

**From:** [Ronit Bryant](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Gateway Park on Castro and ECR  
**Date:** Saturday, December 4, 2021 10:33:23 AM

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Dear Council,

On Tuesday, you will be discussing in closed session vacating parts of Hope and Fairmont Streets. From posted pictures by the developer, it looks like they plan to do away with Gateway Park.

I am writing to ask you to reflect on the fact that Gateway Park, though quite small, has three large thriving heritage cedar trees. Their canopy, once gone, cannot be replaced in the course of our lifetimes. Offering a somewhat bigger open space nearby is not compensation for the damage to our environment - it will not make good what we lose.

In addition, vacating streets may well involve taking out street trees. In that part of the neighborhood, the trees tend to be large, well-canopied maples.

Sincerely,  
ronit bryant

From: [Roberto Miller](#)  
To: [City Council](#)  
Subject: Gateway Park Issue - Public Hearing Needed  
Date: Saturday, December 4, 2021 6:29:19 PM  
Attachments: [COMPOSITE FOR Castro-Gateway\\_CBO0950.png](#)  
[02-Mountain View-Sign-02016.jpg-1920x224WEB.png](#)

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Dear City Council and Staff,

It appears, from publicly displayed posters on Castro Street, that the proposal to sell a block of Fairmont Avenue to a developer is part of a much larger proposal that would include the closure or relocation of Gateway Park, at the northeastern corner of Castro Street and El Camino Real. Before you take any steps to move that forward, please conduct a public hearing on the future of Gateway Park. I think you will find that our community wants to retain the park where it is.

Thank you,  
Roberto Miller  
Bush St.



Roberto Miller  
Director • Pure Grain Digital • Mountain View • San Francisco • Lyon  
[roberto@puregrain.com](mailto:roberto@puregrain.com) | [Pure Grain Digital Productions](#)



From: [Lenny's Sonic](#)  
To: [Kamei, Ellen](#); [Bamirez, Lucas](#); [Hicks, Alison](#); [Lieber, Sally](#); [Showalter, Pat](#); [Matichak, Lisa](#); [Abe-Konoa, Margaret](#); [City Council](#)  
Subject: Gateway Park and Fairmont Avenue  
Date: Saturday, December 4, 2021 9:00:19 PM

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Tuesday night's consideration of the sale of a block of Fairmont Avenue appears to be related to a publicly displayed proposal to close and relocate Gateway Park, at the northeast corner of Castro Street and El Camino Real. As Roberto Miller has requested, please conduct a public hearing on the future of Gateway Park before you take any steps to move that project forward.

Since 1991 this unique park has been one of Mountain View primary "free speech areas." Let's keep it where it is.

As an example of our community's utilization of Gateway Park, see the photo below. It shows Mountain View's former police chief and current police chief taking at knee, along with hundreds of others of us, for George Floyd at Gateway Park in June, 2020.

Lenny



Lenny Siegel

<http://lennysiegel.users.sonic.net/web/>

Author: *DISTURBING THE WAR: The Inside Story of the Movement to Get Stanford University out of Southeast Asia - 1965-1975* (See <http://a3mreunion.org>)

**From:** [Serge Bonte](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** re: Closed Session - Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Government Code §54956.8); Property: Portion of Fairmont Avenue between Castro Street and Hope Street;  
**Date:** Sunday, December 5, 2021 9:10:19 AM

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Honorable Mayor and City Council Members:

This item is yet another example where the City Council will discuss and negotiate matters in closed session prior to a public policy discussion.

The negotiation for the sale of a portion of Fairmont Avenue seems to be linked to this project:

<https://gprventures.com/portfolio/castro/>

Which is nowhere to be found in the Active planning projects page. <https://www.mountainview.gov/depts/comdev/planning/activeprojects/default.asp>

Worse, the project seems to rely not only on the City selling a portion of a public street but also in the relocation (and repurposing?) of a City public park that has served as a main free speech area throughout the years.

The name of the public park also shows its importance for Downtown: Gateway park.

While it's appropriate to negotiate sales terms in closed session,

- it should never be done before the City sets the proper policy in public.
- it should never be done when the public has no visibility in the development proposal (was there even a formal application for this project?)

I am urging you to add a public discussion to decide what is and what isn't acceptable for the Gateway to Downtown. I am also urging you to be more transparent with this proposal (how can the City be considering selling a portion of a street if it's not linked to an officially active project?).

Sincerely,

Serge Bonte  
Lloyd Way, Mountain View.

**From:** [Amy Laden](#)  
**To:** [Kamei, Ellen](#); [Ramirez, Lucas](#); [Hicks, Alison](#); [Lieber, Sally](#); [Showalter, Pat](#); [Matichak, Lisa](#); [Abe-Koga, Margaret](#); [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Gateway Park  
**Date:** Sunday, December 5, 2021 6:03:42 PM

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Dear City Council Members,

I'm writing to express my support for Roberto Miller's letter to you. I have gotten to know Gateway Park especially well over the past four years, and I appreciate its location and its charming welcoming patch of green at the entrance to our downtown. I hope that you will preserve it.

[Amy Laden](#)  
