

From: [Richard A Barth](#)
To: [Sean Gallegos](#)
Subject: Re: Proposed house at 370 Yerba Santa Avenue
Date: Thursday, April 16, 2020 2:35:33 PM

Sean,

I hope you and your family are doing ok amidst all that is going on .

I am following up regarding 370 Yerba Santa house revisions. There has been a long period of no activity. Do you have an update on the plans?
Our neighborhood is very interested in applying for a one story over-lay for the street. Would it be possible to schedule a brief call to get an update from you regarding the project, etc ?

Best wishes,
Richard

650 7995930

On Mar 13, 2019, at 1:19 PM, Sean Gallegos <sgallegos@losaltosca.gov> wrote:

Richard,

Thank you. I will add your comments to the file. Just so you're aware, the application for 370 Yerba Santa is incomplete, and we have not scheduled the new house for any future meetings due to outstanding issues.

Thanks,
Sean Gallegos

Sean K. Gallegos, Associate Planner
Planning Division
City of Los Altos
1 North San Antonio Road
Los Altos, California 94022

Phone: (650) 947-2641/Fax: 650-947-2733
E-Mail: sgallegos@losaltosca.gov

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

From: Richard A Barth <rabarth@stanford.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2019 8:03 PM
To: Sean Gallegos <sgallegos@losaltosca.gov>
Cc: Lori Barth <lbarth@stanford.edu>

Subject: Proposed house at 370 Yerba Santa Avenue

Dear Sean,

Attached is letter regarding the proposed house at 370 Yerba Santa Avenue

Sincerely,
Richard and Lori Barth

8/31/20

Sean Gallegos, Planning Department
City of Los Altos

RE: Proposed 2 story house at 370 Yerba Santa Ave.

Dear Mr Gallegos;

We are writing to express significant concern regarding the re-submitted house plans for 370 Yerba Santa Avenue, which is immediately adjacent to our home at 418 Yerba Santa Avenue. The redesign does not address our concerns regarding privacy and consistency in the character of our neighborhood.

In October 2019, we attended a neighborhood meeting with the architect and owner and were assured that our personal concerns regarding privacy and neighborhood character were important issues that they would address with us. Lori and I have had zero follow up from the owner or the architect since that meeting and last week we were surprised to learn that new plans had been submitted to the Planning Department. Nothing has changed in the approach the owner is taking. The owner continues to assure the Planning Department that they are in communication with the neighbors and ourselves in formulating plans, yet there has been no communication.

We remain highly concerned for our privacy, which would be severely impacted by the proposed two story home at 317 Yerba Santa Avenue.

The proposed plans would diminish our privacy in the outdoor areas including our pool, patios, and lawn, where we work, read, garden, swim, eat and entertain. We use this space as an outdoor room and are there all of the time during most of the year. The proposed structure would loom over our outdoor space and be highly detrimental to our sense of privacy. Privacy issues are also relevant to the other 3 adjacent homeowners. We have also reviewed the proposed plans with a landscape architect, who opined that the impact of the proposed structure could not be diminished through landscape design given the close proximity to our property and the height of the structure. We find this disheartening and urge you and other members of the Planning Department to visit with us at our home to see first hand the basis for why we oppose the design for 317 Yerba Santa Avenue.

The proposed two story structure (3 stories including the basement) submitted to the city in no way aligns with the consistent character of the neighborhood, and we will be impacted daily as we enter and exit the street on foot, by bike, and by car by the out of character home on a country lane. We are aligned with our neighbors in our commitment to maintain the character of our neighborhood, which prompted our communication to the Planning Department of our desire to submit a request for a single story overlay.

As you might recall, our private single lane road consists of only 8 one story homes.

In the history of this narrow, single lane wooded country-like road, there has never been a two story home. This proposed home design is oversized for our street and belongs in a neighborhood with mansions, not one where single story homes are the norm.

Our concerns have now been voiced with the owner, the architect and the city. The owner and architect have not been in touch despite knowing our concern and promising to work with us.

Thank you for your consideration as you review the project at 370 Yerba Santa.

Sincerely,

Richard and Lori Barth
418 Yerba Santa Avenue

650 7995930

From: [Richard A Barth](#)
To: [Sean Gallegos](#)
Subject: Re: Proposed house at 370 Yerba Santa Avenue
Date: Friday, April 24, 2020 10:46:22 AM

Sean,

Thanks for update Sean.

Richard

On Apr 23, 2020, at 12:32 PM, Sean Gallegos <sgallegos@losaltosca.gov> wrote:

Richard,

The applicant has kept the City abreast of its meetings with the neighbors, and we so no reason to terminate the application.

Hopefully, the final design addresses the neighbors concerns or the Design Review Commission will make a determination on the application.

Thank you,
Sean

<Outlook-
vtud32z2.png> Sean K. Gallegos
Associate Planner, City of Los Altos
(650) 947-2641 | www.losaltosca.gov
1 N. San Antonio Road | Los Altos, CA 94022

From: Richard A Barth <rabarth@stanford.edu>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 2:26 PM
To: Sean Gallegos <sgallegos@losaltosca.gov>
Subject: Re: Proposed house at 370 Yerba Santa Avenue

Thanks Sean,

This has been going on for quite a long time. Is there a deadline for receiving the plans?

Best,
Richard

On Apr 20, 2020, at 12:33 PM, Sean Gallegos <sgallegos@losaltosca.gov> wrote:

Richard,

The applicant indicates there are updated plans, but I have not received them yet. I just emailed the applicant regarding the status of their updated plans, and I would expect to have the plans soon.

Sean

<Outlook-
uddri1s0.png> Sean K. Gallegos
Associate Planner, City of Los Altos
(650) 947-2641 | www.losaltosca.gov
1 N. San Antonio Road | Los Altos, CA 94022

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Sent: Thursday, April 16, 2020 2:35 PM
To: Sean Gallegos <sgallegos@losaltosca.gov>
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Thanks,
Sean Gallegos

Sean K. Gallegos, Associate Planner
Planning Division

City of Los Altos
1 North San Antonio Road
Los Altos, California 94022

Phone: (650) 947-2641/Fax: 650-947-2733
E-Mail: sgallegos@losaltosca.gov

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

From: Richard A Barth <rbarth@stanford.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2019 8:03 PM
To: Sean Gallegos <sgallegos@losaltosca.gov>
Cc: Lori Barth <lbarth@stanford.edu>
Subject: Proposed house at 370 Yerba Santa Avenue

Dear Sean,

Attached is letter regarding the proposed house at 370 Yerba Santa Avenue

Sincerely,
Richard and Lori Barth

From: [Richard A Barth](#)
To: [Sean Gallegos](#)
Cc: [Tom Popek](#)
Subject: RE: 370 Yerba Santa Ave House design
Date: Monday, November 2, 2020 8:07:52 PM

RE: 370 Yerba Santa Ave House design

Dear Sean,

I want to thank you for your effort in the planning review for the 370 Yerba Santa project and hope you are faring ok during the pandemic.

I hope you can assist on the following questions: 1. Provide clarification regarding the change of the Planning Department designation of Yerba Santa from a “Consistent Character Neighborhood” to that of “Diverse Character Neighborhood” ; and 2. We seek your advice regarding the timing and process for voicing strong support for the “consistent character neighborhood” designing requirement given the consistent designs of the homes on our narrow country-like road. All of the neighbors on our private road are strongly supportive of this position.

We seek clarification regarding whether there has been a change in the consistent character neighborhood definition as your memo to the DRC on August 7, 2019, in the neighborhood context section stated “The subject property is located in a Consistent Character Neighborhood as defined in the City’s Residential Design Guidelines.” However, your letter to the architect, Mark Wommack, on June 25, 2020, states "the subject property is located in a Diverse Character Neighborhood as defined in the City’s Residential Design Guidelines”.

We and our neighbors are unanimous in our opinion that the home designs on our road and the streetscape meet the definition of “consistent character” – Can you advise on the timing and

the method for communicating this opinion. Should we send a letter to you and the plan reviewers signed by all? Should we present this to the Design Review Commission at this time?

Thank you in advance for your clarification and advice on this.

Best wishes,

Richard Barth

418 Yerba Santa Avenue

Los Altos, CA

650 799-5930

From: Sean Gallegos <sgallegos@losaltosca.gov>
Subject: RE: 370 Yerba Santa Ave House design
Date: November 3, 2020 at 7:04:38 AM PST
To: Richard A Barth <rabarth@stanford.edu>
Cc: Tom Popek <tompopek43@gmail.com>

Richard,

I should further clarify. If you provide a comment letter for the Design Review Commission, staff will provide a response to the Design Review Commission directly to the commission when the item is scheduled for a public hearing.

As a reminder, staff has not written its staff report for the Design Review Commission. The staff report will provide our final and definitive determination regarding to neighborhood character.

Sean

From: Sean Gallegos [L] [SEP] **Sent:** Tuesday, November 3, 2020 6:59 AM [L] [SEP] **To:** Richard A Barth <rabarth@stanford.edu> [L] [SEP] **Cc:** Tom Popek <tompopek43@gmail.com> [L] [SEP] **Subject:** RE: 370 Yerba Santa Ave House design

Richard,

Typically, staff does not answer public comments related to a project being scheduled before the DRC. If you have a specific question, staff requests a letter or email to the Design Review Commission. Staff will provide a response to the Design Review Commission.

Thank you,
Sean Gallegos
Associate Planner

From: Richard A Barth <rabarth@stanford.edu> [L] [SEP] **Sent:** Monday, November 2, 2020 8:08 PM [L] [SEP] **To:** Sean Gallegos <sgallegos@losaltosca.gov> [L] [SEP] **Cc:** Tom Popek

<tompopek43@gmail.com>^{SEP} **Subject:** RE: 370 Yerba Santa Ave House design

RE: 370 Yerba Santa Ave House design

Dear Sean,

I want to thank you for your effort in the planning review for the 370 Yerba Santa project and hope you are faring ok during the pandemic.

I hope you can assist on the following questions: 1. Provide clarification regarding the change of the Planning Department designation of Yerba Santa from a "Consistent Character Neighborhood" to that of "Diverse Character Neighborhood" ; and 2. We seek your advice regarding the timing and process for voicing strong support for the "consistent character neighborhood" designing requirement given the consistent designs of the homes on our narrow country-like road. All of the neighbors on our private road are strongly supportive of this position.

We seek clarification regarding whether there has been a change in the consistent character neighborhood definition as your memo to the DRC on August 7, 2019, in the neighborhood context section stated "The subject property is located in a Consistent Character Neighborhood as defined in the City's Residential Design Guidelines." However, your letter to the architect, Mark Wommack, on June 25, 2020, states "the subject property is located in a Diverse Character Neighborhood as defined in the City's Residential Design Guidelines".

We and our neighbors are unanimous in our opinion that the home designs on our road and the streetscape meet the definition of "consistent character" – Can you advise on the timing and the method for communicating this opinion. Should we send a letter to you and the plan reviewers signed by all? Should we present this to the Design Review Commission at this time?

Thank you in advance for your clarification and advice on this.

Best wishes,
Richard Barth
418 Yerba Santa Avenue
Los Altos, CA
650 799-5930

From: Mark Wommack <mark@eidarchitects.com>
Subject: FW: 370 Yerba Santa privacy screening
Date: November 10, 2020 at 9:40:08 AM PST
To: Richard A Barth <rabarth@stanford.edu>
Cc: Stuart Welte <stuart@eidarchitects.com>

Mr. Barth,

Over the last year, EID Architects has been working to revised the design of the home at 370 Yerba Santa. We are wrapping up our work on the redesign and want to reach out to you to make sure we've done all that we can to address your privacy concerns. We know that Tom Popek in his role acting as the community liaison between EID and the neighborhood has kept you informed of our progress, but we wanted to reach out directly to you because we haven't heard from you during the redesign process.

The following is a summarize our current proposal and what we've done to preserve your privacy:

Eid Architects had more contact with you during the initial design process than with any other neighbor. From this interaction we came to understand that the biggest challenge we faced in respecting your privacy concernd your pool. Your pool is unusual because it is located in the "Front" yard of your home, with the house located more to the rear than is customary. This creates an unusual relationship between your pool and the proposed residence at 370 Yerba Santa.

We examined and discussed with you the gap in screening that exists between your pool house and your main residence. To respect your privacy, we realize we must pay particular attention to the massing of our house, and also to the number and placement of windows along our west elevation. In the new design we propose a dramatic shift of the bulk of the second floor away from your pool patio. Stepping back from the single story garage, the first element on the second level is a small gabled roof with 7'-1" plate height. This gable is located 26 feet from your side property line. Within, a small bathroom contains no windows that face your pool area. Moving further away, under the next gable we

propose a bedroom. Again, in this room there are no windows facing your yard. It is only beyond this bedroom that the second story mass spreads out. At this point the nearest wall is a full 47 feet from your property line, and only one window faces your house. This window is 30" tall by 30" wide and provides light and air for the master bedroom closet. The window is located further to the south than the windows in our previous design, so existing vegetation along the property line will screen this window from your yard.

To further enhance privacy and screen the new home from your view we continue to propose the planting five new 36" box Cupressus Sempervirens along the property line. This will fill in the gap in existing vegetation and substantially screen the new house from view from your pool patio.

Attached are a few of the sheets that we will be presenting to the design review board. These sheet contain information that is relevant to your property. The complete set can be accessed with this link:
<https://eid.sharefile.com/d-sc359adc9183e4d6>

If you are interested in viewing the complete set, I would recommend downloading the set to your computer. Viewing the drawings in ShareFile can be tedious.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if there are any outstanding concerns that you'd like to discuss.

Sincerely,

MARK WOMMACK, ARCHITECT
Director of Architecture
Environmental Innovations in Design
Eco-functional Architecture

EID ARCHITECTS

412 Olive Avenue | Palo Alto | CA | 94306

dir 650.226.8862 | off 650.226.8770
mark@EIDarchitects.com
www.EIDarchitects.com

Design Review Committee Los Altos
November 23, 2020

RE: Proposed Home design for 370 Yerba Santa Avenue

Dear Committee members,

We are writing to express our opposition to the re-submitted house plans for 370 Yerba Santa Avenue, which is immediately adjacent to our home at 418 Yerba Santa Avenue. The proposed redesign would result in significant privacy issues for us.

In October 2019, we attended a neighborhood meeting with the architect and owner, where they shared the proposed redesign. We expressed our concerns regarding privacy and neighborhood character as important issues and were assured by the owner and architect that they would address the concerns and provide follow-up. We had zero follow-up from the owner or architect over more than a year and were surprised to learn that the new plans had been submitted to the Planning Department. The owner continued to assure the Planning Department that they are in communication with the neighbors and ourselves in formulating plans, yet there had been no communication until November 10, 2020, when Mr Wommack, the project architect contacted us for the first time in over a year and requested input on the design (see attached). *We provided requested feedback to Mr Wommack regarding our privacy concerns on November 15, 2020*

Mr Wommack acknowledged in the November 15, 2020 communication that ***“we came to understand that the biggest challenge we faced in respecting your privacy concerned your pool. Your pool is unusual because it is located in the “Front” yard of your home, with the house located more to the rear than is customary. This creates an unusual relationship between your pool and the proposed residence at 370 Yerba Santa”.***

We are highly concerned for our privacy, which would be severely impacted by the proposed two story home at 317 Yerba Santa Avenue. The submitted design would diminish our privacy in the outdoor areas including our pool, patios, and lawn, where we work, read, garden, swim, eat and entertain. We use this space as an outdoor room and are there all of the time during most of the year. The proposed structure would loom over our outdoor space and be highly detrimental to our sense of privacy. We reviewed the proposed landscape plans with a professional landscape architect, who opined that the impact of the proposed structure could not be diminished through landscape given the close proximity to our property line and the height of the structure. The proposed landscape would take 30-50 years to reach maturity. We find this quite disheartening and urge members of the DRC to visit our home to see first-hand the basis for why we oppose the design for 317 Yerba Santa Avenue.

In addition, the proposed two story structure (3 stories including the basement) submitted to the city does not comply with the consistent character of the neighborhood given its large bulk. We are aligned with our neighbors in our commitment to maintain the character of our neighborhood, which prompted our communication to the Planning Department of our desire to submit a request for a single story overlay.

As you may know, our private single lane road consists of only 8 one story homes. In the history of this narrow, single lane wooded country-like road, there has never been a two story home. This proposed home design is oversized for our street and belongs in a neighborhood with mansions, not one where single story homes are the norm.

Our concerns have now been voiced with the owner, the architect, and the city. The owner and architect have not been in touch one time until last week, despite knowing our concerns and promising to work with us.

Thank you for your consideration as you review the project at 370 Yerba Santa.

Sincerely,
Richard and Lori Barth 650 7995930

Design Review Committee Los Altos
November 23, 2020

RE: 370 Yerba Santa Avenue - Character Designation of our neighborhood

Dear Committee members,

We live at 418 Yerba Santa Avenue at the end of a cul-de-sac, adjacent to a proposed new home at 370 Yerba Santa Avenue.

Sean Gallegos recommended that we write the DRC requesting clarification regarding an apparent change in the designation of our neighborhood from "consistent character" to "diverse character" by the planning commission (see attached e-mail exchanges). We do so with this letter.

To summarize, a memo from Sean to the DRC on August 7, 2019, in the neighborhood context section stated: "The subject property is located in a Consistent Character Neighborhood as defined in the City's Residential Design Guidelines". However; a follow-up letter from Sean to the project architect, Mark Wommack, on June 25, 2020, states "the subject property is located in a Diverse Character Neighborhood as defined in the City's Residential Design Guidelines". We believe this change would be highly relevant for the design planning at 370 Yerba Santa Avenue.

When one looks down Yerba Santa towards the cul-de-sac from Los Altos Avenue, one can readily appreciate the unique nature of the narrow one-lane country-like road with its own character for the homes and streetscape. The road is privately owned and maintained by the homeowners on the street. Beyond Los Altos Avenue, Yerba Santa and the surrounding streets are much wider and readily accommodate 2 way traffic and street parking. There are different sized homes and the streetscapes are much different. We believe our street with consistent home designs and unique streetscape meets the definition of a consistent character neighborhood as defined in the Los Altos residential design guidelines and stated in Sean's letter to the DRC dated August 7, 2019.

We write in strong support of the "consistent character neighborhood" design requirement given the consistent designs of the homes and streetscape on our private road.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Richard and Lori Barth

418 Yerba Santa Avenue

650 7995930

From: [Tom Popek](#)
To: [Sean Gallegos](#)
Cc: [Bruce Beck](#); [Richard A Barth](#); [Patricia Sheehan](#); [Ned Hooper](#)
Subject: 370 yerba santa project
Date: Sunday, May 31, 2020 7:43:11 PM
Attachments: [370 Yerba Santa Project 2.doc](#)

sean,

hope that you are well and safe. the immediate neighbors of the above project have reviewed the current drawings and landscaping plans and have the attached response for your review and entry into the record of the project.

tom

370 Yerba Santa Project --- Neighborhood Response Status June 1, 2020

After the August 2019 Los Altos Design Commission directive to the property owner, Mr. Wei, to engage the immediate neighbors in the review of his house project, the complete neighborhood group waited two months for any response to that directive. When no response occurred, the group proactively invited Mr. Wei and his architects to present a revised plan for the house project on October 3, 2019. Drawings were presented showing a revised exterior with basically the same interior with five bedrooms and seven bathrooms. We received a commitment from the architects to get a more complete plan file in several weeks. This more complete file was received in early April 2020, about six months after the presentation. During this time period and up to the present, there has been no communication by the property owner, Mr. Wei, with any of the neighbors. The architect, Mark Wommack, has met once each with some of the immediate neighbors to take pictures and measurements to be used for landscape planning.

Concurrent with the revised house plan, a landscaping plan was sent in early April 2020, to the immediate four neighbors (one on each side) for comment with the apparent intent of using landscaping to screen the house project. The immediate neighbors, depending upon which side they live on, have deemed the landscaping plan as barely satisfactory to totally inadequate and even dangerous as poisonous plants (oleander) were recommended. The architect has asked the neighbors to suggest what landscaping they would like. This seems odd after the architectural firm paid for a landscaping consultant to do the same task.

The resulting plans have done very little to alleviate the neighborhood concerns of the project. Landscaping screening drawings that show mature landscape heights (after 15 to 20 years of growth) do not solve the privacy issues we all have with this project. Large window areas add to light pollution and compound the privacy issues.

The fact remains that the owner and architect appear to want to use landscaping to hide a proposed three floor mansion of 6771 square feet that is totally out of character with the homes on this narrow country style lane and in fact, is twice the interior size of most of the one story homes on Yerba Santa. The proportions of the proposed house also do not fit this one lane street and substantially impact the neighbors' privacy, all of whose back yards abut Mr. Wei's property.

From: [Tom Popek](#)
To: [Wei Xiong](#); stuart@eidarchitects.com
Cc: [Sean Gallegos](#); [Ned Hooper](#); [Richard A Barth](#); [Patricia Sheehan](#); [Bruce Beck](#)
Subject: meeting invitation
Date: Monday, August 26, 2019 9:52:01 AM

Dear Mr. Wei:
Good morning.

I am following up on the Design Review Commission meeting on August 7th regarding your project at 370 Yerba Santa. Despite your stated desire to meet with the neighbors, we have not heard from you. Therefore the immediate affected neighbors on the four sides of your projected house invite you, your wife, Doris, and your architect, Mr. Welte, to a meeting with us on October 3 at 7pm at the home of Ned and Freya Hooper, 421 Yerba Buena Ave. to present your house design change actions to remove our concerns about:

1. The monolithic bulk of the house design that does not conform to Los Altos Design Rule Guidelines as stated in our letters and the staff recommendation.
2. A house design to better fit the consistent character of the neighborhood of Yerba Santa Ave.
3. The invasion of our privacy by design elements with balconies and windows that permit direct sight lines into our backyards, pool areas, and bedrooms.

We look forward to this meeting with you and your architect. I am serving as the contact for the neighborhood group so please reply directly to me.

Sincerely,

Tom Popek



Virus-free. www.avast.com

From: [Tom Popek](#)
To: [Wei Xiong](#)
Cc: [Bruce Beck](#); [Ned Hooper](#); [Patricia Sheehan](#); [Richard A Barth](#); [Sean Gallegos](#); stuart@eidarchitects.com
Subject: Re: meeting invitation
Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2019 4:55:19 PM

mr. wei,
i am glad that you can come to meet with us. we expect that mr welte will come also.
tom

On Tue, Aug 27, 2019 at 10:16 AM Wei Xiong <dnbladexw@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Tom,

Thanks for the invitation. Me and Stuart has been working on a new design. I am very happy to come to the meeting and show it to address to your concerns. I will bring wine and cheese. Look forward to seeing you all.

Thank you

Wei

On Mon, Aug 26, 2019 at 09:51 Tom Popek <tompopek43@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Mr. Wei:

Good morning.

I am following up on the Design Review Commission meeting on August 7th regarding your project at 370 Yerba Santa. Despite your stated desire to meet with the neighbors, we have not heard from you. Therefore the immediate affected neighbors on the four sides of your projected house invite you, your wife, Doris, and your architect, Mr. Welte, to a meeting with us on October 3 at 7pm at the home of Ned and Freya Hooper, 421 Yerba Buena Ave. to present your house design change actions to remove our concerns about:

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Sincerely,

Tom Popek



Virus-free. www.avast.com

From: [Tom Popek](#)
To: [Sean Gallegos](#)
Cc: [Ned Hooper](#); [Bruce Beck](#); [Patricia Sheehan](#); [Richard A Barth](#)
Subject: 370 yerba santa project
Date: Thursday, August 27, 2020 11:35:59 AM

sean,
i hope that you are doing well.
have the owners of 370 yerba santa submitted any plans?
we, the neighbors, have received no communication from either the owners or the architects
in months.
tom



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August 31, 2020

Sean Gallegos, Los Altos City Planning Department
1 North San Antonio Road
Los Altos, CA 94022

Re: 370 Yerba Santa Project

Dear Sean,

I have reviewed in great detail, the revised plans for the above project that were submitted to the City Planning Department on August 24, 2020. While substantial and marked improvements have been made to the exterior design, the fact remains, the projected three floor mansion of 6770 square feet of living space is about twice the size of any of the nearby homes. The proportions and architecture of the proposed house do not fit with the other homes on the one lane street of Yerba Santa.

The proposed project borders on the backyards of all the adjacent neighbors, of which I am one. With the large windows and high second story, there is a direct sightline into my backyard decks and master bedroom, which is in the back of my home. Landscape screening, which will take years to mature, will not protect my family from its lack of privacy.

At the August 2019 Design Review Commission, the owner of the property, Mr. Wei, was directed to work with the immediate neighbors to resolve issues. The neighbors invited Mr. Wei and his architects to a meeting in October 2019 to present their revised design. Since then, the only communication with the group has been the communication of the revised plans by Mr. Womack, the architect, to me, as the contact for the neighborhood group. It is clear that Mr. Wei has no intention of working with the neighborhood group and is ignoring our objections and appears to have no intention of being a neighbor.

Sincerely, Tom Popek, 400 Raquel Lane

Design Review Commission
City of Los Altos
1 North San Antonio Road
Los Altos, CA 94022

November 29, 2020

Re: 370 Yerba Santa Project

Since the first Design Review Commission meeting concerning this project in August 2019, we, the immediate adjacent neighbors, whose backyards all face different sides of the proposed house, have tried to get improved privacy protection from this proposed very large house of 6600 square feet of living space that is almost twice the size of any of the adjacent homes. The proposed house is 4 to 13 feet taller than any of the adjacent homes which impacts the privacy of our backyards with a direct line of sight over projected plantings of immature landscape which have no guarantee of surviving or prospering. The owner has never responded, the architect has changed a few windows and offered plants, but has not changed the proposed very large house. We want our privacy and will not get it with the current design.

The application submitted to the City includes houses on Raquel Lane as part of the neighborhood. This is incorrect and totally misleading. The neighborhood for the project should consist of Yerba Santa, a narrow country lane and Yerba Buena with its low profile homes, which the application states consists of homes built "preceding and following World War II." Dos Palos, which Raquel Lane is part of, is a separate development and neighborhood built 25 to 30 years later. The homes in Dos Palos are not comparable to the homes on Yerba Santa and are not part of the neighborhood of Yerba Santa. Even though the proposed project is across our back fence, which is the dividing line between the Dos Palos neighborhood and the Yerba Santa/Yerba Buena neighborhood, one has to walk one half mile from Raquel Lane to get to 370 Yerba Santa. The proposed house is simply out of place, does not fit within the Consistent Character Neighborhood of Yerba Santa, and needs to be made smaller and less bulky to join the other homes on Yerba Santa.

Sincerely,
Mary and Tom Popek
400 Raquel Lane

From: [Tom Popek](#)
To: [Sean Gallegos](#)
Cc: [Richard A Barth](#); [Bruce Beck](#); [Patricia Sheehan](#); [Ned Hooper](#)
Subject: 370 yerba santa project
Date: Wednesday, December 11, 2019 1:07:09 PM

sean,

good afternoon, i hope you had an enjoyable thanksgiving holiday.

since we had the neighborhood meeting with the owner and his architect for the 370 yerba santa project on oct. 3. 2019, we have had no response to numerous emails about the status of the project nor have we received the detailed drawings that were promised to us by mid october.

this is hardly the neighbor outreach that they were directed to do by the design review commission.

what have you heard?

tom

Sean Gallegos, Planning Dept
City of Los Altos

August 29, 2020

1 North San Antonio Rd

RE: Proposed New Two-Story building at 370 Yerba Santa Ave

Dear Mr Gallegos,

Since my previous letter to your office over one year ago regarding this project, my opinion on its validity has not changed. It should be denied as a three level (two story plus a daylight basement) house on a street that has no other house even remotely similar.

In the interval, as a result of this proposed project, the neighborhood organized and submitted an **“Intent to form a One Story Overlay”** in August 2019. The signed petition is at City Hall signed by all owners on this end of Yerba Santa. This petition is pending the outcome of the project proposal before you at 370 Yerba Santa.

This part of Yerba Santa is a private, single lane alley that brings the backyards of Raquel closer to the front yards on Yerba Santa. The revised proposed house is still out of character for the street and importantly impinges on the backyards of the Raquel neighbors due to the second story of the house and single lane of the road. The revisions are “old wine in new bottles”, and **the effects of this project are magnified by the narrowness of the street.**

In addition, all **the abutting neighbors (on all four sides of 370) have their backyards directly exposed by the second story.** The variations of windows, and proposed landscaping do not ameliorate this fact. We have communicated this fact to the architect.

Notwithstanding changing the roof lines, the house is huge on a small piece of property. It is **clearly out of proportion to all the houses on this street.** The plans try and diminish this with wide angles, but the fact remains that this is still out of character and size for the street, with almost 6700 square feet of living space.

Despite wishing to discuss our concerns, **there has been no outreach or dialogue with the owner.** Good neighbors usually try and work out differences. The only person who responded to our entreaties is his architect who has not been responsive to our concerns and ignores our letters (most recently sent by Tom Popek our Neighborhood Lead)

In summary, despite revisions made to the original plans, I do not think this project fits the Guidelines for Los Altos Construction (previously enumerated in my letter of February 23, 2019). This project is on a single lane alley, and the proposal does not meet the neighbors’ privacy concerns. Lastly, there is an Intent to file a One Story because of this project.

Bruce and Kathy Beck, 420 Yerba Santa Ave

From: [Bruce Beck](#)
To: [Los Altos Design Review Commission](#); [Planning Services](#); [Tom Popek](#)
Subject: Testimony regarding 370 Yerba Santa project Dec 2, 2020
Date: Tuesday, November 24, 2020 9:20:04 AM
Attachments: [Consistent Character Street.docx](#)
[Review of plan Revisions 2020.docx](#)
[DRC summary statement 2020.docx](#)

Please find three attachments:

- 1) Our objections to change in characterization of our street from Consistent Character to Diverse Character
- 2) Our findings regarding the revisions to the project done after a neighborhood meeting we requested with the owner and his architect (after the aborted DRC meeting last year).
- 3) A summary of our impressions of why this project does not meet Los Altos City Guidelines

Thank you.

Bruce and Kathy Beck
420 Yerba Santa Ave

November 20, 2020
Design Review Committee
Los Altos

RE: Change in Designation our street from “Consistent” to “Diverse”

Dear Commissioners,

We live on Yerba Santa at the end of a cul-de-sac. This road was originally the driveway from a historical house (built in 1917) to Los Altos Avenue, before the land was subdivided in the 1950s and houses were built along the driveway. Therefore, unlike many roads in Los Altos, ours is owned by each of the houses along the street, and it is less than half the width of a normal street.

It remained this way until the late 1960s when the adjacent farmland was developed into the Dos Palos neighborhood with underground utilities, with Raquel Ave backing up to our street. There is unique charm to our street, as it is narrow and a favorite for people to walk down, and on Fridays we all try to avoid the garbage trucks that take up the entire street. This has been a mini-community/neighborhood in Los Altos for the last 70 years.

Across Los Altos Ave, Yerba Santa Ave continues across Cherry Ave, but that street is different, with regular sized street width, and places to park. So, if you stand at the junction of Los Altos and Yerba Santa, there appears to be two very different streets, not one Yerba Santa.

The architecture, and nature of the one-story houses along our end of the street, connote the consistent nature to the community/neighborhood. We feel the history and geographic nature of the street make it “Consistent Character” by Los Altos City Guidelines. Originally, the City Staff felt the same way, but we notice on the most recent communication by the City and EID architects regarding the project at 370, they are now calling it “Diverse Character”. We object to this designation, particularly since the geographic nature and history of the street show it does not communicate with either adjacent streets of Yerba Buena or Raquel. We understand the bird’s-eye maps show some two-story houses on Raquel, but do not feel this justifies calling our street’s neighborhood “diverse”.

Why is this important? We feel that the nature of what is present is “consistent”, and that what is proposed at 370 is not compatible with this community of one-story houses, and that the “diverse” nomenclature gives the architects more latitude in design than they deserve.

Thank you.
Bruce and Kathy Beck
420 Yerba Santa Ave

To Design Review Commission
From: Bruce & Kathy Beck, 420 Yerba Santa
RE: Proposed new house at 370 Yerba Santa &
Summary of Objections to plans for 3 level house

November 20, 2020

1) **LACK OF ARCHITECTURAL COMPATIBILITY (5.1, 5.4)**

- We live on a “**Consistent Character**” **narrow private street** which used to be the driveway to a Historical House at the end. The effect of this project is magnified by the small single lane street and its proximity to adjacent houses.
- 370 is one of the smaller lots on the street, yet the proposed house is huge, greater than 5,000-6700 square feet, depending on how you measure.
- It **lacks Proportion/Scale (5.10)**, has too **much bulk (5.4)** and ignores elements of adjacent houses **(5.1)**
- It is a house that belongs on a one-acre lot or on a normal-sized street

2) **EFFECT OF FULL DAYLIGHT BASEMENT (5.13)**

- Plans show a full daylight basement with separate terrace, entry, with 2 BR/B/LR compatible with a second living unit.
- Therefore the appearance from the side and rear is a three-level house

3) **PRIVACY OF ADJACENT NEIGHBORS (5.3)**

- All four sides of 370 abut to private areas of neighbors due to previous building, now magnified by the bulk of the proposed building.
- Did not assess backyard (private areas) or converse with neighbors until after the plans had been submitted. This was an “**inside-out**” **process rather than an “outside-in**” one where the environs and neighbors were considered. **(5.4 pg 17)**
- My opinion is that privacy issues cannot be solved here with landscape and window maneuvering.

In the 25 years we have been here, 50% of the street houses have had significant remodeling, and no major issues have arisen. What is different here? Reasons are:

- a) Plans of a 3-level house on a small lot on a small narrow street with no similar house; pushing limits in square footage/**bulk. Legal? Yes Appropriate? No**
- b) Skirting the edges of the Guidelines with “**inside-out**” **planning**; no compromise
- c) **Not “Walking-the-Talk”** with the adjacent neighbors; i.e. saying you want to be a good neighbor but then ignoring or rebutting the neighbors’ concerns.

ACTIONS THE NEIGHBORS HAVE TAKEN

Submission of a letter of protest regarding this project to the Design Review Commission/Planning signed by 23 neighbors affected in 2019

Letter of Intent for One Story Overlay by 100% of Yerba Santa current homeowner residents on this end of the street submitted 2019.

Design Review Commission

November 20, 2020

City of Los Altos

1 North San Antonio Rd

RE: Proposed Two-Story house at 370 Yerba Santa Ave Revisions

Dear Commissioners,

Since my previous letter to Sean Gallegos over one year ago regarding this project, revisions have been submitted. It appears to me that there has been no significant in the issues of privacy or bulk..

In the interval, as a result of this proposed project, the neighborhood organized and submitted an **“Intent to form a One Story Overlay”** in August 2019. The signed petition is at City Hall signed by all resident owners on this end of Yerba Santa. This petition is pending the outcome of the project proposal before you at 370 Yerba Santa.

This part of Yerba Santa is a private, single lane alley that brings the backyards of Raquel houses closer to the front yards on Yerba Santa. The revised proposed house is still out of character for our Consistent Character street and importantly impinges on the backyards of the Raquel neighbors due to the second story of the house and single lane of the road. The revisions are “old wine in new bottles”, and **the effects of this project are magnified by the narrowness of the street.**

In addition, all **the abutting neighbors (on all four sides of 370) have their backyards directly exposed by the second story.** The variations of windows, and proposed landscaping do not ameliorate this fact. We have communicated this fact to the architect.

Notwithstanding changing the roof lines, the house is huge on a small piece of property. It is **clearly out of proportion to all the houses on this street.** The plans try and diminish this with wide angles, but the fact remains that this is still out of character and size for the street, with almost 6700 square feet of living space. The bulk is noticeable.

Despite wishing to discuss our concerns, **there has been no outreach or meaningful dialogue with the owner.** Good neighbors usually try and work out differences. The only person who responded to our entreaties is his architect who has not been responsive to our concerns and ignores our letters (most recently sent by Tom Popek our Neighborhood Lead)

In summary, despite revisions made to the original plans, I do not think this project fits the Guidelines for Los Altos Construction (previously enumerated in my letter of February 23, 2019). The project’s effects are magnified by the narrow private street on which we live.

Bruce and Kathy Beck, 420 Yerba Santa Ave

Edwin (Ned) and Freya Hooper
421 Yerba Buena Avenue
Los Altos, CA 94022
(650) 949-3824

August 30, 2020

Sean Gallegos
City of Los Altos Planning Commission
1 North San Antonio Road
Los Altos, CA 94022

Re: Proposed New Construction at 370 Yerba Santa Avenue, Los Altos

Dear Mr. Gallegos, Members of the Planning Commission and the Design Review Board

We were very surprised to learn that the owners of 370 Yerba Santa Avenue have submitted a new set of plans for a two story house. We have had only one contact with the owners over the nearly three years that they have owned the property. That was one year ago when we invited them to our home to meet with the neighbors over concerns about their previous plans to build a two story home. They arrived late and spoke little, leaving communication to their architects. We have not heard from the property owners since that time so had no knowledge of the submission. All of this despite them having been directed by the Design Review Commission to work with the neighbors at a meeting in August of 2019.

We, along with all of the effected neighbors, submitted our concerns to you in February 2019 when they last offered plans. We do not believe that these new plans sufficiently address the significant concerns of the neighborhood. We also do not believe they meet the standard of the Los Altos Residential Design Guidelines for New Homes and Remodels. We ask you to reject them.

Our concerns are as follows:

Yerba Santa and Yerba Buena Avenues are a Consistent Character Neighborhood. As defined in Section 4 of the guidelines, Yerba Santa and Yerba Buena meet the standard of a consistent character neighborhood made up of single story homes that are designed to ensure respect for the privacy of all of the neighbors. Since the owners purchased 370 Yerba Santa, two new homes and one substantial remodel have been approved and to various degrees constructed within 100 yards of their property. All three are one story homes aligned with the consistent character of the neighborhood and the neighbors privacy concerns . This would be the first two story home in this neighborhood and would substantially deviate from all other properties built or remodeled in the neighborhood in terms of size, mass and fit as discussed in Section 4 of the Guidelines. The owners attempt to include the Dos Palos neighborhood to justify an oversized

home but that is a separate development built at an entirely different time that constitutes a different neighborhood.

Yerba Santa is a unique lane. Yerba Santa is a narrow lane that was formerly a driveway. It has homes only on one side of the street. As a result, 370 Yerba Santa borders four backyards and should be considered more like a flag lot than a standard lot. Its relationship to adjacent properties makes it impossible to build a two story home on this lot that does not invade the privacy of all four of these homes. At nearly 27 feet high the proposed home is more the 12 feet higher than the current structure. It has large windows on the second story with direct site lines into our backyard living space, family room and master bedroom. The submitted drawings illustrate clearly that anyone looking through their windows will be able to look directly into our home. Landscaping cannot provide adequate remediation.

The proposed home is too big for the neighborhood. The home has over 6,700 sq feet of living space and a mass substantially larger than any of the surrounding homes. It is over 1,200 sq feet larger than the single story home recently completed at 438 Yerba Buena Ave which was built on a lot that is adjacent to a single backyard, rather than the four that 370 Yerba Santa affects. The Guidelines Sections 4 and 5 are clear on the importance of the relationship to adjacent homes and the importance of respecting their privacy. This design takes neither into account.

The Los Altos Residential Design Guidelines for New Homes and Remodels put a high bar for any case where an owner wants to build the first two story home in a consistent character neighborhood. The nature of our neighborhood, Yerba Santa lane, and this lot make it critical for the owners to design a home that fits with the consistent character in terms of size and mass with respect for its effect on adjacent properties. Just as all of the new homes built in the neighborhood have respected those issues.

We chose Los Altos over Palo Alto or Atherton because we appreciate and value the rural like atmosphere and country lane feel that results in a feeling of open space and privacy. This design appears to be a much better fit for one of those other communities.

Thank you for your attention to our concerns.

Edwin (Ned) & Freya Hooper
421 Yerba Buena Avenue

Craig and Anita Hansen

350 Yerba Santa Ave.

Los Altos, CA 94022

anitahansen@gmail.com

August 29, 2020

City of Los Altos Planning Commission

1 North San Antonio Road

Los Altos, CA 94022

Re: Proposed New Construction at 370 Yerba Santa Avenue, Los Altos

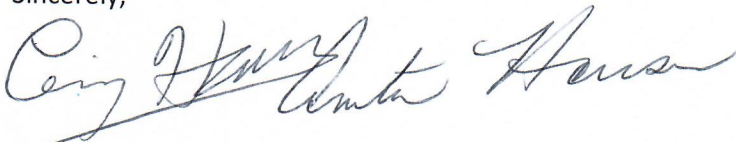
Dear Mr. Gallegos, Members of the Planning Commission and of the Architectural and Site Control Committee:

After review of the "in process designs" for new construction on the lot at 370 Yerba Santa Avenue, we would like to make our thoughts known to the Planning Commission. We acknowledge that the owners have made significant efforts to more closely conform to the city guidelines. However, we still have the following privacy concern:

- 1) **PRIVACY ISSUES NOT RESOLVED:** The privacy issues with the property owners who directly abut the project have not been resolved satisfactorily. 370 Yerba Santa is the smallest lot on our small private lane. The homes to the east and west of 370 Yerba Santa have their rear area and primary living spaces facing the narrow side lot setbacks of the project. A two story habitable structure in this particular situation does not meet the needs of the abutting neighbors. Other high value homes under construction in the immediate area such as the homes at 391 Yerba Buena (3482 sq ft.) and 407 Yerba Buena (5400 sq. ft.) manage to fit in substantial homes on similarly sized lots without resorting to two story structures that would disturb their neighbors.

Thank you, your consideration of our concern is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Craig and Anita Hansen", written in black ink.

Craig and Anita Hansen

Mathew and Stephanie Hein
420 Raquel Lane
Los Altos, CA 94022
(650) 209-5334

September 7, 2020

Sean Gallegos
City of Los Altos Planning Commission
1 North San Antonio Road
Los Altos, CA 94022

Re: Proposed New Construction at 370 Yerba Santa Avenue, Los Altos

Dear Mr. Gallegos, Members of the Planning Commission and the Design Review Board

We were disappointed to learn that the set of plans submitted for 370 Yerba Santa Avenue call for a massive, two-story house with an extensive basement completely out of character with Yerba Santa. Nearly three years after their purchase and near-abandonment of the property, we have had a single interaction with the owners at a meeting called by one of their neighbors. That meeting was to discuss the previous plans that they had submitted to the City. I understand that they were directed by the Design Review Commission to work with the neighbors at a meeting in August of 2019.

We participated with our community of neighbors to discuss those prior plans and submitted our concerns to you in February 2019. These slightly revised plans do not materially address the significant concerns of the community. Furthermore, the plans do not appear to meet the standard of the Los Altos Residential Design Guidelines for New Homes and Remodels.

We ask you to reject these plans for a massive, two-story plus basement structure.

Let me share our specific issues:

Massive Size Out of Character for the Neighborhood. At 6,700 square feet, this structure would be the largest house in the surrounding area by a significant amount. Most of the homes are under 3,000 square feet and some are 3,000 to 3,500. The only two homes over 5,000 square feet that we could identify in the surrounding neighborhood are both single-story. Furthermore, one of those is the original hacienda at the end of Yerba Santa that was built in 1909 and sits on 1.24 acres as compared to 370 Yerba Santa's 0.32 acres. The other home is still 1,200 square feet smaller than the plans 370 Yerba Santa calls for. This massive two story structure substantially deviates from all other properties built or remodeled in the neighborhood in terms of size, mass and fit as discussed in Section 4 of the Guidelines.

Invasive to Neighbor's Privacy. 370 Yerba Santa sits on a narrow lane, formerly a driveway, directly behind our back fence at 420 Raquel Lane. Furthermore, Yerba Santa is several feet higher than Raquel Lane. With a nearly 27 foot height, this means that 370 Yerba Santa's 2nd story looks down on our backyard and home. The plans call for large windows on the second story which raise serious privacy concerns on all sides of the property.

Impact on Large Trees. There are large, heritage oak trees on the narrow strip of ground on the other side of the narrow Yerba Santa lane from the proposed construction. These oaks' canopies spread over Yerba Santa and oak root systems spread far beyond the canopy. Damaging these root systems would be catastrophic for these heritage oaks.

One of the great benefits of Los Altos is the rural character with great trees and homes appropriately sized to their lots. This proposed construction is significantly out of character for the neighborhood and does not meet the standards set forth by Los Altos' design guidelines.

Thank you for your attention to our concerns.

Mathew and Stephanie Hein
420 Raquel Lane

Patricia D. Sheehan

360 Yerba Santa Ave.
Los Altos, CA 94022
650 948-0870
pdshee@yahoo.com

August 29, 2020

City of Los Altos Planning Commission
1 North San Antonio Road
Los Altos, CA 94022

Re: Proposed New Construction at 370 Yerba Santa Avenue, Los Altos

Dear Mr. Gallegos, Members of the Planning Commission and of the Architectural and Site Control Committee:

I am very concerned after having reviewed "in process designs" for new construction on the lot next door to my home. My concerns are as follows:

- 1) **PRIVACY ISSUES NOT RESOLVED:** All eight homes on our private lane of Yerba Santa face the road EXCEPT my home which is perpendicular to the road. The living area of my home faces the side property line that I share with 370 Yerba Santa. The new construction current plans show a very large two story home that is 27 feet high that I will be looking at daily from my family room, dining, kitchen and master bedroom. In addition my home foundation is located approximately TWO feet lower than proposed pad for 370 Yerba Santa. Unfortunately, I may have to remove a diseased tree that now affords partial screening. I consulted with a Los Altos Landscape architect, Tom Klope of Tom Klope Associates. Considering exposure of both shade and sun, along with desiring a rapid growth rate, while insuring aesthetics, Tom gave me a screen recommendation which was provided by Tom Popek to the architect for review. Upon review of the newly submitted plans, I was very disappointed to learn that the previous designation of plantings had not been changed. Rhododendrons (would take years for a decent screen and Oleander, whose parts are very poisonous. It is the "freeway" tree California.
- 2) **OUR PRIVATE ROAD IS UNIQUE WITH EIGHT ONE STORY HOMES:** it is a country lane, very narrow in front of my home at 360 as well as in front of other homes. The home planned for 370 (No.51 in book 167, page 33), is the smallest lot of the 8 lots on the private lane, yet would have the largest square footage.
- 3) **TOPOGRAPHY:** Noted above, each home on our private road is about 2 feet higher than the previous home, from Los Altos Avenue to the end of the road.
- 4) **CONSTRUCTION:** Building one of the homes at the end of the street a number of years ago, took a large toll on my property. There was damage to my landscape as well as to my Heritage Oak that borders the street. I currently have a huge problem when trucks use the road in front of my property. Damage to trees and landscape still happens. Between 360 and 370 there is a fire hydrant across the lane, not far from the Heritage Oak, thus limiting how far off the road a truck can drive. I cannot imagine what more trucks, particularly ones to excavate and haul out dirt will do to the road on my property. Asphalt and heritage landscaping are in peril.



Photo is a picture of the road at 350 Yerba Santa. My property at 360 Yerba Santa, with the next home being 370 Yerba Santa.

Best Regards,

Pat Sheehan

From: [Stuart Welte](#)
To: [Tom Popek](#); [Wei Xiong](#)
Cc: [Bruce Beck](#); [Ned Hooper](#); [Patricia Sheehan](#); [Richard A Barth](#); [Sean Gallegos](#); [Mark Wommack](#); [Sean McMahon](#); [Ray Parkinson](#); [Zach Dahl](#)
Subject: RE: oct 3 meeting with neighbors at hooper home
Date: Monday, September 30, 2019 3:13:10 PM

Hello Mr. Popek, and Neighbors,

Thank you for your reminder email below.

We're looking forward to meeting with you this Thursday evening at the Hooper Home; and, special thanks to the Hoopers for graciously hosting all of us.

Shall we bring anything other than Doris and Wei's newly designed Residence?

Wei and Doris have been quite receptive to comments received via the previous Design Review process and we've focused on re-designing their home significantly to spring more clearly from the Los Altos design guidelines as well as sentiments communicated by you, their future neighbors.

Sincerely,

STUART WELTE, AIA, LEED ap, CPHC

Principal Architect

Environmental Innovations in Design

Eco-functional Architecture

EID ARCHITECTS

412 Olive Avenue | Palo Alto | CA | 94306

dir [650.793.2856](tel:650.793.2856) | off [650.226.8770](tel:650.226.8770)

stuart@EIDarchitects.com

www.EIDarchitects.com

From: Tom Popek <tompopek43@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, September 30, 2019 10:16 AM

To: Wei Xiong <dnbladexw@gmail.com>; Stuart Welte <stuart@eidarchitects.com>

Cc: Bruce Beck <bruce.beck48@gmail.com>; Ned Hooper <nedhooper10@gmail.com>; Patricia Sheehan <pdshee@yahoo.com>; Richard A Barth <rbarth@stanford.edu>; Sean Gallegos <sgallegos@losaltosca.gov>

Subject: oct 3 meeting with neighbors at hooper home

mr. wei,

i wish to remind you of the meeting on oct. 3 at the hooper home, 421 yerba buena ave. at 7pm for you, your wife, doris, and your architect, stuart welte to address the neighborhood concerns listed below about your house design at 370 yerba santa.

1. The monolithic bulk of the house design that does not conform to Los Altos Design Rule Guidelines as stated in our letters and the staff recommendation.
 2. A house design to better fit the consistent character of the neighborhood of Yerba Santa Ave.
 3. The invasion of our privacy by design elements with balconies and windows that permit direct sight lines into our backyards, pool areas, and bedrooms.
- We look forward to this meeting with you and your architect. I am serving as the

contact for the neighborhood group so please reply directly to me.
Sincerely,

Tom Popek



Virus-free. www.avast.com

From: [Wei Xiong](#)
To: [Tom Popek](#)
Cc: [Bruce Beck](#); [Mark Wommack](#); [Ned Hooper](#); [Patricia Sheehan](#); [Ray Parkinson](#); [Richard A Barth](#); [Sean Gallegos](#); [Sean McMahon](#); [Stuart Welte](#); [Zach Dahl](#)
Subject: Re: oct 3 meeting with neighbors at hooper home
Date: Wednesday, October 2, 2019 9:17:27 AM

Tom,

Thank you for the reminder! Thank you Ned and Freya for the hospitality! We will be there. Look forward to seeing you then.

Wei

On Mon, Sep 30, 2019 at 15:28 Tom Popek <tompopek43@gmail.com> wrote:

mr. welte,
we look forward to seeing the redesign and your and mr. wei's explanation about how the redesign addresses the issues stated in the meeting invitation.
tom popek

On Mon, Sep 30, 2019 at 3:13 PM Stuart Welte <stuart@eidarchitects.com> wrote:

Hello Mr. Popek, and Neighbors,

Thank you for your reminder email below.

We're looking forward to meeting with you this Thursday evening at the Hooper Home; and, special thanks to the Hoopers for graciously hosting all of us.

Shall we bring anything other than Doris and Wei's newly designed Residence?

Wei and Doris have been quite receptive to comments received via the previous Design Review process and we've focused on re-designing their home significantly to spring more clearly from the Los Altos design guidelines as well as sentiments communicated by you, their future neighbors.

Sincerely,

STUART WELTE, AIA, LEED ap, CPHC

Principal Architect

Environmental Innovations in Design

Eco-functional Architecture

EID ARCHITECTS

[412 Olive Avenue | Palo Alto | CA | 94306](#)

dir [650.793.2856](#) | off [650.226.8770](#)

stuart@EIDarchitects.com

www.EIDarchitects.com

From: Tom Popek <tompopek43@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 30, 2019 10:16 AM
To: Wei Xiong <dnbladexw@gmail.com>; Stuart Welte <stuart@eidarchitects.com>
Cc: Bruce Beck <bruce.beck48@gmail.com>; Ned Hooper <nedhooper10@gmail.com>; Patricia Sheehan <pdshee@yahoo.com>; Richard A Barth <rabarth@stanford.edu>; Sean Gallegos <sgallegos@losaltosca.gov>
Subject: oct 3 meeting with neighbors at hooper home

mr. wei,

i wish to remind you of the meeting on oct. 3 at the hooper home, 421 yerba buena ave. at 7pm for you, your wife, doris, and your architect, stuart welte to address the neighborhood concerns listed below about your house design at 370 yerba santa.

1. The monolithic bulk of the house design that does not conform to Los Altos Design Rule Guidelines as stated in our letters and the staff recommendation.
2. A house design to better fit the consistent character of the neighborhood of [Yerba Santa Ave.](#)
3. The invasion of our privacy by design elements with balconies and windows that permit direct sight lines into our backyards, pool areas, and bedrooms.

We look forward to this meeting with you and your architect. I am serving as the contact for the neighborhood group so please reply directly to me.

Sincerely,

Tom Popek



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From: [Stuart Welte](#)
To: [Sandra Reed](#); "[Wei Xiong](#)"
Cc: [Mark Wommack](#); "[Tom Popek](#)"; [Sean Gallegos](#)
Subject: RE: Tree photo
Date: Friday, November 15, 2019 5:24:31 PM

Hi Wei,

Mark and I discussed our recommendations for Plant Types and arrangements with Sandra today, and she will complete the new Landscape Set with LARGE images of "Pretty Plant Photos" very soon so that we can email them to Tom P. for Neighborhood review.

Thank you for your patience and flexibility,
Have a nice weekend,

STUART WELTE, AIA, LEED ap, CPHC

Principal Architect

Environmental Innovations in Design
Eco-functional Architecture

EID ARCHITECTS

412 Olive Avenue | Palo Alto | CA | 94306
dir [650.793.2856](tel:650.793.2856) | off [650.226.8770](tel:650.226.8770)
stuart@EIDarchitects.com
www.EIDarchitects.com

From: Sandra Reed <sr@zandscape.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2019 1:02 PM
To: 'Wei Xiong' <dnbladexw@gmail.com>
Cc: Mark Wommack <mark@eidarchitects.com>; Stuart Welte <stuart@eidarchitects.com>
Subject: RE: Tree photo

Two of three



Sandra Reed
ZAC Landscape Architects
145 Keller Street
Petaluma, CA 94952
www.zandscape.com

(707) 696-2967

From: Wei Xiong [<mailto:dnbladexw@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2019 11:05 AM
To: Sandra Reed
Subject: Tree photo

Sandy,

Have you got a chance to take photos of the trees you talked about? If so please send me a photo of them. Thank you

Wei