

From: [David Baszucki](#)
To: [Portola Valley - Planning](#)
Cc: [Maryann Moise Derwin](#); [Jeff Aalfs](#); [Sarah Wernikoff](#); [John Richards](#); [Craig Hughes](#)
Subject: Hi Laura - Stanford Housing Project
Date: Sunday, June 27, 2021 8:05:09 AM

Hi Laura -

I've been tracking the Stanford housing project from the side and so am not an expert. From everything I have seen from afar, talking with lawyers, and heard from the community - it appears that Stanford and the Portola Valley City Council are mis-using the State Density laws by acquiescing to high-density CLUSTERING in addition to increasing the density at the Stanford Wedge area. Can you let me know if I am missing something here?

Also it seems more and more that the State Density laws themselves are not needed in future society. This has been discussed at prior City Council Meetings and been brought up by the citizenry.

Would the city accept my donation of \$25,000 to support the construction of full witness poles for the wedge project to allow the citizens to understand it's magnitude, or alternately, would you allow me to fund a team to construct them? I.e. could the City Council ask Stanford to do this, noting that Portola Valley (with my support) would fund the project?

Also - are we following 18.17.070 - Design and quality.?

DB

David Baszucki
221 Erica Way

From: donna@dubinsky.org
To: [Portola Valley - Planning](#)
Subject: Stanford Project
Date: Sunday, June 27, 2021 12:43:50 PM

Hello Laura:

I'm writing in support of the Stanford project. I know that you have louder voices on the other side, so I wanted to write to let you know that there are many in the community, perhaps not as vocal, who believe we need to build more housing, and that we need to have small units in addition to large units to make our community more affordable and more diverse.

I live on Cherokee Way and have been here for over twenty years. I love our community. But I feel it is incumbent on us to enable more housing through local policies. We cannot claim to be upset about the cost of housing in the bay area and then fight every attempt to build more, saying it is for other communities to do, not us. I would like more diverse populations to be able to live in Portola Valley, and we need more and more varied housing stock. We need places that our adult children, our firefighters, and our teachers can afford.

Please know that the loud voices you hear on the other side of this argument do not represent everybody who lives here.

Thanks,

Donna

P.S. I am on the board of the Stanford Hospital but this does not enter into my views, which I express merely as a private citizen.

From: [Eric](#)
To: [Portola Valley - Planning](#)
Subject: Stanford Housing Project
Date: Sunday, June 27, 2021 6:52:52 AM

Hello Ms. Russell:

Regarding the proposed Stanford Housing Project:

• First of all it makes zero sense to construct a massive housing project given:

○ Our communities' concerns about the consequences of potential fires (i.e. even more buildings and people impacted by a potential fire)

○ There is basically zero public transportation

○ We have poor infrastructure to support the additional housing/people

○ The negative impact on "Green"

However, if you do allow them to proceed:

• Please ask Stanford to outline ALL of the proposed building structures and rooflines in the Wedge development with story poles - not just portions of the project.

• Don't allow Stanford to provide small apartments as affordable housing for low-income families that are not comparable in size and quality to the homes it's providing for its faculty

• I recommend there should be a well-publicized public site visit while the story poles are up.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Eric Down
2 Ohlone Street
Portola Valley

From: [Roy Johnson](#)
To: [Portola Valley - Planning](#)
Subject: Stanford project
Date: Sunday, June 27, 2021 7:23:14 AM

I fully support this development and I think all the people who are wound up about traffic, etc. are just being NIMBYs. Please keep this moving forward. We need the housing.

Thanks

Roy Johnson
Ladera

Roy Johnson
1-650-464-7038

From: [Jacqueline Kubicka](#)
To: [Portola Valley - Planning](#)
Subject: story poles for Wedge
Date: Sunday, June 27, 2021 3:37:14 PM

Laura Russell: We think all buildings and associated components (roads, etc.) in the proposed Wedge project should be "story poled" and not at four feet but at full height. Jackie and Bruce Kubicka, 51 Hillbrook Drive. Jackie

From: [YVETTE MICHEL](#)
To: [Portola Valley - Planning](#)
Subject: Stanford Housing Project
Date: Sunday, June 27, 2021 7:21:59 AM

Ms. Russell,

I am writing to express some concerns I have (only some of MANY) regarding some upcoming next steps in the Stanford Housing Project that will GREATLY impact our beautiful neighborhood, negatively.

- Re: Story Poles:
 - I ask that Stanford outline ALL of the proposed building structures and rooflines in the Wedge development with story poles - not just portions of the project.
 - I ask there be a well-publicized public site visit while the story poles are up.

- Stanford should not be allowed to provide small apartments as affordable housing for low-income families that are not comparable in size and quality to the homes it's providing for its faculty.

These are items I believe will be relevant for discussion during the next Planning Commission meeting on June 30th.

Respectfully,

Yvette M. Michel
Michel Enterprises
ymmichel@comcast.net
650-464-0682

From: [Edward S. Mocarski Jr](#)
To: [Portola Valley - Planning](#)
Subject: Stanford housing
Date: Sunday, June 27, 2021 6:07:46 PM

As I have written in letters to the Almanac, this project is a wonderful opportunity to create a Ladera-like middle income community that houses Stanford faculty and staff. We were fortunate to buy a house in Ladera with Stanford's help in 1982 and also to buy them out in 1989, so we own free and clear. The town should not pass up this opportunity to increase housing for young families who will keep the area vibrant.

It is win-win, despite all the NIMBLY pressure from some landowners and other town residents who have been misled by the lies being perpetrated.

Ed Mocarski
Professor Emeritus, Stanford
141 Erica Way
Cell 650-714-7005

From: [Barbara Oliver](#)
To: [Portola Valley - Planning](#)
Subject: Stanford Housing Project
Date: Sunday, June 27, 2021 6:09:14 PM

Regarding the Stanford Housing Project:

The impact of such a major development at the very entrance to Portola Valley is irreversible and deserves careful consideration. I would support story poles that completely outline the scope of the development, i.e., all buildings, roads, and entrances. I understand that only 2 of the 30 buildings are proposed to be outlined, and I don't believe that is sufficient to make informed decisions. In addition, I hope there will be well-publicized public tours of the property when the story-poles are in place.

Please continue to evaluate the project within the larger context of the common good. It should not be automatically approved because of the size of our neighbor. It should be appropriate to its location.

Barbara Oliver
25 Holden Court, Portola Valley

From: [Jason Pressman](#)
To: [Portola Valley - Planning](#)
Subject: Stanford Project Story Poles
Date: Sunday, June 27, 2021 7:11:15 AM

Hi Laura-

Jason Pressman from 127 Ash Lane here. Hope you are well. I'm writing to express my strong feelings that the Stanford project should be required to put up story poles for ALL structures being proposed so that town members can fully understand what is being proposed. That is the requirement for everyone else in town and what I did for my home despite the fact that no one can even see our property! In the instance of the Stanford project, it is large and highly visible so I think that its 1) of the utmost importance that everyone be able to see what they are proposing and 2) unfair if Stanford is held to some different standard (i.e. partial story poles) than other homeowners.

Thanks-

Jasin

From: [Dene Rowell](#)
To: [Portola Valley - Planning](#)
Cc: [Dene Rowell](#)
Subject: Stanford Plans
Date: Sunday, June 27, 2021 4:27:34 PM

Hi

My name is Dene Rowell-

My husband and I moved into PV right after we were married in 1990. We raised our 3 sons here through the PV Schools.

I was born and raised in Palo Alto and my husband was raised on the East Coast.

What originally drew us to PV was the country feel of the town. It felt like a small town 10 minutes from a highly dense area. We could have our horses, our kids could ride their bikes to school and we had space. We have on our property 30 + fruit and citrus trees, 2 large areas for veggie gardens. Barns and pasture for goats until we get our new horses.

PV was never meant to be a high density housing area. It was always meant to be rural. There is no public transportation, our grocery stores that we love are high end, our gas stations are more expensive than Woodside Rd.

Plus adding 30+ houses will add more cars on the roads. Right now when I try to go onto Alpine Rd at 9am there must be a line of 20 cars coming up the road before I can even make a turn onto Alpine. It is getting worse and worse.

I am all for high density housing- but it needs to be where it is smart to have it. These houses that Stanford is building will be for their professors, students etc. Stanford has plenty of land that they can build on that is closer to what high density housing needs- transportation, food, gas etc. They are trying to force high density housing into an area that cannot support it.

It just does not make sense to put high density housing in an area that cannot support it

Thank you

Dene Rowell & Chris Badger

From: [David Beaver](#)
To: [Portola Valley - Planning](#)
Subject: Stanford Housing Project
Date: Tuesday, June 29, 2021 9:42:33 PM

Dear citizen representatives on ASCC, Planning Commission, and Town Council:

I respect that you will meet your obligations to the town fairly and legally, as you work through this complex and controversial project. I'll stay out of your way.

Love,

David Beaver
3 Creek Park Dr

From: [Thomas](#)
To: [Portola Valley - Planning](#)
Cc: [Town Center](#); [Town Center](#); [Laura Russell](#)
Subject: Stanford Housing Project
Date: Tuesday, June 29, 2021 2:01:32 PM

c/o Laura Russell:

Wake Up, Gentle People, Wake Up

Town residents and Town government people need and deserve to consider a more diverse set of views – of the Stanford property – than the announcement for the June 30, 2021, Planning Commission and ASCC meeting conveys.

The announcement views seem overly limited with respect to vantage points and may show more than appropriate amounts of vegetation.

In contrast, the following aspects seem (based on Attachment 4 “Visual Simulation Viewpoint Locations”) to pertain.

1. For about 660 feet along Alpine Road (or either of the two trails that parallel Alpine Road), the view (to the west and) perpendicular to the road would (absent vegetation) be a continuous assemblage of two-story buildings. Visually, there would be no (or essentially no) breaks.
2. From some neighboring properties (on the north side of the would-be development) there could be views of densely packed two-story buildings.

I urge that the Planning Commission and ASCC require the following.

- A. Installation of a full set of story poles and roof-line displays.
- B. Useful markings regarding all fences that would run between or near structures.
- C. Public opportunities to view (including from on-site) the story poles (with roof-line displays) and fence layouts.
- D. Timely production and public dissemination of new, diverse visual simulations.
 - i. Regarding views from Alpine Road, vantage points should include at least a few well within that 660 feet. The views should be wide-angle. For each vantage point, let’s see a daytime view without vegetation between the houses and Alpine Road, a nighttime view without vegetation, and daytime and nighttime views with realistically safe (with respect to wildfires and evacuations) vegetation.
 - ii. For each of at least the first five lots (starting from Alpine Road) on the north side of the Stanford property, let’s see a similar set of four views. Assume that no vegetation on each such lot stands between the viewer and the Stanford property.

Residents and government people need and deserve to evaluate would-be impacts on mobility of emergency responders, wildfire safety, evacuation possibilities, quality of life, and Town character.

Let’s consider a proper diversity of views – well before and with an eye to avoiding becoming “in trouble deep.”

With appreciation.

- Tom

Thomas J. Buckholtz
Portola Valley resident

Thomas.J.Buckholtz@gmail.com

From: [stuart oremland](#)
To: [Portola Valley - Planning](#)
Subject: wildfire exit
Date: Tuesday, June 29, 2021 10:44:04 AM

Has any thought been given to how an emergency exit would work-if Alpine was the only available exit (if Arastradero and Sandhill were blocked by fire)- and we have added the expected population of this new development on Alpine ?

Thank you

From: [John Ruwitch](#)
To: [Portola Valley - Planning](#)
Subject: high density housing
Date: Tuesday, June 29, 2021 10:05:06 PM

Dear members of the ASCC and Planning Commission:

Stanford's proposal to develop high-density housing in Portola Valley has recently come to my attention. The proposal is alarming because it has the potential to degrade the quality of Portola Valley's scenic, rural corridor. It also appears to violate the requirements of the town's General Plan, which defines the Alpine Scenic Corridor and specifies that within its Primary Vista Corridor (which is where the proposed project would be) "in the development of individual properties, building construction and planting should be designed to be compatible with and retain the natural and rural appearance of the area."

In order to assess the impact of the high-density housing project on the scenic corridor and judge its compatibility with the town's General Plan, it would seem necessary to demarcate the boundaries and roof lines of ALL proposed structures, as is typically required by the Town for all residential construction, prior to the advancement of the project.

ASCC and the Planning Commission must insist on compliance with the town's municipal code, which calls for affordable housing units to be of "equal design and quality" as the market rate units.

Thank you!

Best regards,
John Ruwitch
450 Minoca Rd

From: [Win Win](#)
To: [Thomas](#)
Cc: [Portola Valley - Planning](#); [Town Center](#); [Town Center](#); [Laura Russell](#); [Farrar wilsonsfarrar@gmail.com](#)
Subject: Re: Stanford Housing Project
Date: Wednesday, June 30, 2021 12:25:50 AM

I second this request, post haste! Thank you!

Respectfully,

Miss Wilson Farrar
Portola valley resident
Yourfriendwin@gmail.com

Wilson "Win" Farrar
+1-415-860-2552

On Jun 29, 2021, at 2:01 PM, Thomas one

<thomas.j.buckholtz@gmail.com> wrote:

c/o Laura Russell:

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I urge that the Planning Commission and ASCC require the following.

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- B. Useful markings regarding all fences that would run between or near structures.
- C. Public opportunities to view (including from on-site) the story poles (with roof-line displays) and fence layouts.
- D. Timely production and public dissemination of new, diverse visual simulations.

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Residents and government people need and deserve to evaluate would-be impacts on mobility of emergency responders, wildfire safety, evacuation possibilities, quality of life, and Town character.

Let's consider a proper diversity of views – well before and with an eye to avoiding becoming “in trouble deep.”

With appreciation.

- Tom

Thomas J. Buckholtz
Portola Valley resident
Thomas.J.Buckholtz@gmail.com

From: [Annie Lau](#)
To: [Portola Valley - Planning](#)
Subject: ASCC/Planning Commission meeting 6/30/2021
Date: Wednesday, June 30, 2021 12:08:19 AM

Dear members of the ASCC and Planning Commission:

Stanford's proposal to develop high-density housing has the potential to greatly degrade the quality of our scenic, rural corridor. It also appears to violate the requirements of our General Plan.

In order to assess the impact of the high-density housing project on the scenic corridor and judge its compatibility with our General Plan, it is necessary to demarcate the boundaries and roof lines of ALL proposed structures, as is typically required by the Town for all residential construction.

Please insist on compliance with our municipal code, which calls for affordable housing units to be of "equal design and quality" as the market rate units.

Thank you,

Annie Lau
Portola Valley resident since 2006

From: [DAVID](#)
To: [Portola Valley - Planning](#)
Subject: Stanford Housing Project
Date: Wednesday, June 30, 2021 8:43:23 AM

Re the Stanford wedge project:

Please require FULL set of story poles for all structures; we had to do this for our own property when we built

Please require multiple public site visits to allow viewing of the project's scope

Please demand that the affordable housing units are comparable in size and quality to the faculty units.

Thank you

David Madison
3 Tynan Way
Portola Valley, CA