



CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

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September 8, 2014

Mr. Lenny Siegel
269 Loreto Street
Mountain View, CA 94041

Dear Mr. Siegel:

Thank you for the August 4 letter from the Campaign for a Balanced Mountain View to the Mountain View City Council and Los Altos School Board.

The City of Mountain View is very open to a school in the San Antonio area and has repeatedly expressed a desire for additional park and open space in the area. In fact, the City purchased private property several years ago in order to develop Del Medio Park and is actively working to create open space on the Hetch Hetchy right-of-way off of Fayette Drive.

The area is built out and almost entirely privately owned. The City, therefore, is not in a position to "give" land to a school and cannot legally "down-zone" a property to make it less expensive for a school. A school can be built in any zoning area, and the City is happy to work with the Los Altos School District on issues related to siting such a facility. The reality is land is very expensive, and it would have to be purchased by the District (or through the use of eminent domain, which still requires the payment of fair-market value). The District must work with private property owners to secure land. The City is happy to work with the District to help facilitate that process. In fact, staff from the two agencies have talked several times about properties and the Precise Plan process. The draft Precise Plan, which was released recently and will be subject to Environmental Planning Commission and City Council Study Sessions and public hearings, includes language related to community benefits and transfer of development rights that benefit schools. While I cannot commit the City Council, I believe the City is very open to contributing developer open space fees for a field or other open space areas associated with a school. The City is also committing significant time and resources to develop safer bicycle/pedestrian routes to and near schools.

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Staff has worked with, and will continue to work with, Los Altos School District staff on these issues. In addition, the City has invited a member of the District board to participate in the Council Youth Services Committee in order to dialogue directly with Councilmembers.

Sincerely,



Christopher R. Clark
Mayor

CRC/LS/2/MGR
001-09-08-14L-E

cc: Los Altos School District

City Council

CAMPAIGN FOR A BALANCED MOUNTAIN VIEW



August 4, 2014

Dear Los Altos School District Board of Trustees and Mountain View City Council:

The Campaign for a Balanced Mountain View, a coalition of citizens concerned about housing availability and affordability as well as quality of life in Mountain View, strongly urges both entities to meet as soon as possible to discuss the San Antonio area, specifically, how to work together to solve overlapping challenges.

The demographics are clear, the school district has long been in need of a school facility in its northern area, and that need will only grow more when planning for the more distant future. The San Antonio area presents an opportunity for a unique, more urban style school, but the rapid pace of change means the window for this opportunity is closing quickly.

The city council has heard loud and clear from many residents requesting a modification of the vision for the area. The call has gone out for the city to provide more accessible, family-oriented housing. Open space has been documented as severely deficient. Residents want to know how the city is going to get from a theoretical green area on a planning map for a "someday in the future" park, to a livable neighborhood now.

We are calling on both entities to improve the entire Los Altos/Mountain View "ecosystem" by collaborating on ways to build a school and park space in San Antonio. We're calling on you to be leaders in innovative thinking and planning for the good of the many joint constituents you serve.

The following are ideas we suggest discussing:

- What schools have already been successfully built in other places, with features such as rooftop gardens and upper deck play spaces
- How a school can be a great hub for a thriving community

- How the district can find developers with experience in building residential units above a school
- How the city can help purchase adjoining property by contributing developer park fees, and share the costs of building a park, gymnasium, track or art and dance studios that can be used by residents after school hours
- How the San Antonio Area Precise Plan can be revised to promote this new vision

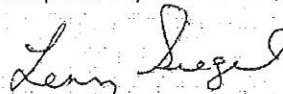
Other discussion items to improve the quality of life right now for residents of the area include:

- How both entities can identify, finance and build the safest possible bike/walk routes to school—across El Camino—for the hundreds of K-12 students in the area
- How the city of Mountain View can explore adding our local schools to the nascent Mountain View Transportation Management Association

We look forward to assisting in any way we can to bring this important piece of the new San Antonio village to fruition. If a joint exploratory committee is formed, the Campaign for a Balanced Mountain View would be able to provide Mountain View residents to participate.

Thank you for working together to address joint community issues now and in the future.

Respectfully Submitted,



Lenny Siegel

Campaign for a Balanced Mountain View
c/o PSC, 278-A Hope Street, Mountain View, CA 94041