



## STUDY SESSION

### Agenda Item # 2

## PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE

**Meeting Date:** March 12, 2019

**Subject:** Community Center update - public correspondence #2

The following is public correspondence received by the City Clerk's Office after the posting of the original agenda. Individual contact information has been redacted for privacy. This may *not* be a comprehensive collection of the public correspondence, but staff makes its best effort to include all correspondence received to date.

To send correspondence to the City Council, please email [Council@LosAltosCA.gov](mailto:Council@LosAltosCA.gov).

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Sarah M. Henricks](#)  
**Cc:** [Manuel Hernandez](#); [Erica Ray](#); [Jaime Chew](#); [Theresa Yee](#)  
**Subject:** FW: A New Community Center for Los Altos  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 12, 2019 1:59:16 PM

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**From:** Sally Meadows  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 12, 2019 1:57 PM  
**To:** City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
**Cc:** Chris Jordan <cjordan@losaltosca.gov>; Jon Maginot <JMaginot@losaltosca.gov>  
**Subject:** A New Community Center for Los Altos

Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council:

I strongly urge you to move forward with the plans for the new Hillview Community Center. Significant time, energy and thought was invested by a large number of committed Los Altos residents to develop recommendations for our new Center. The Task Force and the Design Development Working Group did an exemplary job in bringing forward a well-researched and thoughtful proposal that was endorsed by the entire City Council last September. Additionally, the plans went through an extensive review process in various Commissions and by the City Council. It achieves the goals put before it, to be “respectful of Los Altos' unique character and heritage yet a flagship building for the future”. This was a wonderful example of how our community can work constructively together to move our town forward.

Points to consider:

- A majority of the current Council already supported this plan last September. It would be irresponsible to change the remit or re-open past decisions when no significant new information supports doing so.
- If it chooses to not move forward now, the Council will be essentially dismissing the Task Force and Design Working Group’s input, as well as the city’s own multi-level review process. This will discourage qualified and committed community members from volunteering in future city initiatives.
- Construction costs are high and rising rapidly in our area, it will only get more expensive the longer construction is delayed.
- Programs are already being moved out of the existing Community Center. If this project doesn’t move forward this year, we will have a vacant, decrepit, decaying structure that will likely meet the definition of a “blighted property” as per our Municipal Code (11.10.020 B). Don’t let this happen.

Please move forward with our new Community Center; it is beautifully designed, long overdue and will be a tremendous benefit for current and future residents ... the sooner we break ground the better.

Sally Meadows

Los Altos resident

(Although a member of the Planning Commission, I am speaking on my own behalf.)

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Sarah M. Henricks](#)  
**Cc:** [Manuel Hernandez](#); [Erica Ray](#); [Jaime Chew](#); [Theresa Yee](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Environmental Commission Comments on 3/12 Meeting Agenda Item 2  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 12, 2019 1:47:57 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Laura Teksler <>  
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2019 1:27 PM  
To: City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>  
Subject: Environmental Commission Comments on 3/12 Meeting Agenda Item 2

Dear Los Altos City Council Members,

On behalf of the Los Altos Environmental Commission, I am writing in support of the green building aspects incorporated into the approved design for the Hillview Community Center. The Commission is confident that the current plan meets our community's standards for sustainable building.

In our memo dated August 18, 2017, the Commission outlined six aspects that we felt were important to incorporate to ensure the project reflects a high standard of sustainability; waste minimization, 100% electric building, a photovoltaic system with battery storage (and/or solar water heating system), healthy indoor environment, zero rainwater runoff and design for alternative and clean air transportation. Two members of the Commission, Don Bray and myself, participated in the LEED Charrette in which each of these aspects was examined as part of the process for the building to be designed to the LEED Silver standard. The design team took great care in considering all possible green design elements, and we concurred on the areas where points were not pursued for cost or practical reasons. We are delighted that the building will be 100% electric, ensuring its operation will be virtually carbon free. The Commission does not believe more photovoltaic capacity is necessary to add into the upfront design of the building as additional capacity can be added at any time (the entire roof is PV-ready), likely without any additional capital cost. Other key sustainable design aspects include green infrastructure to manage rainwater runoff, healthy materials use, ample natural light, energy efficient fixtures and HVAC system, water-saving appliances and irrigation system, robust construction & demolition waste management practices, electric vehicle charging, and bike parking.

The Environmental Commission is confident that the approved design will result in a Community Center that will reflect our community's commitment to a healthy and sustainable built environment.

Sincerely,  
Laura Teksler  
Environmental Commission Member

**From:** [Chris Jordan](#)  
**To:** [Sarah M. Henricks](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Proceed to rebuild Hillview Community Center  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 12, 2019 12:51:22 PM

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Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Marie Young <  
**Date:** March 12, 2019 at 12:00:01 PM PDT  
**To:** [council@losaltosca.gov](mailto:council@losaltosca.gov)  
**Cc:** Chris Jordan <[cjordan@losaltosca.gov](mailto:cjordan@losaltosca.gov)>  
**Subject:** Proceed to rebuild Hillview Community Center

Dear Mayor Lee Eng and members of the Council,

Let's move ahead with building the new community center.

Speaking as one who's remodeled homes several times, there is always something you wish you'd thought to do. But at some point you've just got to make a decision and go for it. The thorough and thoughtful process involving many, many residents has brought us to that "go for it" moment. Delaying will only result in additional costs and is unlikely to provide a better or bigger complex.

Further, three members of the current Council voted to proceed a few months ago. Let that decision stand! To second guess carefully made decisions not only discourages people from running for office, it also seems disrespectful of those volunteers who gave countless hours researching and recommending a good - maybe even great, if surely not perfect - project for our community.

Please move on to deal with other important challenges facing our city.

Thanks for your service.

Best regards,

Marie Young

Los Altos