) I hear Fresno would welcome a project like this

Thank Reply

😊 1



Nancy Leras (/profile/2960596/), Blossom Valley · 2 days ago



Neighbors.....you can also Google "397 Blossom Hill Road, San Jose" and be sent to multiple web-sites with information about this project. It's worth-while. ALSO....regarding the listing of who to contact, Tracy Tam is NO LONGER involved. The current planner working on this project is Ruth Cueto. Her email is ruth.cueto@sanjoseca.gov (<mailto:ruth.cueto@sanjoseca.gov>). I have emailed her and she was kind enough to respond.

Thank Reply

😊 1

Cynthia Terra (/profile/431573/), Calero · 2 days ago

For those who have questions/concerns regarding the project located at 397 Blossom Hill Rd, San Jose I encourage you to write Ruth Cueto, Planning Department (see above) and our Mayor, Councilmembers and the PLANNING COMMISSION.

(/inbox/)

Below is an email I received for Ruth Cueto from the Planning Department.

Hi Cynthia,

The PLANNING COMMISSION is the deciding body for Conditional Use Permits, such as the one Charities Housing is seeking. Once the Planning Commission meeting date is set, those within a 1,000-ft radius of the project site will be notified via mail, as will anyone else who requested to be placed on the notification list. The Planning Commission meeting is a public meeting, held in the evening, and will be another opportunity for the public to give comments on the project. You can find past agendas here: <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?NID=6214> (<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?NID=6214>). Conditional Use Permits may be appealed to the City Council; you can find additional information here: <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?nid=1755> (<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?nid=1755>).

Members of the Planning Commission

Shiloh Ballard, Chair Planningcom4@sanjoseca.gov
(mailto:Planningcom4@sanjoseca.gov)
John Leyba, Vice Chair Planningcom1@sanjoseca.gov
(mailto:Planningcom1@sanjoseca.gov)
Michelle Yesney Planningcom7@sanjoseca.gov
(mailto:Planningcom7@sanjoseca.gov)
Pierluigi Oliverio Planningcom2@sanjoseca.gov
(mailto:Planningcom2@sanjoseca.gov)
Peter Allen Planningcom3@sanjoseca.gov
(mailto:Planningcom3@sanjoseca.gov)
Melanie Griswold Planningcom5@sanjoseca.gov
(mailto:Planningcom5@sanjoseca.gov)

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2. Charles "Chappie" Jones, District 1 – district1@sanjoseca.gov
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4. Raul Peralez, District 3 – district3@sanjoseca.gov
(mailto:district3@sanjoseca.gov) (408) 535-4903
5. Lan Diep, District 4 – district4@sanjoseca.gov
(mailto:district4@sanjoseca.gov) (408) 535-4904
6. Vice Mayor Magdalena Carrasco, District 5 – district5@sanjoseca.gov
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7. Devora "Dev" Davis, District 6 – district6@sanjoseca.gov
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8. Tam Nguyen, District 7 – district7@sanjoseca.gov
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9. Sylvia Arenas, District 8 – district8@sanjoseca.gov
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10. Donald Rocha, District 9 – district9@sanjoseca.gov
(mailto:district9@sanjoseca.gov) (408) 535-4909

Add a reply...



(/inbox/)


(/inbox/)

-  [Home \(/news_feed/\)](/news_feed/)
-  [Hayes \(/neighborhood_feed/\)](/neighborhood_feed/)
-  [Map \(/map/\)](/map/)


Neighborhood

-  [Businesses \(/local-businesses?is=nav_bar\)](/local-businesses?is=nav_bar)
-  [For Sale & Free \(/for_sale_and_free/?init_source=more_menu\)](/for_sale_and_free/?init_source=more_menu)
-  [Offers New \(/offers?is=nav_bar\)](/offers?is=nav_bar)
-  [Events \(/events/\)](/events/)
-  [Real Estate \(/real-estate?is=sidebar\)](/real-estate?is=sidebar)
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-  [Lost & Found \(/lost_and_found\)](/lost_and_found/)
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-  [General \(/general/\)](/general/)

Groups

-  [All groups \(8\) \(/groups/?is=nav_menu\)](/groups/?is=nav_menu)

Topics

-  [All Topics New \(/channels/?is=nav_menu\)](/channels/?is=nav_menu)

Directories

-  [Neighbors \(/directory/\)](/directory/)
-  [Pets \(/pet_directory\)](/pet_directory/)
-  [Public Agencies \(/agency/feed/\)](/agency/feed/)

[Help \(/help/\)](/help/) · [Guidelines \(/neighborhood_guidelines/#guidelines\)](/neighborhood_guidelines/#guidelines) · [Privacy \(/privacy/#privacy\)](/privacy/#privacy)
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 [Susan Ostler \(/profile/6712533/\)](/profile/6712533/), Oak Grove  1

There is not much time left to express your concerns to City Planning!!

[\(/news_feed/?post=94732170\)](/news_feed/?post=94732170)
My responses to recent "FACTS"

There have been claims that incorrect information has been spread about the

Charities Housing project (formerly ACO). Some of the misleading information in question, was pulled from NextDoor posts where people did get the intent of the plan wrong. The statements about it being built as a shelter were incorrect. It is not a shelter. It is permanent low-income housing for seniors (62+). The posters of this misinformation were confusing this project with the Tiny Homes but in each instance, those who know, made correction responses in the NextDoor posts. Some of the confusion also came from the fact that Charities Housing continually changed the scope of their project. (/inbox/)

There is still a lot of subtle wording and omissions from some (in favor of the project), in an attempt to manipulate and spin what's really happening at the site. The following statements were made in a recent post. I am not going to say who made the comments to hopefully keep this post on ND: "There have been no previous votes either by the City Council or by residents regarding the proposed development of permanent senior housing on this property" There was no vote but there was a proposal and huge community opposition to the proposal. I attended the meeting and most were not just worried about the skating rink being closed. The same concerns we are expressing now were expressed by most in that meeting.

Also stated "This is the first time that Charities Housing has made a formal submittal for this site, as they recently purchased the land after the furniture store went out of business." According to some who spoke with the ACO owners, they had no plans for going out of business. They were incentivized to sell after being approached by Charities Housing. Charities Housing made a few attempts to gain the property for their project and the city changed the zoning to be commercial only to ensure they could not easily make the proposal again. The City Council listened to their constituents and were not in favor of the project. The zoning was changed to mixed use fairly recently, based on the plans to support the "Urban Village" initiative. This project does not fit into that initiative even though it's being wordsmithed as such by some supporters.

Yes, the development will include permanent housing for low income seniors but it will require them to live with 30% chronically homeless (using our tax dollars, different charities, and state subsidies). Yes, the 30% will have to be 62+ but they will not be required to be sober, can be active addicts, and will not be required to be in treatment. They will be mixed in with low income seniors who will likely have no other housing choices.

Many of the resident seniors will be on medications that may include opiates and other medications that might be tempting to those who are addicted. The same seniors will likely become the first victims to those who need money to support their alcohol and drug addictions (unless the Charities Housing is also subsidizing the drugs and alcohol). The money given to the chronically homeless who will live in this housing will be used for paying "rent" and to feed themselves. There will not be near enough to support chronic drug and alcohol needs.

The building will have a working property manager, and services staff during the day. There will be cameras and key cards to get in the building. Problem is, none of the persons working in the building will be trained security. They will be instructed to call the police if anything happens (we all know how that works now). At night, they will have a desk clerk who might walk around to check on things in the building. Again, not trained security and will call the police if something happens. Some of these people will also live in the building, will have family with them, and will not be required to be 62+. They will be vetted but, as their families grow, will those family members be vetted?

Caregivers who come in to support residents will not need vetting if they don't live on the property. They can be anyone the resident desires and do not need a license. You and I could be "caregivers". The local drug dealer can be a "caregiver". Live in caregivers will be vetted but, as long as they have no felonies in the last seven

years, they are allowed to live with the residents. It does not seem right that a former felon (or one that has not been caught yet) could live with seniors.

There will also be an underground parking garage where the entrance will be directly off Blossom Hill per their rendition of the property. This will be a hotspot for the local drug dealers, prostitutes, and established chronically homeless (who will not be housed and will remain in the area). There is no possible way that a desk clerk who is told to call the police can control what's already happening at the four corners. The police don't see it apparently because it takes place openly, every day. It will also intensify the already congested traffic and may cause more injuries and possible deaths (there have been a few) from heavy traffic and residents crossing the street trying to get to the stores.

When I attended a community meeting with a Charities Housing representative, I asked specific questions regarding what Charities Housing does when residents don't follow the rules. He stated that residents sign agreements and will be evicted if they don't follow the rules. I asked directly for statistics on how many evictions they have done and an average of how long it took to evict. Up until those questions, the Charities Housing rep answered all questions in general, but refused to answer any part of those two questions. He ended the meeting soon after.


Those of us who are against this project are not against the homeless. We would support projects that made sense and would likely even volunteer if it was done in a manner that would help, not hurt the community and the persons who are being supported. This project is not good for our community. It will add to the current conditions that have made a once family friendly place to be into what those of us who live around the four corners have been calling a War Zone.

24 Oct · 51 neighborhoods in Crime & Safety (/crime_and_safety/)

😊 Thank

💬 Reply ▾


😊👍👍👍 46 💬 61

 Susan Ostler (/profile/6712533/), Oak Grove · 24 Oct ▾

Please keep comments respectful but passionate to ensure the post doesn't get removed. Even though this is serious, humor is always appreciated.

Thank Reply

😊 5

 Susan Ostler (/profile/6712533/), Oak Grove · 24 Oct ▾

You can be on record for opposition or for support of the project. Be sure you put the following in the subject line of your email:

397 Blossom Hill Road (CP18-022 & T18-034)


Send email to the Project Manager, Tracy Tam:

tracy.tam@sanjoseca.gov (mailto:tracy.tam@sanjoseca.gov)

You can ask for notifications for the public meetings. Please attend the meetings if you can. They need to know your concerns.

Thank Reply


😊 7

 Randy Vazquez (/profile/21755709/), Los Paseos · 24 Oct ▾

A family member and myself were thinking of grabbing a burger at Jack in the box and window shop at the 24 hour Walgreens last night like we used to there at the four cornersbut you are seriously risking your safety. Very dangerous after dark. We are just one family and I am a pretty big guy but it is just not safe anymore. Better to keep traveling towards Los Gatos and that can't be too good for business there in the four corners. How much more worse will it get with the unsupervised and unregulated Charities Housing? The real "victims" will be the residents who live in the Blossom Valley area of district 2.

Thank Reply


😊 24

- 

Susan Ostler (/profile/6712533/), Oak Grove · 24 Oct

Not much discussion here. Anyone?


Thank Reply

(/inbox/)
- 

Susan Ostler (/profile/6712533/), Oak Grove · 24 Oct

I truly would not suggest hanging out at Jack in the Box at night. The employees there are awesome but it's really bad.


Thank Reply

😊 +1 5
- 

Jen Odom (/profile/5839827/), Blossom Valley · 25 Oct

Probably not a lot of discussion because so many agree with you Sue. We can't give up this fight. Our neighborhood is already suffering with the problems we have now in the four corners. What's the timeline -is there really a chance we can stop it from happening? I've been away from this conversation because the discussions were getting completely out of hand or deleted when I did try to follow them.


Thank Reply

😊 6
- 

Susan Ostler (/profile/6712533/), Oak Grove · 25 Oct

You can send your opposition to the city planning manager, Ask for notification of the public meeting, Now is the time. You can also talk to or send your opposition to your council member. Some of them ARE up for election. You can let them know their constituents are watching and will vote to support or remove them. They ALL will decide on this project. District 2 will support even if he knows his constituents are against it. That will be for the next and future election. Do something now or you will be responsible for what happens if you just sit back and watch. It takes so little time to send an email but that email can carry so much weight.


Thank Reply

😊 5
- 

Bobbi Yodz (/profile/6795510/), Oak Grove · 25 Oct

Although there has been some clean up at the intersection, I am a little skeptical of the timing due to the upcoming elections. Time will tell if the City is serious about maintaining this. With the lack of available police response to current neighborhood crimes in the vicinity I am concerned about some of the possible issues which could arise with more development. Also concerning is there are no requirements for those with addiction to be in treatment - it's giving tacit approval to users. The security situation seems very passive to me. I have voiced my opinion to each councilmember, the mayor and the city planning manager.


Thank Reply

😊 +1 8
- 

Susan Ostler (/profile/6712533/), Oak Grove · 25 Oct

I feel the same Bobbi. Even with the slight reduction in issues over the last few days, the situation with security remains.

Thank Reply

😊 5
- 

Bobbi Yodz (/profile/6795510/), Oak Grove · 25 Oct

Maybe I spoke too soon. There is a pretty large pile of junk near the street behind CVS right now, and another smaller pile on BH Rd. behind/next to Quality. Hopefully they will be picked up quickly.

Thank Reply

😊 5



Elvera Faria (/profile/2213003/), Cottle-Lean · 25 Oct



Bobbi, I emailed D10, homeless concerns and DOT about that pile junk by CVS. I had included DOT because when I seen it the other day it was impeding the sidewalk, thus creating a hazard to pedestrians.

(/inbox/)

Thank Reply

😊 10



Karen Lattin (/profile/616955/), Los Paseos · 25 Oct



Thank you Yolanda for a voice of reason. Here's an article on the above clean-up effort. <https://www.mercurynews.com/2018/10/25/san-jose-homeless-people-will-be-paid-15-an-hour-to-pick-up-trash/>
(<https://www.mercurynews.com/2018/10/25/san-jose-homeless-people-will-be-paid-15-an-hour-to-pick-up-trash/>)

Charities Housing is one of the most respected affordable housing builders/managers in the entire Bay Area and beyond. Their developments are well-run, clean, peaceful complexes. Their reputation is how they continue to get funded. It is in their self-interest to keep their developments running well and I don't foresee them allowing any of the worst-case fears to occur without addressing them quickly. Why don't those who have so many worst-case scenario fears take some time to drive by one of the other Charities Housing developments and see what they are really like. Better yet, arrange a tour so that you can see for yourself. <http://charitieshousing.org/our-communities/>
(<http://charitieshousing.org/our-communities/>)

Here are the most recent FAQs on the development.
http://charitieshousing.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/BH-FAQs-9.26.18_FINAL.pdf (http://charitieshousing.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/BH-FAQs-9.26.18_FINAL.pdf)

Thank Reply

😊 6



Susan Ostler (/profile/6712533/), Oak Grove · Edited 26 Oct



Karen, aren't you on Sergio's Steering committee? I appreciate you posting. It is good that San Jose is now using a program started in Fort Worth, TX that is very successful. It is a small step in the right direction.

Thank Reply

😊 1



Barb MacNeil (/profile/236592/), Parkview · 26 Oct



If you have a police/fire scanner and listen to it at night (we are area/district 8), you will find out just how dangerous that area is. It isn't just at night.

Personally, I would rather look at potential problems than to go into any situation with rose colored glasses on, find big problems, then ask, "Now what?"

What amazes me is how cavalier some people/politicians are when placing some of the most vulnerable of our society into dangerous situations. I ask myself, "Would I want my mom or myself living there or even shopping in the given area?"

Thank Reply

😊 +1 7



Elena Shur (/profile/31611702/), Berry Park · 26 Oct

Karen, thank you for posting the FAQ pdf. It states that the plan is for a 147-unit building. This sounds quite large. How many stories is it going to be?

The current parking proposal is for .68 ratio, which amounts to 100 parking spaces for residents, plus some commercial parking spaces. Is there enough land for this?

Are there any building plans published?

The last sentences of the pdf in big bold letters says: "Charities Housing reserves the right to make changes to the Blossom Hill Road development". So, what assurances do we actually have?



(/inbox/)

With regards to suggestion of driving by existing housing and seeing how nice it is: as an old saying goes, you cannot compare tourism with immigration. If you drive by Snell and Branham, you might not notice that it's situated under the landing strip of San Jose International airport, or that it's right next to the railroad with trains blasting horns day and night...

Thank Reply



6



Bobbi Yodz (/profile/6795510/), Oak Grove · Edited 26 Oct

Elena highlights some concerns I have as well. Adding a development of this size to our already congested area requires a lot of study regarding traffic, parking and safety. Anyone who doesn't consider all of the possible ramifications of a new project beforehand is not doing due diligence. Any "reasonable" person would attempt to problem solve rather than problem react.

In answer to Barb's final question: I definitely would not be comfortable with my mother living in this type of development, and quite frankly, I am not happy living in the nearby area any more. I have asked the city numerous times to clean up, maintain and monitor the 4 corners before allowing any new development to take place. What was once a fairly safe and clean community is now a place where daily crimes are common place and people who do not live here roam the streets day and night. I find it interesting that several of the most outspoken proponents of this project do not live in the surrounding area. Yes, they say they would welcome this with open arms if it was in their own neighborhood, but let's face it - it is located in an area of commercial space and high density housing. People living by the foothills or in large neighborhoods of free standing homes know it will not be happening by them. When someone jokingly (I think) suggested on ND a while ago that one of the OGSD closed school sites could be a possible location for such a development, the reactions against that were instant.



Thank Reply



4



Elena Shur (/profile/31611702/), Berry Park · 26 Oct

Here's a thought, and before you label it as outrageous, please give it some consideration: the area around the intersection of W. Taylor St and Spring St is currently under some park area. It's located right next to the sizable Guadalupe River Park and hosts nice gardens, which are not really much visited, especially on the daily basis. So, how about transferring sq. foot per sq. foot of that park area into the Blossom Hill lot currently slated for this controversial housing and building this housing at the corner of W. Taylor St and Spring St.


Our neighborhood would be greatly improved by a rose garden. I'm sure it would be better for school children to walk by it every day. And nobody would oppose Charity Housing at W. Taylor and Spring.



Thank Reply



3

 Susan Ostler (/profile/6712533/), Oak Grove · Edited 26 Oct



Here is the project web page with the City:

<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?nid=6161>

(<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?nid=6161>)

(/inbox/)

The parking is going to be:

PARKING DATA

Residential Parking: (based upon State Regulations for Affordable Senior near major transit stop)

147 units at 0.5 spaces/ bedroom:

102 studios x 0.5 = 51 spaces

15 junior 1BR x 0.5 = 7.5 spaces

15 1BR x 0.5 = 7.5 spaces

14 2BR x 0.5 = 14 spaces

1 3BR x 0.5 = 1.5 spaces

Total residential spaces required: 82 spaces

Motorcycle Parking:

1 space/ 4 units (residential)

1 space / 20 car spaces (commercial)

147 units / 4 = 36.75

61 spaces / 20 = 3.05

Total motorcycle spaces required: 40 spaces

Total spaces provided: 6 spaces

Commercial Parking: (per Table 20-190)

1 space/ 400sf

23,103sf x 0.85 = 19,637.55 sf

19,637,55sf / 400 sf = 50 spaces

Total commercial spaces required: 50 spaces

Total Parking Spaces Required: 82+50 = 132 spaces

Total Parking Spaces Provided: 143 spaces

Bicycle Parking:

1 space/ 4 units (residential)

147 units / 4 = 36.75,

Offices, business and admin.: 1 space / 4,000 sf

Out-patient clinic: 1 space / 4,000 sf


19,637.55 sf/ 4000 = 4.9

Total bicycle spaces required: 42 spaces

Total spaces provided: 48 spaces

Thank Reply

 4

 Susan Ostler (/profile/6712533/), Oak Grove · Edited 26 Oct



Anyone who actually lives right here knows that the medical building parking spills into the ACO parking and fills it by half. This will be a nightmare once it's up. It will also be four stories and will house an estimated (government housing standards) more than 300 people. 300 people and only 82 spaces for residents.

The plan will also remove several very large, old trees. I didn't bring that up until now because, although a huge shame, it is not the most important part of my opposition.

Thank Reply

 7



Patty Fishburn (/profile/2216258/), Los Paseos · 26 Oct



Whether yay or nay on the ACO project at 397 Blossom Hill Rd., please contact our city gov. workers:

(/inbox/)

Planning Dept. Project File # CP18-022

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tracy.tam@sanjoseca.gov (mailto:tracy.tam@sanjoseca.gov)
2. Tracy's Supervisor:
jennifer.piozet@sanjoseca.gov
(mailto:jennifer.piozet@sanjoseca.gov)

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2. Charles "Chappie" Jones, District 1 – district1@sanjoseca.gov
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(mailto:district5@sanjoseca.gov) (408) 535-4905
7. Devora "Dev" Davis, District 6 – district6@sanjoseca.gov
(mailto:district6@sanjoseca.gov) (408) 535-4906
8. Tam Nguyen, District 7 – district7@sanjoseca.gov
(mailto:district7@sanjoseca.gov) (408) 535-4907
9. Sylvia Arenas, District 8 – district8@sanjoseca.gov
(mailto:district8@sanjoseca.gov) (408) 535-4908
10. Donald Rocha, District 9 – district9@sanjoseca.gov
(mailto:district9@sanjoseca.gov) (408) 535-4909
11. Johnny Khamis, District 10 – district10@sanjoseca.gov
(mailto:district10@sanjoseca.gov) (408) 535-4910

Thank Reply

😊 8



Yolanda Mitchum (/profile/10592681/), Dolce Hayes · 28 Oct



Elena: The area you're talking about used to have houses located on it, but were removed due to safety concerns because of the close proximity to the airport.

<https://www.grpg.org/history/> (https://www.grpg.org/history/)

own as Guadalupe Garden
se Airport and immediate
in. Beginning in 1975, over
ed from this 240-acre area
and safety concerns. Then
the Federal Aviation Agen
the agency proposed the cre
and recreation area within

(https://d3926qxcw0e1bh.cloudfront.net/post_photos/0c/9b

/0c9b4d4b5f806654934353d3a5ea32df.jpg)

Thank Reply

😊 +1 4

Elena Shur (/profile/31611702/), Berry Park · 28 Oct

Yolanda, thank you very much for this info! San Jose needs housing for mental health patients. It's wrong to place them in a residential area in a walking distance to schools. I'm absolutely certain that if San Jose City Council would care, they could find a proper location. The property at Blossom Hill can be used for low income housing (seniors or not) - everybody should be housed. But mentally ill people should be given proper care in a proper institution.

Thank Reply

😊 +1 4

Lynn Pena (/profile/585438/), Del Robles · 29 Oct

Elena, the area you reference is not a fit place for human habitation. When I worked in No. SJ and commuted to Blossom Valley, before light rail and Hwy 85/87, I used to take a circuitous route through that area where homes once stood in order to avoid the heavy traffic along 1st St. and thru' downtown. Of course I knew it was the airport approach but until you experience a commercial jet so close you can almost touch it and the sound and vibration from the roar of the jet engines - well, a person just doesn't know how frightening that can be until it is experienced.

As to the ACO project, there are many aspects that are wrong with the plan, namely the intent to mingle low income senior residents with those who have addictions and those who are coping with mental illness whose needs are often severe. Also, as others have indicated, the number of parking spaces is completely inadequate. Is it Charities Housing's intent to enter into an arrangement for off-hours overflow parking with the adjacent medical offices? Another concern of mine about this underground parking is that it will become a defacto refuge for the homeless and other nefarious activities even if it is controlled with an electronic access gate. There will always be "tailgaters" who "piggy-back" as authorized vehicles enter. Happened all the time at a mobile home park I once lived in.

Still too many questions, too many unknowns. This much I do know, when spokespersons don't answer legitimate concerns they either haven't figured it out yet and don't want to admit that or they are hiding something.

Thank Reply

😊 +1 7



Patty Fishburn (/profile/2216258/), Los Paseos · 29 Oct



(/inbox/)

Okay Lynn you nailed it re ACO concerns! There are many in the community: neighbors, business owners who agree with you. Why mix and match up our two most vulnerable groups in society?! If I'm a low income, physically ill, weak elderly person, please don't put a formerly homeless, mentally ill/drug addicted elderly person in the same building!! And I am not saying all homeless are mentally ill or drug addicted. We should all know that by now.

I will worry about my safety, my medications, my \$\$\$, the noise level....

I understand CH will receive more \$\$ when they have 70% low income elderly and 30% formerly homeless elderly. Bad mix. Our group didn't approve of Southside Community having homeless sleep in a room and then the next morning seniors gather to exercise. At least now two separate rooms are used.

Susan Ostler has informed us of the parking situations. We aren't fear mongering when we discuss possible scenarios. We are taking off our blinders and seeing the whole picture!

I will send you a PM and invite you to join our group.

Thank Reply

😊 5



Susan Ostler (/profile/6712533/), Oak Grove · Edited 6 days ago



These are still relevant concerns to the questions regarding Charities Housing at the old ACO site. Additionally, they modified the parking to remove the motorcycle parking and other changes that are listed in the plan. You can really see how the parking for the medical building will be affected. They had to change the fencing to accomodate. The parking will be a huge situation no matter how supporters try to spin it. I feel the building and all the services in it will eventually close. Probably to be aquired by CH for even more apartments.

Thank Reply

😊 +1 😊 4



Patty Houston (/profile/4166238/), Calero · 17 Aug



You bring up a valid concern Susan!

Thank Reply

😊 1



Helga Renfro (/profile/25561272/), Blossom Valley · 3 days ago



Patty Houston (/profile/4166238) where are all the posts from the people that attended the meeting on the Aco property. I got home late last night from school and read some of them but didn't have a chance to read more of them I wanted to look them up today and copy some of them and print them out for some of my neighbors that couldn't attend. I can not find them any more?? Did somebody delete them all?? Is that a was to keep us all stupid and uninformed?? I am furious all these old posts are here for a long time but what is really important is taken down. Very suspicious just like everything that is going on in our city. Maybe I don't know how to look it up. But I went through all of this stuff on Nextdoor and can't find any of them. I saw them with my own eyes last night. Patty what is going on????

Thank Reply

👍 2



Linda Maynard (/profile/3959462/), Berry Park · Edited 3 days ago



Apparently they did not share the meeting post with some of our neighborhoods. There was a cut and paste somewhere but too many threads on the subject and each one not consistently shared making it difficult to keep up. Now I can't find the thread at all. It is suspicious. I have no doubt that special interests have their trolls here.

(/inbox/)

Thank Reply

😊 3



Barb MacNeil (/profile/236592/), Parkview · 3 days ago



Susan Ostler (/profile/6712533) no doubt that medical location will move.

Thank Reply

😊❤️ 2



Barb MacNeil (/profile/236592/), Parkview · 3 days ago



Lynn Pena (/profile/585438) 🍷🍷🍷🍷

Thank Reply



Barb MacNeil (/profile/236592/), Parkview · Edited 3 days ago



Elena Shur (/profile/31611702) I lived near that area from elementary through high school and beyond. My friends lived in the houses that were there, but sold or moved their homes due to the roar of aircraft. That's why you see a park and no homes. The city bought their properties.

Thank Reply

😊 1



Barb MacNeil (/profile/236592/), Parkview · Edited 3 days ago



Elena Shur (/profile/31611702) if you are referring to the ACO location on Blossom Hill near Snell, there are no railroad tracks nearby. The rail lines run along Monterey Rd. You might want to take a drive by the location. If you do, go west on Blossom Hill, then turn right to view all of the homes within a stone's throw behind the location. Imagine yourself living in your home behind it.

Thank Reply



Patty Fishburn (/profile/2216258/), Los Paseos · 3 days ago



Testing, testing 123

Thank Reply

😊 1



Patty Fishburn (/profile/2216258/), Los Paseos · 3 days ago



Sorry I wasn't able to reply earlier. Lynda Maynard you are a very observant person.

Thank Reply

😊 1



Helga Renfro (/profile/25561272/), Blossom Valley · 3 days ago



Lynn Pena (/profile/585438) these posts are from last year. Where are the ones that were posted yesterday from this meeting that just took place????????

Thank Reply

😊 1



Elena Shur (/profile/31611702/), Berry Park · 3 days ago



The thread named

"Notice for the final public meeting regarding the ACO/Charities Housing Project"?

(/inbox/)

had been deleted.

Bobbi Yodz, who, I believe, started that thread, is listed as no longer at Oak Grove.

Barb MacNeil, I live less than 800 feet from the Union Pacific railroad and listen to the train horn every night, for instance, at 1 am. My neighborhood is also located right under the landing strip for SJC. The roar of the planes right above my house is there from early morning to late night. The effect is not fully understood when you are driving by or are inside a building. But try to get out of your car and stand or sit around - you cannot hold a conversation when the planes are passing, and there is an interference with mobile phones and TV.

About 13 years ago I went to the meeting of the SJ City Council and asked them to install a better automated gate at the intersection of Skyway and Monterey, so that the trains won't be obliged to signal when they approach the intersection. The answer? They need to review for the possibility of a law suite in case somebody will be hit by a train. (BTW, the light rail does not blast horns when approaching the intersections - it was cheaper to install better gates than equip the light rail cars with appropriate horns...)

Now there are homeless encampments 3 feet from the actual railroad tracks and City Council doesn't do anything about this. And somehow nobody is concerned about the people who live in the immediate proximity to the horn-blasting trains.

All of that was with regards to how much care there is in the City Council about the quality of life for the residents of a lower-income neighborhoods.

I said this before and I will say it again (and, I guess, again): the City Council and City Planning need to think comprehensively and strategically where they house homeless. They already have one established location - at Little Orchid. So, rather than dispersing homeless throughout residential neighborhoods and placing them right next to schools, they should build a 10-story apartments building for them at Little Orchid. And provide all the appropriate services there. Then nobody will complain.

Thank Reply

😊 2



Patty Fishburn (/profile/2216258/), Los Paseos · 3 days ago



Since the County is responsible for housing the Homeless, many of us have suggested using the County Fairgrounds; closer to resources downtown. Isn't it a big enough property to accommodate their events and provide housing?!

Thank Reply

😊 +1 2



Barb MacNeil (/profile/236592/), Parkview · Edited 3 days ago



Patty Fishburn (/profile/2216258) I have advocated that (county fairgrounds) ever since the tiny homes thing.

Thank Reply

😊 +1 2



Barb MacNeil (/profile/236592/), Parkview · 3 days ago



Elena Shur (/profile/31611702) you would have to live near Monterey Rd. to be near the railroad tracks. The flight path is over Snell. I'm closer to the flight path than you. There is one airline that also banks over my house. I can track each airline anywhere in the world. The app also shows the flight path.

(/inbox/)

Thank Reply



Elena Shur (/profile/31611702/), Berry Park · Edited 3 days ago



Barb MeacNeil, I'm Norht of Skyway, between Snell and Monterey. Google Maps measured 758 feet to the railroad tracks, and the planes fly right above my street. But my point is not who lives in the worse condition in this neighborhood, The point is that this neighborhood doesn't have the healthy conditions already, and the San Jose City Council does not do anything to improve them.

Thank Reply

❤️ +1 2



Barb MacNeil (/profile/236592/), Parkview · Edited 3 days ago



Elena Shur (/profile/31611702) I couldn't agree with you more! I'm against the project as much as I'm against the location. There are deeply troubling aspects to the project for sure!

Thank Reply

😊 1



Barb MacNeil (/profile/236592/), Parkview · Edited 3 days ago




Elena Shur, a plane is coming in from Chicago. The pathway it's traveling is between Monterey Rd., & Snell.

Thank Reply



Barb MacNeil (/profile/236592/), Parkview · 3 days ago



 (https://d3926qxcw0e1bh.cloudfront.net/post_photos/92/d1/92d15b7f8c9f8044866f1f38d134f79c.jpeg)

Thank Reply



Helga Renfro (/profile/25561272/), Blossom Valley · 3 days ago



Elena Shur (/profile/31611702) I live on Herma by Judith and Blossom Hill. Many planes go over my house also.

Thank Reply

❤️ +1 2



Barb MacNeil (/profile/236592/), Parkview · 3 days ago



Helga Renfro (/profile/25561272) Yes, you do.

Thank Reply



Kelly Serviss (/profile/2133782/), Oak Grove · 1 day ago



(/inbox/)

First I'll state i haven't read or followed this proposal mostly because SOMETHING needs to be done and i don't have any better answer. As I understand this will be a permanent low/no income housing for seniors. I'm ok with that. I'm ok with low income housing in general. The fact is "the homeless" aren't going away. They are people and not some one else's problem. Yes some have substance abuse problems. I'm sure they weren't born that way and I've never met one person who woke up saying "i want to be an addict or mentally lost, yep that's the goal!" That being said. We as a community need to BE a community and help those who want help. Before I get a TON of comments, I probably should mention I work daily in the building nextdoor to the proposal and live a mile away. I'm not scared. I also work nights at Blossom Hill/Snell. Granted it can be lively at times but I've never felt unsafe. The bottom line is you can step over the person sleeping on the sidewalk or give them a bed. You can be disgusted with the encampments or take steps to house the people, they are just that, people and maybe with leg up some will grow and improve themselves.

Thank Reply

😊 1



Kelly Serviss (/profile/2133782/), Oak Grove · 1 day ago



Randy Vazquez (/profile/21755709) I'm there in that center 3 nights a week. I feel safe

Thank Reply



Joyce Garcia (/profile/21776651/), Blossom Valley · 1 day ago



People who are addicts or mentally sick, should go to hospital. It's wrong to gather them all together in our community and put our families in danger. We work hard to protect our family and pay tax for government people to solve these homeless issues appropriately. Now they just throw these people here and make our life worse. If you have Ring doorbell, you would be surprised about how many crimes are happening in our neighborhood everyday. They know you have cameras, but they still commit crimes. They don't care at all. If there are mentally illness people or drug addicts around, you even can't predict what they would do to our people. We have to face the truth/reality and unit together. We are willing to help others, but not in this crazy way.

Thank Reply

😊 2



Barb MacNeil (/profile/236592/), Parkview · Edited 1 day ago



Kelly Serviss (/profile/2133782) there isn't 1 person who doesn't want to help the homeless. It might be of interest to you to know why people who live much closer than you to that location are apposed to it. You work 3 nights a week & leave. They live there 24/7, walk their kids & dogs, etc. You say it gets lively there at times. They aren't interested in bringing into their neighborhood more lively. This is a screenshot of an area behind the location and will be affected.



(https://d3926qxcw0e1bh.cloudfront.net/post_photos/5d/11/5d11b4ef02a2d63a412e1887643825a7.jpeg)

/5d11b4ef02a2d63a412e1887643825a7.jpeg)

Thank Reply

😊 1



Dorethia Myers (/profile/295540/), Del Robles · 1 day ago



Barb MacNeil (/profile/236592) I am off Snell and Blossom Hill and the flights have increased. I am downtown 3 days a week and I notice planes are taking off south from the airport. The planes are low over densely populated areas. The homeless problem is very evident as I drive down Monterey to the Horace Mann neighborhood downtown. So many new multi-story, multi-unit buildings. Several are for low income, homeless and seniors. I am sure not many people opposing this project have not visited the locations elsewhere in the city. We have very little affordable housing in this part of the city, even less in the Almaden area. There are poverty pockets all over the city. Poverty, homelessness, mental illness and drug abuse have no boundaries

(/inbox/)

Thank Reply



Barb MacNeil (/profile/236592/), Parkview · 1 day ago



Dorethia Myers (/profile/295540) planes take off & land according to weather. I worked for years in the downtown plaza where the court & Scott's Seafood are located. That flight path has never changed. Prior to our moving downtown, we were located on De La Cruz. I was on the 2nd floor at a window. I put a sticker on the window (for pilots) that read, "If you can read this, you're too close."

Thank Reply



Dorethia Myers (/profile/295540/), Del Robles · 1 day ago



Barb MacNeil (/profile/236592) This has only been in the last 2 weeks. Normally the planes are higher. I am seeing this from 7th st. I thought maybe runway work in progress.

Thank Reply



Barb MacNeil (/profile/236592/), Parkview · 1 day ago



Dorethia Myers (/profile/295540) there are strict rules for SJ airport, flights and pilots. I doubt very seriously any rules are changed for landings due to construction. They will normally close a runway.

Thank Reply



Deborah Miller (/profile/1400631/), Silver Leaf · 1 day ago



I am all for seniors housing. That being said, it is beyond me how one would consider building a home for vulnerable seniors on that corner. Is there not a better location? Don't our seniors deserve to be housed at a location where it is safe to walk, shop, etc day and night? What is the City doing to clean up this area and make it safe for such a vulnerable population? Since the meeting on the 19th, Ms Robinson from CH has gone on record stating that the Blossom Hill location is going to be a social services hub for the broader community. Food kitchens, mental health services, etc could result in even greater traffic to this corner as well as to an increase in vagrancy etc in the area. Is seniors housing just a cover to get a quote community social services hub across the finish line? Have these supplemental operations been factored into environmental impact, traffic, parking (where even with current numbers is less than 1/4 of what could be needed)etc studies? Why wasn't CH transparent about their goal for this to be a social services hub prior to now? I think the community deserves full disclosure from both CH and the City. This is sounding more and more like a bait and switch.

Thank Reply



Barb MacNeil (/profile/236592/), Parkview · 23 hr ago



Deborah Miller (/profile/1400631) and THOSE are the reasons so many are against the project. It isn't the project, but the location. It's one thing to drive through the area of B&S, but quite a different story if you live in close proximity.

(/inbox/)

Thank Reply

😊 3



Dorethia Myers (/profile/295540/), Del Robles · 20 hr ago



Barb MacNeil (/profile/236592) theses are planes taking off not landing. The takeoffs are closer to 3rd-5th st. Landings 1st st.

Thank Reply

❤️ 1



Barb MacNeil (/profile/236592/), Parkview · Edited 20 hr ago



Dorethia Myers (/profile/295540) I know exactly how each plane flies due to an app I have.



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ve plane & flight trac

... 9875K

/3d7e281d499b7ae4978b47f71fdfad2a.jpeg)

Thank Reply



Barb MacNeil (/profile/236592/), Parkview · Edited 12 hr ago



FYI: The Tradewinds apartments 1 & 2 (2 different HOAs) have just hired 2 armed (with guns) guards paid for by each HOA. One guard has been seen at Tradewinds at Judith "because things have gotten so bad".. It's a 3 minute walk (less by going through the strip mall) from their office to the proposed site at ACO on Blossom Hill.



(https://d3926qxcw0e1bh.cloudfront.net/post_photos/a2/09

/a209f53f88d9412ac20a60b789ed001b.png)

Thank Reply

😊 1



Patty Houston (/profile/4166238/), Calero · 12 hr ago



Finally someone has seriously looked at the area and trying to fix it.

Thank Reply

👍 1



Patty Fishburn (/profile/2216258/), Los Paseos · 5 hr ago



Thank you to the Tradewinds HOAs 1 & 2. I would think this will also give SJPd some relief. This is what its come to; armed guards.

Location, location, location... I agree with Deborah Miller.

Thank Reply

😊 +1 2



Barb MacNeil (/profile/236592/), Parkview · 2 hr ago



Patty Fishburn (/profile/2216258) that info was posted by people who live there. I reposted it for those who don't really know the area.

Thank Reply

Add a reply...



(/inbox/)

Dear city govt. of San Jose,

An interesting variety of items, on the consent calendar today. Sorry for the hour of this letter.

Item 2.8. Board and Commission Appointments.

In the Public Record last week, the most recent, of my several letters, tries to ask, to look for appointees -

- who can be up to date, on technology accountability, ideas.
- who can have an openness, in how city technology and data collection projects, can be seen, as a part of, the Measure T process.

From continual, good routines and patterns, people and its local community democracy, is always a work in progress.

I hope, I can be allowed, to continue to remind, an open-mindedness from yourselves, at this time, can simply give us, many good choices, over the next few years.

Item 2.13. Citywide Purchase of Computer Parts.

The spending, of over 1.3 million dollars in tech. equipment and software, is a lot of money. Among other things, I assume, it will be used towards, the city hall a/v dept. & two city govt., DAC centers, among other city govt. needs.

The words of your memo, on this subject, seem once again, somewhat vague and opaque. The words of components, equipment, and peripherals, is a beginning. But, the city of San Jose memo process, needs to more consistently describe & share, a few specific examples of technology, you will purchasing and using.

In city govt. spending, 1.3 million dollars, it seems there will be surveillance tech. To give a few examples, of the actual tech., that will be used in a project, is how to create trust within a community. And, that can better describe, what to expect from city govt.

Another reminder, there are good guidelines & examples, to more openly describe, city govt. tech. and its memo process. And, that can still respect, a city's need, for national security.

In a love of community, good democratic practices, and peace, I feel accountability ideas, are a part of, a continual learning and growing process, everyone of a community, in some way, likes to think about.

Item 2.14. Public Information Officer.

The previous role, of the mayor's Public Information Officer, was meant for things, to run smoothly, within the internal workings, of local govt. itself.

With many city govt. ideas and projects going on, at one time, I hope you can consider, how this interesting job title, can possibly offer, how to organize & describe, city govt. ideas & projects, in a simple, open, and direct way, to the everyday community.

In the sometimes, forgetful, busy schedule, we all have, it is almost the idea - a press officer, that can give daily press briefings, so everyone of the community, can have a better account, of how city projects, are moving along.

Item 2.16. Korean Flag Raising Ceremony.

The recent, South Korean flag raising, in San Jose, can be thought of, as a way, we are trying to work out, a future world of peace, and not war.

With good dialogue, and also, love, both sides of Korea, are trying to return, to one, large, regional area, that was split apart, in the mid-20th century.

Interestingly, this is an issue, that does not have to be, fully related, to U.S. needs.

As I can be very offended, in some of the recent choices, in San Jose flag raising, of countries that have, strong u.s. economic ties, yet horrendous, human rights policies,

the South Korean flag raising, may be an example, to all of us, in the ideas of peace, negotiation, reflection, and good dialogue, that can be considered, for all sides, of an issue.

I hope in the future, our lives can have, a space, and an openness, to be allowed, to better understand the issues, of each side.

As this can allow people, from all sides, to not be blinded, and be able, to work toward, shared, good answers.

In closing.

To write a few more words, about the countries, of this earth.

This is going to be, an important month, at the U.N., at its yearly, international gathering of all countries, in deciding, the next few years.

Among its important topics, will include, how to begin, to better talk about, the urgency of environmental issues.

And how, the u.s., can begin to end, previous ideas, of a war on terrorism. And what can be, a more peaceful acceptance, of the other countries, of this world.

As, we are in a time of mourning, in San Jose, it may be important to note, as there are current practices, to work towards deeper ideas, of peace and community democracy, that can now hold local cities, more accountable.

This in turn, should allow, the people of local cities, to start to ask deeper questions, how it can hold, the federal govt., the UN., and other governmental agencies, more open & accountable, as well.

sincerely,
blair beekman

August 27, 2019

PUBLIC RECORD 4

Attn:

Mayor Sam Liccardo

Vice Mayor Chappie Jones, and members of the
San Jose City Council

Re: Imminent Displacement of Local Family Owned Businesses.

Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers,

During the past few years, and in several occasions, I have expressed my immense concern in regards to the imminent displacement of several Local Family Owned Small Businesses in our Alum Rock and Santa Clara St. Business Corridor.

Today, I want to express the consternation I feel for not being able to accelerate the process to create rules, policy changes, and other ways to protect the businesses in our business corridor.

Just a few weeks ago, four Local Family Owned Small Businesses located at the corner of Santa Clara St. and 24th St. were displaced, all at the same time.

- **El Aguila Restaurant, in business at that location over 9 years.**
- **El Divo Beauty Salon, in business at that location over 6 years.**
- **California Car & Audio, in business at that location over 7 years.**
- **Botanica y Novedades San Pablo, in business at that location over 10 years.**

All these businesses were displaced last month. The reason being that the location on E. Santa Clara and 24th St. is the planned site for a new 84 Unit Affordable Housing Development.

Over the past 3 months, I have done everything possible to help the four businesses stay at their location or at the very least to be supported with a relocation plan. I met with the developer, spoke to city officials, I tried locating the landlord, but I was unsuccessful in getting support for these four businesses. At the end, even after being filed on time, their option to extend lease was not awarded by their landlord for, as per the business tenants, unreasonable circumstances. The result was that these businesses were to be displaced.

Probably the most concerning issue here is that none of these businesses was notified of the plans for this new development until 90 days before they were displaced. Despite the fact that negotiations for these new planned developments started years ago, and despite the fact that the City of San Jose had received formal applications for awards from the developer to build. No notice was ever given to the four businesses. None, until a few days before being displaced.

We must understand, each one of these local family owned businesses has an owner and a family. Each one of these businesses has an average of at least three to five employees who also have families. Therefore, these developments are not only displacing small businesses but leaving several families without a job.

We must do something about this now.

Over the past few years the Alum Rock Business Corridor suffered very serious adverse impact caused by VTA's Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) construction. As a result of the different complications caused by the project during and after those years, over 50 Local Family Owned Small Businesses have closed including these four. And now, after the completion of the BRT system, and with the combination of the Housing Crisis and the imminent arrival of the Google Campus and the Bart Station, the Alum Rock Business Corridor has become extremely attractive to developers wanting to build multi-unit housing along the corridor thus increasing the high risk of displacement and gentrification for our business corridor.

At this time, we know of at least eleven (11) different developments wanting to build along our corridor. And they all want to start building within the next few years, imagine how our business corridor will look like between 2020 and 2024 when most of these developments, including BART, are being built. Imagine all of the disruption that these developments will be creating by being built **at the same time**. Our business corridor will look like a war zone, reminiscent of the past state during the BRT construction phase.

BART has announced their plans to start building at the end of 2020, their time of constructions is estimated at around 5 years. Nonetheless, at the same time as BART is being constructed, at least 9 other developments (that we know of at this time) will be building their developments within the Alum Rock / Santa Clara St. business corridor. **That means that at least between the end of 2020 and 2024 our business corridor will be in Construction Yet again.**

Unless we have an adequate coordination program between City, County, VTA, and Developers implemented to measure and lessen the impact to small businesses, not only will the "directly displaced" small business will be affected, but many more will also suffer irreparable impact and may also be left out of business.

To put this in numbers, around 50% of the Local Family Owned Small Businesses located along our business corridor and surrounding areas are at high risk of being displaced. Yes, 50%, or an estimated 200 businesses and over one thousand jobs may be lost.

Consequently, it is of great urgency that when building big structures like BART and the Google Campus the city, county, and all parties involved coordinate with the many other developments that will be building at around the same time.

I appreciate the all the input and support I have received from the Office of Economic Development within the past few months, they are doing their part and I see their genuine intention to find solutions to the horrible situation our Local Family Owned Small Businesses are going through. However, we must expedite this process and take action to explore, find, and approve strategies and financing tools to mitigate small business displacement.

These Local Family Owned Small Businesses represent our community, the constituents you serve, and the dreams of San Josean families. Families who are trying to pay a mortgage, put a son or daughter through college, or simply keep up with the cost of living in one of the most expensive places to live in the United States.

We urge our public agencies to establish policies and regulations that can counteract the effect of business displacement. We must come together to protect our small businesses and families from displacement.

At this time, we are seeking policies and programs that can provide:

1. An Anti-Displacement Resource Unit within the City of San Jose with an effective Anti-Displacement Program for Locally Owned Small Businesses in risk of being displaced.
2. Policy to enforce reasonable and effective NOTIFICATION to Business Tenants (including sub-tenants) as soon as a permit or bid is presented to build a new development.
3. Accesses to affordable commercial or retail space with long-term leases for established businesses.
4. Relocation grants for those who are displaced, even if the planed development is not an affordable development.
5. Protecting and Preserving those culturally serving businesses and the cultural character and/or "flavor" of the corridor.
6. Legal code to be changed to request a percentage of "Affordable Commercial" space for local family-owned businesses in new developments.
7. A "Right to Return Policy" to require developers to give displaced businesses the opportunity to go in front of the line to reoccupy their commercial spaces when finished at a fair market cost.
8. Rent subsidy for property owners if they can agree to at least 10-year leases with a rent increase cap.
9. Financing Loan Fund Grants to serve as "collateral" for business seeking financing when being displaced and having difficulty finding it due to their "lack of stability" for being displaced.
10. Funding programs for Local Business Associations that have demonstrated effective results on advocacy and support to local family owned businesses.

Business displacement is the most serious issue on the Alum Rock business corridor. When a small business is displaced it's not only the business that is displaced, but also the dreams, hopes, and livelihood of our neighbors and family members. We support any Anti-Displacement efforts to stave off the loss of our family-owned businesses and look forward to working with the City to address our urgent needs.

Respectfully, 

Jesus Flores
President
Alum Rock Santa Clara St. Business Association
[ARSCSBA](#)
408.924.0848 office

From: bob tom

Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2019 4:30 PM

Subject: A letter from Blair Beekman - 2. _____ A correction - S.J. consent calendar items. Tuesday August 27, 2019.

To try to fix, a few typos, from the beginning, of my letter, 8.27.19. Again, an interesting choice of items, for the consent calendar yesterday. Thank you.

Dear city govt. of San Jose,

Item 2.8. Board and Commission Appointments.

To try to add to, this item, and the Board & Commission appointment process. The Public Record, of last week, with the most recent, of my several letters, asks how to look for, Measure T commission appointees -

- who can be, up-to-date, on technology accountability ideas.
- who can have, an openness, in how city technology, and data collection projects, can be seen, as a part of the Measure T process.

From continual, good routines and patterns - people, and its local community democracy, is always, a work in progress.

I hope, I can continue to remind - an open-mindedness from yourselves, at this time, can simply give us, many good choices, over the next few years.

sincerely,
blair beekman