

From: [Charlotte Calhoun](#)
To: [City Council FORWARD](#)
Subject: Monta Loma Park
Date: Tuesday, March 8, 2022 4:24:07 PM

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Dear City Counsel Members,

My family has recently purchased a house in Monta Loma. We plan to move from Redwood City in early May. An important item on the pro side for buying in that neighborhood was the idea of walking our daughters, age 3, and our dog over to the park on a fairly regular basis. We love to be outside in a park setting. We are conscientious dog owners, we pick up any dog poop that we come across because we don't want dog owners to have a bad reputation (and we don't want to step in it). Our dog has had hours of training and passed her canine good citizen test 10 years ago. She doesn't roam - she just wants to play fetch.

We really hope that when we move to the neighborhood we will be welcome to use the field with our dog and watch our twins play.

We wouldn't oppose a fence, but our preference would be a low one with an unlocked gate.

Thanks for reading.

- The Orciuoli Family

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Charlotte Calhoun



From: [Caroline White](#)
To: [City Council FORWARD](#)
Subject: Monta Loma Park comment
Date: Tuesday, March 8, 2022 4:30:26 PM

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Dear City Council Members,

I live in the Monta Loma neighborhood and have a young child who may attend the elementary school in time. My understanding of the “Monta Loma Park Re-imaging” is that the School District has chosen NOT to act in good faith. Instead of communicating with the public, accepting and considering the desires of the majority of the public including the neighborhood, they pre-decided what they were going to do and then presented their case with zero intention of changing their decision based on feedback. If the school district were to act in good faith, we would see them take simple, inexpensive and practical steps to keep the public off the school grounds during school hours – appropriate signage!

I photographed the startling lack of appropriate signage yesterday.

Of the 2 long and narrow pathway entrances from the neighborhood, only the one on Anna Ave has a sign stating that you cannot enter the campus during specific hours. This sign is off to your side, easy to walk by without noticing, and amazingly is becoming covered in ivy. The angle of the sign is such that you might see it on your way out of the park, but you’d be unlikely to notice it on your way in – this is unhelpful. There is in fact a great space available inside the Anna Ave entrance for a large, adult eye height level, graphically bold sign to be erected. Many public parks display large signs with the rules, so that you cannot miss them. Monta Loma Park and Elementary School do Not have this.

There are always new people coming into the Monta Loma neighborhood, whether they recently moved here or found out about the park via sports or other activities and with them come their visitors, so the neighborhood has a constant supply of new people who may not be aware of park and school rules. Without proper signage, the school employees are gifted with the task of informing the public of the rules and this doesn’t really make sense. People get used to using the visually rule-less park and school grounds and then 1.) an employee has to encounter them and then 2.) try to change their habit of accidentally misusing school or park grounds. It’s a losing solution. It would be much more reasonable for the school district to spend money on large, graphically catching, adult eye height level, properly positioned signage for at least 3 entrances to the school: Anna Ave, Laura Lane, and the Thompson Ave park entrance.

Monta Loma Elementary School has been sans fence, just like many of the front yards in the neighborhood, for over 60 years. I find it interesting that the School District has suddenly decided this isn’t working. It’s hard to believe they ignored dangerous “incidents” over the past 60 years, whilst doing nothing to protect staff and students or that these incidents only began to occur recently. I propose that actual proper signage is the 1st step and if that fails to work well, only then is a fence necessary.

Sincerely,

Caroline White

Whitney Dr.

Photo 1 = the only sign with school hours.

Photo 2 = a good place for a sign stating park/school rules/hours.

SCHOOL GROUNDS ARE NOT OPENED TO
THE PUBLIC BETWEEN THE HOURS OF
7:30AM & 5:30PM.

ALL VISITORS MUST REGISTER WITH
THE SCHOOL OFFICE.

THE FOLLOWING CODES SHALL APPLY
TO ALL VISITORS.

LD CODE 35291

P.C. CODE 602

VEH. CODE 21113

HSC-1135

HSC-1125

