



February 7, 2017

Mountain View City Council  
City Hall, 2nd Floor  
500 Castro St.  
Mountain View, CA 94041

**SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF THE EAST WHISMAN PRECISE PLAN  
CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION OF FEBRUARY 14, 2017**

Dear Council Members:

You may know that the Los Altos School District (LASD) has been searching for a tenth school site to accommodate the ten schools currently housed on nine sites. Currently there are approximately 700 students attending either LASD schools or Bullis Charter School who reside in the Mountain View area of our district (north of El Camino Real). Additionally, as new housing is built in that area we expect more students—in fact, our demographic studies show that more and more students come from multi-unit housing projects as these properties age. It is our mission to ensure that these students have access to high quality facilities. We are currently working through the complexities that will enable us to purchase property in the City's San Antonio Precise Plan Area in order to build the new school and provide significant public open space for the neighborhood.

The purpose of this letter is to urge your Council to endorse the recommended policy before you to allow for the transfer of development rights from one precise plan area to another. In doing so, the Council will be creating a vital policy tool to enable the LASD to engage in the incredibly expensive real estate market to achieve the goal of a new school with adjoining open space. Stated another way, eventual adoption of such a policy will shift the acquisition of a school building site from implausible to feasible. Further, such a policy would be consistent with the City's stated vision; *"The East Whisman Change Area advances as a sustainable, transit-oriented employment center with an increased diversity of land uses."*

The Board of Trustees has long desired a "win-win" outcome for the creation of our tenth school. With your support of the above policy recommendation, we will bring focus to such an outcome with the City as a vital partner.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Vladimir Ivanovic  
Board of Trustees Vice-President

Cc: Dan Rich, City Manager  
Randy Tsuda, Community Development Director

*Board of Trustees*

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