

From: [Cervantes, Yolanda](#)
To: [Cervantes, Yolanda](#)
Cc: [Lait, Jonathan](#); [Planning Commission](#)
Subject: Letter from Mountain View Los Altos High School District
Date: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 1:10:50 PM
Attachments: [Mountain View Los Altos HSD Letter 3.12.18.pdf](#)

Good afternoon,

The Mountain View Los Altos High School District sent the attached letter regarding developer fees to both the Council and Planning Commission.

Regards,

Yolanda

BCCPTC

Yolanda M. Cervantes
Administrative Assistant
Planning & Community Environment
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Yolanda.cervantes@cityofpaloalto.org

Received

MAR 21 2018

Department of Planning
& Community Environment

March 12, 2018

TO: City of Los Altos – Planning Commission & City Council
Town of Los Altos Hills – Planning Commission & City Council
City of Mountain View – Planning Commission & City Council
City of Palo Alto – Planning Commission & City Council
County of Santa Clara – Planning Commission & Board of Supervisors
Los Altos School District – Business Services
Mountain View Whisman School District – Business Services

FROM: Irene Aguilar, Business Services

RE: Developer Fee Increase

The attached resolution has been passed by our Board of Trustees to increase our developer fees. The following fees will take effect on May 11, 2018.

Residential fee: \$1.26/sq. ft

Commercial fee: \$.20/sq. ft.

Please give me a call if you have any questions. Thank you for your continued support.

BOARD MEETING DATE: March 12, 2018

PUBLIC HEARING

and

FOR ACTION

SUBJECT: *PUBLIC HEARING*

and

Resolution No. 18-14 Developer Impact Fee Adjustment

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: By state law, school districts are authorized to assess developer impact fees to offset the cost of providing facilities for students resulting from new development. Previously, the maximum allowable developer impact fee was \$3.48 per square foot for residential development and \$0.56 per square foot for commercial/industrial development. The maximum fee is allocated two-thirds for the elementary districts and one-third for MVLA.

Effective January 24, 2018, the maximum allowable fee increased to \$3.79 per square foot for residential development and \$0.61 for commercial/industrial development, of which the MVLA share is \$1.26 for residential and \$0.20 for commercial/industrial.

The 2014 revised MVLA impact fee justification study establishes that, based on the expected cost of providing facilities for students resulting from new development, the District is justified in charging fees up to \$1.35 per square foot for residential development and up to \$0.60 per square foot on a sliding scale for commercial/industrial development.

Currently, MVLA developer impact fees are \$1.16 for residential and \$0.19 for most commercial/industrial development. Revenue for the 2016-17 fiscal year was \$1,627,515. The revenue fees in recent years have been used for debt service on certificates of participation, the proceeds of which were used to construct additional classrooms and classroom support space.

REPORT/PROPOSAL: This resolution increases the residential fee to \$1.26 per square foot. The commercial/industrial fee will increase to \$0.20 per square foot. A Notice of Public Hearing was published in the Mountain View Voice on March 2nd and March 9th and in the Los Altos Town Crier on February 28th and March 7th. This increase will become effective on April 11, 2018, sixty days after Board approval.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: The increase in revenue will assist the Capital Facilities Fund (25) to meet its future expenditure obligations.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Trustees adopts Resolution No. 18-14, Developer Impact Fee Adjustment, increasing the developer impact fee on residential development from \$1.16 per square foot to \$1.26 per square foot and the commercial development fee from \$0.19 per square foot to \$0.20 per square foot.

MOUNTAIN VIEW-LOS ALTOS UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

DEVELOPER IMPACT FEE ADJUSTMENT

RESOLUTION NO. 18-14

WHEREAS, Statute AB 2926 (Chapter 887/Statutes 1986) authorizes the governing board of any school district to levy a fee, charge, dedication or other form of requirement against any development project for the construction or reconstruction of school facilities; and

WHEREAS, Government Code section 65995 establishes a maximum amount of fee that may be charged against such development projects and authorizes the maximum amount set forth in said section to be adjusted for inflation every two years as set forth in the state-wide cost index for Class B construction as determined by the State Allocation Board at its January meeting; and

WHEREAS, at its January 24, 2018 meeting, the State Allocation Board increased the maximum fee authorized by Education Code section 17620 to \$3.79 per square foot of residential construction described in Government Code Section 65995(a)(1) and \$0.61 per square foot for commercial and industrial construction described in Government Code Section 65995(a)(2); and

WHEREAS the purpose of this Resolution is to approve and adopt fees on residential projects in the amount of \$3.79 per square foot (\$1.26 to MVLA UHSD when split with the Mountain View-Whisman School District and the Los Altos School District pursuant to existing allocation agreements) as authorized by Education Code Section 17623; and to approve and adopt fees on commercial and industrial construction in the amount of \$0.61 per square foot (\$0.20 to MVLA UHSD when split with the Mountain View-Whisman School District and the Los Altos School District pursuant to existing allocation agreements);

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District as follows:

1. Procedure The Board hereby finds that prior to the adoption of this Resolution, the Board conducted a public hearing, giving interested persons the opportunity to present oral or written comments, as part of the Board's regularly scheduled March 12, 2018 meeting. Notice of the time and place of the meeting, including a general explanation of the matter to be considered, was published in a newspaper in accordance with Government Code Section 66018, and a notice including a statement that the data required by Government Code Section 66016 was available, was mailed at least 14 days prior to the meeting to any interested party who had filed a written request with the District for mailed notice of the meeting on new fees or service charges within the period specified by law. Additionally, at least 10 days prior to the meeting, the District made available to the public data indicating the amount of the cost, or estimated cost, required to provide the service for which the fee or service charge is to be adjusted pursuant to this Resolution, and the revenue sources anticipated to provide this service.

2. Findings The Board has reviewed the report as it relates to proposed and potential development, the resulting school facilities needs, the cost thereof, and the available sources of revenue including the fees provided by this Resolution, and based thereon and upon all other written and oral presentations to the Board, hereby makes the following findings:
- A. Enrollment at the District school(s) presently exceeds capacity. The District's practical capacity has been determined to be 3,600 students. The District's 2017-2018 enrollment is 4,302 students.
 - B. Additional development projects within the District, whether new residential construction or residential reconstruction involving increases in assessable area greater than 500 square feet, or new commercial or industrial construction will increase the need for school facilities and/or the need for reconstruction of school facilities.
 - C. Without the provision of new school facilities, and/or reconstruction of present school facilities, any further residential development projects or commercial or industrial development projects within the District will result in a significant decrease in the quality of education presently offered by the District;
 - D. Substantial residential development and commercial or industrial development is projected within the District's boundaries and the enrollment produced thereby will exceed the capacity of the schools of the District. As a result, conditions of overcrowding exist within the District, which will impair the normal functioning of the District's educational programs;
 - E. The fees proposed in the report and the fees implemented pursuant to this Resolution are for the purposes of providing adequate school facilities to maintain the quality of education offered by the District, including replacement of old relocatable buildings.
 - F. The fees proposed in the report and implemented pursuant to this Resolution will be used for payment obligations associated with construction and/or reconstruction of school facilities as identified in the Plan;
 - G. The uses of the fees proposed in the report and implemented pursuant to this Resolution are reasonably related to the types of development projects on which the fees are imposed;
 - H. The fees proposed in the report and implemented pursuant to this Resolution bear a reasonable relationship to the need for school facilities created by the types of development projects on which the fees are imposed;
 - I. The fees proposed in the report and implemented pursuant to this Resolution do not exceed the estimated amount required to provide funding for the construction or reconstruction of school facilities for which the fees are levied; and in making this finding, the Board declares that it has considered the availability of revenue sources anticipated to provide such facilities, including general fund revenues;

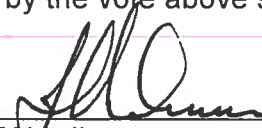
- J. The fees imposed on commercial or industrial development bear a reasonable relationship and are limited to the needs of the community for schools and are reasonably related and limited to the need for school facilities caused by the development;
 - K. The fees will be collected for school facilities for which an account has been established and funds appropriated and for which the district has adopted a construction schedule and/or to reimburse the District for expenditures previously made.
3. Amount of Fee. Based upon the foregoing findings, the Board hereby increases the previously levied fee to the amount of \$1.26 per square foot for assessable space for new residential construction and for residential reconstruction to the extent of the resulting increase in assessable areas; and to the amount of \$0.20 per square foot for new commercial or industrial construction
4. Fee Adjustments and Limitation. The fees adjusted herewith shall be subject to the following:
- A. The amount of the District's fees as authorized by Education Code section 17620 shall be reviewed every two years to determine if a fee increase according to the adjustment for inflation set forth in the statewide cost index for Class B construction as determined by the State Allocation Board is justified.
 - B. Any development project for which a final map was approved and construction had commenced on or before September 1, 1986, is subject only to the fee, charge, dedication or other form of requirement in existence on that date and applicable to the project.
 - C. The term "development project" as used herein is as defined by section 17620 (a) (2) of the Education Code.
5. Additional Mitigation Methods The policies set forth in this Resolution are not exclusive and the Board reserves the authority to undertake other or additional methods to finance school facilities including but not limited to the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982 (Government Code section 53311, et seq.) and other such funding mechanisms. This Board reserves the authority to substitute the dedication of land or other property or other form of requirement in lieu of the fees levied by way of this Resolution at its discretion, so long as the reasonable value of land to be dedicated does not exceed the maximum fee amounts contained herein or modified pursuant hereto.
6. Implementation For residential, commercial or industrial projects within the District, the Superintendent, or the Superintendent's designee, is authorized to issue Certificates of Compliance upon the payment of any fee levied under the authority of this Resolution.
7. California Environmental Quality Act The Board hereby finds that the implementation of Developer Fees is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

8. Commencement Date The effective date of this Resolution shall be April 11, 2018 which is 60 days following its adoption by the Board.
9. Notification of Local Agencies The Secretary of the Board is hereby directed to forward copies of this Resolution and a map of the District to the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors of Santa Clara County and to the Planning Commissions and City Councils of the Cities of Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Mountain View and Palo Alto.
10. Severability If any portion of this Resolution is found by a Court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such finding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution. The Board hereby declares its intent to adopt this Resolution irrespective of the fact that one or more of its provisions may be declared invalid.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY the Board of Trustees of the Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District at a regular meeting of the Board held March 12, 2018, by the following vote:

AYES:	Faillace, Mitchner, Torok, Walter
AYES:	Bobba, Srinivas (Preferential Vote)
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	Dave
ABSTAIN:	None

I, Jeff Harding, Secretary of the Board, hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board at a regular meeting thereof held at its regular place of meeting on the date shown above and by the vote above stated, which resolution is on file in the office of the said Board.



Dr. Jeff Harding
Secretary of the Board

From: [Stephanie Munoz](#)
To: editor@paweeekly.com
Cc: [Planning Commission](#); gsheyner@paweeekly.com; [Court Skinner](#); [chuck jagoda](#); [Ruth Chippendale](#); [Council, City](#); [roberta ahluquist](#); [M. Gallagher](#)
Subject: senior affordable housing
Date: Monday, March 26, 2018 1:08:20 AM

Weekly:

The PA Weekly's excellent overview of the affordable housing mentioned, but did not dwell on a public relations strategy similar to what we saw in the presidential election: the party which has been more in tune with the aspirations of the voters, instead of focussing on what needed to be done, was content to blame the opposing party for all the ills of mankind. Thus, the Palo Alto Housing Corporation which has had an outstanding record of great projects completed, instead of asking "How can we tweak the PC to use this gorgeous land for affordable housing?" kept insisting that the Maybell failure was the fault of NIMBY neighbors who didn't appreciate poor seniors, but in public meeting after public meeting, those neighbors insisted that their objection was to the 25 starter castles inside a Trojan Horse of senior housing, and their pleas fell on deaf ears. Their rebellion succeeded because of a widespread feeling that PC, although in itself a reasonable idea, invariably ended up with much extra profit and little public benefit. There was also revulsion against the hypocrisy of claiming to be on the side of the angels for advocating 60 units of affordable housing, while, less than a mile away, the city was planning to *destroy* 100 units of affordable housing, which antedated the city's takeover of Barron Park and had been put in place by the poor owners' unaided efforts, no city help, no government subsidy. It was also supremely tactless to propose adding mansions in which the Mommy and Daddy each have cars, the butler has a car, the upstairs maid and downstairs maid have cars, the nanny has a car, and the teenagers have motorcycles, in the very year in which Arastradero Road, after having been widened to accommodate Industrial Park traffic--in fact, Barron Park was acquired so that it could be widened--was then narrowed and the surplus traffic dumped on Maybell.

But the concept of mixed use could have been applied in a different way. Three different community organizations, all extremely popular, and all benefitting seniors, had recently been or were about to be evicted from longtime locations and had no place to go: the Betty Wright Swim group, a YMCA catering to seniors, and La Comida subsidized nutrition program, which was particularly suitable as a partner for lowest income seniors because it makes it possible for even the poorest to eat. Day care and Senior day care would have been welcome neighbors, also, and no extra traffic at all sent to Maybell. Best of all, one of the partner uses could have been the existing orchard, the last orchard in Palo Alto, which could have been a passive park, one to be looked at rather than played in, perhaps as a memorial to Palo Alto veterans and pioneers. Although that particular opportunity has been lost, the concept of sharing a property with park or park-like open space is still possible.

The planned residential space could have been divided in a senior specific manner, that is, as a residential hotel with shared amenities: instead of 60 600 square foot apartments, three times as many 200 square ft bedroom suites with common amenities: pool, hot tub, computer room, workshop, renting for \$600/month (because the social security and SSI minimum is \$900.) with optional basement storage for an additional fee. Of the low income seniors needing housing, more than half don't drive or don't have cars, so it should be relatively easy to fill an inexpensive building without garage space. but having 200 or 300 seniors would permit a van to take residents to the train or bus, so they wouldn't have to be right on the transit corridor. Not having cars is an important concept; it takes only a moment's reflection to realize that much of the complaint about density isn't the number of persons, many of whom stay at home all day, but rather the number of cars, which compete for free on-street parking with the neighbors.

Only one modification of the typical city codes is necessary, the limitation on number of units, which, by the way, has been removed in the recent controversial State housing reform code. There is a reason for this limitation; it is the appearance of wealth and spaciousness, and this attention to appearance is quite useful because if these hotel units are accepted by the more prosperous, and they certainly could be, because of the convenience, many seniors could and would sell their homes or rent them out to families, increasing the housing stock, and young workers newly arrived in town without families, those who are athletic enough to ride bicycles to work, could also take advantage of small, affordable housing in a building with shared amenities. Couples could be accommodated by being assigned two adjacent modules. There's no reason these units couldn't be placed above public buildings such as libraries and hospitals also, especially since it's appropriate that public buildings be larger, taller and more imposing than private ones.

By adding permitted height to affordable housing buildings, and only affordable housing buildings, enough density could be permitted that a developer/owner/landlord could make a reasonable profit, saving the government housing subsidy, which is sure to be in short supply under the present administration, for families in residential neighborhoods. If investors found this housing too unusual, another group of small investors--the ones who buy T bills, could be offered the opportunity to advance small, no interest loans, for the financing, with the proviso that their money could be returned at any time, and these investors would be given the first opportunity to rent the units. Once the land cost and building cost were amortized, the investors would be given modest interest.

Stephanie Munoz [REDACTED] Alma, apt. [REDACTED] Palo Alto 94301 [REDACTED]

From: [Stephanie Munoz](#)
To: [neighborshelpingneighbors2013](#)
Cc: [WILPF Peninsula Palo Alto](#); [Court Skinner](#); [chuck jagoda](#); [Ruth Chippendale](#); [M. Gallagher](#); [roberta ahlquist](#); [David Werner](#); [hilary gitelman](#); [Planning Commission](#)
Subject: Re: Churches to offer safe parking for RV dwellers | 3/16/18 | MV Online |
Date: Wednesday, March 21, 2018 9:48:06 PM

WOW! Neighbors helping has posted the most inspiring and helpful set of comments I've ever seen. Even the negative comment from the man who objected to churches helping the poor because the church was near a park which was near his home was worth reading. Everybody should read this. And I have a couple of comments, too.

First, Lydia Kou, of the Palo Alto City Council, proposed to her colleagues that the city use some out of the way city land for RVs. (not enthusiastically received) She is rather quiet and her ideas will go forward only if she gets a lot of support, letters, e-mails, or participation in Oral Communication at the council meetings. Need for support applies also to Lenny Siegel, although I wouldn't call him very quiet. Second, use what you have first: Cities should rent nighttime parking space along El Camino and other non residential streets to RVs equipped with working toilets; all cities should either have a sewage disposal space or pay cities which do have one the dumping fee for RVs renting space on in a their streets.

Moffett Field and other surplus military facilities have enough space for all the RVs in the county, and the USA has a moral obligation to house homeless veterans, which are an absolute disgrace, I think every American agrees--even, David H., "a resident of Cuesta Park." Actually, I think we should house ALL veterans, especially the mentally ill, with access to services to help them, but the RVs would be easy and a great start. We need the support of Eshoo, Speier, Rohanna Lofgren, et al.

Employers with larger than average work force should be encouraged (required?) to make available part of their parking lots for workers' RVs. Public employees should have the opportunity to be housed on public land, and this is especially true of teachers, who are essential to our society and our economy, but can never be paid adequately in a system which requires continuous growth (inflation). However, rather than RVs, it would be preferable to house teachers in beautiful buildings which represent the wealth and prestige of our society.

Retired elderly living on Social Security present a unique opportunity, because they have a constant income, however small, and their needs are much diminished, particularly their car needs, since they don't have to drive to work and they don't have to ferry their children places. Their storage needs, also, are radically diminished, so that those who do have lots of cherished possessions can rent, separately, storage room to house them, but others need not. There has to be some number of units which, in combination, add up to enough rents to pay off a mortgage and give a modest profit to a builder/owner. They can have private bedroom and bath, but share amenities like La Comida, a subsidized lunch program, a large kitchen, workshop, media room, pool, van, garden, coffee shop, etc. and they could also share the cost with public service operations which make little or no money: child care center, fitness center, elder care, library, music school, etc.

From: "neighborshelngneighbors2013"

<neighborshelpingneighbors2013@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, March 16, 2018 11:07:31 PM

Subject: Churches to offer safe parking for RV dwellers | 3/16/18 | MV Online |

<https://www.mv-voice.com/news/2018/03/16/churches-offer-safe-parking-for-rv-dwellers>

Churches to offer safe parking for RV dwellers | 3/16/18 | MV Online |

Mark Noack / Mountain View Voice

Excerpts from article.

For that goal, the city is looking to local do-gooders to help. In the coming weeks, a coalition of local churches will start testing out a "safe parking" program, opening up their facilities to overnight campers. This would mean families living out of their vehicles on the street could instead park in the church lots and use their restrooms. It's an idea that has gained traction among policymakers as a possible alternative to growing car encampments on city streets

Numbers vary on how many people are currently living out of vehicles on Mountain View streets. The most recent survey conducted by local police officials in December counted 291 inhabited vehicles, more than half of which were large RVs and campers. These makeshift car camps are clustered in certain areas of the city, such as Crisanto Avenue near Rengstorff Park, Shoreline Boulevard and Continental Circle.

Lots of Love participants say they realize their safe-parking program can help only a fraction of these vehicle campers, especially in the program's early days. For the pilot, he expects only three churches to participate, and each would take only four vehicles.

One of those churches will be St. Timothy's Episcopal Church. Speaking for the congregation, Rev. Lisa McIndoo said many members have been pushing for the church to get involved as a social justice issue. A couple years ago, about a dozen congregation members camped out overnight in the parking lot to better understand the homeless experience. Some have made it an annual sacrifice for Lent, she said.

Lots of Love plans to partner with the Community Services Agency by having outreach staff identify clients. As of right now, priority will be given to families with children, seniors and single women. No drugs, alcohol or weapons will be tolerated. Participants would also need to sign up for case management through the Community Services Agency, including joining a waiting list for permanent housing. Those participants must have a working vehicle, with valid registration, insurance and a driver's license.

It's likely that those requirements may exclude some of the city's homeless living in cars. Dozens of people living out of trailers actually don't own the vehicles, but rather are renting them from others. These "car landlords" typically don't hand over the ignition keys, leaving the renters unable to move the vehicles, Leong said.

Nevertheless, city officials see a lot of potential in the program -- in fact, the City Council voted last week to contribute \$55,000 to help it start. Many involved in the Lots of Love pilot to a successful program in Santa Barbara as proof that the idea can significantly help the homeless.

Mayor Lenny Siegel said he hoped the city could eventually help bring more lots into the program, including the large city-owned parking lots near Shoreline Amphitheatre. That area wouldn't be available during the summer concert season, but it is mostly vacant during the cold weather months.

If Lots of Love can demonstrate that its safe-parking program is successful, then it has the potential to rapidly grow, Siegel said.

For now, the council has held off on ramping up police enforcement of people living out of their vehicles on the street, despite growing complaints about trash and crime. Siegel wants to refrain from harsher enforcement until the safe-parking program can accommodate the majority of car campers. He expects that to take at least a year.

"I see this as the first proof of concept to demonstrate we can create safe parking," Siegel said. "We can't do broad-brush enforcement without this."

\uD83D\uDD0A **COMMENTS.** \uD83D\uDD0A

Posted by Charity
a resident of another community

I hope the program is able to find ways to ensure the mentally ill are also helped to appropriate services. Because if not, it becomes inevitable that a mentally ill chronically homeless person will take advantage in ways that strain the program to breaking and ruin it for everyone else, as I have seen happen. We had a situation in which such a person ended up seriously abusing an elderly member of our church who was at first too embarrassed to say anything. The situation only happened because the elderly person believed the program did have similar criteria described here for this program. Church members are equipped to help people in need, not serious mentally ill and possibly manipulative people. If the churches can come to grips with that issue, they could be a real bridge to getting people in crisis and genuine need transformative help. If they do not come to grips with that issue, inevitably there will be some who destroy the program for everyone else.

Posted by @Charity
a resident of Blossom Valley

I think you need to start paying better attention during the sermons.

Posted by Sophie
a resident of Another Mountain View Neighborhood

First of all, I applaud churches are taking action and hope this is a sustainable solution for RV parking. On the other hand, I am afraid it will attract more RVs to Mountain View, and when all churches' parking lots are occupied, where else they are going to

park? City council should work out a regulation, instead of relying charitable actions to manage RV issue. The current extended parking of RV on the street is violation of law and need to solve first.

Posted by Censoring
a resident of Monta Loma

Interesting. I make a comment that the moderators don't like and now I'm not allowed to add comments? Nothing I've said had been against policy but I can't comment?

Posted by Typical
a resident of Another Mountain View Neighborhood

I can't believe the city is dumping this problem in the laps of local churches. Why can't city officials get their act together and solve this problem? They don't have this problem in other Bay Area cities. Why is it such an insurmountable problem here? Assuming they WANT to solve it?

Posted by E.S.
a resident of Old Mountain View

The offer by churches to let their parking lots be used by RV dwellers is laudable. About six years ago there was a good deal of discussion on the subject in Palo Alto. One church's membership was all in favor of such a program but their neighbors were opposed. I urge faith communities who are considering offering their places to identify and take into account all the stakeholders. Then invite them to a meeting at your congregation and have an open conversation about the pros and cons of the situation, listening carefully to the stakeholders. You may want to have a professional facilitator help you plan and carry out your outreach and meetings.

Posted by Sylvan Park Resident
a resident of Sylvan Park 3/16/18

Interesting that the Los Altos Town Crier recently article... "Mtn. View continues outreach to RV dwellers" while Los Altos has three ordinances that restrict oversize vehicle parking. One ordinance bans overnight parking for RVs on any public street for more than 30 minutes between the hours of 7 p.m. on one day and 7 a.m. the next day. Web Link

So the problem and all the costs associated with it are pushed over the border. Are the churches in Los Altos allocating space for RV Dwellers?

Posted by dont go away mad
a resident of Old Mountain View 3/16/18

It's a start in the right direction. Thanks to all the churches involved.

Posted by Doug
a resident of Old Mountain View 3/16/18

Well its great to see that some churches are assisting these people in need. I did not see St. Joseph's name on the list of churches that are contributing towards the betterment of the homeless, or people living in their cars or campers. The CFO of the San Jose diocese, told me 2 years ago, that the reason they decided to lease the property to a developer (I believe it was for 50 yrs) was to pay off a debt they had for a retrofit back in the late 90's, to fix the bathroom and elevator in the bell tower, and to assist St. Josephs school. Whatever your thoughts are about the decision, the fact of the matter is, that we all know that the monthly lease payments that will be coming to the church via the developer will be sizable. Once this project is completed (was told August 2018), the diocese should commit to assisting these people, and offering solutions to a major problem in our community. This commitment should also assist their loyal Latino parishioners, as well as the Day Workers Center. I can only speculate how much the diocese will receive each month, but I am assuming that they could have a huge impact on these issues for many years to come. The Pastors are getting new housing, so please step up, and lets see this money go back into the community. I'm sure Pope Francis would want the diocese to help out.

Posted by Charity
a resident of another community3/16/18

@@Charity,
I'm not sure I understand the motivation behind your comment, but loving and caring for people can in fact include being sure they get help that is appropriate to meet their needs. If someone is mentally ill and church members are not equipped to handle serious personality disorders and schizophrenia, they are helping far more if they get that person the mental healthcare they need with people who are equipped to help. That's the loving thing to do. Furthermore, they are helping the others in the program by ensuring the church members are not overwhelmed by people they cannot help anyway, but instead can focus their efforts on helping those they can help. The elder abuse that happened to a seriously disabled, elderly member of our church would not have hapoened if we had been more clear about the best way to help everyone.

Have you heard the saying, "The road to hell is paved with good intentions?" That's because good intentions are not enough. If you make your charity just about your good intentions and not about what will actually help people, then it is about you, not about the people you purport to help, and I hope I don't have to point out the many warnings about not doing that in those sermons you allude to.

The Good Samaritan bent over backwards to help the man, but not to the extent of becoming a doormat which would have helped no one. Loving your neighbor as yourself can mean sacrificial giving, but it's not really charity if you are doing it essentially for yourself without any real intent to actually help others. Think about how often you take your own family's money and flush it down the toilet instead of paying for their shelter and needs. Why would you have a double standard for your neighbor?

Posted by Doug
a resident of Old Mountain View3/16/18

Posted by Charity
a resident of another community3/16/18

@Doug,

I can't speak for @Charity, but churches are presumably motivated by what is in their faith and scriptures. Contrary to what you might think by listening to the media and the cultural Christians who identify with Christianity in a kind of tribal way and don't really follow the teachings of Jesus, i.e., seem to worship neoconservative politics above anything else*, the Bible tells a story of great sacrifice to love and serve others. There is no test of how lovable your neighbor is for loving your neighbor. Jesus said if someone strikes you to turn the other cheek. He said there are only two commandments, to love God, and treat others as well as we do ourselves. He said that whatever we do for the least among us, we do for Him.

Presuming the best intention in @Charity's comment, I am assuming that is what it had to do with sermons. This is a real crisis for Christians, to know how to love people as we are directed and yet not be destroyed by it without ever helping if we are too naive about it. What I repeated to @Charity was what our new minister said when faced with the loss of a program we had been involved with for many years because of the abuse I mentioned.

*The faith espoused by these tribal Christians is more to serve political expediency and sometimes has little to do with the Bible. The Bible exhorts believers to treat immigrant aliens as honored guests, to treat them well, hence the long involvement of many churches as sanctuaries, and the irony of rightwing evangelical political stance on immigration. There is not one word in the New or Old Testament about or against lesbians, but Jesus does speak against divorce (I have never heard any wedding cake makers turn down someone previously married, yet inexplicably won't serve lesbians as against their faith. Even if they did believe that, if they were at all familiar with the Bible, they should think about the example of Jesus who would have clearly treated people lovingly and generously.) The New Testament says a lot against avarice and the danger of wealth: "For the love of money is the root of all evil". Ironically, it also speaks against people too willing to proclaim their faith too publicly, it exhorts humility in our faith. At one point Jesus responds to a question of how to follow Him: Give all your worldly possessions to feed the poor, take up your cross, and follow me. So there is this huge thread in the faith of sacrificial giving and caring about the poor and social justice. But it has been, in the history of Christianity, been equated with martyrdom.

This is really a very big discussion, because there is just so much in the Bible about love and sacrificial giving, and so much history of Christians wrestling with that in the real world. That's why they want to help, Jesus literally said how we treat the poor is as if we are doing those things to Him. I can understand why someone who was only familiar with the corrupted "witness" of political evangelicals would not know about that.

Posted by David H.
a resident of Cuesta Park3/16/18

Did I read that right? St. Timothy's Episcopal Church? On the edge of Cuesta Park?

This is bad. I knew I shouldn't have bought a house next to a church. Or a park.

Seriously, this is much worse than squirrels. Bum's bite too. This is even worse than teachers at Cooper park.

Some other random thoughts:

(1) Man I hate Trump. But I'm starting to see how he won.

(2) Recall Siegel.

(3) Like I needed another reason to hate religion (will this last comment get my post censored?)

***** **End of Article.** *****

Caryll-Lynn Taylor , Executive Director

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Palo Alto, CA 94302

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/NeighborsHelpingNeighborsPaloAlto>

\uD83C\uDFB5\uD83C\uDFBB Watch & Listen to NHN theme songs...2016 'Love is All', <https://youtu.be/q4T37EaW4eU1> 2017 'Be Happy',

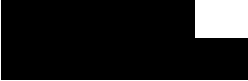
<https://youtu.be/uWXUWepSak4>

" We may not have all the solutions. NHN will do our best to fill the gaps."

From: [Neilson Buchanan](#)
To: [Council, City](#); [Planning Commission](#)
Subject: News that impacts Quality of Life on the Peninsula
Date: Monday, March 19, 2018 12:06:17 PM

If you find this helpful, please subscribe.

Neilson Buchanan
155 Bryant Street
Palo Alto, CA 94301

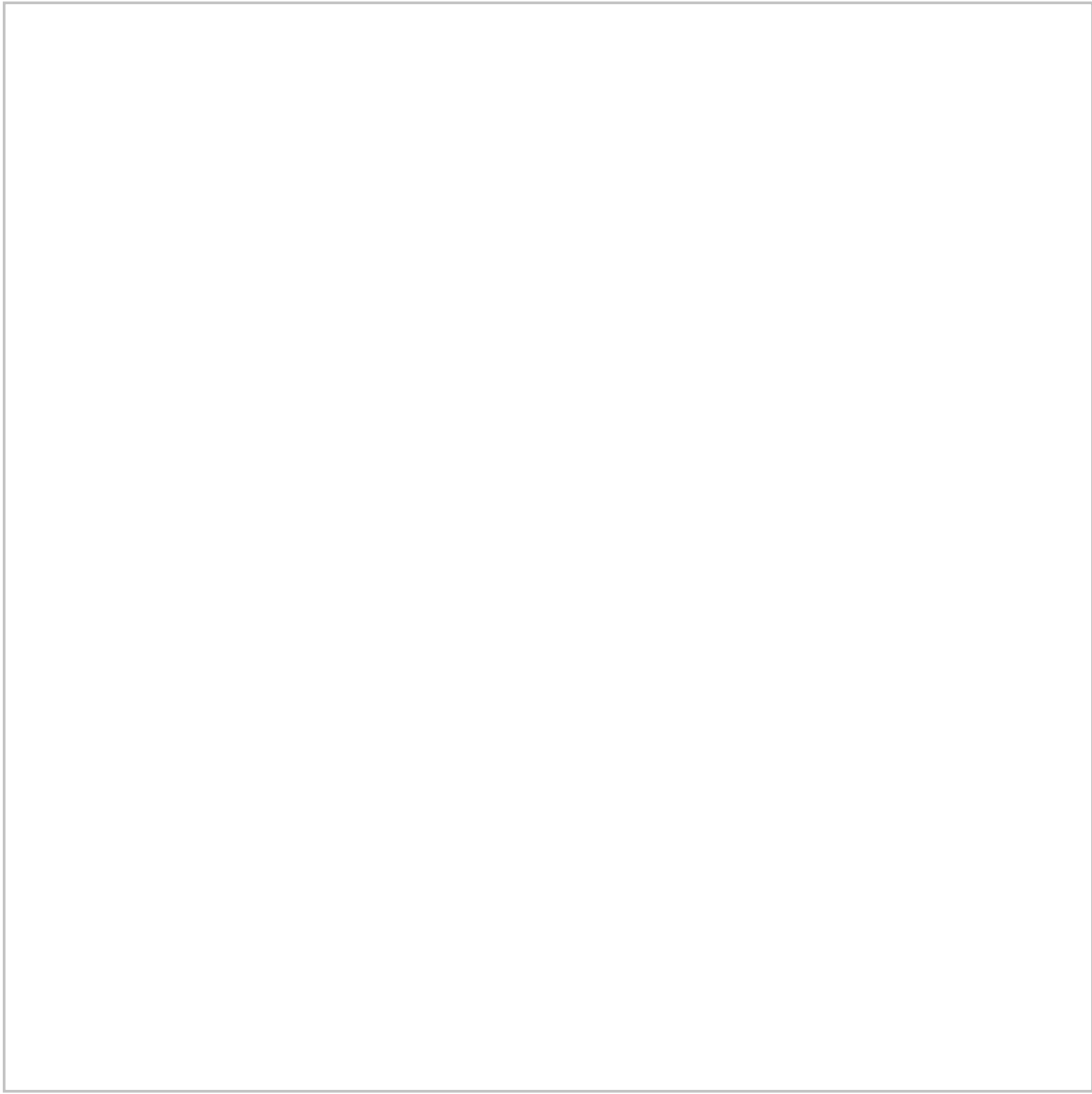


cnsbuchanan@yahoo.com

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: SFPRA - San Francisco Peninsula Residents Association <cnsbuchanan@yahoo.com@ccsend.com>
To: "cnsbuchanan@yahoo.com" <cnsbuchanan@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 18, 2018, 6:36:04 PM PDT
Subject: News that impacts Quality of Life on the Peninsula





THIS WEEK ON THE SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA

News that Impacts Your Quality of Life

March 18, 2018

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In this Issue

Will Tech Titans step up?

Dear Readers,
What is the impact of 8+ years of sustained

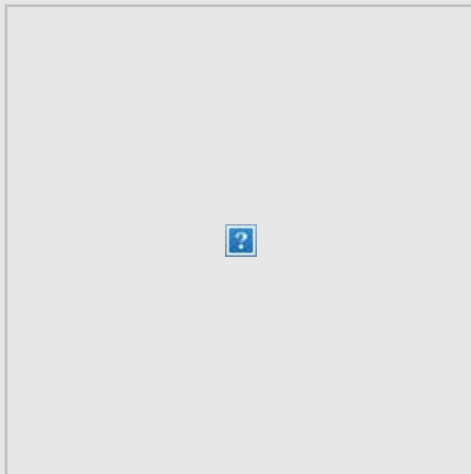


success on the Silicon Peninsula? We think Silicon Success has been overstated and that our transportation infrastructure has been stretched too thin.

Proposed solutions, funding and timetables are not credible. Housing is becoming a priority but will transportation catch up? We are dubious.

Power and capital are being concentrated in Sacramento and among Tech Titans. How will this power be tapped? Will the Tech Titans step up to problems they created and fund public transportation infrastructure? ... "Catching up" is billions, not millions.

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Can Tech Titans be tamed?

For the record, we define Tech Titans broadly to include all sectors of the local economy... not just GAF. It is not fair game to only pick on Google, Apple, Facebook or Stanford. Growing up is hard to do and we will cover this topic heavily in the future.

Economist.com

Is Facebook tone deaf?

Early in March the *Wall Street Journal* noted that Facebook was a bit tone deaf. Unfortunately this article is subscriber only but one sentence sums it up. "Social-media giant played down allegations Russia exploited its platform, deepening perceptions it is oblivious to public concern about its social impact."

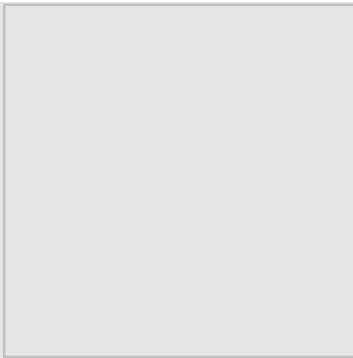
WallStreetJournal

Ed Comment: In the next newsletter we will have more to say about Facebook's plans to grow beyond its current constraints in Menlo Park.



Pamper me

Mark Zuckerberg has hired a full-time pollster to gauge his public image. Facebook's brand came under fire after the 2016 presidential election, after the company revealed it failed to stop Russian-backed groups and political wedge issues. The company has also been criticized for allowing the spread of fake news stories. On the positive side, Mr. Zuckerberg has defended "Dreamers", suggested universal basic income and



funded a massive initiative to “advance human potential and promote equality.”

[SVbusinessJournal](#)

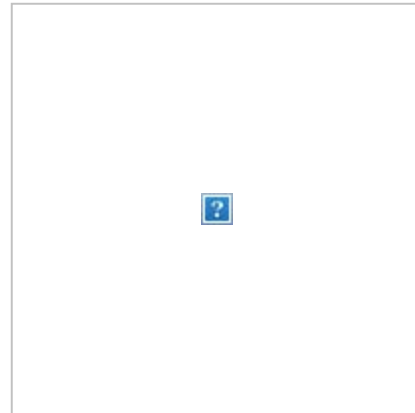
Ed. Comment: In 1896 The *New York Times* made famous the expression “All the news that’s fit to print” Are some Tech Titans ramping up their game to “All the public relations that money can buy?” We ask Mr. Zucckerberg what Dave Packard and Bill Hewlett would say about corporate responsibility were they alive today?

How many horse towns?

Just when it seemed Facebook had taken up all the space it could in Menlo Park and had started eying up the East Bay to expand, the social media giant appears to have found another 100,000 square feet in its hometown on the Peninsula.

Real estate expert Phil Mahoney said, “I think [Menlo Park] will become increasingly like Google in Mountain View and Apple in Cupertino,” he said, adding that Menlo Park runs the risk of “becoming more of a one-horse town” as the company grows.

[SVBusinessJournal](#)



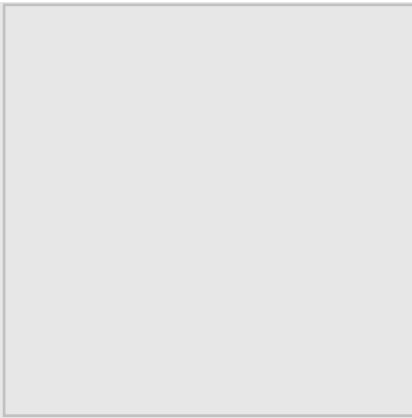
Ed. Comment: In our spare time we will research the success cycle of one-company towns. We see no signs of the current boom fading anywhere on the Peninsula. Change is unlikely to come from city halls enamored with the status of being homes to corporate HQs. Eventually change may be driven by outside regulators who force breakup of some Titans, like breaking up telephone monopolies years ago. But don’t hold your breath.

Our brains hijacked by technology?

Early Facebook and Google employees have formed a coalition to fight what they built. What is their thesis? “What began as a race to monetize our attention is now eroding the pillars of our society: mental health, democracy, social relationships, and our children.”

[SVBusinessJournal](#)

Ed. Comment: We note these concerns all over the



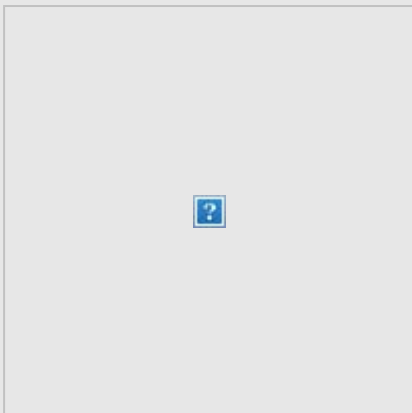
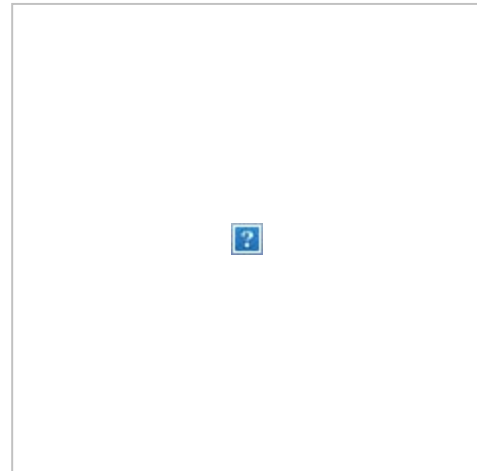
world. The link above may be subscriber only. However, you can google **Center for Humane Technology** or click [HumanTech](#)

Outlier opinion?

The rise of Tech Giants may be bad news for the economy. The dominance of a few firms risks harming productivity and growth, study finds.

[Bloomberg](#)

Ed. Comment: Who speaks truth to power? We take Bloomberg News seriously. But who will take this French economic report seriously? Most Americans think the French play in left field. C'est la vie!



Mary walks

Steve Case's "Rise of the Rest" initiative, which aims to draw attention and capital to startups based outside the coasts, has hired Mary Grove as head of Google for Entrepreneurs as a partner. Grove is migrating to Minneapolis to heat startups in non-coastal cities. "I was really energized and inspired by the model and platform and mission," Grove said. "I could constantly see that entrepreneurship is something that's thriving all over the world, not just in Silicon Valley."

[SVBusinessJournal](#)

Ed. Comment: Basic economics has the power to move people and capital from the coasts. "Steve and Mary" raise our region's employee retention question. Can we continue our success with massive, unfunded transportation infrastructure?

Musk sense

SJ Mercury has a sizzling editorial. "Elon Musk should start behaving like an adult. The creator of Tesla and

SpaceX demonstrated that he's a self-centered child in a grownup's body with his reckless pre-sale last month of 20,000 flamethrowers."

[SJMercuryNews](#)

Ed Comment: We thought flaming emails were one of Silicon Peninsula's greatest problems....but we were wrong again. Will leaders as creative as Mr. Musk buy back his flamethrowers and step up to serious funding of public transportation for the common good or just their own needs? Everyone envies the fleets of private buses but they are often stuck in the same traffic that plagues the rest of us. We hear that ride inside is sweet!



Non-addicting opiate for our readers

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Editors Neilson Buchanan and John Guislin are unpaid, private citizens on the SF Peninsula and have no ties to developers or government organizations.

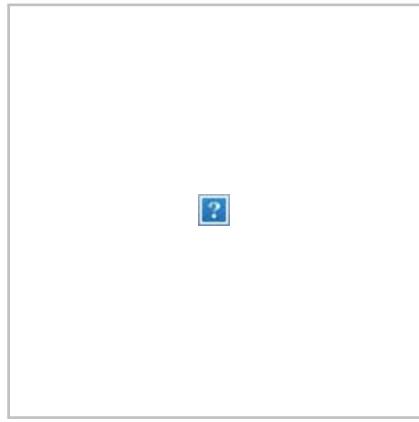
Web Site and Social Media Coming Soon

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