

From: [Raymond White](#)
To: [City Council FORWARD](#)
Subject: Monta Loma Park
Date: Tuesday, March 8, 2022 11:58:55 AM

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This seems to be a case in which your ancient predecessors made a compromise deal with the MVWSD, and as conditions change it takes work to maintain a satisfactory arrangement.

The changed condition is that somehow an urge in MVWSD to spend money on security solidified into a plan for fencing that would be limiting to neighborhood use of the open space while likely doing nothing for security. Note that present practice is to leave gates of existing fencing randomly open. Checking the "incidents" list reveals its construction *ex post facto*, so not driving the desire for fencing and that police have never been called to the campus. Neighbor presence is a form of security.

We are fine with the present situation, meaning no additional fencing. No locked gates added. No need for someone to unlock gates.

A disadvantage of fencing the field from Thompson Avenue may be that people with less-controlled dogs may feel it safer to release their animals behind the fence without fear of the dog running into the street.

Fencing around just the buildings would be silly, but would not interfere with use of the park space.

Maintaining maximum access to the open space of the open space would maintain past intentions and recognize the city's less-than-desirable provision of public park space.

Raymond R. White
Whitney Drive

From: [Sheri Morrison](#)
To: [City Council FORWARD](#)
Subject: Monta Loma Park
Date: Tuesday, March 8, 2022 3:09:19 PM

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Honorable Council Members,
I am unable to be at the council meeting tonight so I want to take the opportunity via email to express my viewpoint.

I have lived in Monta Loma, on the other side of the fence from the Little League field, for 40 years. I love this neighborhood.

It is my understanding from our last meeting with Vince of Carducci Assoc that their proposal to rethink the whole Monta Loma school and park site stems from their inability to meet all of the various constituents' needs with the current configuration.

This concerns me because of:

1. the cost which will be huge
2. the likelihood that it would entail making the school a 2 story building overlooking neighbors' yards
3. level of inaccessibility of the park while the construction would be going on

It's very hard for me to understand why we can't work this out with the current configuration. Joint usage of the park by both the school and the neighborhood has worked reasonably well for at least 60 years. I understand the school's concerns about safety issues, but there are ways to deal with that without building a fence and without redoing the entire site.

I urge you to think carefully about less expensive ways to address the current issue, which has blown way out of proportion than what it needed to because of poor communication on the part of the School Board with our community - an ongoing problem.

As you know, our community loves Monta Loma Park and utilizes it extensively as our only neighborhood park, which is how it has always been labeled and understood to function.

I appreciate the efforts of Carducci Assoc to resolve this and the consideration they have given in listening to ALL of the constituents. I hope we can find better ways of addressing this problem.

Thank you.

Respectfully,
Sheri Sprung Morrison
■ Anna Ave,
Mountain View

From: [William Lambert](#)
To: [City Council FORWARD](#)
Subject: Monta Loma Park Agenda Item - Mar-8-2022
Date: Tuesday, March 8, 2022 3:14:57 PM
Attachments: [Park and Campus Mar-8-2022.docx](#)

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Mayor Ramirez, Vice-Mayor Hicks, and Council Members,

Please refer to our attached letter concerning Monta Loma Park.

Bill

on behalf of Friends of Mountain View Parks

William Lambert
[REDACTED]

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March 8, 2022

Mayor Ramirez, Vice-Mayor Hicks, and Council Members,

We would like to focus this letter on Monta Loma Park and Campus.

The architect hired by the MVWSD to engage the various stakeholders of the Monta Loma Park and Campus has conducted several focus group meetings and general meetings with the Monta Loma community and the sports leagues. These meetings were recorded and the participants did not know who else was participating. It was acknowledged that others including the MVWSD trustees and staff and the city representatives could listen to these meetings but not participate. A summary of the Monta Loma community meetings was presented to the MVWSD during a publicly agendaized item during the February 10 board meeting.

The architect told the Monta Loma community that they were holding weekly meetings with the MVWSD and bi-weekly meetings with the City about Monta Loma Park and Campus. The community was not able to listen to these discussions and the content of these meetings was not shared with the Monta Loma community.

Because of the controlled communications in what we initially believed was to be a collaborative process, it remains unclear what the needs of the District and the City are for the site and if space will be available for the residents to have access to a large community park space.

Most recently, during the last community outreach sessions held by the architect, the participants were quizzed about expanding the student capacity of the Monta Loma campus and adopting a community school model. We are unclear how what we presume is a MVWSD proposal would impact the green space.

Although we hear reports at various meetings that the City is actively engaged in the Monta Loma re-imaging process, we have not yet heard anything about the needs of the City or any proposals about how the City can help to alleviate the heavy use of the Monta Loma green space. For example, providing more sports fields in Mountain View and city-owned community park space, especially in north Mountain View would facilitate the ability to develop additional solutions to shared use of the Monta Loma Park and Campus.

It appears to us that there is a combination of immediate and long-term needs. The MVWSD may have immediate needs for campus security, the sports teams for athletic fields, and the community for day-time access. We recommend that we focus on addressing these short-term needs, while preserving the large open green space at Monta Loma. This will then allow all of us to develop well thought out long-term plans to accommodate student growth and community parks and open space. And, keeping in mind that school sites and sports fields can be relocated within the city, but neighborhoods and communities cannot be moved.

Student growth will not happen immediately and there are many options for expanding school capacity in MV. Providing community parks and open space will require creative strategic planning. Both will require thoughtful solutions and, to be realistic, significant funding.

We look forward to hearing from the MVWSD and the City more about their ideas for both short term and long-term solutions for the use of Monta Loma Park and Campus.

Friends of Mountain View Parks
www.friendsofmvparks.org
hello@friendsofmvparks.org