

From: [Lim McClintock](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Concerns about Residential Development at 555 West Middlefield Road
Date: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 3:33:08 PM

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Dear City Council Representatives,

I am concerned about the proposed development at 555 West Middlefield Road. The destruction of heritage redwood trees by the Avalon corporation I believe is a short-sighted solution to a much longer term problem, which would include environmental costs and increased traffic problems. Changes in transportation infrastructure and technology are necessary in the medium-to-long term, and building a new parking garage is not the answer.

Sincerely,
Clayton

From: [Liz Reid](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Fwd: 555 West Middlefield Road
Date: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 3:52:43 PM

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Good afternoon,

I am writing in advance of tonight's meeting concerning the development at 555 W. Middlefield Road. Above were my concerns regarding the last meeting. It has now come to my attention that this project will take 7 years, and not 5. I have additional concerns about the projects since the last meeting, which I have mentioned below.

Removal of Tree Barrier on 85

I am aware that this tree barrier protects the complex from a lot of freeway noise, debris, and keeps the air quality in our complex less polluted. This is especially true when cars are idling in traffic on SB 85 between the hours of 3-6pm on weekdays again. Separately, it is also part of the treeline view from my balcony, which I've attached photos to above. Seasonally, Californians are already exposed to poor air quality from early August to late October during the fire season, and I feel that all the current trees in the complex offset that breathing hazard. **Please see the photo below** of when I first moved in during fire season in September of 2020.

Construction Dust & Noise

I am concerned about the construction dust and noise that this project will cause over a period of 7 years. It is known that the original structures at Eaves at Middlefield contain asbestos. I am worried that by razing the main office and the tennis court office that we will be exposed and breathing in the contaminants until the dust settles. The constant noise over 7 years will be disruptive, especially to people who are now working from home permanently. Between the loss of trees listed above, and the construction dust, I worry that what I am breathing in will make my asthma worse, and potentially cause more serious health issues for myself and other tenants down the line. This is especially problematic as COVID doesn't seem to be going away anytime soon.

Loss of Amenities

One of the main reasons I became a resident of Eaves is because of the amenities, such as the pool, hot tub, gym, tennis courts, and fitness center. Eaves has not informed residents about what amenities will be out of commission and for how long. Since residents pay a premium to access these amenities, Eaves should provide a discounted rent for the amount of time that residents won't be able to use them. Eaves should also provide a timeline of when to expect these amenities to be available again. Some residents have expressed displeasure that basketball and tennis courts are not being replaced as part of the project. Many residents I chose the complex because of the hot tub, and are disappointed that Avalon plans to replace the large H shape with a small circular one that wouldn't allow as many people to use it. Many people have voiced concerns, and it doesn't seem like Avalon is taking our thoughts into consideration when the new designs are being made.

Public Park Parcel & Public Safety

I have my reservations about a park being constructed. While I appreciate the effort to preserve trees by constructing the park, I believe it will cause more trouble than it is worth. There are already a lot of safety issues regarding the amount of homeless living along the Stevens Creek Trail nearby. Homelessness has been a growing problem as people get priced out of the area. Unfortunately there is not a simple solution to address it. Stevens creek trail has become more unsafe because of this. People have mentioned not even using the trail unless it is towards the Bay, because they get harrassed. This is especially true for women. For instance, the case where a woman was assaulted in broad daylight by two men who still haven't been apprehended! The Eaves has been experiencing a lot of overnight crime and vandalism in our parking lots, as well as thefts from patios. My concern is that building a public park, especially as large as the proposed parcel is, will attract the transients from the trail and more crime to the complex at night. My other concern is that my unit overlooks the proposed park, which is slated to be a staging area for construction. This would mean that I am breathing in dirt and dust every time I open my patio door for the next 7 years, and my view will become a dirt lot and construction vehicles instead of the photos above.

Environmental Effects on Wildlife

There are many species of birds as well as raccoons and squirrels who share our space with us. I have not seen an environmental impact report provided by Avalon, but I know that this project will have a drastically negative impact on the wildlife in the complex, especially over 7 years. I would like to see an impact report, and I would like the residents to be made aware of the hazardous conditions that we will be exposed to if we choose to remain living here throughout the construction period.

Traffic & Safety

From the plans I can see that Cypress drive will see increased traffic, and given that it is a dead end street, I am not sure that this has been given serious consideration. Between the trail head, bikers, students walking to/from school, and the adult education building located on Cypress and Moffett, there will be a higher chance of accidents and bottlenecked traffic with more cars driving up and down that road. The cars also tend to drive fast down that street as well, which poses a dangerous threat to bikers and pedestrians.

Concluding Thoughts

I have a concern for my safety and mental health if I remain a tenant throughout construction. But I also worry that I will not be able to relocate to a complex of similar caliber in Mountain View due to the cost of rent in the Bay Area. When I moved in during COVID, my studio was \$1835. That is half of my income currently, and it is already hard to make ends meet as it stands. I hope that there can be a relocation program to help if tenants like myself have to move because of this project. I've lived in Mountain View for most of my life, and I am one of the few of my peers that can afford to stay here. I truly hope that the city council will consider the Eaves inhabitants when voting on this project. Would you want this project happening outside your patio balcony? Please think of us when voting tonight. Thank you for your time and consideration while making these decisions.

Liz Reid
Building C

Smoke clouding trees in September 2020



On Tue, Feb 8, 2022 at 12:21 PM Showalter, Pat <Pat.Showalter@mountainview.gov> wrote:

Hi Liz,

Thanks for sharing your concerns. The city is taking them very seriously.

If the project is approved, we will work to mitigate as many of the construction impacts as possible. There will be a number to call to report issues. Please use it as needed.

Stay safe!

Pat

From: Liz Reid [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, February 8, 2022 10:40 AM

To: City Council FORWARD <City.Council@mountainview.gov>

Subject: 555 West Middlefield Road

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Dear Council Members,

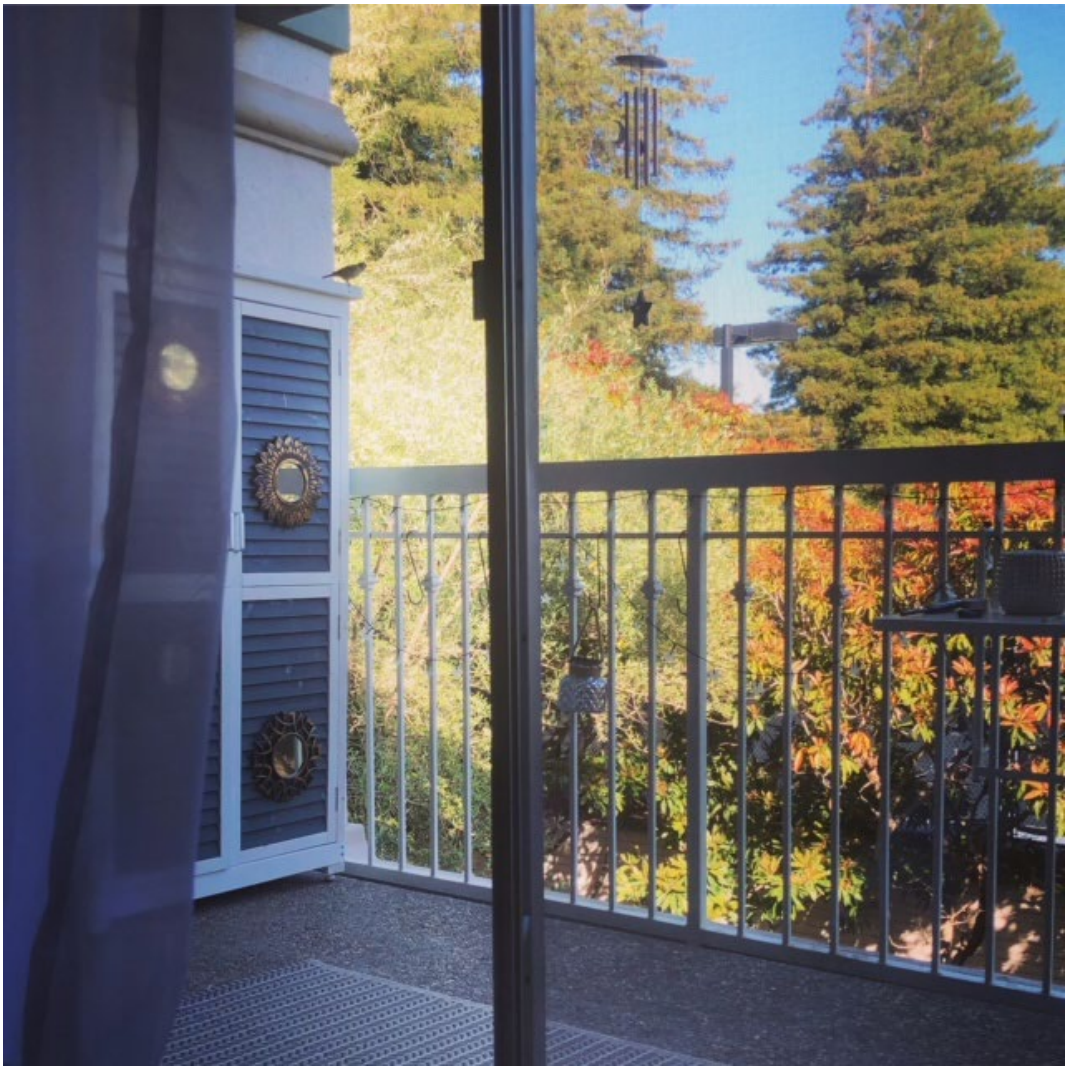
As a long time resident of Mountain View, I've always been concerned about my ability to live on my own as office developments continue to be built in Mountain View and nearby areas. I've watched incredibly dense housing projects take over my beloved hometown for the last two decades, and like many others, I feel I am going to eventually be priced out of the area. Due to COVID, I needed to move out from my parents' house and was lucky enough to find a reasonably priced studio. This studio is still half of my income.

I love my current apartment, and it has beautiful views of the tree line. I chose this apartment complex because of the beautiful redwoods, and I chose this unit because of the view of them. Please see attached for pictures that I have taken from my patio. I know that I cannot likely stop the development from proceeding, but I know that these trees will help counter the effects of all the construction dust and noise from the freeway. I am concerned that once they are cut down, the air quality will be much worse where I live, forcing me to move. (I have allergies, am asthmatic, and have had COVID twice now.) If I need to move, it is unlikely that I will find another apartment for this price in the area, and will need to relocate out of Mountain View.

I know that they do not plan to displace anyone, but I am concerned about the length of the project, which would be 5 years of construction dust, noise, and trucks in and out of the area. Due to this, I think that residents will be forced to either endure it or find a new place to live. I urge you to please vote to leave the trees as they are, or at least ask Avalon to minimize the amount of trees that they take down in the process. Thank you.

Elisabeth Munoz
Building C





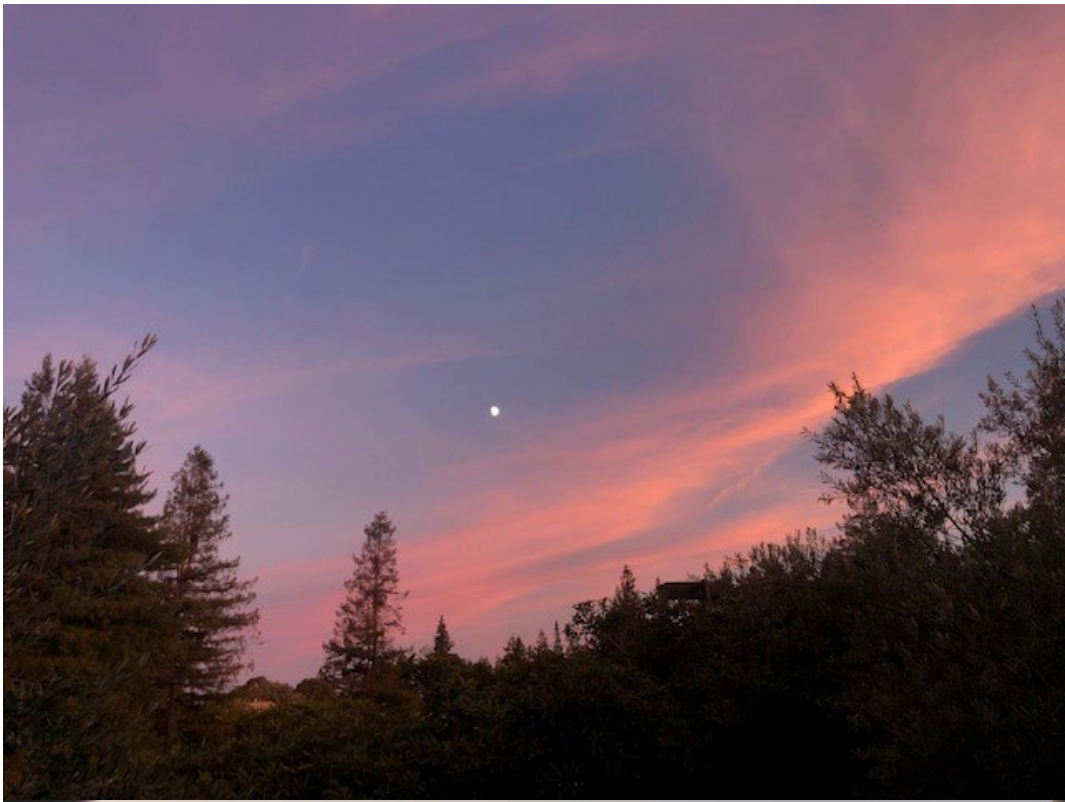
















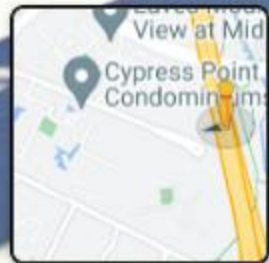




Norman Y. Mineta Hwy
Mountain View, California



Street View



Google



From: [Serge Bonte](#)
To: [Ramirez, Lucas](#); [Showalter, Pat](#); [Lieber, Sally](#); [Kamei, Ellen](#); [Matichak, Lisa](#); [Hicks, Alison](#); [Abe-Koga, Margaret](#)
Cc: [McCarthy, Kimbra](#); [_City Clerk](#)
Subject: re: 5/10/22 Meeting - Agenda Item 6.1 Residential Development at 555 West Middlefield Road
Date: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 4:01:40 PM

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Honorable Mayor and City Council Members:

I am writing in full support for this project. It is a refreshing change to see a project that will preserve all existing (naturally affordable and under the CSFRA) housing while adding a significant amount of new housing units in Mountain View (some of them affordable via deed restrictions) and also while providing with the dedication of a 1.34-acre public park (to be delivered far ahead of project completion).

The developer should also be commended for listening to the community by:

- providing important community benefits. I am very pleased to see a study for a pedestrian path/sidewalk across 85 (to hopefully plug a gaping hole in the pedestrian network and greatly improve access to the Stevens Creek Trail for the neighborhood).
- preserving a good amount of healthy heritage trees and providing a good replacement ratio for heritage trees that could not be preserved (noting that some were unhealthy and non-native -Olive trees-).

The developer and staff should be further commended for improving air quality mitigation measures and for saving additional heritage trees at the expense of a few dozen parking spots.

Looking forward to your approval without any further delays of this overall great project for Mountain View.

Sincerely,

Serge Bonte
Lloyd Way, Mountain View

From: [Gayle Sabin](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: City Council Meeting Item
Date: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 4:14:17 PM

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My comment/questions are for the City Council meeting on May 10, 2021, with regard to the development at 555 W Middlefield Road and removal of 63 mature heritage trees.

Cutting down 40 foot high heritage trees is a violation of the City's own agenda and Code of Ordinance, which states

"Chapter 32 - Trees, Shrubs and Plants

Article 1 - General

Sec. 32.35. - Criteria for removal; Conditions; Findings...

2. The necessity of the removal of the heritage tree in order to construct improvements..."

- It appears that clear cutting of these trees is in no way "necessary", and I would like to ask the developer to state why they need to cut these trees down, i.e. in what way do these trees impede construction?
- Why would the City council even consider issuing a permit for this when it violates their own ordinance?
- How many permits have been issued to developers by the City for removal of heritage trees in the past year, 2 years, and 3 years?

In short, I oppose the City issuing permits to cut down the heritage trees along the Highway 85/Stevens Creek Trail for what appear to be aesthetic purposes.

Gayle Sabin
Resident/Homeowner Mountain View

From: [Donna Weeks](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: File# 201911 Agenda 6.1 Residential Development at 555 Middlefield Road
Date: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 4:28:50 PM

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

To the Mountain View City Council,

I am a long time resident of Mountain View living at [REDACTED] across/on the same street of the planned development of 555 Middlefield Road by Avalon Bay Properties.

I have enormous concerns about the recent plan updates by Avalon to remove the buffer trees on Hwy 85. This will create an incredibly unhealthy environment due to the levels of air and noise pollution for the next 20-30 years! Does the council have any concerns for the Mountain View residents? Is it too much to ask for the MV residents to live in an environment which will be unsafe conditions to raise a family?

Tall, dense and mature trees have shown to provide health protection to residents and their families and children by absorbing loud noise and filtering toxic air particulates from vehicles on the freeway.

Please consider the arguments against this recent proposal by Avalon and please think about the Mountain View residents!

Very concerned MV resident,
Donna Weeks
[REDACTED]
Mountain View CA 94043