
From: Hillside Neighbors [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, December 2, 2021 4:51:27 PM
To: Lindsay Lara <Lindsay.Lara@cityofsanrafael.org>
Cc: Dave Hogan <Dave.Hogan@cityofsanrafael.org>; Leslie Mendez <Leslie.Mendez@cityofsanrafael.org>; Planning Public Comment <PlanningPublicComment@cityofsanrafael.org>
Subject: Public comments for DRB meeting on Dec 7 - item #1 Approval of DRB minutes for Nov 16 meeting

Dear Lindsay,

PLEASE PROVIDE A COPY OF THIS EMAIL TO ALL DESIGN REVIEW BOARD MEMBERS AND INCLUDE IN THE PACKET FOR THE DECEMBER 7TH MEETING OF THE BOARD AND WITH PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR THE CONSENT CALENDAR ITEM TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR THE NOVEMBER 16TH MEETING.

I have reviewed the minutes from the November 16, 2021, meeting of the DRB for item #3- 52/54 Fremont/Marquard and think there could more inclusion in the minutes of the extensive discussion and comments made by the board members during the meeting, as follows:

Stewart Summers: Questioned why redwood tree #5 and #18 were being removed and asked if there could be measures to save these trees. He mentioned a project in Larkspur where he was required to design a house around a grove of redwood trees.

Sharon Kovalsky commented:

"I think this could be redesigned to save those trees. I think that you'll stabilize the hill, these trees are important parts of this ecosystem, I think it's insane to take them out, I think the design needs to go back to the drawing board and start again. I think they are not working toward the best possible use of this land and appreciating the slope and the flooding and what those trees are doing to hold back the hill and the flooding that could possibly happen. I would not like to be part of approving this project; I don't feel it is good and I feel it could be good if they would redesign. I don't think you should add redwoods, you should keep redwoods that you have - **36", 100 year old trees!**, those should stay. It's hubris to take them out."

Chair Larry Paul's comments:

"I have to agree with you, Sharon. I go on record to oppose the project as it is designed because they could have redesigned around most of these redwoods if not all of them. Go on record that I strongly oppose the project the way it is designed so when it goes to the City Council I would hope that they consider that. It needs to be redesigned. When you're asking for this many entitlements, it seems the design should be better. I don't see how all these entitlements could be granted easily. The parking on a narrow street like this, the drainage. I think it needs to be redesigned. When you're asking for this many entitlements, it seems the design should be better. Hopefully, the Council will read the minutes".

The Board members can provide input for their statements made, in case I have misquoted them or misstated or misunderstood anything they said, but these comments need to be included in the minutes for the City Council to see as they decide to make the final approval for this project and this project does require the City council's approval because of the Exceptions they are requesting.

Thank you for amending the minutes to be more inclusive of important comments made by the board members and I want to thank the board members for making such thoughtful comments in support of saving these trees.

Thank you,

Victoria DeWitt