

From: Mary Porter

Sent: Wednesday, June 1, 2022 3:40 PM

To: epc@mountainview.gov

Subject: 6/1/22 EPC Meeting 301 Evelyn Ave. Item #5 Study Session

Hello Environmental Planning Commission members,

I live in the Whisman Station community designated as “Residential” in Figure 1: Location Map of the Staff Report. Residing on the street in the development that runs parallel to Central Expressway, we currently see the hipped roof of Building 327 from our home, and anticipate that we will also see the upper floors of the parking structure when completed.

On page 3 of the Staff Report it says that “Considering...the far distance to the nearest properties...staff is supportive of the proposed parking garage story increase from 5 to 6 stories.” I don’t know the definition of “far distance”, but I’d like to point out that seeing commercial buildings, even if only the higher levels, does alter the feel of the home and the community. I’d like you to consider reducing the parking garage to 5 stories. This site is directly across the street from our community – given there are 2 streets, Evelyn and Central Expressway, and railroad tracks, but our community does directly face this site and therefore I am concerned about this development.

I support the change to the garage footprint to preserve more trees. It isn’t clear to me what the footprint change was, but tree preservation is important to me also. Trees contribute to a healthy environment in many ways, especially as more and more of Mountain View is paved over. Replacement or new trees take a long time to provide the benefits that the current tree canopy on this site provide.

Finally, I know construction projects create noise as did your earlier project on this site, which as I recall started quite early in the morning. Please take into consideration the “neighbors across the street”. It would be much appreciated if you don’t have such an early start this time around.

I also wish to share my concern that as the development standards continue to be loosed (making exceptions to Precise Plans) to allow denser and higher development, moving away from “suburban office campuses” we are creating more office space, which means more jobs and increases our job/housing imbalance, which requires more high-density homes to be built which in turn increases traffic including bicycle and scooter traffic, without being able to provide the necessary services to the growing community.

Regards,

Mary Minto