

From: [William Lambert](#)
To: [City Council FORWARD](#)
Subject: City Council Meeting Mar-8-2020 : Monta Loma Agenda Item
Date: Monday, March 7, 2022 9:34:53 PM
Attachments: [Monta Loma Agenda Item Mar-8-2022.docx](#)

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Mayor Ramirez, Vice-Mayor Hicks and Council Members;

Please refer to the attached letter from the Friends of Mountain View Parks addressing tomorrow night's agenda item on the Monta Loma Elementary Schools site.

Bill

William Lambert on behalf of Friends of Mountain View Parks
[REDACTED]

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March 8, 2022

LAND USE AND COMMUNITY INVESTMENT IN MOUNTAIN VIEW
Mountain View City Council Meeting – March 8, 2022

On Tuesday evening you will hear a presentation by Carducci Associates, the architect hired by the Mountain View Whisman School District to gather input from stakeholders about the use of the Monta Loma Elementary School site.

As you already know, the open green space is currently shared by many users, is heavily used, and is one of the last remaining large open green spaces in north Mountain View.

In our opinion, the entire Mountain View community should be working together to ensure that the Monta Loma green space remains open and accessible to everyone.

However, the solution is not to carve up the existing open field into defined use areas. Everyone values the openness of the green space and to design over the area would destroy that which is most precious to everyone including the school district, the city, the residents and our children.

We ask the City Council to view the issues surrounding Monta Loma Elementary within the broader context of land use in Mountain View and the importance of community investment.

As we all know, as Mountain View urbanizes, more pressure is placed on our remaining open space. At Monta Loma, our children, the school, the neighborhood, the residents living in north Mountain View, pet owners, seniors, and the sports teams, all recognize how important open green space is to them personally. We need to be honest with ourselves and acknowledge that there is not enough community and neighborhood park space to accommodate everyone's needs.

We therefore ask the City Council to begin the process of addressing the needs for community investment in our city. By community investment we broadly mean those aspects of a city that serve the underlying fabric that builds community including our schools, parks and open space, recreation, walkable and bikeable streets, tree canopy, sustainability, accessibility to shopping and restaurants, gathering spaces, libraries, entertainment, police and fire stations, and infrastructure such as parking, safe streets, underpasses, and public transportation, to name a few.

We ask the City Council to undertake the following:

1. Hold one or more Study Sessions on Land Use and Community Investment in Mountain View.
2. Direct City staff to initiate the Park and Open Space Strategic Plan Update. The community and the City Council set this as a high-priority item on the City's two year work plan, however, we are not aware of any progress on this to date.
3. Direct the City staff to assess community investment on a neighborhood scale, establish standards for community investments on a neighborhood level, and identify what the community investments needs are for each neighborhood throughout the city.



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4. Direct City Staff to undertake an assessment of the extent to which developer fee structures and City policies ensure that adequate community investment is being made for new residential development. If these contributions are inadequate, determine how the community investment is to be funded.

5. In neighborhoods and areas of the city where there are legacy deficiencies, start developing meaningful plans to bring the community investment in these areas to an acceptable standard.

As we embark on a dramatic increase in residential housing in Mountain View and the continued construction of new commercial buildings, we believe that there is an urgent need to plan for community investment. As the situation with Monta Loma Elementary School demonstrates, where the city is down to one of the last open fields in north Mountain View, if we do not as a community begin honestly and seriously addressing the need for community investment in our City, it will become more and more difficult to provide the necessary community investment to make Mountain View a livable community.

We look forward to working with you and the City staff to ensure that Mountain View remains a great place to live, work, learn, and play.

Friends of Mountain View Parks

www.friendsofmvparks.org

hello@friendsofmvparks.org

From: [Ksenia Ledabyl](#)
To: [City Council FORWARD](#)
Subject: Monta Loma Park plan - community feedback
Date: Monday, March 7, 2022 9:57:17 PM

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Dear Sir or Madame,

I'm writing to you as a member of the Monta Loma neighborhood community to express mine and my family's strong support for the neighborhood working group's request for keeping open access to the Park. The park is the heart of the neighborhood. It's a place where my children made their first friends. We visit the park daily. For my youngest child this is an open air "daycare" with another 15-20 neighborhood kids and their caretakers. Every weekend the park is filled with families from the neighborhood socializing, meeting and making new friends. The community truly values the Park and walkable community parks. We urge you to support our efforts to keep full access to the Park.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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Best regards,
Ksenia Ledayl and The Ledabyl Family

From: [Elizabeth Gossett](#)
To: [City Council FORWARD](#)
Subject: Monta Loma Park
Date: Tuesday, March 8, 2022 7:13:35 AM

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Dear Mountain View City Council Members,

Please allow open access to this beautiful park. My husband, John Corban Gossett and I purchased our home in 2004 on Laura Lane. We have since had children and now a dog. We all love the park and it was one of the main selling points to buy in Monta Loma. It is a safe, "free" and fun place to get outside. I cherish the memories of my children as babies at the park and call it three parks: yellow park for the babies, blue park for the big kids and red park for the kindergartens. My children have been very respectful of the shared space with Monta Loma school and we all would like it to remain this way.

Thank you for your consideration,
Dr. Elizabeth Grace Pfeiffer Gossett and Mr John Corban Gossett