

## Gutierrez, Jeannette

---

**From:** Serge Bonte <  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 3:35 PM  
**To:** Kamei, Ellen; Matichak, Lisa; Abe-Koga, Margaret; Hicks, Alison; Ramirez, Lucas; Lieber, Sally; Showalter, Pat  
**Cc:** , City Clerk  
**Subject:** re: Downtown Parking Strategy Study Session.

**CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Ensure you trust this email before clicking on any links or attachments.**

Honorable Mayor and City Council Members:

I wanted to share a few comments re: your Downtown Parking Strategy Study Session.

1. Parking Lot 12: I was surprised to see that the chosen developer is backing away from replacing existing parking space. I thought that parking replacement was a key component of the RFI/RFP process. While I don't object to providing more affordable housing in exchange of not replacing existing parking, I feel it's a tad unfair to the other RFP applicants who might have been "dinged" for not offering the replacement in their proposals.
2. I support efforts to cap parking demand downtown as it is not sustainable to keep adding parking lots after parking lots.. I also support efforts to decrease parking demand as some off street parking will have to go to provide more space for transit, active transportation and people (like making Castro permanent pedestrian mall).
3. The staff report makes frequent distinctions between visitors and residents within the Downtown Parking Strategy Study Area. I'd like to remind you that many visitors are also Mountain View residents and taxpayers. And if these visitors "from within" are expected to pay for parking to visit the library or City Hall, it would only be fair to have all residents pay (even if residing in the Downtown Parking area).
4. I don't understand why " This count does not include private garages in the single-family residential areas." Single Family Homes are required to provide 2 off street parking spots. Just like we want to encourage apartment dwellers or office workers to first use their own parking, we should want single family home residents to first use their 2 off street parking spots. Further, if an apartment dweller or an office worker or a visitor from Mountain View is expected to pay for on street parking so should single family home residents in the Parking District.
5. Personally I try to walk Downtown (1.5 miles) as often as I can. Biking would be faster but not feasible because Downtown has no secure bike parking. Similar to the car valet parking, I wish the City would consider supervised bike valet parking.. It has been tried during some fairs (both in Mountain View and Los Altos) with good success, why not extend to all extended week-ends to start.

Sincerely,

Serge Bonte  
Mountain View

**Gutierrez, Jeannette**

---

**From:** Scott Atkinson <  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 3:30 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Cc:** Netto, Margaret; Scott Atkinson  
**Subject:** Item 6.2 - Public Comments (198 Easy Street PUD)  
**Attachments:** 2021.05.11 City Council Comments-Item 6.2.pdf

**CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Ensure you trust this email before clicking on any links or attachments.**

City Council Members,

For your review and consideration, attached are my comments on tonight's Item #6.2.

Thank you,

Scott

Scott C. Atkinson

Mountain View, CA 94043

Scott & Kim Atkinson

Mountain View, CA 94043

May 11, 2021

City Council, City of Mountain View, CA

VIA EMAIL: [city.council@mountainview.gov](mailto:city.council@mountainview.gov); [Margaret.Netto@mountainview.gov](mailto:Margaret.Netto@mountainview.gov)

**RE: Agenda Item #6.2 Comments for City Council, Hearing on Proposed 198 Easy Street PUD**

These comments are an update to my public comments letter dated March 24, 2021 referenced as Attachment 3 in the Council Packet. Most items raised in that letter have either been addressed, or have been promised to be addressed during the final process of zoning/construction drawing approvals.

I briefly mention a few open items:

**Items to be addressed before approval:**

1. Attachment 2 in City Council Packet: Tentative Map continues to contain error in immediate neighbor's address (Kadam's actual and mailing address is 24 Gladys Court—not 30 Gladys Court). Needs correction.
2. Attachment 1 in City Council Packet: Resolution states that City Council held a public hearing on 4/27/21 on this item. This date should be corrected to 5/11/21.

**Items requested to be made conditions of approval:**

These items have been promised to be addressed in final process of zoning/construction drawing approvals, but are not yet specified in the conditions:

1. **Lighting concerns**, specifically with adding tall pole-top lighting for the driveway & parking area. Lighting should be limited to garage-mounted carriage lights and low landscape lighting only (as employed in the nearby row-home development at 103-137 Easy Street & Savannah Loop). See also my 3/24/21 letter item #3 and footnote for more detail & photos.
2. **Open space bench/seating area**. We strongly disagree with the addition of a park bench or similar amenities to the small open space area (recommended by DRC). The concern is that it will become a default "off-site" smoking area or facilitate loitering. This will not have the controls of Creekside Park, less than 15 yards away, which provides ample resting places for walkers. See also my 3/24/21 letter item #1 for more detail.

**General Council comment on rowhomes:**

The applicant is understandably applying for what "might" be available within the Zone, for which we do not fault him. We want the property to be developed. However, we disagree with the City's loose interpretation and application of neighborhood factors to rowhome approvals overall. **We ask City Council to clarify & re-emphasize that these neighborhood factors are to be treated as true "Gating" criteria for rowhome approval, and that this be applied by DRC & Zoning in future projects.**

The provision that rowhomes are "allowed" within the R3-3/sd Zoning District seems to be treated, in practice, as a near-default "approval". However, more weight needs to be given to the essential conditions: **IF such would be "harmonious and compatible" and "is consistent with the existing residential neighborhood character".**

- In this case, all nearby context is 2-story (duplexes across Easy Street, the two immediate adjacent single-family homes, and even the two apartment buildings at 30 Gladys Court). These measure 19' to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor ceiling vs the Proposed 32' ceiling heights (3-story) and 36'-37' overall height.
- The plan elevations and street perspectives do not accurately represent these relational heights. Plan A07.1B perspective *excludes* any adjacent buildings, or height references, and minimizes the true height (it represents the rowhomes as only half as tall as the front utility poles in the photo, when they are nearly the same height). Full and accurate context, and/or story-poles, help everyone judge compatibility. The plans should show evidence of compatibility.
- Fewer 2-story units with reasonable lot sizes would have been a better natural adjacent fit that is "harmonious and compatible" and "consistent with the existing neighborhood character".
- **The objection is not to rowhomes generally, but to not applying "existing neighborhood character and consistency" as a "gating" criterion—as we believe is evident in this instance.**

Thank you for your consideration.

Scott & Kim Atkinson

**Gutierrez, Jeannette**

---

**From:** Tony Sehgal ·  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 2:06 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Cc:** Glaser, Heather  
**Subject:** Sustainability Action Plan 4 Comment

**CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Ensure you trust this email before clicking on any links or attachments.**

Dear City of Mountain View staff:

I would like to encourage the City of Mountain View to follow through with the commitment made in 2019 to promote plant-based diets as part of the SAP-4 plan. I'm a Bay Area resident just down the road in Saratoga and spend money with local businesses in Mountain View. My family and friends are keenly interested in environmental sustainability for future generations. It's well understood by most people that our food choices are critical in our efforts to move toward better environmental sustainability. A shift to more sustainable diets is critical and the City of Mountain View should be leading the way in this area. I urge you to please follow through with the action plan to encourage more sustainable, plant-based food choices.

Much Thanks  
Tony Sehgal,  
Bay Area Resident

## Gutierrez, Jeannette

---

**From:** Mythri Ramesh <  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 2:31 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Comments for City Council Meeting

**CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Ensure you trust this email before clicking on any links or attachments.**

My name is Mythri Ramesh. I am an animal rights advocate and I am a part of the Los Gatos plant-based advocates group. I have family and friends in Mountain View. I am very happy to hear Mountain View is moving towards sustainability choices, but I believe the best way to achieve sustainability is through plant-based diet. We need to address the grassroots of our problems.

My Topic - Include plant-based diet to achieve Water conservation

Some Facts -

- California is on the edge of another drought, which will trigger major water restrictions in cities, rural communities without well water, and fueling devastating mega fires
- what is the role of animal agriculture, how is it affecting water?
- A single person drinks about 6-8 ounce of water, according to north dakota state university research, a cow may consume 20 gallons/day on a hot day, this is direct consumption
- Indirect consumption includes water used to grow crops to livestock, cleaning and slaughtering
- According to [animalsmatter.org](http://animalsmatter.org), every day 25 million farm animals are slaughtered. So, you can guess how much water has been utilized per day then?
- Stockholm International water institute released a report that global diets will need to be at least 95% vegan by 2050 to avoid catastrophic water shortages caused by food production.
- Meat-free diet can reduce the water footprint by half (almost 55%)

What actions to take:

- Water conservation is a very important reason to advocate a plant-based diet to the public.
- Los Angeles, Santa Monica, Denver and many other cities are already taking actions towards sustainability through food plans, and Mountain View can be one of them too.
- But during this drought, we know that there will be some reminders coming from City Councils through newsletters, magazines, papers, display boards, etc, and we are sure to see points like check your water leaks, take shorter showers, use less water to your lawns, plant drought resistant plants.. This is all good, but it would be nice to add a point to encourage people to choose a more plant-based diet.
- Plant based advocates can help in any way possible. Please let us know, we look forward to this initiative coming to reality.

Thanks for giving me this opportunity to express my thoughts.

Thanks,  
Mythri

**Gutierrez, Jeannette**

---

**From:** Dan Marshall <  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 2:55 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Topic 7 - Please vote for A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW SUPPORTING A NATIONAL CARBON TAX AND DIVIDEND POLICY

**CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Ensure you trust this email before clicking on any links or attachments.**

Mayor Kamei and the Mountain View City Council,

I am writing to ask you to support the resolution supporting a carbon tax and dividend national policy addressing climate change. This is item 7 on your 5/11/21 Agenda.

You are leaders. Leaders consider future issues which, if not addressed now, will become insurmountable.  
Climate Change is a significant problem now. It will become insurmountable in the future if we fail to act now.

There are two reasons to put a rising tax on carbon.

- 1) The tax will correct for the fact that anyone can generate greenhouse gases without paying a penalty.
- 2) Increasing the price of something is an effective way to convince people to use less of something. Think of cigarette taxes.

What is the problem with taxing carbon?

The cost of all fuels will go up. People living paycheck to paycheck will have trouble paying their bills. Think of the yellow shirts in France.

So the proposal is to distribute all of the money collected as a carbon tax, to every citizen in a check every month. For people who live in small houses and ride the bus, the checks will exceed their increased fuel costs. Roughly 60% of the population is in this category.

But everyone will see a steadily rising price on carbon, so we will all make better decisions about which car to drive, how to set the thermostat, and where to go on vacation.

Thank you for your service on the Council. I know that it is difficult.

***Dan Marshall***

[See a two minute video about a promising approach to addressing climate change.](#)

## Gutierrez, Jeannette

---

**From:** Kathleen Willey  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 3:27 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Cc:** Glaser, Heather  
**Subject:** Comment regarding Sustainability Action Plan 4

**CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Ensure you trust this email before clicking on any links or attachments.**

Hello Council members, thank you for taking the time to read this. My name is Kathleen Willey and I was born and raised in Silicon Valley and currently live in Los Gatos. I was very pleased to hear that Mountain View has made a commitment to promote plant based diets to mitigate climate change. I am hoping more cities in the Bay Area start doing the same. There are so many reasons to shift away from animal based foods.

We can no longer ignore the fact that our world is overpopulated and that our appetite for meat has wiped out the majority of our natural wildlife habitats and rainforests. The biomass of our planet 10,000 years ago was 1% humans and 99% wildlife. Today humans are 36%, wildlife is a mere 4% and a whopping 60% is livestock! (And that number is growing) <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/may/21/human-race-just-001-of-all-life-but-has-destroyed-over-80-of-wild-mammals-study>

It is ironic that we are being told to stay socially distant yet there is no mention to do the same for the animals people are eating. No matter how clever the marketing is, 99% of the animals people eat here in the US exist in extreme, overcrowded, filthy confined facilities.

<https://sentientmedia.org/u-s-farmed-animals-live-on-factory-farms/>

And wet markets? That is not just a problem in other countries, they exist here in the US - even here in the Bay Area! In New York City alone there are over 80! People can pick the animal they want to eat, and they will kill it right there for you. Animals from various different species are kept in crowded filthy cages in stressed conditions with bacteria and feces being shared amongst them.

<https://abc7ny.com/nyc-slaughterhouses-live-markets-coronavirus-update/6105833/>

According to the CDC and the World Health Organization 3 out of 4 new infectious diseases in humans are zoonotic - meaning coming from animals. SARS, Mad Cow disease, Avian/Bird Flu, Swine Flu, HIV, MERS, Smallpox, Measles and Ebola are examples. Animal agriculture provides an ideal breeding ground for zoonotic diseases to flourish, mutate, and as we've seen with Covid 19, infect a human host. Across the globe we raise over 70 billion animals in factory farms for food. Whether small and family-run or large industrial operations, keeping animals in confined spaces where diseases can spread easily, creates a threat of infections that can spread to humans.

The Spanish Flu (H1N1 influenza A virus) pandemic was believed to have originated on a farm in the USA and infected 500 million people across the planet, about one third of the world's population at the time, with death toll estimates ranging from 17 million to 100 million.

Every time we buy animal products, we directly support a system that will continue to produce pandemics.

Thank you.



<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/pandemic-resources/1918-pandemic-h1n1.html>

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/foodanddrink/foodnews/the-meat-we-eat-is-a-pandemic-risk-too/ar-BB132rDx?ocid=spartanntp>

Kathleen Willey  
Los Gatos