

**From:** [Ann Protter](#)  
**To:** [Planning Commission](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Public Letters to Council Disappear, Part IV  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 13, 2020 11:29:16 AM

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Dear Ms Nguyen,

Thank you for be willing to modify your process so that letters are included in time for the relevant meeting. I appreciate it.

Ann Protter

On Wed, May 13, 2020 at 10:37 AM Planning Commission  
<[Planning.Commission@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:Planning.Commission@cityofpaloalto.org)> wrote:

Good morning Ms. Fleming,

Thank you for your email. We are always seeking ways to improve our procedures and ensure public participation. I generally post the public comment packet online a few days before the meeting to ensure that I capture as many public comments as possible. I also distribute physical copies of the full public comment packet at the meeting as well, but that is no longer possible due to the Shelter in Place order. Your comments are valuable to me and I take your concerns seriously. Moving forward I will post the public comments online on a weekly basis instead of all at once.

I want to emphasize that no emails were “withheld” by PTC staff. The record will show that the April 29<sup>th</sup> public comment packet contains all comments received up to that meeting date with no missed emails (I have not touched that packet since the meeting, so everything you see on there is an accurate representation of what was made available prior to April 29<sup>th</sup> meeting), and the May 13<sup>th</sup> public comment packet contains all comments received up until now. No emails were missed during that time frame. The same can be said of all PTC meetings before that as well. If there were any missed emails, it is due to human error and not on purpose.

Again, I thank you for your comment and your continued engagement with the PTC. Your suggestions and comments help us understand what the public need and expect from their local government and we will continue to improve our procedures to meet those needs. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to us if you have any further comments or suggestions.

Kind regards,



**Vinh Nguyen | Administrative Associate III**

**Planning & Development Services**

250 Hamilton Ave | Palo Alto, CA 94301

**P:** 650.329.2218 | **E:** [Vinhloc.Nguyen@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:Vinhloc.Nguyen@cityofpaloalto.org)

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**From:** Jeanne Fleming <[jfleming@metricus.net](mailto:jfleming@metricus.net)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 13, 2020 9:16 AM  
**To:** Fine, Adrian <[Adrian.Fine@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Adrian.Fine@CityofPaloAlto.org)>  
**Cc:** Council, City <[city.council@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:city.council@cityofpaloalto.org)>; Clerk, City <[city.clerk@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:city.clerk@cityofpaloalto.org)>; Architectural Review Board <[arb@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:arb@cityofpaloalto.org)>; Planning Commission <[Planning.Commission@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:Planning.Commission@cityofpaloalto.org)>; [board@pausd.org](mailto:board@pausd.org); [health@paloaltopta.org](mailto:health@paloaltopta.org); 'Ann Protter' <[ann.protter@gmail.com](mailto:ann.protter@gmail.com)>; [brucewphillips@gmail.com](mailto:brucewphillips@gmail.com); 'NTB' <[aarmatt@gmail.com](mailto:aarmatt@gmail.com)>; [jsglenn@stanford.edu](mailto:jsglenn@stanford.edu)  
**Subject:** Public Letters to Council Disappear, Part IV

Dear Mayor Fine,

I see you have been copied on a second email sent to me by Administrative Associate III Vinh Nguyen of the Planning Department. In it, Mr. Nguyen reports that residents' emails regarding City Manager Shikada's cell-tower-related cost cutting recommendations are now included in the Planning Commission's Public Letters Set for May 13th. I am delighted.

Please be aware, however, that these emails were added *only after I brought their absence to your attention*. There was no letter set at all for the May 13<sup>th</sup> Planning and Transportation Commission meeting until yesterday, or at least no letter set accessible by the public. I know because I checked the Planning and Transportation Commission's website the previous evening (next time I'll take a screen shot).

Once again, I urge you to take steps to ensure that City Staff acts in good faith. And once again I remind you, transparency in government is a cornerstone of democracy—and in the case of the public record, a matter of law.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Fleming

Jeanne Fleming, PhD

[JFleming@Metricus.net](mailto:JFleming@Metricus.net)

650-325-5151

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**From:** Planning Commission <[Planning.Commission@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:Planning.Commission@cityofpaloalto.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 2:10 PM  
**To:** Jeanne Fleming <[jfleming@metricus.net](mailto:jfleming@metricus.net)>; Fine, Adrian <[Adrian.Fine@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Adrian.Fine@CityofPaloAlto.org)>  
**Cc:** Council, City <[city.council@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:city.council@cityofpaloalto.org)>; Clerk, City <[city.clerk@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:city.clerk@cityofpaloalto.org)>; Architectural Review Board <[arb@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:arb@cityofpaloalto.org)>; Planning Commission <[Planning.Commission@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:Planning.Commission@cityofpaloalto.org)>; [board@pausd.org](mailto:board@pausd.org); [health@paloaltopta.org](mailto:health@paloaltopta.org); 'Ann Protter' <[ann.protter@gmail.com](mailto:ann.protter@gmail.com)>; [brucewphillips@gmail.com](mailto:brucewphillips@gmail.com); 'NTB' <[aarmatt@gmail.com](mailto:aarmatt@gmail.com)>; [jsglenn@stanford.edu](mailto:jsglenn@stanford.edu)  
**Subject:** RE: Public Letters to Council Disappear, Part III

Good afternoon Ms. Fleming,

Those comments are included in the public comment packet for the PTC May 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The direct link to the May 13 packet can be found here:

<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/76619>

Our public comment packets are always posted on the PTC website here:

<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/gov/boards/ptc/default.asp>

I try to include all comments, even the ones received on the day of the meeting. My prior email was in response to your statement: "Please note that many of the emails sent to Council were also cc'ed to the Planning and Transportation Commission, yet not one of them has appeared in a Public Letter Set for the Commission." I was pointing out that all comments received prior to the April 29<sup>th</sup> PTC meeting were indeed included in the April 29<sup>th</sup> PTC public comment packet. All comments received after the April 29<sup>th</sup> PTC meeting are included in the May 13<sup>th</sup> public comment packet. Please let me know if I have missed any other public comments in those packets.

Kind regards,



**Vinh Nguyen | Administrative Associate III**

**Planning & Development Services**

250 Hamilton Ave | Palo Alto, CA 94301

**P:** 650.329.2218 | **E:** [Vinhloc.Nguyen@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:Vinhloc.Nguyen@cityofpaloalto.org)

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**From:** Jeanne Fleming <[jfleming@metricus.net](mailto:jfleming@metricus.net)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 12:43 PM

**To:** Fine, Adrian <[Adrian.Fine@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Adrian.Fine@CityofPaloAlto.org)>

**Cc:** Council, City <[city.council@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:city.council@cityofpaloalto.org)>; Clerk, City <[city.clerk@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:city.clerk@cityofpaloalto.org)>; Architectural Review Board <[arb@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:arb@cityofpaloalto.org)>; Planning Commission <[Planning.Commission@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:Planning.Commission@cityofpaloalto.org)>; [board@pausd.org](mailto:board@pausd.org); [health@paloaltopta.org](mailto:health@paloaltopta.org); 'Ann Protter' <[ann.protter@gmail.com](mailto:ann.protter@gmail.com)>; [brucewphillips@gmail.com](mailto:brucewphillips@gmail.com); 'NTB' <[aarmatt@gmail.com](mailto:aarmatt@gmail.com)>; [jsglenn@stanford.edu](mailto:jsglenn@stanford.edu)

**Subject:** Public Letters to Council Disappear, Part III

Dear Mayor Fine,

I see that you were copied on the email sent to me by Administrative Associate III Vinh Nguyen. In it he responds to my email to you reporting on City Staff's failure to

include in the packets sent to the Planning and Transportation Commission copies of the emails residents had written to City Council regarding City Manager Shikada's cell-tower-related cost cutting recommendations that are on Council's agenda for this week.

It is difficult to know what to make of what Mr. Ngyuen says. Hence I will simply point out that the emails residents sent to the Planning and Transportation Commission after April 29<sup>th</sup>—but well before the Planning and Transportation Commission's meeting scheduled for tomorrow, May 13—are *not* in the Public Letters Set for that meeting. In other words, these emails are being improperly withheld, just as they were improperly withheld from the public in City Council's packet for this week.

I hope residents can count on you, as the Mayor of Palo Alto, to put an end to this practice and to ensure that City Staff acts in good faith when it comes to maintaining the public record. To repeat, transparency in government is a cornerstone of democracy.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Fleming

Jeanne Fleming, PhD

[JFleming@Metricus.net](mailto:JFleming@Metricus.net)

650-325-5151

**From:** [Planning Commission](#)  
**To:** [Jeanne Fleming](#); [Fine, Adrian](#)  
**Cc:** [Council, City](#); [Clerk, City](#); [Architectural Review Board](#); [Planning Commission](#); [board@pausd.org](mailto:board@pausd.org); [health@paloaltopta.org](mailto:health@paloaltopta.org); [ann.protter@gmail.com](mailto:ann.protter@gmail.com); [brucewphillips@gmail.com](mailto:brucewphillips@gmail.com); "NTB"; [jsglenn@stanford.edu](mailto:jsglenn@stanford.edu)  
**Subject:** RE: Public Letters to Council Disappear  
**Date:** Monday, May 11, 2020 4:28:06 PM

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Dear Ms. Fleming,

Thank you for your email. The most recent Planning & Transportation Commission meeting occurred on April 29<sup>th</sup>. Many of the public comments you referenced were sent in after that meeting which is why it was not included in our recent Commission public comment packet. Below is a link to the April 29<sup>th</sup> public comment packet. You will find that it includes all public comments received by the Commission during that time frame, including some comments relating to cell tower applications:

<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/76422>

Kind regards,



**Vinh Nguyen | Administrative Associate III**  
**Planning & Development Services**

250 Hamilton Ave | Palo Alto, CA 94301

**P:** 650.329.2218 | **E:** [Vinhloc.Nguyen@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:Vinhloc.Nguyen@cityofpaloalto.org)

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**From:** Jeanne Fleming <jfleming@metricus.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 9, 2020 4:13 PM  
**To:** Fine, Adrian <Adrian.Fine@CityofPaloAlto.org>  
**Cc:** Council, City <city.council@cityofpaloalto.org>; Clerk, City <city.clerk@cityofpaloalto.org>; Architectural Review Board <arb@cityofpaloalto.org>; Planning Commission <Planning.Commission@cityofpaloalto.org>; board@pausd.org; health@paloaltopta.org; ann.protter@gmail.com; brucewphillips@gmail.com; 'NTB' <aarmatt@gmail.com>; jsglenn@stanford.edu  
**Subject:** Public Letters to Council Disappear

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.**

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Dear Mayor Fine,

I wish to call your attention to what appears to be either incompetence or misconduct on the part of City Staff. Specifically, in the Public Letters Set prepared for Monday May 11<sup>th</sup>'s City Council meeting, Staff failed to include many of the emails residents sent to you and your colleagues—emails objecting to City Manager Shikada's proposal that Palo Alto "cut costs" 1) by decreasing cell tower application requirements—costs that are in fact covered by the applicants, not the city—and 2) by

reducing code enforcement. For the record, these letters also do not appear in any previous letter set.

I know this because I was copied on many of the emails on this issue that were sent to City Council. Appended below you will find four thoughtful emails on the subject, none of which were included in the Public Letters Set.

Please note that many of the emails sent to Council were also cc'ed to the Planning and Transportation Commission, yet not one of them has appeared in a Public Letter Set for the Commission.

This is by no means the first time residents' emails to Council have disappeared without ever seeing the light of day. I am writing in the hope that you will see that it is the last. As you know, letters to City Council are both part of the public record and systematically made available to the public for review because the transparency in government that is a cornerstone of democracy demands it.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Fleming

Jeanne Fleming, PhD  
[JFleming@Metricus.net](mailto:JFleming@Metricus.net)  
650-325-5151

## **Four of the Letters to Council Omitted from the Public Letters Set:**

### **1. From Ann Protter**

**From:** Ann Protter <[ann.protter@gmail.com](mailto:ann.protter@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, May 4, 2020 10:57 PM

**To:** [city.council@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:city.council@cityofpaloalto.org); [ed.shikada@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:ed.shikada@cityofpaloalto.org)

**Subject:** City Manager Shikada and Cell Tower Review Process

Dear City Council Members,

On Sunday council member Tanaka held an office hour regarding the City Manager's suggestion to cut back on the cell tower application review process. There were a number of us on the call, all of whom expressed disappointment and dismay at this suggestion.

As I thought about it afterwards I realized how angry I was at the suggestion that we skimp on the cell tower review process.

This is hardly a big budget item.

We -- as a community -- have spent long years coming up with a review process. To sweep it aside is a clear end run. I would wager Mr. Shikada prefers to keep the process out of the public eye. We residents don't.

All of us reiterated our horror at the thought of cell towers being allowed a mere 20 feet from our bedrooms. Clearly this is a contentious issue, one that ought to get its due in the approved process. To remove that to make someone's job easier is a travesty.

Lastly, thank you council member Tanaka for allowing us residents an opportunity to speak with you directly. It was appreciated.

Ann Protter

## 2. From Bruce Phillips

**From:** BWP <[brucewphillips@gmail.com](mailto:brucewphillips@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Friday, May 1, 2020 12:16 PM

**To:** [City.Council@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:City.Council@cityofpaloalto.org)

**Cc:** [JFLEMING@metricus.net](mailto:JFLEMING@metricus.net)

**Subject:** Architectural Review of cell tower

Dear Mayor Fine, Vice Mayor DuBois, and Council Members Cormack, Filseth, Kniss, Kou and Tanaka:

I lived next to a cell tower planned near the Waverley and Loma Verde intersection. While I am pleased that our neighborhood may finally receive better cell connection, I am not pleased that this ugly addition will block views when a two-story is built here. I don't like paying for communal benefit without compensation.

Via a neighborhood organizer, I understand that City Manager Ed Shikada has recommended that, in the interests of cost-cutting, the council amend Palo Alto's municipal code to "scale back" cell tower application processing, which would include eliminating the Architectural Review Board from the review process.

As I understand it, this fails to save money for Palo Alto. The companies pay for the applications and pay for staff time spent on these applications. Moreover, reduced cell tower application requirements would undermine the siting and design criteria approved, as I am told, by the City Council unanimously four months ago, following a three-year effort.



I am also against reducing code enforcement employees with respect to the installation of the cell towers, and I also wonder about the wisdom of this in general.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bruce W. Phillips  
3157 Waverley Street

### 3. From Nina Bell

**From:** NTB <[aarmatt@gmail.com](mailto:aarmatt@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Friday, May 1, 2020 12:48 PM

**To:** [City.Council@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:City.Council@cityofpaloalto.org)

**Subject:** Proposal regarding cell tower application requirements and cutting Code Enforcement

Dear Mayor Fine, Vice Mayor DuBois, and Council Members Cormack, Filseth, Kniss, Kou and Tanaka,

The proposal being put before you, to decrease the cell tower application requirements, makes absolutely no sense when it's the telecom company applicants themselves who are the ones who cover these costs. Rather than draining the City coffers, the application fees will be adding to them! Such a proposal seems totally counterproductive.

It makes one wonder what is the real motive behind such a proposal?

And, as for cutting the budget for Code Enforcement, that puts at risk the safety and well being of all Palo Alto's citizens.

Clearly under the current situation there needs to be budget cuts but they need to be done wisely and with the best interest

of the residents of Palo Alto. Cutting Code Enforcement is definitely not one of them.

Such a cut is made particularly egregious when one pauses to look at the enormous salaries and compensation packages some

on the senior executive team receive. They have the benefit of the City's largess while the citizens get the shaft? Something feels very,

very wrong. A voluntary salary cut of those executives' compensation packages would go a long way toward funding Code Enforcement

personnel to protect the citizens of the City they serve. We all have to step up. Are the City's senior executive staff willing to do their part, following the example set by the senior Stanford administrators who are taking pay cuts from 5 to 20%?

Please do not approve the proposal to decrease the cell tower application requirements. And for the safety and well being of the citizens

of Palo Alto, the people you serve, funding for Code Enforcement can not be cut.

Sincerely,  
Nina Bell  
Los Palos Ave

#### 4. From Jeffrey Glenn

**From:** Jeffrey S. Glenn <[jsglenn@stanford.edu](mailto:jsglenn@stanford.edu)>

**Sent:** Thursday, April 30, 2020 5:08 PM

**To:** [City.Council@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:City.Council@CityofPaloAlto.org)

**Cc:** [Ed.Shikada@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Ed.Shikada@CityofPaloAlto.org); [Planning.Commission@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Planning.Commission@CityofPaloAlto.org);  
[ARB@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:ARB@cityofpaloalto.org); [board@pausd.org](mailto:board@pausd.org); [city.clerk@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:city.clerk@cityofpaloalto.org)

**Subject:** Cell towers in residential neighborhoods

Dear Mayor Fine, Vice Mayor DuBois, and Council Members Cormack, Filseth, Kniss, Kou and Tanaka,

I understand that City Manager Ed Shikada has recommended that, in the interests of cost-cutting, you amend Palo Alto's municipal code to "scale back" on cell tower application processing—a scale-back which would include eliminating the Architectural Review Board from the review process.

I am writing to urge you not to take this step. Why? Quite simply, because it fails to save money for Palo Alto. It is the companies that file applications to install cell towers, not Palo Alto, that pay for staff time spent on these applications. In other words, our city won't save money by "scaling back" application processing requirements, only the applicants will.

Moreover, Mr. Shikada's recommendation is bad public policy. The reduced cell tower application processing requirements he is calling for are sure to undermine the thoughtful siting and design criteria you on City Council unanimously approved only four months ago—undermine them by making it easier for telecommunications companies to install cell towers next to residents' homes.

The City Manager's recommendation is at best ill-informed, and, at worst, an end run around the provisions of the December, 2019, Wireless Resolution, a Resolution that was the result of a three-year-long effort by our community and a great deal of work by, among others, you on City Council.

I am also writing to urge you—should you decide to follow another of Mr. Shikada's recommendations, namely, that you reduce the number of code enforcement employees—to stipulate that no reduction in code enforcement or compliance personnel may be taken that jeopardizes the safety and well-being of the people of Palo Alto, in particular with respect to the installation of cell towers consisting of hundreds of pounds of high-voltage, radiation-emitting equipment near residents' homes.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey S. Glenn, M.D., Ph.D.

Professor of Medicine and Microbiology & Immunology

Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology

Director, Center for Hepatitis and Liver Tissue Engineering

Stanford University School of Medicine

CCSR Building, Rm. 3115A

269 Campus Drive

Stanford, CA 94305-5171

U.S.A.

[email:jeffrey.glenn@stanford.edu](mailto:jeffrey.glenn@stanford.edu)

tel (office): (650)725-3373

tel (lab): (650)498-7419

fax: (650)723-3032

pager: (650)723-8222; ID# 23080

**From:** [Suzanne Keehn](#)  
**To:** [vmelero@pausd.org](mailto:vmelero@pausd.org); [Council, City; Planning Commission; ParkRec Commission](#)  
**Cc:** [Cheryl Lilienstein](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: No. Bol Park Bike Path is NOT for construction vehicles  
**Date:** Monday, May 11, 2020 1:50:37 PM

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Thank you Cheryl, I had no idea this was happening, and agree one hundred percent with your letter. It seems this as so many of the city's plans do not result in resident, environmental concerns or health.

Suzanne Keehn  
4076 Orme St. 94306  
493 1373

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

**From:** Cheryl Lilienstein <clilienstein@me.com>  
**To:** "vmelero@pausd.org" <vmelero@pausd.org>  
**Cc:** Filseth Eric <efilseth@gmail.com>; Doria Summa <doriasumma@gmail.com>; DuBois Tom <tom.dubois@gmail.com>; Paul Machado <plmachado@gmail.com>; Ben Lerner <balerner@yahoo.com>; Jennifer Fryhling <jfryhling@gmail.com>; Keehn Suzanne <dskeehn@pacbell.net>; Buchanan Neilson <cnsbuchanan@yahoo.com>; "catherine@canopy.org" <catherine@canopy.org>; city.council@cityofpaloalto.org <city.council@cityofpaloalto.org>; c.org" <parkrec.commission@cityofpaloalto.org>; "daustin@pausd.org" <daustin@pausd.org>; "kvishakan@pausd.org" <kvishakan@pausd.org>; Brown Sue <sbrownie@earthlink.net>; pamela federman <pamelafederman@gmail.com>; Smith Alice <asmith36@sbcglobal.net>; "wstratton@pausd.org" <wstratton@pausd.org>; Lydia Kou <lydiakou@gmail.com>; "city.attorney@cityofpaloalto.org" <city.attorney@cityofpaloalto.org>; Hamburgen Bill <bill.hamburgen@gmail.com>; chazan david <dchazan@yahoo.com>; Ilana Gordon <ilanagogo@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020, 11:54:49 AM PDT  
**Subject:** No. Bol Park Bike Path is NOT for construction vehicles

Dear Mr McDonnell, Superintendant Austin, and Principal Stratton,

Mr McDonnell, I saw your notice to the public that you are planning to use the Bol Park Bike Path for construction vehicles all summer. Your contact phone number yielded the email address above, thus I have not been able to speak with you directly.

**I am writing because your construction plan is of great health and environmental concern to me, and it should be a concern of yours as well. Churning up dust and running trucks and equipment along the bike path that backs onto people's homes especially during this pandemic is a public health threat. Why not use the path along the VA hospital property, which is uninhabited?**

**The neighborhood path you intend to close for construction vehicle access is highly valued by people in the neighborhood who use this pathway because it's tree-lined and shaded, and connects to Bol Park. It's part of a well travelled loop that many people need and enjoy all year round.** Particularly in the summer, this pathway is a respite from the blasting heat. Does PAUSD really intend to block a well used city recreational resource, increase health risks for people living nearby, run trucks that will damage the trees and wreck the pathway? Who will fix all that???

It's also wrong to **store the equipment RIGHT IN THE MIDST OF THE "STRAWBERRY HILL" OPEN SPACE.** This is not the proper use of highly valued open space. The public uses the Strawberry Hill open

space ALL THE TIME. Nobody uses the Gunn parking lots in the summer, especially this summer. Please use the parking lots for storing construction vehicles, and don't turn our neighborhood into a dump.

I urge you to be more respectful and careful of the people who live adjacent to the school, and who fund our school system.

Awaiting your response,  
Cheryl Lilienstein  
650-380-6080

**From:** [Larry Alton](#)  
**To:** [Council, City](#)  
**Cc:** [Shikada, Ed](#); [Kamhi, Philip](#); [Hur, Mark](#); [Baird, Nathan](#); [Planning Commission](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: May 13 City Council Meeting Parking I support this approach to solving parking problems  
**Date:** Monday, May 11, 2020 12:32:48 PM

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Below is a reasonable set of questions reflecting a strong consensus among experienced resident leaders who understand deeply rooted parking issues in the commercial cores and neighborhoods.

The root problem is under-management of the public and private parking assets within the commercial cores. For example, there is absolutely no shortage of parking after 5pm weekdays and weekends. The issue is modern signage to the garages and then guidance to spaces within the garages.

the commercial core/residential neighborhood parking can was kicked down the road with advantage tipped for the landlords and tenants of office spaces.

if developer pressures of today's council are successful in weakening the new Office of Transportation we will lose professional staff and the opportunity to harmonize public and private assets within the commercial cores and neighborhoods.

Wednesday's Council key decisions are the following:

1. Staffing levels in the Office of Transportation
2. Guidance systems within the city garages
3. Modern signage to find garages and surface lots
4. Parking permit managements system integrated for commercial core and neighborhoods
5. Elimination of Palo Alto TMA...its usefulness has not materialized and it is more irrelevant than ever. Joint city TMAs could be feasible if they can achieve economies of scale.

PS it is important to remember that there is absolutely no parking shortage in downtown commercial core after 5pm and on weekends. This unused capacity will continue for many months forward. The problem is effective guidance to parking capacity.

Here are questions to ask staff.

1. When will city staff and Council reduce non resident permits authorized for sale in the Mayfield/Evergreen Park neighborhoods? What is the new completion date for California Avenue city garage? Its new capacity will allow a substantial reduction or actual full elimination in non-resident parking permits of residential neighborhoods.

2. What is the city's intent to enforce permit and short-term parking "rules" in the commercial zones? Since April 1 there is unlimited supply of free parking in all RPP neighborhoods. This means unrestricted parking for downtown workers *and Caltrain riders*.

There is no incentive to buy parking permits within the California and University Avenue commercial cores. It is easier and cheaper (zero cost) to park in the neighborhoods than move vehicles within the time limited color zones in the University Avenue commercial core. When Caltrain riders return, then there is incentive to park in neighborhoods especially Old Palo Alto, Downtown North and Professorville. This will displace downtown workers, customers and residents. What happens when Stanford employees, faculty and students return and park just off campus for free and often convenient.

3. Why is commercial parking in the neighborhoods less expensive than the commercial cores? Pricing differentials should be higher in the residential neighborhoods to create incentives to park in the commercial cores and not park on residential streets. Priorities are ignored for traditional business such as retail goods and services. Lower paid workers, especially sales tax generating businesses, should have some access to commercial core parking.

4. In lieu fees are a bargain to developers. Developers paying in lieu fees are granted parking in perpetuity. Most irrational is that cost of city land is not included in the calculation of in lieu fees. In reality this is a gift of public property to developers who completely avoid land costs when they elect in lieu fees. Thus pricing of parking is subsidized and not market driven.

5. After budget cuts, what level of parking programs will be managed by "surviving" staff in the Office of Transportation? If the head count is reduced from 15 to 10, is the OTT a viable "organization for one of our top priorities or just a homeless section within the Planning Department.

6. There has no parking shortage whatsoever in evenings and nights within the cores of both downtowns. Finding parking is the problem. The mid-day Monday to Friday parking crunch is real and a direct result of chronic under-management by city staff and Council.

*Bottom line: RPPs cannot survive if enforcement is suspended for more than a few months. RPPs took almost 20 years to establish and they cannot be silently killed without Palo Altans even knowing what is going on!*

**Re-establish RPP enforcement within 90 days in accordance with the Comprehensive Plan which states *city policy to promote commerce but not at the expense of residential neighborhoods*.**

**From:** [Neilson Buchanan](#)  
**To:** [Council, City](#)  
**Cc:** [Shikada, Ed](#); [Kamhi, Philip](#); [Hur, Mark](#); [Baird, Nathan](#); [Planning Commission](#)  
**Subject:** May 13 City Council Meeting Parking  
**Date:** Monday, May 11, 2020 11:14:38 AM

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Below is a reasonable set of questions reflecting a strong consensus among experienced resident leaders who understand deeply rooted parking issues in the commercial cores and neighborhoods.

The root problem is under-management of the public and private parking assets within the commercial cores. For example, there is absolutely no shortage of parking after 5pm weekdays and weekends. The issue is modern signage to the garages and then guidance to spaces within the garages.

In my opinion City Councils and City Managers have politically mismanaged parking policy by making certain there was no real understanding among city staff. Therefore, the commercial core/residential neighborhood parking can was kicked down the road with advantage tipped for the landlords and tenants of office spaces.

Looking backwards won't help. However, if developer pressures of today's council are successful in weakening the new Office of Transportation we will lose professional staff and the opportunity to harmonize public and private assets within the commercial cores and neighborhoods.

Wednesday's Council key decisions are the following:

1. Staffing levels in the Office of Transportation
2. Guidance systems within the city garages
3. Modern signage to find garages and surface lots
4. Parking permit managements system integrated for commercial core and neighborhoods
5. Elimination of Palo Alto TMA...its usefulness has not materialized and it is more irrelevant than ever. Joint city TMAs could be feasible if they can achieve economies of scale.

PS it is important to remember that there is absolutely no parking shortage in downtown commercial core after 5pm and on weekends. This unused capacity will continue for many months forward. The problem is effective guidance to parking capacity.

Here are questions to ask staff. I have great confidence in Philip Kamhi who leads the Office of Transportation.

1. When will city staff and Council reduce non resident permits authorized for sale in the Mayfield/Evergreen Park neighborhoods? What is the new completion date for



California Avenue city garage? Its new capacity will allow a substantial reduction or actual full elimination in non-resident parking permits of residential neighborhoods.

2. What is the city's intent to enforce permit and short-term parking "rules" in the commercial zones? Since April 1 there is unlimited supply of free parking in all RPP neighborhoods. This means unrestricted parking for downtown workers *and Caltrain riders*.

There is no incentive to buy parking permits within the California and University Avenue commercial cores. It is easier and cheaper (zero cost) to park in the neighborhoods than move vehicles within the time limited color zones in the University Avenue commercial core. When Caltrain riders return, then there is incentive to park in neighborhoods especially Old Palo Alto, Downtown North and Professorville. This will displace downtown workers, customers and residents. What happens when Stanford employees, faculty and students return and park just off campus for free and often convenient.

3. Why is commercial parking in the neighborhoods less expensive than the commercial cores? Pricing differentials should be higher in the residential neighborhoods to create incentives to park in the commercial cores and not park on residential streets. Priorities are ignored for traditional business such as retail goods and services. Lower paid workers, especially sales tax generating businesses, should have some access to commercial core parking.

4. In lieu fees are a bargain to developers. Developers paying in lieu fees are granted parking in perpetuity. Most irrational is that cost of city land is not included in the calculation of in lieu fees. In reality this is a gift of public property to developers who completely avoid land costs when they elect in lieu fees. Thus pricing of parking is subsidized and not market driven.

5. After budget cuts, what level of parking programs will be managed by "surviving" staff in the Office of Transportation? If the head count is reduced from 15 to 10, is the OTT a viable "organization for one of our top priorities or just a homeless section within the Planning Department.

6. There has no parking shortage whatsoever in evenings and nights within the cores of both downtowns. Finding parking is the problem. The mid-day Monday to Friday parking crunch is real and a direct result of chronic under-management by city staff and Council.

*Bottom line: RPPs cannot survive if enforcement is suspended for more than a few months. RPPs took almost 20 years to establish and they cannot be silently killed without Palo Altans even knowing what is going on!*

**Re-establish RPP enforcement within 90 days in accordance with the Comprehensive Plan which states *city policy to promote commerce but not at***

***the expense of residential neighborhoods.***

Neilson Buchanan  
155 Bryant Street  
Palo Alto, CA 94301

650 329-0484  
650 537-9611 cell  
[cnsbuchanan@yahoo.com](mailto:cnsbuchanan@yahoo.com)

**From:** [Ann Protter](#)  
**To:** [Jeanne Fleming](#)  
**Cc:** [Fine, Adrian](#); [Council, City](#); [Clerk, City](#); [Architectural Review Board](#); [Planning Commission](#); [board@pausd.org](#); [health@paloaltopta.org](#); [brucewphillips@gmail.com](#); [NTB](#); [jeffrey glenn](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Public Letters to Council Disappear, Part II  
**Date:** Monday, May 11, 2020 9:25:51 AM

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Dear Ms Fleming and Mayor Fine,

May I jump in to thank Ms Fleming. And to add my agreement to her request for our letters to be included in the relevant packets. I prefer an open and honest form of government.

Thanks,  
Ann Protter

On Mon, May 11, 2020 at 9:12 AM Jeanne Fleming <[jfleming@metricus.net](mailto:jfleming@metricus.net)> wrote:

Dear Mayor Fine,

I see that you were copied on the email sent to me by City Clerk Beth Minor, an email in which she responds to my email to you reporting on City Staff's failure to include in the packet sent to City Council prior to its May 11<sup>th</sup> meeting the emails residents had written to Council regarding an issue on the agenda for that meeting.

In her email, City Clerk Minor states "Our packets go out 11 days before the meeting, so emails that came to us from about 4/30-5/7 were put in the 5/18 packet" rather than in the packet that was released on May 7<sup>th</sup> for the May 11<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting. But this was a choice Ms. Minor made, not a requirement she was obligated to meet.

Because, regarding the process for providing residents emails to Council to which the City Clerk refers:

There is no law saying that the Public Letters Set associated with a City Council meeting may not be added to any later than eleven days before a meeting.

Council "packets" are updated all the time, and for many different reasons.

In fact, not until four days before the May 11<sup>th</sup> Council meeting was the City Managers' report on the budget included in the packet the missing emails should have been in.

The intent of the law that requires letters to Council to be part of the public record—not to mention common sense—dictate that emails from residents be included in the packets for the Council meetings for which they are relevant. In this case, the emails City Staff withheld all object to the City Manager's recommendation that Council cut costs by decreasing cell tower application requirements and by reducing code enforcement—an issue scheduled for consideration at Council's May 11<sup>th</sup> meeting and the Budget Hearings later in the week. By May 18<sup>th</sup>—the date for which Ms. Minor said she included the emails in a Public Letters Set—the emails will no longer be relevant.

In short, City Staff did exactly what they I said they did: They *chose* to withhold from the public many of the emails residents sent objecting to two of the City Manager's recommendations for cost cutting, withhold them at the very least until after those recommendations are to be considered by Council.

In conclusion, I hope you will ask yourself whether the residents' missing emails would even be in the May 18<sup>th</sup> Public Letters Set if I hadn't contacted you. I looked at that set right before I wrote to you, and I can tell you it was empty then.

I also hope, Mr. Mayor, that, as I wrote to you before, you will take steps to ensure that City Hall reverses course on how it handles emails to you and your colleagues on Council. Palo Alto deserves a government that operates in the sunlight of transparency and not in the shadows of back offices at 250 Hamilton Avenue.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Fleming

Jeanne Fleming, PhD

[JFleming@Metricus.net](mailto:JFleming@Metricus.net)

650-325-5151

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**From:** Minor, Beth <Beth.Minor@CityofPaloAlto.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 9, 2020 4:24 PM  
**To:** Jeanne Fleming <[jfleming@metricus.net](mailto:jfleming@metricus.net)>  
**Cc:** Fine, Adrian <Adrian.Fine@CityofPaloAlto.org>; Council, City <[city.council@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:city.council@cityofpaloalto.org)>; Clerk, City <[city.clerk@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:city.clerk@cityofpaloalto.org)>; Architectural Review Board <[arb@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:arb@cityofpaloalto.org)>; Planning Commission <[Planning.Commission@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:Planning.Commission@cityofpaloalto.org)>; [board@pausd.org](mailto:board@pausd.org); [health@paloaltopta.org](mailto:health@paloaltopta.org); [ann.protter@gmail.com](mailto:ann.protter@gmail.com); [brucewphillips@gmail.com](mailto:brucewphillips@gmail.com); NTB <[aarmatt@gmail.com](mailto:aarmatt@gmail.com)>; [jsglenn@stanford.edu](mailto:jsglenn@stanford.edu)  
**Subject:** Re: Public Letters to Council Disappear

Ms. Fleming, The letters you are looking for are in the May 18th doc letters around page 115. Our packets go out 11 days before the meeting so emails that came to us from about 4/30-5/7 were put in the 5/18 packet. I personally saw your email and many others pertaining to wireless and ARB.

Sent from my iPhone

On May 9, 2020, at 4:13 PM, Jeanne Fleming <[jfleming@metricus.net](mailto:jfleming@metricus.net)> wrote:

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Dear Mayor Fine,

I wish to call your attention to what appears to be either incompetence or

misconduct on the part of City Staff. Specifically, in the Public Letters Set prepared for Monday May 11<sup>th</sup>'s City Council meeting, Staff failed to include many of the emails residents sent to you and your colleagues—emails objecting to City Manager Shikada's proposal that Palo Alto "cut costs" 1) by decreasing cell tower application requirements—costs that are in fact covered by the applicants, not the city—and 2) by reducing code enforcement. For the record, these letters also do not appear in any previous letter set.

I know this because I was copied on many of the emails on this issue that were sent to City Council. Appended below you will find four thoughtful emails on the subject, none of which were included in the Public Letters Set.

Please note that many of the emails sent to Council were also cc'ed to the Planning and Transportation Commission, yet not one of them has appeared in a Public Letter Set for the Commission.

This is by no means the first time residents' emails to Council have disappeared without ever seeing the light of day. I am writing in the hope that you will see that it is the last. As you know, letters to City Council are both part of the public record and systematically made available to the public for review because the transparency in government that is a cornerstone of democracy demands it.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Fleming

Jeanne Fleming, PhD

[JFleming@Metricus.net](mailto:JFleming@Metricus.net)

650-325-5151

## **Four of the Letters to Council Omitted from the Public Letters Set:**

### **1. From Ann Protter**

**From:** Ann Protter <[ann.protter@gmail.com](mailto:ann.protter@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 4, 2020 10:57 PM  
**To:** [city.council@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:city.council@cityofpaloalto.org); [ed.shikada@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:ed.shikada@cityofpaloalto.org)  
**Subject:** City Manager Shikada and Cell Tower Review Process

Dear City Council Members,

On Sunday council member Tanaka held an office hour regarding the City Manager's suggestion to cut back on the cell tower application review process. There were a number of us on the call, all of whom expressed disappointment and dismay at this suggestion.

As I thought about it afterwards I realized how angry I was at the suggestion that we skimp on the cell tower review process.

This is hardly a big budget item.

We -- as a community -- have spent long years coming up with a review process. To sweep it aside is a clear end run. I would wager Mr. Shikada prefers to keep the process out of the public eye. We residents don't.

All of us reiterated our horror at the thought of cell towers being allowed a mere 20 feet from our bedrooms. Clearly this is a contentious issue, one that ought to get its due in the approved process. To remove that to make someone's job

easier is a travesty.

Lastly, thank you council member Tanaka for allowing us residents an opportunity to speak with you directly. It was appreciated.

Ann Protter

## 2. From Bruce Phillips

**From:** BWP <[brucewphillips@gmail.com](mailto:brucewphillips@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 1, 2020 12:16 PM  
**To:** [City.Council@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:City.Council@cityofpaloalto.org)  
**Cc:** [JFLEMING@metricus.net](mailto:JFLEMING@metricus.net)  
**Subject:** Architectural Review of cell tower

Dear Mayor Fine, Vice Mayor DuBois, and Council Members  
Cormack, Filseth, Kniss, Kou and Tanaka:

I lived next to a cell tower planned near the Waverley and Loma Verde intersection. While I am pleased that our neighborhood may finally receive better cell connection, I am not pleased that this ugly addition will block views when a two-story is built here. I don't like paying for communal benefit without compensation.

Via a neighborhood organizer, I understand that City Manager Ed Shikada has recommended that, in the interests of cost-cutting, the council amend Palo Alto's municipal code to "scale back" cell tower application processing, which would include eliminating the Architectural Review Board from the review process.

As I understand it, this fails to save money for Palo Alto. The companies pay for the applications and pay for staff time spent on these applications. Moreover, reduced cell tower application requirements would undermine the siting and design criteria approved, as I am told, by the City Council unanimously four months ago, following a three-year effort.

I am also against reducing code enforcement employees with respect to



the installation of the cell towers, and I also wonder about the wisdom of this in general.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bruce W. Phillips

3157 Waverley Street

### 3. From Nina Bell

**From:** NTB <[aarmatt@gmail.com](mailto:aarmatt@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Friday, May 1, 2020 12:48 PM

**To:** [City.Council@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:City.Council@cityofpaloalto.org)

**Subject:** Proposal regarding cell tower application requirements and cutting Code Enforcement

Dear Mayor Fine, Vice Mayor DuBois, and Council Members Cormack, Filseth, Kniss, Kou and Tanaka,

The proposal being put before you, to decrease the cell tower application requirements, makes absolutely no sense

when it's the telecom company applicants themselves who are the ones who cover these costs. Rather than draining

the City coffers, the application fees will be adding to them! Such a proposal seems totally counterproductive.

It makes one wonder what is the real motive behind such a proposal?

And, as for cutting the budget for Code Enforcement, that puts at risk the safety and well being of all Palo Alto's citizens.

Clearly under the current situation there needs to be budget cuts but they need to be done wisely and with the best interest

of the residents of Palo Alto. Cutting Code Enforcement is definitely not one of them.

Such a cut is made particularly egregious when one pauses to look at the enormous salaries and compensation packages some

on the senior executive team receive. They have the benefit of the City's largess while the citizens get the shaft? Something feels very,

very wrong. A voluntary salary cut of those executives' compensation packages would go a long way toward funding Code Enforcement

personnel to protect the citizens of the City they serve. We all have to step up. Are the City's senior executive staff willing to do their part,

following the example set by the senior Stanford administrators who are taking pay cuts from 5 to 20%?

Please do not approve the proposal to decrease the cell tower application requirements. And for the safety and well being of the citizens

of Palo Alto, the people you serve, funding for Code Enforcement can not be cut.

Sincerely,

Nina Bell

Los Palos Ave

4. From Jeffrey Glenn

**From:** Jeffrey S. Glenn <[jsglenn@stanford.edu](mailto:jsglenn@stanford.edu)>

**Sent:** Thursday, April 30, 2020 5:08 PM

**To:** [City.Council@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:City.Council@CityofPaloAlto.org)

**Cc:** [Ed.Shikada@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Ed.Shikada@CityofPaloAlto.org);  
[Planning.Commission@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:Planning.Commission@CityofPaloAlto.org); [ARB@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:ARB@cityofpaloalto.org);  
[board@pausd.org](mailto:board@pausd.org); [city.clerk@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:city.clerk@cityofpaloalto.org)  
**Subject:** Cell towers in residential neighborhoods

Dear Mayor Fine, Vice Mayor DuBois, and Council Members Cormack, Filseth, Kniss, Kou and Tanaka,

I understand that City Manager Ed Shikada has recommended that, in the interests of cost-cutting, you amend Palo Alto's municipal code to "scale back" on cell tower application processing—a scale-back which would include eliminating the Architectural Review Board from the review process.

I am writing to urge you not to take this step. Why? Quite simply, because it fails to save money for Palo Alto. It is the companies that file applications to install cell towers, not Palo Alto, that pay for staff time spent on these applications. In other words, our city won't save money by "scaling back" application processing requirements, only the applicants will.

Moreover, Mr. Shikada's recommendation is bad public policy. The reduced cell tower application processing requirements he is calling for are sure to undermine the thoughtful siting and design criteria you on City Council unanimously approved only four months ago—undermine them by making it easier for telecommunications companies to install cell towers next to residents' homes.

The City Manager's recommendation is at best ill-informed, and, at worst, an end run around the provisions of the December, 2019, Wireless Resolution, a Resolution that was the result of a three-year-long effort by our community and a great deal of work by, among others, you on City Council.

I am also writing to urge you—should you decide to follow another of Mr. Shikada's recommendations, namely, that you reduce the number of code enforcement employees—to stipulate that no reduction in code enforcement or compliance personnel may be taken that jeopardizes the safety and well-being of the people of Palo Alto, in particular with respect to the installation of cell towers consisting of hundreds of pounds of high-voltage, radiation-emitting equipment near residents' homes.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey S. Glenn, M.D., Ph.D.

Professor of Medicine and Microbiology & Immunology

Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology

Director, Center for Hepatitis and Liver Tissue Engineering

Stanford University School of Medicine

CCSR Building, Rm. 3115A

269 Campus Drive

Stanford, CA 94305-5171

U.S.A.

[email:jeffrey.glenn@stanford.edu](mailto:jeffrey.glenn@stanford.edu)

tel (office): (650)725-3373

tel (lab): (650)498-7419

fax: (650)723-3032

pager: (650)723-8222; ID# 23080

**From:** [Jiyon Hahn](#)  
**To:** [Planning Commission](#)  
**Subject:** SJ Mercury News Article: Closing streets, taking over sidewalks? San Jose proposes plan for outdoor dining amid coronavirus  
**Date:** Friday, May 8, 2020 3:47:54 PM

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Hello,

I saw an article in the SJ Mercury News and would like to bring it to your attention. I think it would be wonderful to have more outdoor space for restaurants.

<https://www.mercurynews.com/2020/05/08/closing-streets-taking-over-sidewalks-san-jose-proposes-plan-for-outdoor-dining-amid-coronavirus/>

Specifically, University and California downtown areas would greatly benefit as well as Palo Altans who miss dining out.

Thank you.

Jiyon Hahn  
650.906.7090

**From:** [SLU-Gita Dev](#)  
**To:** [Planningcom3@sanjoseca.gov](#); [Planningcom5@sanjoseca.gov](#); [Planningcom6@sanjoseca.gov](#); [Planningcom1@sanjoseca.gov](#); [energy@sanjoseca.gov](#); [ken.davies@sanjoseca.gov](#); [jpaulsonj@losgatosca.gov](#); [planningcommission@pln.sccgov.org](#); [BPAC@sunnyvale.ca.gov](#); [BuildingCodeAppeals@sunnyvale.ca.gov](#); [HeritagePreservation@sunnyvale.ca.gov](#); [HousingHumanServices@sunnyvale.ca.gov](#); [parksandcreationcommission@sunnyvale.ca.gov](#); [PlanningCommission@sunnyvale.ca.gov](#); [SustainabilityCommission@sunnyvale.ca.gov](#); [citymgr@sunnyvale.ca.gov](#); [pubworks@sunnyvale.ca.gov](#); [green@sunnyvale.ca.gov](#); [Mchislett@losgatosca.gov](#); [s.woodworth@mountainview.gov](#); [nena.bizjak@mountainview.gov](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Anderson, Daren](#); [ParkRecCommission@cityofpaloalto.org](#); [City Mgr](#); [Council, City](#); [PWD](#); [UTL-Customer Service](#); [Info, Plandiv](#); [Parks](#); [CSD](#); [manager@losgatosca.gov](#); [ppw@losgatosca.gov](#); [MMorley@losgatosca.gov](#); [planningcommission@cupertino.org](#); [davids@cupertino.org](#); [bikepedcommission@cupertino.org](#); [parkscommission@cupertino.org](#); [gileec@cupertino.org](#); [sustainabilitycommission@cupertino.org](#); [andred@cupertino.org](#); [manager@cupertino.org](#); [diannet@cupertino.org](#); [laurens@cupertino.org](#)  
**Subject:** To:  
**Date:** Friday, May 8, 2020 2:57:39 PM  
**Attachments:** [Sierra Club Loma Prieta Open Streets 5-1-20.pdf](#)

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**To:** City Council Members, City Managers, Planning Commissioners, Complete Street Commissioners, Sustainability Commissioners, City Planners, City Transportation Managers, City Sustainability Staff

**From:** Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter, Gita Dev

**Subject:** Transforming Your Streets for Walkability in a post-COVID World

In response to COVID-19, cities all around the world are experimenting with ways to make streets more usable for walking and bicycling, to increase access to active recreation while physical distancing.

These local cities have already implemented such plans:

- San Francisco
- Oakland
- Palo Alto
- Redwood City
- San Mateo (in planning stage)

We, the local Sierra Club chapter, applaud these actions and invite other cities considering such a move to contact our Sustainable Land Use Committee for help taking similar action.

Street right-of-ways make up 30-40% of our public realm, the largest single part of our public realm.

We are currently working with city officials in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties and are ready to help you with resources and assistance for your city.

### ***Our Process***

In consultation with your city's Transportation Manager, Complete Street Commissioners or Public Works, we can assist in developing a plan that includes:

- A tentative map of streets your Council can consider for temporary closure
- Affordable, temporary street alterations to increase walkability
- Longer-term infrastructure options to make the changes permanent

Along with its many challenges, COVID-19 provides cities with an excellent opportunity to make temporary alterations to street networks and test their long-term viability. Some changes may eventually lead to permanent changes, if done right.

Attached is a short presentation outlining our approach to developing Green Streets, which makes any street more inviting. We have used the City of San Mateo in the attached example. This template can be embedded into long-term policy that can meet multiple, critical, long-term climate action plan goals.

Benefits of Green Streets include:

- Improved health from clean air and active lifestyle
- GHG reduction with a future, connected network of walking and biking arterials
- Clean and reduced storm water to the creeks and Bay using green storm infrastructure
- Cleaner air and carbon sequestration by growing the urban canopy along these arterials
- Reduced energy use in nearby buildings from shading and cooling
- Healthy ecology for pollinators, birds, bees and other ecologically beneficial life

Please contact me to get started.

Regards, Gita Dev, Co-Chair, Sustainable Land Use, Sierra Club Loma Prieta



# Guidelines for MASTER PLAN for a GREEN STREET NETWORK

Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter  
Sustainable Land Use Committee



MAY 1, 2020



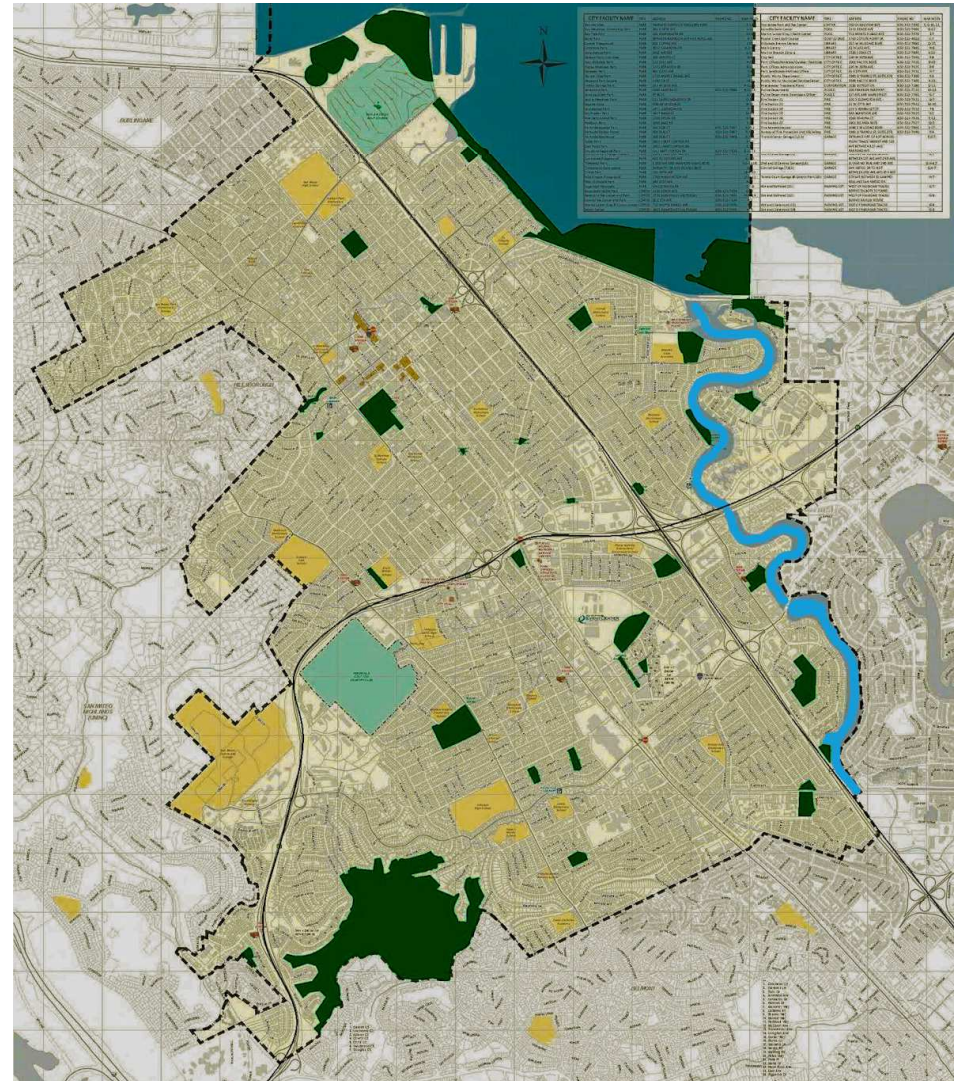
How to plan a network

Example:

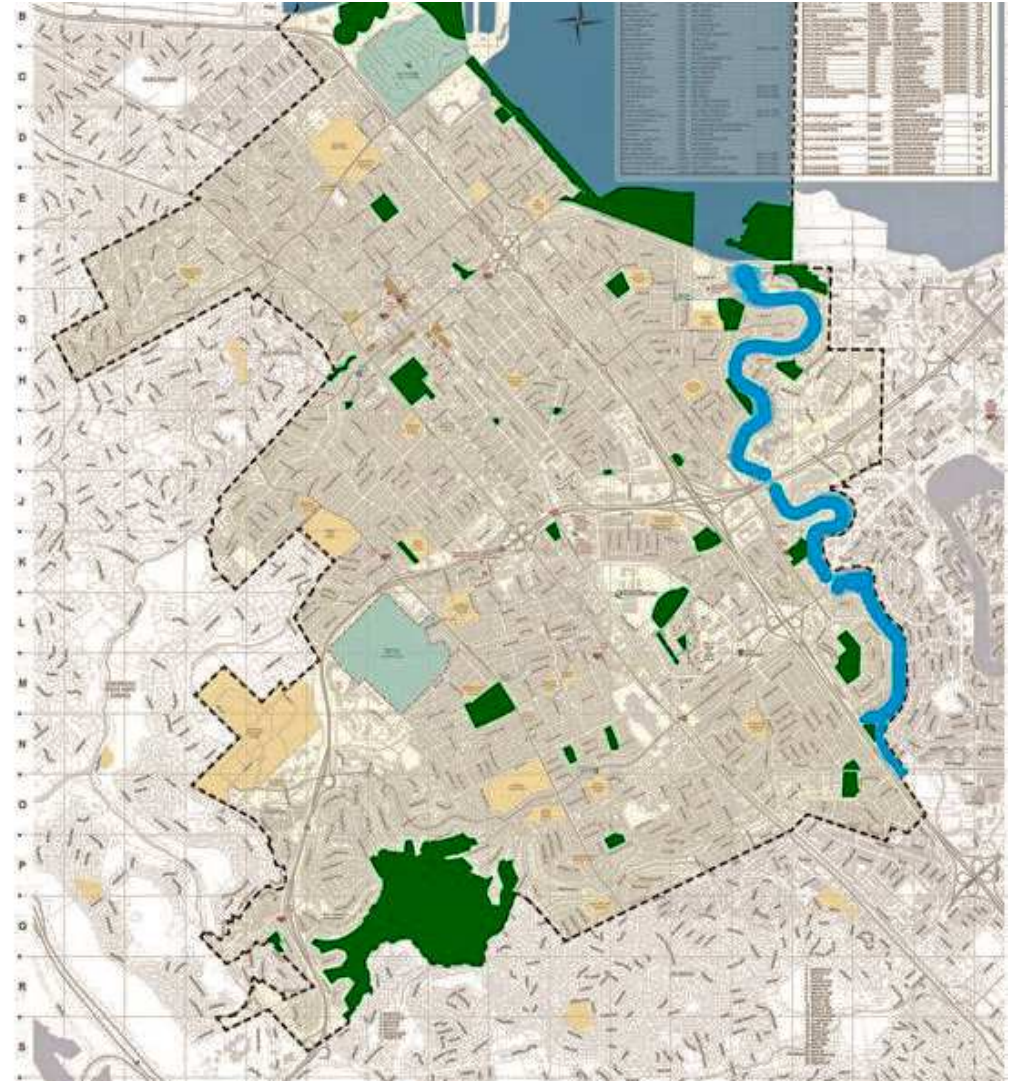
City of San Mateo

Green Streets Network

*“Streets are a huge public asset that should be more imaginatively managed for greater benefit...”*



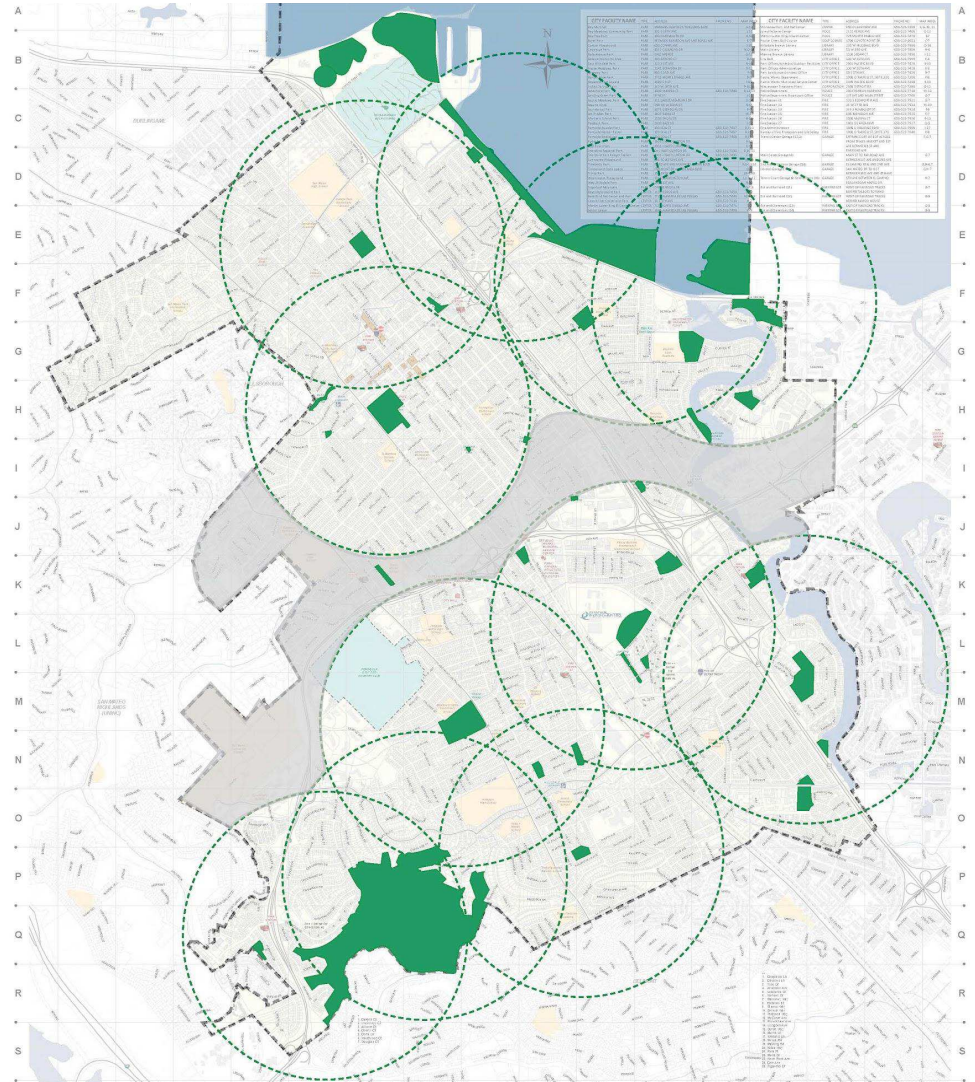
# 1. Identify Open Space: existing parks & creeks



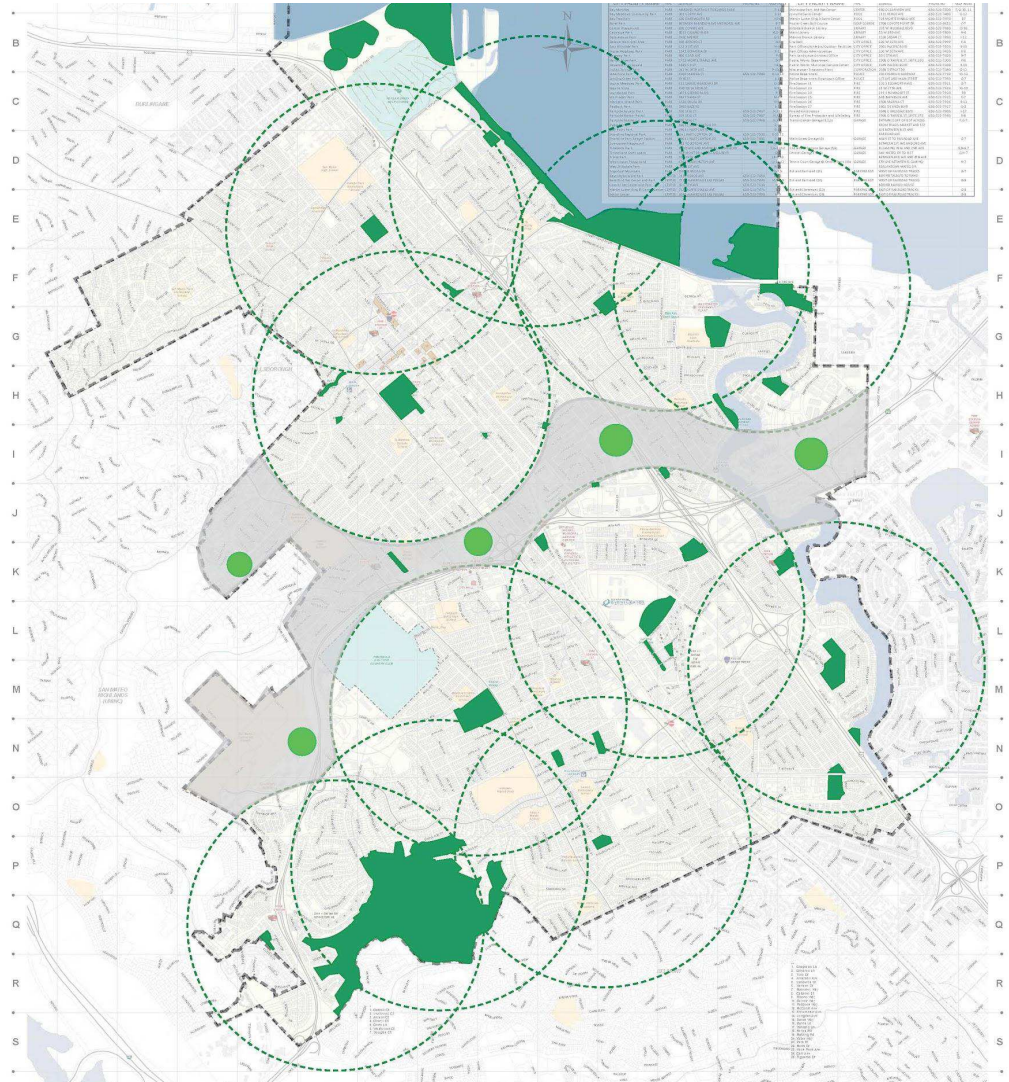


## 2. Add a 10-minute walkshed around existing parks

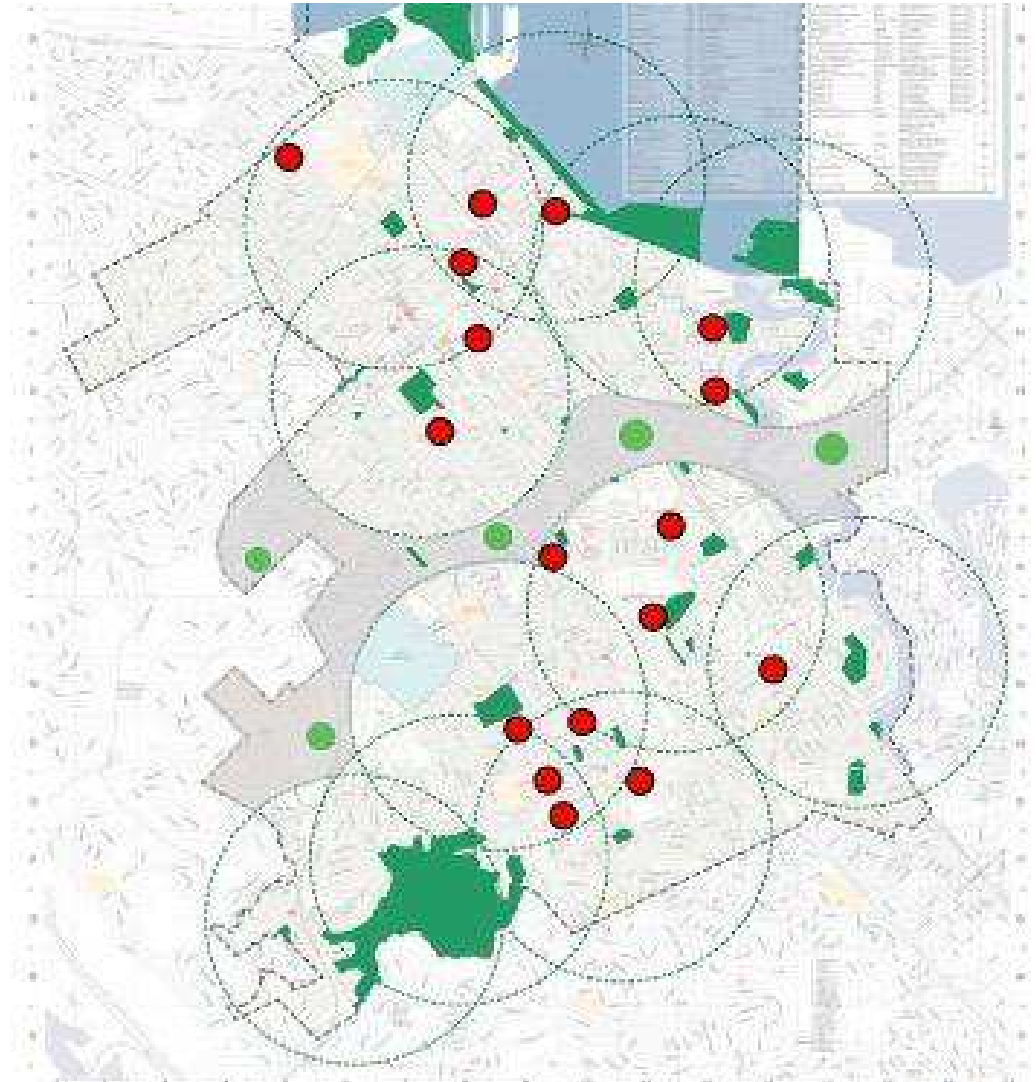
*This shows areas that lack pedestrian access to parks*



**3. Plan new parks in  
these areas**  
*shown as green dots*



#### 4. Add existing school sites

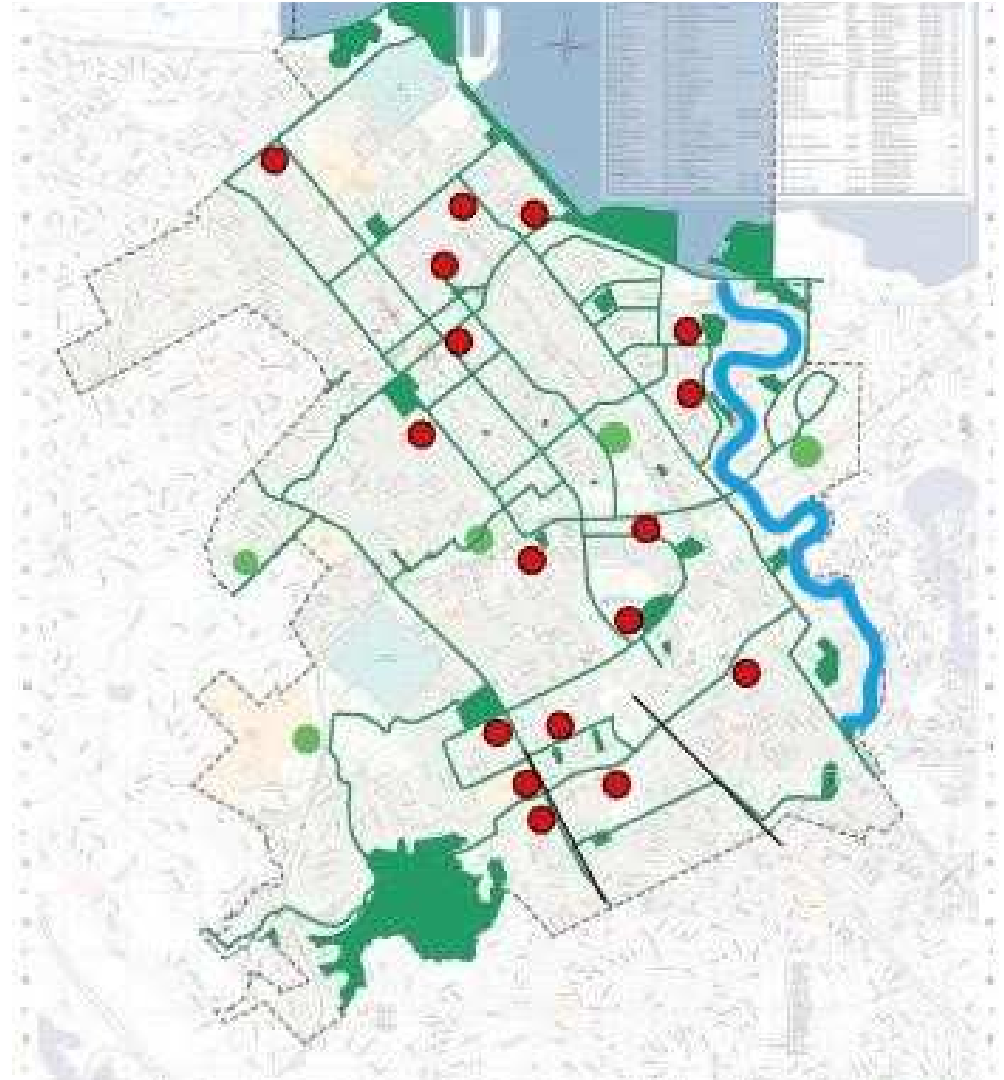




**5. Overlay a  
connected network  
of pedestrian walks  
and bikeways**

*connect the parks, schools,  
creeks and the bay  
and areas providing services  
and amenities*

*check existing bicycle plan  
and adjust it as needed*



**6. Plant large resilient trees along this network to provide shade**

- . *Comfort and beauty*
- . *Promote active lifestyle*
- . *Improve air quality*
- . *Hold & slow storm water*
- . *Provide wildlife habitat*
- . *Reduce heat island effect*
- . *Sequester carbon*

**A connected network for walking & bicycling**

*Ecology corridors for wildlife*

***Connect the schools, parks, civic amenities, creeks, and the Bay***





## 7. Green storm-water infrastructure is a high priority for a green street network

- . *Clean storm water of pollutants going into creeks and bay*
- . *Rainwater used to grow the trees and plants*
- . *Recharge groundwater*





## 8. Create healthy Ecology /Habitat Corridors

*Use native and high habitat-value planting in storm water bioswales*

- . *Trees*
- . *Shrubs*
- . *Groundcovers*

Improve the environment for birds, insects & pollinators



## 9. Slow down auto traffic on green streets:

- . Max. speed 15-20 mph
- . Block thru traffic
- . 2-lane traffic max
- . Narrow lane widths to 10'

*Create a **SAFE, slow speed, connected** network for walking and bicycling thru the city*



- . Start with temporary green streets, using inexpensive and simple means*
- . Invite community comments*
- . Allow users sufficient time to get used to the changes*
- . Review feedback to make adjustments*
- . Involve multiple city departments for integrated design solutions*





## Active transportation reduces VMT & GHG

*. Vision Zero, Safety is top  
priority*

Plan ahead - for  
significant growth in  
“active transportation”



## Safe Routes to School should be part of green network

*Safety is top priority*

*Both walking and biking are encouraged*

*Reducing school drop-offs can remove as much as 10% of morning traffic on city streets*





## 10. Underground utility lines along green corridors:

### Aerial utility lines

- pose a fire hazard
- conflict with tree canopy *requiring frequent destruction of mature trees*



NYPPost Oct 10, 2018

**Provide incentives for property owners along the corridor to replant with native landscaping for habitat**



A green leaf with a water droplet hanging from it. Inside the droplet is a small globe of the Earth. The background is a soft green gradient.

**Create a policy  
so that city departments work together  
rather than in silos  
to  
Invest in integrated solutions  
for  
our largest public asset - streets**



*Plan a connected Green Street Network in your city*

**“Sustainable Green Streets”  
create  
Resilient Communities**



Photo: dwerwater.com

**From:** [Christine Selberg](#)  
**To:** [Council City](#)  
**Cc:** [Clerk City](#); [City Mgr](#); [Planning Commission](#); [ARB@citypaloalto.org](mailto:ARB@citypaloalto.org); [board@pausd.org](mailto:board@pausd.org)  
**Subject:** 5G Cell Towers in Palo Alto  
**Date:** Thursday, May 7, 2020 1:16:49 PM

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Dear Mayor Fine, Vice Mayor DuBois, and Council Members Cormack, Filseth, Kniss, Kou and Tanaka,

I understand that City Manager Ed Shikada has recommended that, in the interests of cost-cutting, you amend Palo Alto's municipal code to "scale back" on cell tower application processing—a scale-back which would include eliminating the Architectural Review Board from the review process.

I am writing to urge you not to take this step. Why? Quite simply, because it fails to save money for Palo Alto. It is the companies that file applications to install cell towers, not Palo Alto, that pay for staff time spent on these applications. In other words, our city won't save money by "scaling back" application processing requirements, only the applicants will.

Moreover, Mr. Shikada's recommendation is bad public policy. The reduced cell tower application processing requirements he is calling for are sure to undermine the thoughtful siting and design criteria you on City Council unanimously approved only four months ago—undermine them by making it easier for telecommunications companies to install cell towers next to residents' homes.

The City Manager's recommendation is at best ill-informed, and, at worst, an end run around the provisions of the December, 2019, Wireless Resolution, a Resolution that was the result of a three-year-long effort by our community and a great deal of work by, among others, you on City Council.

I am also writing to urge you—should you decide to follow another of Mr. Shikada's recommendations, namely, that you reduce the number of code enforcement employees—to stipulate that no reduction in code enforcement or compliance personnel may be taken that jeopardizes the safety and well-being of the people of Palo Alto, in particular with respect to the installation of cell towers consisting of hundreds of pounds of high-voltage, radiation-emitting equipment near residents'

homes.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Christine Selberg, Downtown North

From: [Suzanne Keehn](#)  
To: [Council, City; Planning Commission; Clerk, City; Shikada, Ed; Architectural Review Board](#)  
Subject: 5G and Other Issues  
Date: Monday, May 4, 2020 3:48:41 PM

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Dear Mayor Fine, Vice Mayor DuBois, and Council Members Cormack, Filseth, Kniss, Kou and Tanaka,

I Totally agree with this Letter. Also for the City Manager to propose a 4.3 percent raise is unconscionable at this time. Stanford is voluntarily cutting their salaries. It is beyond me that this proposal would even be considered, plus I feel our City Staff, the upper management salaries are already too high. This is the time to strongly consider cutting back proportionately to more reasonable pay.

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I understand that City Manager Ed Shikada has recommended that, in the interests of cost-cutting, you amend Palo Alto's municipal code to "scale back" on cell tower application processing—a scale-back which would include eliminating the Architectural Review Board from the review process.

I am writing to urge you not to take this step. Why? Quite simply, because it fails to save money for Palo Alto. It is the companies that file applications to install cell towers, not Palo Alto, that pay for staff time spent on these applications. In other words, our city won't save money by "scaling back" application processing requirements, only the applicants will.

Moreover, Mr. Shikada's recommendation is bad public policy. The reduced cell tower application processing requirements he is calling for are sure to undermine the thoughtful siting and design criteria you on City Council unanimously approved only four months ago—undermine them by making it easier for telecommunications companies to install cell towers next to residents' homes.

The City Manager's recommendation is at best ill-informed, and, at worst, an end run around the provisions of the December, 2019, Wireless Resolution, a Resolution that was the result of a three-year-long effort by our community and a great deal of work by, among others, you on City Council.

I am also writing to urge you—should you decide to follow another of Mr. Shikada's recommendations, namely, that you reduce the number of code enforcement employees—to stipulate that no reduction in code enforcement or compliance personnel may be taken that jeopardizes the safety and well-being of the people of Palo Alto, in particular with respect to the installation of cell towers consisting of hundreds of pounds of high-voltage, radiation-emitting equipment near residents' homes.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Keehn  
4076 Orme St.  
94306

**From:** [Jeanne Fleming](#)  
**To:** [Council, City](#)  
**Cc:** [Clerk, City](#); [Architectural Review Board](#); [Planning Commission](#); [board@pausd.org](mailto:board@pausd.org); [health@paloaltopta.org](mailto:health@paloaltopta.org)  
**Subject:** Tonight's meeting  
**Date:** Monday, May 4, 2020 8:50:47 AM

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Dear Mayor Fine, Vice-Mayor DuBois, and Council Members Cormack, Filseth, Kniss, Kou and Tanaka:

As you know, City Manager Ed Shikada has proposed that the City save money by "scaling back" the cell tower application process, a process that is in fact paid for by the applicants and costs the City next to nothing. I trust from the many dozen emails you have received from residents in the past week you are well aware of how little the people of Palo Alto think of this proposal.

I am writing now to let you know that, having made our position clear in these many emails, we are not planning, as a group, to attend this evening's Council meeting, where we feel we would only be wasting your time and ours by repeating ourselves. (We will, of course, be watching the proceedings remotely.)

What we are doing, however, is asking Mr. Shakada to meet with a few of us later this week so that we may better understand his proposal and ask him the questions it has raised regarding saving money for Palo Alto (City Council has been cc'ed on our request).

Sincerely,

Jeanne Fleming  
For United Neighbors

Jeanne Fleming, PhD  
[JFleming@Metricus.net](mailto:JFleming@Metricus.net)  
650-325-5151

**From:** [Meredith Einaudi](#)  
**To:** [Council, City](#)  
**Cc:** [Ed.Shikada@cityofpalalto.org](mailto:Ed.Shikada@cityofpalalto.org); [Architectural Review Board](#); [Planning Commission](#)  
**Subject:** Cell Tower permitting process:Shikada"s recommendations  
**Date:** Sunday, May 3, 2020 11:16:37 PM

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Dear Mayor Fine, Vice Mayor Fine;and Councilmembers Cormack, DuBois, Kniss, Kou and Tanaka,

I am writing to urge you to reject both the recommendations put forth by Manager Shikada regarding the "scaling back" of the cell tower application process and the reduction in staffing required to insure that the wireless companies uphold the siting and design requirements stipulated in the city's Wireless Resolution Dec. 2019 and to be amended in the Wireless Ordinance still in the process of finalization.

1.Regarding the scaling back of the application process for cell tower applications, Shikada's argument that it will save the city money makes no sense. It is the wireless companies that pay the entire cost of this application process, not the city. This employment allows the city to retain faithful staff, not hand the wireless companies a windfall of savings.

2.The "scaling back" would eliminate the Architectural Review Board from the review process.The ARB input is especially important for the residential neighborhoods with literally billions of dollar of real estate ,the value of which will be significantly reduced if the wireless companies are allowed to erect countless new cell towers,requiring noisy cooling fans and located too close to homes. Palo Alto residents deserve to see that their best interests are represented by the ARB.

3.Shikada's proposals significantly undermine the carefully crafted checks and balances of the siting and design aspects of the Wireless Resolution signed Dec. 2019 and the revised Wireless Ordinance still in process of finalizing. They put the non-property taxpaying wireless companies in the driver's seat when it should be the residents whose best interests are upheld. Who is serving whom?

4.Shikada's idea of reducing the number of code enforcement employees means lack of adequate inspection of the new and old WCF's, the numbers of which will dramatically increase in the next few years.Given that the 5G cell towers require cooling fans whose noise levels will require monitoring,the inspectors will have more work to do on more WCF's in order to ensure community safety. If anything we should need more code enforcers.

Palo Alto is being required to speed up the permitting of cell towers by a recent FCC ruling which is being challenged by lawsuits and two bills in Congress (HR 530 and SB2012)and a regional court case in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. There is a good chance that this ruling will be overturned in the next year or two.

Our cell tower permits currently run for ten years. We should adhere to the standards and application process we have established so Palo Alto does not find itself burdened with hastily approved WCF's signed under an emergency ordinance which has been overturned. We look to our City Council to reject Mr. Shikada's recommendations because they are not in our best interest.

Thank you,

Meredith Einaudi



**From:** [Sherryl Casella](#)  
**To:** [Council City](#)  
**Cc:** [Shikada, Ed](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Architectural Review Board](#); [board@pausd.org](mailto:board@pausd.org)  
**Subject:** Re: Verison cell tower application process  
**Date:** Sunday, May 3, 2020 6:39:36 PM

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Dear Mayor Fine, Vice-Mayor DuBois, and Council Members Cormack, Filseth, Kniss, Kou and Tanaka,

I understand that City Manager Ed Shikada has recommended that, in the interests of cost-cutting, you amend Palo Alto's municipal code to "scale back" on cell tower application processing—a scale-back which would include eliminating the Architectural Review Board from the review process.

I am writing to urge you not to take this step. Why? Quite simply, because it fails to save money for Palo Alto. It is the companies that file applications to install cell towers, not Palo Alto, that pay for staff time spent on these applications. In other words, our city won't save money by "scaling back" application processing requirements, only the applicants will.

Moreover, Mr. Shikada's recommendation is bad public policy. The reduced cell tower application processing requirements he is calling for are sure to undermine the thoughtful siting and design criteria you on City Council unanimously approved only four months ago—undermine them by making it easier for telecommunications companies to install cell towers next to residents' homes.

The City Manager's recommendation is at best ill-informed, and, at worst, an end run around the provisions of the December, 2019, Wireless Resolution, a Resolution that was the result of a three-year-long effort by our community and a great deal of work by, among others, you on City Council.

I am also writing to urge you—should you decide to follow another of Mr. Shikada's recommendations, namely, that you reduce the number of code enforcement employees—to stipulate that no reduction in code enforcement or compliance personnel may be taken that jeopardizes the safety and well-being of the people of Palo Alto, in particular with respect to the installation of cell towers consisting of hundreds of pounds of high-voltage, radiation-emitting equipment near residents' homes.

I ESPECIALLY OBJECT TO THEIR PROPOSED EQUIPMENT BOX THAT STANDS 4 1/2 FEET TALL AND 2 1/2 FEET DEEP. THESE BOXES SHOULD BE PLACED UNDERGROUND instead of on the area between the sidewalk and the street in our

neighborhoods

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sherryl Casella  
650-269-5331

**From:** [Jeanne Fleming](#)  
**To:** [Shikada, Ed](#)  
**Cc:** [Clerk, City](#); [Council, City](#); [Architectural Review Board](#); [Planning Commission](#); [board@pausd.org](mailto:board@pausd.org); [health@paloaltopta.org](mailto:health@paloaltopta.org)  
**Subject:** Invitation to meet with residents  
**Date:** Sunday, May 3, 2020 5:32:03 PM

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Dear Mr. Shikada,

On behalf of United Neighbors of Palo Alto, I am writing to invite you to meet with a group of residents in order to discuss one of your cost-cutting recommendations to City Council, specifically: that Palo Alto cut costs by reducing cell tower application processing requirements.

I propose that our meeting take place at 5:00 p.m. this coming Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, via Zoom. But if you are not available then, please suggest some other times when you are free.

I realize that your recommendation to scale back the cell tower application process may be considered at Monday evening's City Council meeting. But, as you know, residents do not have an opportunity to ask you questions in that forum. Since many of us have spent three years working to put those cell tower requirements in place, we would very much appreciate an opportunity to hear your thinking on the issue and, in particular, to ask you some questions that your proposal has raised.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Fleming  
For United Neighbors

Jeanne Fleming, PhD  
[JFleming@Metricus.net](mailto:JFleming@Metricus.net)  
650-325-5151

**From:** [Kirsten Flynn](#)  
**To:** [Police](#)  
**Cc:** [Planning Commission; Council, City](#)  
**Subject:** Noise problem  
**Date:** Saturday, May 2, 2020 4:02:35 PM

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Dear Palo Alto Police,

I just called in a noise complaint to the police non-emergency number. The Gas station near my house, Shell at Matadero and El Camino, has a hydrogen pumping station. It intermittently has a very loud grinding pumping sound, amongst other intrusive sounds, but this is the most common. Occasionally there is also a loud venting hiss noise, and an alarm that goes off.

I called it in, and asked they to check the noise level. I called at 11:06 am on Saturday May 2nd.

I got a phone call back from the officer, at approximately 11:30, and felt completely disregarded and gaslighted. He told me he had driven his car down the alley, and rolled down the window, and that the sound was not loud, so that it was not a violation. This is not a data driven approach to solving this problem, or responding to the issue. Perhaps the pump had stopped by the time your officer arrived. This is why this problem is such a challenge for the neighbors. Even if we call it in every time the pump is whining and grinding (as it is again right now), there is no guarantee that the officer will come past while the noise is occurring. Additionally it is not the highest and best use of police dispatchers or police officers time. As a citizen I would like you to be using your resources for public safety.

But the noise from this hydrogen station is loud, intrusive, and alters the way I can live in my house. I have to limit the use of my yard, and keep my windows closed when the pump is going. It is not on a schedule, so it can start or stop at any time. I spoke to a person who was from the pumps vendor, and he said to his knowledge this was the only hydrogen station in California that had ever been permitted in a residential area.

There must be an approved process to check if the noise is a violation, even if the noise is intermittent. Would you like me to call the police non-emergency number each time I hear a noise, in hopes that at some point that the noise is still happening when the officer comes out? Is there some kind of sound data collection that could take place?

This is both frustrating and stressful, I would like some direction on how to help the city mitigate this issue. Please help.

Thank you for your time and attention reading this letter.

Best,  
Kirsten A Flynn

**From:** [FABIAN KLASS](#)  
**To:** [Planning Commission](#)  
**Cc:** [Fabian Klass; Simone Hadid Klass](#)  
**Subject:** Cell Tower Safety  
**Date:** Saturday, May 2, 2020 12:06:04 PM

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To the City of Palo Alto Planning Commission:

We are writing this email to the city to express our extreme concern about the safety of our children. There are many studies that point to potential health risks of Cell tower proximity to homes. Until further research is conducted that proves there is NO NEGATIVE impact to our health, and in particular to the health of our children, we strongly believe the city should be prudent about the placement of such cell towers. For our home in particular, there is a cell tower across the fence in our backyard, less than 20 ft from our children's room. I request that this tower be placed at a further location from our property. Furthermore we request the city to apply greater setbacks to ALL cell towers, including macro towers, close to ALL homes in Palo Alto.

Regards,

Fabian & Simone Klass  
763 Coastland Drive  
Palo Alto, CA 94303

**From:** [Wolfgang Dueregger](#)  
**To:** [Neilson Buchanan](#)  
**Cc:** [City Council](#); [Jocelyn Dong](#); [Gennady](#); [Dave Price](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Norm Beamer](#); [Greg Welch](#); [Sallyann Rudd](#); [Malcolm Roy Beasley](#); [Michael Hodos](#); [Ray Dempsey](#); [KJ Chang](#); [Fred Balin](#); [Fred Kohler](#); [Hamilton Hitchings](#); [Shikada, Ed](#); [Tina Peak](#); [Lora Smith](#); [Vita Gorbunova](#); [Tim Knuth](#); [Janine Bisharat](#); [Jan Merryweather](#); [Marion Odell](#); [Ted Davids](#); [Lauren Burton](#); [Leslie Caine](#); [Elaine Meyer](#); [Gabrielle Layton](#); [Harris Barton](#); [Meg Barton](#); [David Kwoh](#); [Joe Baldwin](#); [Beth Rosenthal](#); [J.T. Guslin](#); [Beth Guislin](#); [Jerry Smith](#); [Nick and Kristine Peterson](#); [Irv](#); [Nadia Naik](#); [Chris Robell](#); [Carol Scott](#); [Holzemer/hernandez](#); [Peter Rosenthal](#); [Roger Petersen](#); [Richard Willits](#); [Annette Ross](#); [Paul & Karen Machado](#); [David Schrom](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Changes to Downtown parking in-lieu program  
**Date:** Friday, May 1, 2020 3:30:20 PM

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Dear City Council and City Manager,

- 1: We all would appreciate more transparency and proper public discussion of issues of this magnitude.
- 2: I fully support the concerns in below email. Similar consideration must be given to the Evergreen Park /Mayfield RPP zones as well as other RPPs that are in place.
- 3: The new garage on Cal Ave will be completed very soon. Will this garage then be used for commercial parking around Cal Ave so that no more business parking permits will be sold in our neighbor hood streets?

Wolfgang Dueregger

On Fri, May 1, 2020 at 3:07 PM Neilson Buchanan <[cnsbuchanan@yahoo.com](mailto:cnsbuchanan@yahoo.com)> wrote:

Please table any action which eliminates or reduces the parking in-lieu fees. The staff report is inaccurate, incomplete and does not consider impact upon a square mile of residential properties adjacent to the University Avenue commercial core.

There is no way that thousands of citizens have had time to change their personal priorities to understand a massive change in development policies. Emergency conditions of the virus threat should not apply to this staff recommendation for Council action.

**Please table this matter** until full public review and understanding can be achieved. This includes re-examination of office market and public transit conditions by the Planning Commission.

Reference: *Allow the expiration of a 1-year ban on office uses above the ground floor from participating in the City's Downtown parking in-lieu program.*  
<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?t=62107.34&BlobID=76464>

Neilson Buchanan  
155 Bryant Street

Palo Alto, CA 94301

650 329-0484

650 537-9611 cell

[cnsbuchanan@yahoo.com](mailto:cnsbuchanan@yahoo.com)

**From:** [Norman Beamer](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#); [Neilson Buchanan](#)  
**Cc:** [Jocelyn Dong](#); [Gennady](#); [Dave Price](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Greg Welch](#); [Sallyann Rudd](#); [Malcolm Roy Beasley](#); [Michael Hodos](#); [Ray Dempsey](#); [KJ Chang](#); [Fred Balin](#); [Fred Kohler](#); [Hamilton Hitchings](#); [Shikada, Ed](#); [Tina Peak](#); [Lora Smith](#); [Vita Gorbunova](#); [Tim Knuth](#); [Janine Bisharat](#); [Jan Merryweather](#); [Marion Odell](#); [Ted Davids](#); [Lauren Burton](#); [Leslie Caine](#); [Elaine Meyer](#); [Gabrielle Layton](#); [Harris Barton](#); [Meg Barton](#); [David Kwoh](#); [Joe Baldwin](#); [Beth Rosenthal](#); [J.T. Guslin](#); [Beth Guislin](#); [Jerry Smith](#); [Nick and Kristine Peterson](#); [Irv](#); [Nadia Naik](#); [Chris Robell](#); [Wolfgang Dueregger](#); [Carol Scott](#); [Holzemer/hernandez](#); [Peter Rosenthal](#); [Roger Petersen](#); [Richard Willits](#); [Annette Ross](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Changes to Downtown parking in-lieu program  
**Date:** Friday, May 1, 2020 12:13:19 PM

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I agree that this action is ill conceived. Don't use the COVID situation to slip this resident-unfriendly action by the public.

On Friday, May 1, 2020, 12:07:57 PM PDT, Neilson Buchanan <cnsbuchanan@yahoo.com> wrote:

Please table any action which eliminates or reduces the parking in-lieu fees. The staff report is inaccurate, incomplete and does not consider impact upon a square mile of residential properties adjacent to the University Avenue commercial core.

There is no way that thousands of citizens have had time to change their personal priorities to understand a massive change in development policies. Emergency conditions of the virus threat should not apply to this staff recommendation for Council action.

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Reference: *Allow the expiration of a 1-year ban on office uses above the ground floor from participating in the City's Downtown parking in-lieu program.*  
<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?t=62107.34&BlobID=76464>

Neilson Buchanan  
155 Bryant Street  
Palo Alto, CA 94301

650 329-0484  
650 537-9611 cell  
[cnsbuchanan@yahoo.com](mailto:cnsbuchanan@yahoo.com)



**From:** [Neilson Buchanan](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Cc:** [Jocelyn Dong](#); [Gennady](#); [Dave Price](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Norm Beamer](#); [Greg Welch](#); [Sallyann Rudd](#); [Malcolm Roy Beasley](#); [Michael Hodos](#); [Ray Dempsey](#); [KJ Chang](#); [Fred Balin](#); [Fred Kohler](#); [Hamilton Hitchings](#); [Shikada, Ed](#); [Tina Peak](#); [Lora Smith](#); [Vita Gorbunova](#); [Tim Knuth](#); [Janine Bisharat](#); [Jan Merryweather](#); [Marion Odell](#); [Ted Davids](#); [Lauren Burton](#); [Leslie Caine](#); [Elaine Meyer](#); [Gabrielle Layton](#); [Harris Barton](#); [Meg Barton](#); [David Kwoh](#); [Joe Baldwin](#); [Beth Rosenthal](#); [J.T. Guslin](#); [Beth Guislin](#); [Jerry Smith](#); [Nick and Kristine Peterson](#); [Irv](#); [Nadia Naik](#); [Chris Robell](#); [Wolfgang Dueregger](#); [Carol Scott](#); [Holzemer/hernandez](#); [Peter Rosenthal](#); [Roger Petersen](#); [Richard Willits](#); [Annette Ross](#)  
**Subject:** Changes to Downtown parking in-lieu program  
**Date:** Friday, May 1, 2020 12:08:03 PM

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Please table any action which eliminates or reduces the parking in-lieu fees. The staff report is inaccurate, incomplete and does not consider impact upon a square mile of residential properties adjacent to the University Avenue commercial core.

There is no way that thousands of citizens have had time to change their personal priorities to understand a massive change in development policies. Emergency conditions of the virus threat should not apply to this staff recommendation for Council action.

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<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?t=62107.34&BlobID=76464>

Neilson Buchanan  
155 Bryant Street  
Palo Alto, CA 94301

650 329-0484  
650 537-9611 cell  
[cnsbuchanan@yahoo.com](mailto:cnsbuchanan@yahoo.com)

**From:** [Mary Dimit](#)  
**To:** [Council, City](#)  
**Cc:** [Shikada, Ed](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Architectural Review Board](#); [board@pausd.org](mailto:board@pausd.org); [Clerk, City](#)  
**Subject:** Protect Cell Tower Compliance & Code Enforcement  
**Date:** Thursday, April 30, 2020 5:32:26 PM

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Dear City Council Members,

1) I urge the City Council not to amend Palo Alto's municipal code to "streamline" processing cell tower applications, including eliminating the Architectural Review Board from the review process.

This does not seem to be warranted as I understand that the companies that file cell tower applications, not Palo Alto, pay for staff time spent on these applications--so this will not save money for Palo Alto.

In addition, the siting and design criteria were recently approved late last year after three years of work by the community and City Council members. The provisions of the Wireless Resolution should not be easily circumvented.

2) I also urge the City Council not to reduce the number of code enforcement or compliance employees. These employees help ensure that the safety and well-being of the Palo Alto residents and visitors are protected. This is especially important when installing hundreds of pounds of high-voltage, radiation-emitting cell tower equipment near residents' homes.

Sincerely,

Mary Dimit  
Palo Alto resident

**From:** [Jeffrey S. Glenn](#)  
**To:** [Council, City](#)  
**Cc:** [Shikada, Ed](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Architectural Review Board](#); [board@pausd.org](mailto:board@pausd.org); [Clerk, City](#)  
**Subject:** Cell towers in residential neighborhoods  
**Date:** Thursday, April 30, 2020 5:08:24 PM

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Dear Mayor Fine, Vice Mayor DuBois, and Council Members Cormack, Filseth, Kniss, Kou and Tanaka,

I understand that City Manager Ed Shikada has recommended that, in the interests of cost-cutting, you amend Palo Alto's municipal code to "scale back" on cell tower application processing—a scale-back which would include eliminating the Architectural Review Board from the review process.

I am writing to urge you not to take this step. Why? Quite simply, because it fails to save money for Palo Alto. It is the companies that file applications to install cell towers, not Palo Alto, that pay for staff time spent on these applications. In other words, our city won't save money by "scaling back" application processing requirements, only the applicants will.

Moreover, Mr. Shikada's recommendation is bad public policy. The reduced cell tower application processing requirements he is calling for are sure to undermine the thoughtful siting and design criteria you on City Council unanimously approved only four months ago—undermine them by making it easier for telecommunications companies to install cell towers next to residents' homes.

The City Manager's recommendation is at best ill-informed, and, at worst, an end run around the provisions of the December, 2019, Wireless Resolution, a Resolution that was the result of a three-year-long effort by our community and a great deal of work by, among others, you on City Council.

I am also writing to urge you—should you decide to follow another of Mr. Shikada's recommendations, namely, that you reduce the number of code enforcement employees—to stipulate that no reduction in code enforcement or compliance personnel may be taken that jeopardizes the safety and well-being of the people of Palo Alto, in particular with respect to the installation of cell towers consisting of hundreds of pounds of high-voltage, radiation-emitting equipment near residents' homes.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey S. Glenn, M.D., Ph.D.

Professor of Medicine and Microbiology & Immunology

Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology

Director, Center for Hepatitis and Liver Tissue Engineering

Stanford University School of Medicine

CCSR Building, Rm. 3115A

269 Campus Drive

Stanford, CA 94305-5171

U.S.A.

[email:jeffrey.glenn@stanford.edu](mailto:jeffrey.glenn@stanford.edu)

tel (office): (650)725-3373

tel (lab): (650)498-7419

fax: (650)723-3032

pager: (650)723-8222; ID# 23080

**From:** [Ronald Chun](#)  
**To:** [Council, City](#)  
**Cc:** [Shikada, Ed](#); [Planning Commission](#)  
**Subject:** Cell Tower Application Process  
**Date:** Thursday, April 30, 2020 4:33:51 PM

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Dear Mayor Fine, Vice Mayor DuBois, and Council Members Cormack, Filseth, Kniss, Kou and Tanaka,

I understand that City Manager Ed Shikada has recommended that, in the interests of cost-cutting, you amend Palo Alto's municipal code to "scale back" on cell tower application processing—a scale-back which would include eliminating the Architectural Review Board from the review process.

I am writing to urge you not to take this step. Why? Quite simply, because it fails to save money for Palo Alto. It is the companies that file applications to install cell towers, not Palo Alto, that pay for staff time spent on these applications. In other words, our city won't save money by "scaling back" application processing requirements, only the applicants will.

Moreover, Mr. Shikada's recommendation is bad public policy. The reduced cell tower application processing requirements he is calling for are sure to undermine the thoughtful siting and design criteria you on City Council unanimously approved only four months ago—undermine them by making it easier for telecommunications companies to install cell towers next to residents' homes.

The City Manager's recommendation is at best ill-informed, and, at worst, an end run around the provisions of the December, 2019, Wireless Resolution, a Resolution that was the result of a three-year-long effort by our community and a great deal of work by, among others, you on City Council.

I am also writing to urge you—should you decide to follow another of Mr. Shikada's recommendations, namely, that you reduce the number of code enforcement employees—to stipulate that no reduction in code enforcement or compliance personnel may be taken that jeopardizes the safety and well-being of the people of Palo Alto, in particular with respect to the installation of cell towers consisting of hundreds of pounds of high-voltage, radiation-emitting equipment near residents' homes.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

**Ronald & Cindy Chun**  
**580 Suzanne Court, Palo Alto, CA 94306**

**From:** [Peggy Phelan](#)  
**To:** [Council, City](#)  
**Cc:** [Shikada, Ed](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Architectural Review Board](#); [board@pausd.org](mailto:board@pausd.org); [Clerk, City](#)  
**Subject:** Are you kidding?  
**Date:** Thursday, April 30, 2020 4:28:53 PM

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I am SO fed up with the endless process of REJECTING Verizon and other telcoms' attempts to ruin our health, our neighborhood, and our rights as property owners. We have gone back and forth endlessly on these cell towers. STOP it. The whole thing is ridiculous.

Jenne Fleming says Ed Shikada, cc'd here, wants to undo the whole thing because Palo Alto needs money and this is a down and dirty way to get it. She also points out that Mr Ed makes over 400k. Talk about crazy decisions. Do your jobs and stop this insanity. I am disgusted.

Among other things: this is a huge waste of labor and time. All of this has been decided at a glacial pace and now you are thinking of saying "forget it"? The equipment must ONLY go underground, if it must be here at all.

Professor Phelan

**From:** [Charlene Liao](#)  
**To:** [Council, City](#)  
**Cc:** [Shikada, Ed](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Architectural Review Board](#); [board@pausd.org](mailto:board@pausd.org); [Clerk, City](#); [Charlene Liao](#)  
**Subject:** Please DO NOT scale back on cell tower application processing  
**Date:** Thursday, April 30, 2020 4:26:51 PM

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Dear Mayor Fine, Vice Mayor DuBois, and Council Members Cormack, Filseth, Kniss, Kou and Tanaka,

We hope you are well, and managing to shelter-in-place without too much stress.

I understand that City Manager Ed Shikada has recommended that, in the interests of cost-cutting, you amend Palo Alto's municipal code to "scale back" on cell tower application processing—a scale-back which would include eliminating the Architectural Review Board from the review process.

As someone who lives across the street from the macro cell tower at Palo Alto Junior League Ballpark, which got hushed in on consent agenda at the **last** City Council meeting before most of you were sworn in as freshman Council Members, I am writing to urge you not to take this step. Why? Quite simply, because it fails to save money for Palo Alto. *It is the companies that file applications to install cell towers, not Palo Alto, that pay for staff time spent on these applications. In other words, our city won't save money by "scaling back" application processing requirements, only the applicants will.*

Moreover, Mr. Shikada's recommendation is bad public policy. The reduced cell tower application processing requirements he is calling for are sure to undermine the thoughtful siting and design criteria you on City Council unanimously approved only four months ago—undermine them by making it easier for telecommunications companies to install cell towers next to residents' homes.

The City Manager's recommendation is at best ill-informed, and, at worst, an end run around the provisions of the December, 2019, Wireless Resolution, a Resolution that was the result of a three-year-long effort by our community and a great deal of work by, among others, you on City Council.

I am also writing to urge you—should you decide to follow another of Mr. Shikada's recommendations, namely, that you reduce the number of code enforcement employees—to stipulate that no reduction in code enforcement or compliance personnel may be taken that jeopardizes the safety and well-being of the people of Palo Alto, in particular with respect to the installation of cell towers consisting of hundreds of pounds of high-voltage, radiation-emitting equipment near residents' homes. Please also do not reduce the code enforcement on Conditioned Use Permits for already installed cell towers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Charlene Liao



**From:** [Jerry Fan](#)  
**To:** [Council, City](#)  
**Cc:** [Shikada, Ed](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Architectural Review Board](#); [board@pausd.org](mailto:board@pausd.org); [Clerk, City](#)  
**Subject:** No to recent amendment to PA's municipal code to "scale back" cell tower application processing  
**Date:** Thursday, April 30, 2020 11:19:13 AM

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Dear Mayor Fine, Vice-Mayor DuBois, and Council Members Cormack, Filseth, Kniss, Kou and Tanaka,

I understand that City Manager Ed Shikada has recommended that, in the interests of cost-cutting, you amend Palo Alto's municipal code to "scale back" on cell tower application processing—a scale-back which would include eliminating the Architectural Review Board from the review process.

I am writing to urge you not to take this step. Why? Quite simply, because it fails to save money for Palo Alto. It is the companies that file applications to install cell towers, not Palo Alto, that pay for staff time spent on these applications. In other words, our city won't save money by "scaling back" application processing requirements, only the applicants will.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Jerry Fan

From: [Anne Lum](#)  
To: [Council, City](#)  
Cc: [Shikada, Ed](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Architectural Review Board](#); [board@pausd.org](mailto:board@pausd.org); [Clerk, City](#)  
Subject: Stop Cell Towers!  
Date: Wednesday, April 29, 2020 6:57:43 PM

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Dear Mayor Fine, Vice-Mayor DuBois, and Council Members Cormack, Filseth, Kniss, Kou and Tanaka,

I understand that City Manager Ed Shikada has recommended that, in the interests of cost-cutting, you amend Palo Alto's municipal code to "scale back" on cell tower application processing—a scale-back which would include eliminating the Architectural Review Board from the review process.

I am writing to urge you not to take this step. Why? Quite simply, because it fails to save money for Palo Alto. It is the companies that file applications to install cell towers, not Palo Alto, that pay for staff time spent on these applications. In other words, our city won't save money by "scaling back" application processing requirements, only the applicants will.

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homes.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

**Anne Lum**

**Resident and Owner 781 Barron Avenue**