

COUNTY COUNSEL

JOHN C. BEIERS

CHIEF DEPUTIES

KATHRYN E. MEOLA
JOHN D. NIBBELIN
PAUL A. OKADA
DAVID A. SILBERMAN

LEAD DEPUTIES

REBECCA M. ARCHER
AIMEE B. ARMSBY
CLAIRE A. CUNNINGHAM
JUDITH A. HOLIBER
DANIEL J. VALIM



COUNTY COUNSEL

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

HALL OF JUSTICE AND RECORDS • 6TH FLOOR
400 COUNTY CENTER • REDWOOD CITY, CA 94063-1662
TELEPHONE: (650) 363-4250 • FACSIMILE: (650) 363-4034

DEPUTIES

MELISSA D. ANDRIKOPOULOS
CRAIG N. BAUMGARTNER
PETER H. CRUZ
JAN E. ELLARD
NIRIT S. ERIKSSON
ADAM W. ELY
PETER K. FINCK
TIMOTHY J. FOX
TARA E. HEUMANN
JENNIFER S. KRASKE
BRIAN E. KULICH
DAVID A. LEVY
KIMBERLY A. MARLOW
JUSTIN W. MATES
SANDRA Z. NIERENBERG
KRISTINA M. PASZEK
KAREN ROSENTHAL
MONALI S. SHETH
MARGARET V. TIDES
BRIAN J. WONG

April 6, 2018

Please respond to: (650) 363-4757

Via Email [city.council@menlopark.org] and United States Mail

Honorable Members of the Menlo Park
City Council
c/o Clerk of the City Council
701 Laurel Street
Menlo Park, CA 94025

Re: Request by the Sequoia Union High School District to be Added to the City of Menlo Park's Approved Community Amenities List for the M-2 Zoning Area

Dear Honorable Members of the Menlo Park City Council:

This office represents the Sequoia Union High School District ("District") and I write on behalf of the District regarding the above referenced matter. Specifically, I am transmitting the District's request that the City of Menlo Park ("City") amend the Community Amenities List for the M-2 Zoning District to specifically include benefits for the District's TIDE Academy, which is located in the City's M-2 Zoning District.

As you know, the District is in the process of building the TIDE Academy, a small high school located on Jefferson Drive, scheduled to open at the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year that is anticipated to serve approximately 400 students when at full enrollment during its fourth year of operation. The TIDE Academy is expected to draw students from the City's Belle Haven area and it will focus on technology, innovation, design, and engineering.

In adopting Resolution 6360, the City approved a list of Community Amenities that developers may offer in exchange for "bonus level development" in the M-2 and other zoning districts. Resolution 6360 notes that the City Council may amend the Community Amenities List from time to time to reflect changes in priorities and desired amenities.

Honorable Members of the Menlo Park City Council

April 6, 2018

Page 2

The District's perspective is that the Amenities List should be amended to add benefits that would enhance the specific facilities and educational programming at the TIDE Academy. Unfortunately, at the time that the Community Amenities List was being developed (primarily throughout 2014-2015), the District was still in the process of developing and finalizing the plans for TIDE Academy and the District was therefore not able to meaningfully participate in the process for development of the Community Amenities List.

However, the District is confident that the facilities and educational programming at the TIDE Academy will provide an attractive and valuable benefit to the Belle Haven community (as well as to the City of Menlo Park, as a whole) and the District therefore believes that it would be appropriate to revise the Community Amenities List to include support for the District's TIDE Academy.

Specifically, the District notes that the current list includes a specific item under "Social Service Improvements" that reads "Education Improvements in Belle Haven." The District requests that the text following this entry be amended to read "Improvements to the quality of student education and experience in Belle Haven, including through funding to improve the facilities and support the educational programming at the Sequoia Union High School District's TIDE Academy."

Thank you for your consideration in this matter and I look forward to hearing the City's next steps in consideration of this request.

Very truly yours,

JOHN C. BEIERS, COUNTY COUNSEL

By: 

John D. Nibbelin, Chief Deputy

JCB:JDN/jdn

cc: Menlo Park City Manager and City Attorney
Dr. Mary Streshly and Matthew Zito, Sequoia Union High School District
John Beiers, San Mateo County Counsel