

# Appendix A – Written Comments and Transcript of Verbal Comments

Part Six:

- Individual Comments (PARKER through SCHMIDEK)

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1.1

We residents here at Saratoga just love our bocce ball court located in our beautiful Historic Park. That & our putting green are our only outdoor games on campus. We also enjoy the chairs & picnic tables set up in that same park.

The large oak tree there was lost in a storm last year & it has not been replaced with anything — not even grass or ground cover. Why? Because the PRS Expansion project plans to eliminate this park entirely (our only park) to make way for more buildings.

If we wanted a campus full of buildings we would have moved to any number of more financially reasonable ones in the Bay Area.

Please help us save our green space.

*Ruth Parker*

*SLC Apt. 4209*

*Aug. 7, 2023*





2.1

**EVERY SINGLE TREE YOU SEE**  
(INCLUDING THE HUGE PINE AT THE FAR RIGHT  
& THE 2 SYCAMORES ON THIS SIDE OF THE STREET)  
**WILL BE DESTROYED TO BUILD 1 ROOM NEXT TO THE MANOR**

**THIS IS NEEDLESS DESTRUCTION**  
of our beautiful Gentle Giants

*Signed: Aug 7, 2023*

*Ruth Parker*  
*SRG, #4209*



To the EIR consultants, the Planning Commissioners and City Council,

3.1

Saratoga Retirement Community is widely known for its beautiful green campus - full of trees, bushes, walking paths, & lovely landscaping.

The new PRS Expansion Plan plans to eliminate most of this beauty by packing it with more housing & more buildings. There are 124 beautiful large trees (& much more greenery) scheduled for destruction.

Our park & outdoor recreation area will be taken from us. Our trees & our birds will be gone. It will be incredibly sad & depressing for those of us in the last years of our lives.

*Ruth Parker*

*SRC #4209*

*Aug. 7, 2023*

To EIR consultants, Planning Commissioner and City Council

Here are some points that you should consider in the Saratoga Retirement Community Expansion plan.

4.1

**The question is not when will the next Pandemic hit, but what are we doing to prepare for it?**

As a lay person when it comes to very technical details, I reviewed the DEIR for the proposed expansion of the Saratoga Retirement Community (SRC) as best as I could.

I found a huge **void** in the details for the Health Care Center (HCC) remodel other than reducing the 99 beds to 54 and converting all the rooms to private including private toilet and shower. It was disappointing since this seems the opportune time to learn from the all the studies done post covid and to design SRC HCC with details to mitigate the next pandemic.

The conversion of the semi-private bedrooms and baths to private is a good start but the vague construction schedule shows that as **phase four**. With recent studies showing that **shared** bedrooms and bathrooms helped enable the spread of the Covid pathogen, the priority for this conversion should be **Project #1**. ( See article in AARP, 1/3/2023 by Emily Paulin).

The following are other details that were **missing in the SRC DEIR** for the HCC:

**Emergency Response:** after reading all the possible road closures and road re-alignments and the fact that Emergency Medical Response (EMR) vehicles are very frequently on the campus day and night, it seems **urgent** that the Emergency Access Road **be built first!** This is the access from Chester Ave with a wide sweep to accommodate fire trucks onto Odd Fellows Drive. For years, residents have begged for this as San Marcos/Odd Fellows drive in the only way in and out of the campus. With all the daytime truck congestion and debris removal during the proposed construction, there needs to be a safe way for fire and emergency vehicles to access the campus.

**Air Quality, Noise, and vibration analysis** were all missing for the interior environment that in-patients in the HCC would be subjected to during the remodel. While the DEIR concerns itself with the exterior environment, no one has examined what the in-patients must endure trapped in their beds during this construction. In an important study done in Cleveland Clinic and reported in The Cleveland Clinic Journal of Medicine, October 1, 2019, Amjad Kanj MD et al reported in article, "**What are the Risks to Inpatients During Hospital Construction or Renovation**", found that

" Hospital construction ultimately will serve the interests of patients but it also can put in-patients at risk of mold disease, Legionnaires Disease, sleep deprivation, and exacerbation of lung disease."

**Solar panels and Water Saving standards** were also missing for the HCC remodel plans. There were plans for solar panels for other buildings as well as "Build it Green" ideas but nothing for the HCC.

**Impact MF-S-3 Direct adverse effects on human beings** inside a HCC that is being remodeled. There is a lot of analysis on the outside air, water, noise and vibration but nothing for "Sensitive Receptors" who are unable to move or relocate, trapped as such in their beds and bedrooms in a HCC that is being remodeled. An abled bodied resident can request a change of location if overwhelmed with noise , dust and vibration but no such options are available to the in-patient recovering in a HCC that is undergoing a remodel.

In Summary:

**Build** the access road appropriate for fire trucks from Chester to Odd Fellows Road **first**.

If a new state of the art **HCC** is out of the question, then current in-patients at HCC must be re-located and the HCC must be **remodeled with latest Covid regulations**. This is the next in priority for the health and safety of SRC residents.

Ruth Parker  
SRC #4209  
Aug 7, 2023



5.1

The DEIR has reviewed the Project plans for a building B in front of the Historical Manor Building and the proposed Meeting room attached to the side of the same Manor Building with astonishing different standards.

In the case of Building B the EIR found a conflict with the Historical Manor that could not be mitigated **(See Table 3.5-1- Item 9 and 10 of the Summary of Project Adherence to Secretary of Interior's Standard for Rehabilitation )**

**In that same table, 3.5-1 The finding for item #9 found a potential conflict with the meeting room.**

The next page ,3-94 , item 2 states

"The proposed construction of the Meeting Room and its attachment to the West elevation the Manor building thru a building hyphen would also remove and/or alter character defining features represented in the west (secondary) elevation."

On page 3-101 the EIR further states

"The proposed construction of the Meeting Room Addition as part of the Project could potentially result in the substantial adverse change in the Manor Building due to the potential for damage during construction"

The symmetry of the Manor Building is forever lost with the Meeting Room attached to its western wall of the Manor.

**The Meeting Room needs a specific evaluation under CUL-1.**

Additionally, there has been no evaluation of the environmental impact of the Residents living in Apartments 1101,1202 and 1203 during construction or after wards with their apartment windows on the western manor wall being mostly blocked out by the new Meeting Room.

**At a minimum EIR evaluations and mitigations should be reviewed for AES-1 Scenic Vista, HAZ-i hazardous emissions, NOI-1increased noise levels, NOI-2 vibrations & dust, POP-2 displacement of people, and MFS-3 adverse impact on human beings.**

*Ruth Parker*  
*SRL # 4209*  
*Aug. 7, 2023*



August 6, 2023

Cynthia Richardson, Project Planner  
City of Saratoga  
13777 Fruitvale Ave.  
Saratoga, CA 05070

Dear Ms. Richardson,

6.1

Among the many concerns we residents have about the PRS Expansion plan, one is more esthetic, less rational, and difficult to quantify: the threat to our historically and architecturally significant central building, known as the Manor. This iconic white stucco-clad building is a glory to behold--graceful and inviting in spite of its bulk, proud with its two bell towers and arched colonnades. The building itself will not undergo significant changes under this plan (though one exterior wall will be pierced), but the proposed addition of the Meeting Room, dangling offhandedly from its west side, will detract from the Manor's classic beauty. It will ruin the aspect of a beautiful building, perfectly sited on its plot.

This handsome Mission Revival style building is impressive. Its size and bulk fit the site, which was doubtless the premier spot on the property when it was built in 1912: on the crown of a knoll that dominates its surroundings. The building's prominent setting confirmed the importance of its purpose: the housing of elderly residents, which the Odd Fellows took seriously.

When the Odd Fellows developed this property in the early 2000s to create today's continuous care community, they took pains to respect and preserve the Manor and the style it set. Changes to the interior were made with care, and exterior alterations were minimal. Importantly, the purpose and use of all the new facilities continued to fulfill the Odd Fellows' original commitment to house the elderly.

Besides intruding on the Manor's setting, the Meeting Room's building site would eliminate one of the few spaces left on campus where there is greenery shaded by mature trees, which will be sacrificed.

Even if the new Meeting Room were to be sensitively designed to compliment the Manor, it will inevitably diminish the visual impact of that grand structure. A classical building is a style defined by symmetry, which will be forever abrogated. Future visitors and historians will never be able to see the Manor as we do; they will look and wonder why anyone was allowed to tack on such an appendage. Their only option will be to crop it out of their photos!

Sincerely,

*Ruth Parker*  
SAR #4264  
Aug 7, 2023

**Rawnsley, Emma**

**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 10, 2023 11:51 AM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: Saratoga Retirement Community

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Cynthia Richardson | Project Planner  
City of Saratoga | Community Development Department  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue | Saratoga, CA 95070  
crichardson@saratoga.ca.us |  
[https://urldefense.com/v3/http://www.saratoga.ca.us/!!ETWISUBM!1h7X\\_2bAm4v5RKRNEQeEIQQh7TemxwDkqiO5AzEljZXDJgrY\\_tDMHIKZe\\_aiJ-x\\_2iT\\_pzt1Wv0Bu8fhYxADAAPmRFC4\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/http://www.saratoga.ca.us/!!ETWISUBM!1h7X_2bAm4v5RKRNEQeEIQQh7TemxwDkqiO5AzEljZXDJgrY_tDMHIKZe_aiJ-x_2iT_pzt1Wv0Bu8fhYxADAAPmRFC4$)  
Office Hours Mondays and Thursdays

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

From: Marcia Hall <marciahall@icloud.com>  
Sent: Monday, August 7, 2023 12:58 PM  
To: Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
Cc: Marcia Hall <marciahall@icloud.com>; Tsing Bardin <tsingtb@gmail.com>; Tom Austin <tomaustin726@gmail.com>; Sarah Stel <sstel@retirement.org>  
Subject: Saratoga Retirement Community

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Ms. Richardson,

- 1.1 My name is Marcia Pearson Hall. I am a resident at Saratoga Retirement Community. Thank you for taking the time to read this.
- Concerning the DEIR, there was some talk about the emergency evacuation plan, I say to you how would you, if you lived at SRC, evacuate from SRC if there was an emergency?
- I understand that the Odd Fellows Drive is a private drive. I understand that the Fire Department has a key to a gate going into Chester Road. What about the exit, where you could the push the gate, the Fire Department does not know about that gate. Do you?
- Can you imagine with the expansion plan how much more impossible the evacuation would be?

1.1  
Cont.

Please imagine an emergency evacuation. There is no way the people that live and work here could get out. How sad for the people that work for the City of Saratoga and PRS would see the problem and choose not to do anything about it.



**Rawnsley, Emma**

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**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 10, 2023 3:55 PM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: Saratoga Retirement community.  
**Attachments:** Richaedson EIR report.pdf

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City of Saratoga | Community Development Department  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue | Saratoga, CA 95070  
crichardson@saratoga.ca.us |

[https://urldefense.com/v3/\\_http://www.saratoga.ca.us\\_!!ETWISUBM!zrW81ScWyWWpfHyh2ellQ4itQTvOHViH-AQMM0V7wFuoo8pO9DN3lcE3Wfn4AAUm7TYKfjTpBFoHDGoQhv74GuDZGHeC\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/_http://www.saratoga.ca.us_!!ETWISUBM!zrW81ScWyWWpfHyh2ellQ4itQTvOHViH-AQMM0V7wFuoo8pO9DN3lcE3Wfn4AAUm7TYKfjTpBFoHDGoQhv74GuDZGHeC$)  
Office Hours Mondays and Thursdays

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

From: Edmond <pelta2490@comcast.net>  
Sent: Thursday, August 10, 2023 3:05 PM  
To: Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
Cc: Tsing Bardin <tsingtb@gmail.com>  
Subject: Saratoga Retirement community.

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Ms. Richardson,

Attached is a letter with my comments about the proposed expansion plan EIR. If you have trouble opening this please advise and I will send it by regular mail.

Regards,

Edmond R. Pelta

August 8, 2023

Ms Richardson,

Re: Saratoga Retirement Community expansion plan DEIR.

- 1.1 I have read the Executive Summary of this report and find it compressive regarding the global impact of the proposals. I would comment that I think that the noise, vibration, traffic and airborne dirt assumptions are overly conservative and even then will be very difficult to measure and enforce. In addition, I believe that the time span for the project is greatly understated. As a resident of SRC for almost 9 years I have observed that major construction projects here generally take at least twice as long as the original schedule states.
- 1.2 My main concern is that the EIR deals with the global impact of the project while I, as a resident am more concerned with the closer to home impact. For me and I believe, most other residents, our environment consists of the building and apartment in which I live, The streets where I walk, The space where visitors can park, recreation and meeting facilities, and access to our ancillary facilities such as Health Care and Assisted living.
- All of these, with the possible exception of access to Assisted Living, and the health care center will be affected adversely should any part of the expansion plan come to pass.
- 1.3 With the addition of as many as 52 additional residents, additional dining, kitchen, and meeting space must be provided. During the transition of these facilities, we can expect that the services provided to the residents will be disrupted, probably for an extended period.
- I for one would like the expansion limited to adding no more additional residents than can be accommodated by a modest reconfiguration of existing dining, food preparation and meeting (Barnes Hall) space. This is probably about 20 residents or about 12 to 15 apartments.
- 1.4 The massive expansion proposed will do no good for anyone in Saratoga. It will not provide any low income housing, although it will add a substantial number of low income worker who need such housing. It will provide no identified benefit to the existing residents, most of whom are opposed to the expansion and the disruption it will force on their lives.
- Incidentally, I consider the proposed reconfiguration of the existing health care facility to be a much needed project. I don't see why it is a part of the expansion plan or why it was not started years ago.
- We SRC residents are residents of Saratoga. Please act to limit this outrageous attack on our living environment.

Regards,

Edmond R. Pelta

**EDMOND R. PELTA**

August 8, 2023

Ms Richardson,

Re: Saratoga Retirement Community expansion plan DEIR.

2.1

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To EIR consultants, Planning Commissioner and City Council

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In Summary:

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If a new state of the art **HCC** is out of the question, then current in-patients at HCC must be re-located and the HCC must be **remodeled with latest Covid regulations**. This is the next in priority for the health and safety of SRC residents.

Shel R Ratts 8/6/23 #7204

To EIR consultants, Planning commission and City council,

4.1

I am a resident at the Saratoga Retirement Community.

When I read the DEIR, I found the report ignoring the environment and the lives of our residents on campus. There are issues which cannot be mitigated to less than significant as suggested in the DEIR.

Here are a few examples on Recreation and Open Space:

1) We lose our Odd Fellows historical park if Building A is allowed. The EIR section 3.15.1 listed 28 acres of existing public park facilities within one mile of project site.. SRC expansion will have no impact on a single existing public recreate facility.”

Let me ask, “Where is the study for the impact on the SRC residents? Even though there are 28 acres nearby, would you ask your elderly parents to take Uber to one of these parks with their walkers? At present, the park on campus is accessible any time and day, residents take their walkers to the park, sit on the chair and enjoy fresh air. Neighbors come with their dogs, walk or bike around the campus. This park serves many citizens. To eliminate this park has a very significant environmental impact. But The DERI REC-1 never studies the impact on the residents if you eliminate the park.

2) Loss of the open space on SRC

Building A and Meeting room take away the remaining 6% of our accessible open green space. EIR 3.15.1 environmental setting listed that the new trail connects the Project to the San Marcos Open Space approx. 300 feet SE of the Project site. Please note the 300 feet is “as the crow flies “distance. One has to climb up a steep embankment—inaccessible except by a 2.5-mile round trip along the road or by helicopter! While on campus, we currently have safe and smooth paths for the seniors to enjoy the open space. Many senior here have mobility issues, poor eye sight, hard at hearing and limited physical strength, they are not able to go on any of the suggested open space or hiking trails. DEIR ignores the special needs of the Seniors on campus. The analyses are inappropriate, irrelevant and discriminating against the senior population.

Chad R. Pitts 8/6/23

Dear EIR consultants, Planning Commissioners and City Council,  
I am a resident in the Manor building of the Saratoga Retirement Community.

5.1

I oppose the building of the proposed Meeting Room. It will have a very significant impact on the Manor residents during construction.

The vibration level during construction is expected to be substantially exceeding the applicable building damage threshold for masonry buildings such as the Manor according the Table 3.12-10 in the DEIR report. Vibration from heavy construction equipment and soil compaction from the weight of the new Meeting Room Addition on recently excavated ground could cause irreparable damage to the foundation of the historic Manor.

The suggested mitigation to minimize the damage to the Manor foundation is to use smaller equipment which might generate lower levels of vibration, yet the impact on human lives inside the Manor right where the Meeting room is constructed is totally ignored. Notification of such vibration activities as suggested in the mitigation will not reduce the impact on our lives. Where do we escape to? This is our home, we do not have other places to go; we live here and we would have to suffer through during the construction of Meeting Room.

If the said 3 months of grading/foundation work lasted more than 3 months, do the residents have any leverage on this time line? Similarly the 7 total months of construction seems to be unrealistic. What can the seniors residents do when the noise and vibration levels are insufferable and last so long? Please be humane, we did not move to a loud and disturbing construction zone.

We come here to enjoy our last years peacefully and quietly and we paid an enormous amount of our savings to retire at this lovely place. Please do not build this Meeting room which is NOT needed.

Ed R Pitt 8/6/23



To EIR Consultants, Planning Commissioners and City Council,

I find the EIR studies are inadequate, here are my concerns,

5.1

1. Where is the parking tabulation? It should be included in the DEIR as it talked about parking many times, but there is NO clear comparison of parking spaces. Parking is listed as #10 In project objectives. How many parking spaces in Alt. 2 compared with the current parking spaces? How many surface and underground parking spaces? Where are they?
2. No mention in the details of renovating Skilled Nursing, even though it is the Project objectives #4. Where is the schedule and how will the renovation carry on while the patients are in the nursing home? What is the environmental impact on noise, vibration, dust during construction? The length is said to be 2 years, are these rooms renovated in sequential or in parallel? We had very bad experience while the management was doing the balconies repair in 2018-2021. It took 9 months to repair each balcony while residents had no natural light, no fresh air and cannot use the terrace. The repair was done as one block at a time so the whole block of balconies were under this kind of situation for 9 months at least. No compensation for the residents during the entire repair period. Is there any assurance that the renovation will be finished in 2 years? How do you enforce the schedule and the length of renovation? It should be clearly stated in the EIR. If the renovation is lengthened the environmental impact will be bigger.

Thank you for your attention,

 8/6/23

Dear EIR consultants, Planning Commissioners and City Council,  
I am a resident in the Manor building of the Saratoga Retirement Community.

1.1

I oppose the building of the proposed Meeting Room. It will have a very significant impact on the Manor residents during construction.

The noise level is beyond the acceptable level as you noted in the DEIR report Table 4.5-6. Construction zone would generate noise levels of up to 95 dBA for the four west-facing units within the western wing of the Manor Building. 95 dBA is like fire alarms in our hallways!! This **would exceed** the FTA's recommended construction noise criteria of 80 dBA. Such loud noise is very disturbing and causes mental health issues. Particularly for long duration, not just a few minutes but many hours during the day and for many months.

The mitigation suggested that the noise is only during day time, so it will be quiet during after work hours. This report does not consider the seniors at all. We take naps and stay indoors most of the time during the day. These loud noise will be intolerable.

We come here to enjoy our last years peacefully and quietly and we paid an enormous amount of our savings to retire at this lovely place. Please do not build this Meeting room which is directly attached to the Manor.

We do NOT need it!

Ed R. B. 8/6/23

Darlene Irwin  
5108

8/6/23

**Rawnsley, Emma**

---

**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 31, 2023 9:54 AM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: Saratoga Retirement Community is a Gem

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**Cynthia Richardson | Project Planner**

City of Saratoga | Community Development Department  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue | Saratoga, CA 95070  
[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us) | [www.saratoga.ca.us](http://www.saratoga.ca.us)  
Office Hours Mondays and Thursdays

---

**From:** don perata <duperata@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 30, 2023 1:17 PM  
**To:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Subject:** Saratoga Retirement Community is a Gem

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1.1

I was born in the area and think the City of Saratoga has done a nice job maintaining many beautiful, historic areas, such as Villa Montalvo. The hidden gem of the Saratoga Retirement Community is one of those. The plan proposed by PRS is using all available green areas and outdoor recreation for the residents of the campus. Many neighbors like to walk and take graduation photos at this campus, around the impressive, unobstructed view of the historical Odd Fellows building.

Why build four buildings towards the front of the campus rather than pursue the plan that builds one new building on the side? (Plus one on the footprint of an existing building.) This is not necessary and would damage one of the few beautiful spots Saratoga has to offer, irreversibly.

Thank you for your consideration.  
Don Perata



**Rawnsley, Emma**

---

**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 31, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: Nature at Saratoga Retirement Community

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Office Hours Mondays and Thursdays

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**From:** ulrike perata <ulrikeperata@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 30, 2023 1:19 PM  
**To:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Subject:** Nature at Saratoga Retirement Community

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- 1.1
- This area is a pleasure to walk in, with many mature trees and attractive landscaping. The plan proposed by PRS would remove 124 trees from the community, including 26 Live Oak and 28 Redwood Trees. Please help maintain Saratoga's image of the "city of trees".

Sincerely,  
Ulrike Perata

Rawnsley, Emma

**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 10, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: Saratoga Retirement Community - Health Care Center

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**Cynthia Richardson | Project Planner**  
City of Saratoga | Community Development Department  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue | Saratoga, CA 95070  
[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us) | [www.saratoga.ca.us](http://www.saratoga.ca.us)  
Office Hours Mondays and Thursdays

**From:** don perata <duperata@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 4, 2023 11:59 AM  
**To:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Subject:** Saratoga Retirement Community - Health Care Center

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Dear Ms. Richardson,

2.1

The eloquent presentation by Ms Basham has made me aware of the fact that our most needy residents are considered to be the least important. They live in substandard quarters with a remodel at an undefined future time. The primary focus in the EIR is the building of new apartments that can be sold for very high prices to make a profit. Will the remodel of the Health Care Center ever happen? Will the property be sold to another owner at a high price before the Health Care Center is remodeled?

Alternative 1 builds a new up-to-standard Health Care Center first. Residents move in. Then one new apartment building is built on the footprint of the old Health Care Center. Two Buildings instead of 4 PLUS a **promised** remodel of the Health Care Center.

I ask you to please look at Alternative 1 carefully, even if it needs another EIR. It makes sense.

Ulrike Perata

Don and Ulrike Perata  
14500 Fruitvale Ave  
Cottage 6122  
Saratoga, CA 95070

August 5, 2023

Cynthia Richardson  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue  
Saratoga, CA 95070

Cc: Annette Stransky, President, Saratoga Historical Foundation  
Cc: Please forward to: Planning Commission, Heritage Preservation Committee, and City Council

Re: **Proposed expansion of Saratoga Retirement Community  
Preservation of Historic Odd Fellows Home and Park**

1.1

The Odd Fellows Home is on the Saratoga Heritage Resources Inventory and is eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources.

Saratoga has only two larger historical buildings: Villa Montalvo and the 1912 Odd Fellows Manor. The Odd Fellows Manor is a strikingly beautiful Mission Revival style building. It is tucked away at the end of a long driveway, and many Saratogans don't know about it. It is one of the most impressive Odd Fellows buildings in California and should be promoted as part of our history.

The out-of-state management company Pacific Retirement Services (PRS) has proposed a plan for 4 new buildings close to the Odd Fellows Manor: one meeting room attached to the Manor, one 2-story apartment building in front of its imposing façade, and another 2-story apartment building on the site of the Historic Odd Fellows Park. The small recreational park is all that is left of the previous, formal gardens. This plan hides or removes part of Saratoga history for good.

Expansion does not have to destroy a historical site. There is another plan mentioned in the EIR (Alternative 1), which keeps the historical Odd Fellows Manor and historical park intact. It proposes 2 buildings rather than 4. One of the two buildings would be on the footprint of an existing building. This is the residents' alternative supported by more than 75% of residents.

Saratoga Retirement Community has been a profitable operation as is. Please help us maintain Saratoga and California history.

Sincerely,  
  
Ulrike Perata

  
Don Perata



Cynthia Richardson, Project Planner  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue  
Saratoga, CA 95070

2.1

One of the reasons that I chose Saratoga Retirement Community is the attractive outdoor green space. The bucolic campus is one of the assets of the entire Saratoga City. Here seniors can relax and have fresh air.



I am against Pacific Retirement Service's building the two story high apartment which will occupy all the green space we have. Please do NOT build these apartments. This green space is an irreplaceable jewel.  
Thanks you for listening,

Ulrike Perata      U. Perata 8/1/23  
Don Perata      D Perata 8/1/23

14500 Fruitvale Ave, Unit 4112  
Saratoga, CA 95070  
3 October 2023

Re: Saratoga Retirement Community Expansion Plans

For Cynthia Richardson, Project Planner:

1.1

I attended the public meeting on the EIR report on 2 August and came away with some unexpected conclusions. While the comments often strayed beyond the EIR itself, they gave Saratoga city planners and the public a wake-up realization of the monumental impact this proposed construction project will have on the residents of the Saratoga Retirement Community and surrounding neighbors.

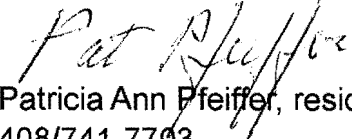
Money seems to be central to the issue. One speaker at the public meeting disputed the assertion that SRC needs this expansion to stay solvent. Based on his presentation, it would seem more accurate to claim that Pacific Retirement Services needs this expansion to compensate for financial deficits in its less profitable retirement communities—and incidentally to enhance its own reputation.

While small improvement projects to benefit existing tenants would clearly be justified, the sheer scale of the proposed enlargement is staggering. It cannot even be rationalized on ethical grounds, like creating affordable housing for those on limited income, for example. (I find it supremely ironic that a community founded as a retirement home for indigent day laborers, the Odd Fellows, is now running print and online ads soliciting prospective members from the highest income brackets.).

To compound the irony, now the welfare of current residents—and their significant investment in the Saratoga Retirement Community—has been, not just overlooked, but callously subordinated to the profit motive of the groups that manage it. (How many of us will have the means, or even the energy, to flee a years-long ear-splitting construction zone?)

The conclusion I was forced to draw from all the speakers at the 2 August EIR meeting, as well as from reading the EIR report, is that doing absolutely nothing is far preferable to what is proposed by the applicants.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Patricia Ann Pfeiffer, resident  
408/741-7703

To: Cynthia Richardson, Project Planner  
City of Saratoga  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue  
Saratoga, CA 95070

From: John Price  
Saratoga Retirement Community  
14500 Fruitvale Avenue, Cottage 6110  
Saratoga CA 95070

Date: August 9, 2023

1.1 Comments on the PRS Expansion plan for Saratoga Retirement Community

If the PRS Expansion Plan is allowed to proceed, we can expect the following scenario to take place:

In the short term (next four to five years, or more), the single entry/exit road will be clogged with earth moving/demolition/construction vehicles, polluting the air with noise, harmful emissions, dust and dirt. This is in addition to the normal residential traffic and frequent emergency vehicles, and resulting in an environment detrimental to our health and well-being. A "hell-on-earth," as it has been aptly described, and a sad end for the residents whose lives will expire during this period!

1.2 In the long term, the new buildings will have crowded out most of our open space, resulting in the loss of our canopy of mature trees, the loss of our outdoor recreation areas, and, the loss of native wildlife that used to inhabit or visit the community.

What thoughtful body of people would choose to even consider, let alone approve such a scenario? It is beyond belief. May it never happen!

*John Price*



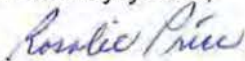
Cynthia Richardson  
13777 Fruitvale Ave.  
Saratoga, CA 95070

Dear Ms. Richardson,

1.1

On December 28, 2004 my husband and I moved into the brand new Saratoga Retirement Community. At the end of this coming December, we will have lived here for 19 years. As such long time residents, we are completely unnerved by the proposed PRS Expansion Plan. We have thrived here through the combination of wonderful staff, lots of good friends, and the overall beauty of this campus covered in its lush garden environment. As one ages, you grow to realize how important nature is overall to the peace of one's physical needs, and for keeping the inner person thriving as well. There are to be 124 large mature trees along with various areas of general landscaping scheduled to be removed before the PRS project can begin. After this clearing finishes, buildings will rise to cover those sights of nature. Where once winged birds and scurrying squirrels roamed. Our panoramic views of the clouds and blue skies will be lost forever to a "closed in" existence. Gone will be our lovely open spaces to sit and to marvel at the wonders of nature's sunrises and sunsets. Please reconsider this forever loss of a truly unique "park-like" essence in our Saratoga Retirement Community campus for unbridled profit!

Sincerely yours,



Rosalie Price

14500 Fruitvale Ave. #6110

Saratoga, CA 95070

408 741 7670

## Rawnsley, Emma

**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 31, 2023 9:56 AM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: Saratoga Retirement Community

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### Cynthia Richardson | Project Planner

City of Saratoga | Community Development Department  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue | Saratoga, CA 95070  
[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us) | [www.saratoga.ca.us](http://www.saratoga.ca.us)  
Office Hours Mondays and Thursdays

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**From:** jonramos@pacbell.net <jonramos@pacbell.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 30, 2023 5:21 PM  
**To:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Subject:** Saratoga Retirement Community

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July 30, 2023

Good Evening,

I live nearby in San Jose, and down the road I'm looking at this retirement facility.

The Saratoga Retirement Community is a wonderful facility, a real credit to planning in Saratoga.

I'm supportive of the expansion program for the local community.

The area around the facility is very nice, and the proposed expansion looks like will be a real credit to the city of Saratoga.

With the proposed expansion, the area will not be dominated, there will still be plenty of greenery and trees.

I've examined several facilities and found Saratoga to be outstanding.

1.1 Cont. The City and the retirement community should be completed with the current facility and hopefully the proposed expansion.

Thanks

Jon Ramos  
[JonRamos@pacbell.net](mailto:JonRamos@pacbell.net)  
San Francisco Bay Area  
(408) 887-0455

**Rawnsley, Emma**

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**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 24, 2023 10:48 AM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: SRC/PRS DEIR Comments  
**Attachments:** PRS\_SRC\_DEIR\_Comments\_Ravikumar.docx

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**Cynthia Richardson | Project Planner**

City of Saratoga | Community Development Department  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue | Saratoga, CA 95070  
[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us) | [www.saratoga.ca.us](http://www.saratoga.ca.us)  
Office Hours Mondays and Thursdays

---

**From:** Ravi Ravikumar <mail.raviravikumar@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 21, 2023 3:16 PM  
**To:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Cc:** Deepak Ravikumar <mail.dravikumar@gmail.com>; Vinod Ravikumar <vinod.rr@gmail.com>; Jayanthi Ravikumar <jayanthi\_rr@hotmail.com>  
**Subject:** SRC/PRS DEIR Comments

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Cynthia,

Please see attached document with my comments for the DEIR.

Thank you and look forward to next steps.

Ravi  
14622 Granite Way, Saratoga, CA 95070



**Ravi Ravikumar**

14622 Granite Way  
Saratoga, CA 95070

Ms. Cynthia Richardson  
Project Planner  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue  
Saratoga, CA 95070

August 16, 2023

Subj: Comments on DEIR – Saratoga Retirement Community, Campus Master Plan (July 2023)

**Overall Comments:**

- 1.1 *The DEIR is written with a bias towards (1) comparison of various alternatives with the “project” and (2) impacts assessed largely in the periphery of the SRC residential area without fully considering those of the neighboring residential home. It is hard for the planning commission and city council approvers to sufficiently understand the impact to the immediately adjacent residential home on 14622 Granite way unless the impacts for alternative 3, specifically on the*
- 1.2 *neighboring residential home, are discussed. For example, there will be huge volumes of dust during construction, in the residential property on 14622 Granite way, in several areas that are being used on a daily basis: the tennis courts, the swimming pool and the master bedroom area. The tennis court, for example, has to be washed daily to make it usable with large volumes of water. Who will be providing such maintenance? Similarly, the beautifully landscaped garden will be full of dust with resulting unhealthy plants and trees. Where is the impact to the landscaping on 14622 Granite way being addressed? Further, privacy is a major concern unless*
- 1.3 *the approvers insist on tall clerestory windows instead of balconies and heavy screening between the property lines. The balconies as designed, will be at a lower height relative to the height of the property at 14622 Granite way (which is at a much lower grade level) and will cause significant privacy issues along the entire length of Building D, across the tennis courts, swimming pool and master bedroom areas. The proof is the current single-story buildings which were constructed during the previous phase in 2003, where the height of those buildings is causing significant privacy issues already due to a total disregard for the impact on adjacent residential homes. This cannot be allowed to happen again on a larger footprint. Further, the proposed two story building D will intensify this issue significantly.*

- 1.4 The adjacent home on 14622 Granite way is largely impacted with the applicant's alternative (Alternative 3) in several areas, therefore the DEIR will have to be re-written to make it a fair assessment including significant impacts on immediately adjacent residential homes.

**Specific Comments:**

- 1.5 1. Prior experience cannot be repeated: Section 1.2.1 Notice of Preparation and Scoping Meeting on page 1-2 lists several concerns from the previous construction activities at the SRC campus which were not well managed and that the neighboring landowners are concerned that similar impacts will occur with this project. It is very clear that the approval process then, did not serve the interests of the residents of Saratoga at large. **Request for the DEIR to be updated specifically with the impacts to the closest residential homes with appropriate mitigation plans for a more balanced review by the planning commission and the city council members.**

- 1.6 2. Process for review of project delays and its impact on the neighboring homeowners: Section 1.2.1 Notice of Preparation and Scoping Meeting on page 1-3 identifies a concern from previous project re longer duration than originally planned for construction. **Request a process to be defined for a review of impacts including mitigation for delays longer acceptable thresholds on the neighboring property owners.**

- 1.7 3. Item not addressed regarding open space policy: On page 3-14 Open space element policy is stated as: Open Space Element Goal OSC 2: To preserve the City's existing character which includes small town residential, rural/semi-rural areas and open spaces. Policy OSC 2.1: Ensure that all development proposals, public and private, are sensitive to the natural environment and the community's open space resources. **Request for a statement in the DEIR regarding the compromise of this fundamental goal/policy as it applies to the neighboring residential home on 14622 Granite way.** Building D from the resident's alternative (Alternative 3) will violate the open space principle and one of the main reasons why the property owner purchased the property back in 1999.

- 1.8 4. Statement not true: Under section 3.2.3 Project impacts and mitigation, on page 3-16 it is stated that Overall, the Project would be consistent in height, size, and scale with the existing buildings at the site and in the surrounding area. While it refers to the "project", it is certainly not true when you compare the proposed two-story buildings (Alternate 3) to the residential property on 14622 Granite way. **Request to modify the statement in the DEIR.**

- 1.9 5. Potentially Discriminating standards from CEQA: On page 3-18 it is stated that: "Furthermore, CEQA is typically concerned about impacts on the environment of persons generally, rather than impacts on particular persons." Many of the areas of impacts throughout the DEIR has taken the position in favor of the "persons generally" –

1.9  
Cont.

however, the impacted party is a property owner at 14622 Granite way who has been a taxpayer and a good citizen of the community for over 25 years. **Request to note the concern in your comment's summary for due consideration of the property owner.**

1.10

6. **Impact NOI-1: Increase in Ambient Noise Levels -** The discussion of noise impact stating substantial increase in noise levels in excess of applicable standards is inadequate because it does not address the impact on the residential home at 14622 Granite way which is right next to the applicant's alternative. **Mitigation should include a sound barrier at an appropriate height and effectiveness to protect the neighbor's normal thresholds of sound levels.**

1.11

7. **Impact NOI-2:** The discussion of Exposure of People to Ground borne Noise and Vibration Levels resulting in generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in excess of applicable standards is inadequate because it does not address the impact on the residential home at 14622 Granite way which is right next to the applicant's alternative. **Mitigation should include appropriate vibration reduction mechanisms to neighbor's home.**

1.12

8. **Impact AES-1 correction:** The discussion on scenic vistas on page 4-136 and their impact on the surrounding area is incorrect. With the applicant's alternative, the project will directly diminish the scenic quality of the vista by introducing new visual elements that are incompatible with the balance of built and open space that substantially alter the landform. **Overall, the Project, when considered with the applicant's alternative will not be consistent in height, size and scale with the buildings in the surrounding area such as the home next to the proposed building, at 14622 Granite way.**

1.13

9. **Omission to be addressed with the design for balconies on Building D:** On page 4-129, Figure 4.6-2 (3) Building D West elevation is very concerning from two perspectives. The combination of balconies and the relative height of the balconies adjacent to the property on 14622 Granite way raises a great deal of concern for privacy along the tennis court, swimming pool and master bedroom areas. **While privacy is not listed as one of the DEIR review areas, the comment to NOT have balconies at all and to ONLY have raised clerestory windows is important to the homeowner adjacent to building D. Please note the homeowner on 14622 Granite way is already suffering from peering doors and windows from the previous development on the SRC site adjacent to the residential home. Pictures will be provided during the study session and further reviews.**

1.14

10. **Omission in the list of Project objectives for Alternative 3 (page 4-134):** Section 4.6.2 "Ability of Alternative 3 to Meet Project Objectives" lists several objectives of the proposed project. **Request an update to include an objective to not disrupt the quality of life for the neighboring residents of the SRC campus, both during the construction and the ongoing operation of the facilities. The term 'quality of life' simply represents a continuity of existing sound, noise, and dust levels including privacy considerations**

1.14  
Cont.

*from windows and balconies of the proposed SRC Project and specifically those pertaining to Alternative 3*

1.15

**11. Impact to privacy for the current residential neighbor at 14622 Granite way:** Section 4.6.3 on page 4-136 “Analysis of the Environmental Impacts of Alternative 3” states that the estimated height of Building D would be approximately 30 feet, 8 inches above grade at the north of the building (near Odd Fellows Drive) and approximately 20 feet, 3 inches above grade at the south of the building. Building D would be set back 25 feet from the adjacent residential boundary to the west. **Request an update to include the relative height of the proposed Building D relative to the ground level of the adjacent residential property at 14622 Granite way to provide an accurate view of the impact to privacy (despite the proposed 25’ setback).** Pls note that the grade level of the residential area at 14622 Granite way is substantially lower than the grade level of the proposed building D. **Request an update to include appropriate mitigation such as tall clerestory windows instead of proposed set of balconies for the proposed two-storied building D**

1.16

**12. Incorrect statement to be corrected:** Section 4.6.3 on page 4-136 “Analysis of the Environmental Impacts of Alternative 3” states the overall, similar to the Project, Alternative 3 would be generally consistent in height, size, and scale with the existing buildings at the site and in the surrounding area. **This is incorrect. The neighboring home at 14622 Granite way is a single-story home and is located at a much lower grade compared to the proposed building D.**

1.17

**13. Omission to be corrected:** Under the section on impact AES-3: Scenic Quality on page 4-137 it is stated that additional trees would be planted along the residential boundary to the east of Building D to provide screening from the adjacent residence and associated yard. The impact on adjacent residence and associated yard at 14622 Granite way, which is immediately to the north and west of the proposed building D is the largest and there is no mention of screening. **Request an update to include appropriate screening with specifics on height and length, along the entire length of building D, adjacent to the property mentioned herein.**

1.18

**14. Clarification needed:** Under the section on impact AES-3: Scenic Quality on page 4-137 it is stated that Alternative 3 would include an intensification of the existing senior residential and related uses at the site and would include a request for a Planned Combined District overlay, and with approval of the requested overlay, Alternative 3 would not conflict with applicable zoning. **Request for clarification on how the city will consider the rights of adjacent property owners who bought their homes based on the fact that the SRC site is the same zoning as the adjacent properties which are all designated as R1-40,000. The property owners’ original criteria of choosing to purchase their primary residence will be invalidated with the City’s likely approval of the re zoning request already filed by the PRS group.**



1.19

**15. Mitigation item needed:** Under the section on Impact AES-4: Light and Glare on page 4-138, it is stated that that new lighting associated with Building D and the new cottage would be closer to the adjacent residences to the west of the campus than new lighting sources under the project. It is further stated that the additional lighting is not anticipated to cause substantial adverse effects. **Based on the possibility that the effects could indeed be substantial, in the absence of any detailed plans, we request the inclusion of mitigation plans prior to final submission.**

1.20

**16. Mitigation item needed:** Under section Impact AIR-1: Conflict with Applicable Air Quality Plan - Construction, on page 4-139 it is stated that the construction of Alternative 3 would include implementation of the same fugitive dust control measures as described for the Project in Section 3.3.3. Given that Alternative 3's proposed building D is adjacent to the neighboring property on 14622 Granite way, the air quality impact will be substantially higher than the Project. **Request to include extra mitigation items concerning the air quality impact on the residential property on 14622 Granite way to the west of Building D.**

1.21

**17. Mitigation item update needed:** Under section Impact AIR-2: Net Increase in Criteria Pollutants on page 4—140 it is stated that construction-related impacts from Alternative 3 would be potentially significant due to fugitive dust. **Request MM-AIR-2 to be updated to reflect the impact to the neighboring residence on 14622 Granite way, which is the closest to the west side of the proposed building D from Alternate 3.**

1.22

**18. Mitigation update needed:** Under section Impact AIR-3: Exposure of Sensitive Receptors to Pollutants under Construction is stated as potentially significant, and on page 4-142 under section MM-AIR-3-ALT3: Health Risk Assessment, it is stated that Prior to issuance of grading permits for Alternative 3, the Project Applicant shall conduct a health risk assessment for construction activities to calculate maximum PM2.5 annual concentrations, excess cancer risk, and chronic non-cancer risk, associated with Alternative 3 construction emissions, and identify additional measures to be implemented, as necessary, to ensure that sensitive receptors are not exposed to substantial pollutant concentrations. It is further stated that the analysis may include screening level analysis and/or a health risk assessment, consistent with applicable guidance from the BAAQMD. The City of Saratoga shall require the Project Applicant to implement feasible mitigation measures to reduce exposure of sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations to levels consistent with thresholds recommended by the BAAQMD (as shown in Table 3.3-7 of this EIR) or as applicable at the time the project is proposed. And that the agreed upon feasible mitigation actions shall be documented as a project condition of approval. **Request recommended Health risk assessment, analysis and mitigation items be exclusively spelt out to the immediately adjacent neighboring property at 14622 Granite way.**

1.23

**19. Correction for SOI Standard:** Table 4.6-4 Summary of adherence to Secretary of the Interior's standards for Rehabilitation – Alternative 3 lists "no conflict" for Building 3 for

1.23  
Cont.

item no 2 historic character of the property. **Request a correction to be made to identify Conflict for this item. The views of the manor will be obstructed for the neighboring residential home at 14622 Granite way.**

1.24

**20. Evaluation and mitigation requested:** Under section Impact AIR-3: Exposure of Sensitive Receptors to Pollutants under Operation, it is stated that Alternative 3 would include the same number of emergency generators as the Project; however, the emergency generator in Building D would be approximately 75 feet closer to the nearest off-site sensitive receptor than the emergency generator located in Building B under the Project. The immediately adjacent residence on 14622 Granite way is closer than the receptor. **Request an evaluation be done on the potential impact on the adjacent home and appropriate mitigation items be included for review and approval.**

1.25

**21. Request city to establish noise thresholds for adjacent neighboring homes:** Under section Noise Impact NOI-1: Increase in Ambient Noise Levels on 4-168 it is stated: However, similar to the Project, due to the presence of existing on-site residential units in close proximity to the construction zones for Alternative 3, there is potential for construction noise to cause a substantial temporary increase in ambient noise levels for sensitive receptors within the closest residential units, even though Alternative 3 would comply with the City's noise standards for construction. As discussed for the Project in Section 3.12, because the City has not established any thresholds for the level of acceptable daytime, temporary construction noise for receptors in close proximity to construction zones, the FTA's recommended threshold limit of 80 dBA or less is used to evaluate the impact of construction noise. **Request the City to establish noise threshold levels for the neighboring home at 14622 Granite way, which is closest to proposed Building D.**

1.26

**22. Correction requested:** The table on page 4-169 titled: Table 4.6-6 Estimated Construction Noise at Closest On-Site Receptors – Alternative 3, lists the address incorrectly in several places for 14622 Granite way. The address is stated incorrectly as Burgundy way. **Request for correction of address in the table.**

1.27

**23. Correction requested:** on page 4-170 **Request correction of address in various places from 14622 Burgundy way to 14622 Granite way.**

1.28

**24. Update to mitigation plan needed:** Under section Noise Impact NOI-1 on page 4-171 it is stated that: "because Alternative 3 would result in daytime construction noise levels at nearby residential receptors that would exceed 80 dBA, the impact would be potentially significant. The Project Applicant and their Contractor have prepared a preliminary Construction Noise Mitigation Plan to help minimize disturbance to existing SRC residents from construction noise from Alternative 3, which is similar to the plan prepared for the proposed Project, but reflecting the differences in project schedule, construction areas and staging for Alternative 3 (RCP 2023, see Appendix E). Update of the Plan to include additional actions as set out in Section 3.12.3 for the proposed Project, and implementation of the plan throughout construction is also recommended

1.28  
Cont.

*for Alternative 3.” Request the update include mitigation plans for the adjacent residential home at 14622 Granite way.*

1.29

**25. Correction requested:** The on page 4-176 titled: Table 4.6-7 Estimated Maximum Vibration at Sensitive Receptors – Alternative 3, lists the address incorrectly for 14622 Granite way (instead listed incorrectly as Burgundy way). **Request correction to the address in the table.**

1.30

**26. Mitigation needed:** Under section Impact NOI-2: Exposure of People to Ground borne Noise and Vibration Levels – Construction on page 4-177, It is stated: “Because construction of Alternative 3 would result in levels of temporary vibration that could exceed the applicable threshold for building damage at the Manor Building, three on-site cottages, and two neighboring residential structures, and that would substantially exceed the threshold for human annoyance for several campus residents and neighbors, impacts related to vibration during construction activities of Alternative 3 would be potentially significant.” **Request an update to the mitigation plan that would specifically protect the closest residential home on 14622 Granite way.**

1.31

**27. Missing data point to be factored in noise levels from transportation:** In the section on “Transportation Impact TRA-1: Conflict with Transportation Plan, Program, Ordinance or Policy”, during Construction, there is no mention of the noise levels to adjacent home on 14622 Granite way. Currently as it is, we experience high noise levels due to a speed bump right behind the residential property line causing trucks to either halt with a loud screech or worse bump with higher speeds causing excessive noise from the sudden bump and from various items being transported. **Request appropriate mitigation to be included to protect the noise levels for the adjacent home on 14622 Granite way.**

1.32

**28. Omissions to be added:** Under section 4.7 Environmentally Superior Alternative on page 4-193/194 it is stated: “Alternative 3, the Applicant’s Alternative, would avoid the proposed Project’s significant and unavoidable impact to historical resources, but would require the same mitigation measures as the Project (MM-CUL-1a through MM-CUL-1c), and an additional mitigation measure (MM-CUL1d-ALT3), in order to reduce the potential impact to historical resources to less than significant with mitigation (Impact CUL-1). Alternative 3 would slightly increase the intensity of several impacts compared to the proposed Project due to the larger construction footprint and extended DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT - For Public Review Saratoga Retirement Community AECOM Environmental Impact Report Prepared for City of Saratoga 4-194 construction duration, e.g., construction-related air emissions (Impact AIR-1), tree removal (Impact BIO-5), potential for encountering archaeological, tribal or paleontological resources (Impacts CUL-2, GEO-6, and TCR-1), greenhouse gas emissions (Impact GHG-1), construction noise (Impact NOI-1) and construction vibration (Impact NOI-2), even though the overall level of significance for these impacts would be the same. Unlike Alternative 1, Alternative 3 would not introduce any new or more significant impacts.” Alternative 3 introduces significant impacts to the neighboring residential home on

1.32  
Cont.

*14622 Granite way, in several areas during construction including excessive dust, significant noise and vibration levels and the obstruction of the scenic quality of open space and the view of the manor (being a Saratoga pride building). Most importantly, mitigation to impacts on the neighboring residential home is largely ignored while only focusing on mitigation for the SRC residents. **Request, the addition of the impacts to the immediately adjacent residential home on 14622 Granite way in the summary for the applicant's alternative on page 4-194.***



Cynthia Richardson, Project Planner  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue  
Saratoga, CA 95070

1.1

Please do NOT destroy our Full-Size Bocce Ball court. The replacement proposed is only 2/3 of the current size. We do NOT want or need a 2-story apartment building on this site.



Over 60 residents regularly enjoy the games. We have many teams, for women, for men, mixed and some with staff and residents. It is a fun and healthy outdoor game.

This is our only outdoor recreation site. We, seniors need it for our mental and physical health.

Thanks you for listening,

Jeanne S. Redig  
4108

14500 Fruitvale Ave  
July 27, 23

Cynthia Richardson, Project Planner  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue  
Saratoga, CA 95070

2.1

Just look at these photos. Can you see why we treasure our campus? If you allow PRS to build these monstrous apartment buildings, we will lose our outdoors recreation, our green open space, our views, our protected mature trees and the fresh air.

We strongly against building these apartment building right in the center of our campus.

9/27/23 *Jaune Redig 4108 Fruitvale Ave Saratoga*

**Current View: Odd Fellows Park from West Cottages Lane**

- Redwood and oak trees will be eliminated
- All green space replaced with massive Building A
- All recreational sites are eliminated by Building A



**Same view if PRS plan is approved**

- Building A occupies entire open space of Odd Fellows Park
- View from street becomes of balconies and buildings, instead of trees and green open space
- Bocce Ball Court reduced from 91 feet to 60 feet, and shade eliminated



14500 Fruitvale Ave.  
Saratoga, CA 95070  
July 30, 2023

Cynthia Richardson, Project Planner  
13777 Fruitvale Ave.  
Saratoga, CA 95070

Subject: Saratoga Retirement Community

Dear Ms. Richardson,

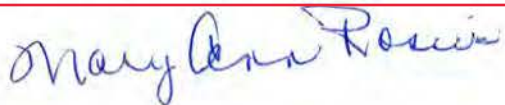
1.1 My name is Mary Ann Rosier. I am a resident at Saratoga Retirement Community since 2021.

I enjoy playing Bocce Ball with my neighbors every week, sometimes twice a week. It is a healthy and fun outdoor activity. It gets us out in the outdoors and sunshine which is recommended way to avoid depression.

I am very upset that the Pacific Retirement Services has proposed a master plan to eliminate our wonderful Bocce ball court by building a two story apartment building in that area. The proposed replacement court is only 2/3 the size of our present court.

The Bocce ball court is one of our most important outdoor facilities. Please DO NOT ALLOW THE APARTMENTS TO BE BUILT. Over 60 residents regularly enjoy the games. Some of our Senior citizens come to play even using walkers!

Thank you for your consideration of our side of this issue,



Mary Ann Rosier (Mrs. Laurence L.)  
Apartment 4110

14500 Fruitvale Ave.  
Saratoga, CA 95070  
July 30, 2023

Cynthia Richardson, Project Planner  
13777 Fruitvale Ave.  
Saratoga, CA 95070

Subject: Saratoga Retirement Community

Dear Ms. Richardson,

2.1 My name is Mary Ann Rosier. I am a resident at Saratoga Retirement Community. I strongly oppose the building of these apartments right in the center of our community.

That area is our “green belt” on campus. It provides recreational opportunities, a pleasant place read your book, and a great place to walk around and get some sunshine and fresh air which is recommended to combat depression.

In contrast, the DEIR suggest that these campus walking paths can be substituted by the nearby San Marcos Open space(p. 3-260 DEIR). The DEIR claims that the San Marcos Open Space is only 300 feet to the southeast of the Project site, but that is the direct AIR distance, up a steep embankment-inaccessible except by a 2.5 mile round trip along the road. This shows a complete lack of understanding of Seniors’ needs and quality of life.

Please DO NOT ALLOW THE APARTMENTS BUILDING.

Thank you for your consideration of our side of this issue,



Mary Ann Rosier (Mrs. Laurence L.)  
Apartment 4110



14500 Fruitvale Ave.  
Saratoga, CA 95070  
July 30, 2023

Cynthia Richardson, Project Planner  
13777 Fruitvale Ave.  
Saratoga, CA 95070

Dear Ms. Richardson,

3.1 My name is Mary Ann Rosier. I am a resident at Saratoga Retirement Community. I strongly oppose the building of new health center using the present plan. This plan has several drawbacks:

1. The plan fails to address the requirements for a health center here on campus while the new center is being constructed.

3.2 2. The resident plan has been completely ignored. It would address the problem of building a new one while continuing to use the old one. A residential building would replace the old health care center when the new one is completed.

3.3 3. What is the impact on the resident patients on the noise, vibrations, and dust during construction?

3.4 4. Are the rooms going to be renovated one at time or all at once. We had a very bad experience while management was repairing the balconies in 2018-2021. The repair was done as a block. It took 9 months to repair each balcony while residents had no natural light, no fresh air, or use of the terrace for each apartment. It was handled poorly by management with no consideration for the residents needs.

Please reconsider this plan and reject it. It is a poor one. We do need a new health care center, but the resident plan is much better for achieving that end.



Mary Ann Rosier(Mrs. Laurence L.)  
Apartment 4110



# SARATOGA

California

Commenter: ROSIER-M-4

Draft Environmental Impact Report  
Meeting  
August 2, 2023

## Comment Form (please print)

Name\*: MARY ANN ROSIER

Affiliation (if any)\*: RESIDENT OF SRC

Email address\*: mary ANN ROSIER3@SRCglobal.net

### Comment:

4.1

I am against the planned expansion of SRC by FSR.

Alternative 1 plan addresses all these objections, but does not have the devastating environment impact.

Alternative 1 makes the necessary improvement without the terrible impact of SRC's plan!

Mary Ann Rosier  
Apt. 4110  
Saratoga Retirement Community

\* Please print. Your name and comments become public information and may be released to interested parties if requested.

Please either deposit this sheet at the sign-in table before you leave today, or fold, stamp, and mail. Insert additional sheets if needed. Comments can also be emailed.

### Mailing address:

**Saratoga Retirement Community**  
c/o Cynthia Richardson  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue  
Saratoga, CA 95070

### Email:

**Cynthia Richardson**  
[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)

### Public Comment Period:

July 6, 2023 to August 21, 2023

**Comments will be accepted until August 21, 2023 by 5:00 PM**





# SARATOGA

California

Commenter: ROSIER-M-5

Draft Environmental Impact Report  
Meeting  
August 2, 2023

## Comment Form (please print)

Name\*: MARY ANN ROSIER

Affiliation (if any)\*: SARATOGA RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Email address\*: maryannrosier3@SBCglobal.net

5.1 Comment: I am against the planned expansion of SRP by the PSR.

The Alternative 1 plan addresses my objections. But it does not have the devastating environment that the PSR plan does.

Alternative 1 makes the necessary improvement without the devastating impact.

Mary Ann Rosier

Apt 4110

Saratoga Retirement Community

\* Please print. Your name and comments become public information and may be released to interested parties if requested.

Please either deposit this sheet at the sign-in table before you leave today, or fold, stamp, and mail. Insert additional sheets if needed. Comments can also be emailed.

Mailing address:

**Saratoga Retirement Community**

c/o Cynthia Richardson  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue  
Saratoga, CA 95070

Email:

**Cynthia Richardson**

[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)

Public Comment Period:

July 6, 2023 to August 21, 2023

**Comments will be accepted until August 21, 2023 by 5:00 PM**



# SARATOGA

California

Commenter: ROSIER-M-6

Draft Environmental Impact Report  
Meeting  
August 2, 2023

## Comment Form (please print)

Name\*: MARY ANN ROSIER

Affiliation (if any)\*: RESIDENT OF SRC

Email address\*: mary ann rosier 3 @ sccglobal.net

### Comment:

6.1

I am against plan for expansion of SRC by the  
PSR.

I support the Alternative 1 plan. It addresses the  
objections on the PSR plan.

The Alternative 1 plan makes the necessary  
improvements without the environmental impact.

Mary Ann Rosier  
Apt 4110  
Saratoga Retirement Community  
14500 Fruitvale Ave.  
Saratoga, CA 95070

\* Please print. Your name and comments become public information and may be released to interested parties if requested.

Please either deposit this sheet at the sign-in table before you leave today, or fold, stamp, and mail. Insert additional sheets if needed. Comments can also be emailed.

Mailing address: Saratoga Retirement Community  
c/o Cynthia Richardson  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue  
Saratoga, CA 95070

Email: Cynthia Richardson  
[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)

Public Comment Period: July 6, 2023 to August 21, 2023

Comments will be accepted until August 21, 2023 by 5:00 PM





# SARATOGA

California

Commenter: ROSIER-M-7

Draft Environmental Impact Report  
Meeting  
August 2, 2023

## Comment Form (please print)

Name\*: MARY ANN ROSIER

Affiliation (if any)\*: SARATOGA RETIREMENT Community

Email address\*: mary.ann.rosier.3@sbcglobal.net

Comment:

7.1

I am against the PSR plan to expand our community.

I support the Alternative I plan. It ~~also~~ addresses all the objections of the PSR plan.

Alternative I plans makes the necessary improvements without the terrible impact of the PSR plan.

Mary Ann Rosier  
Apt. 4110  
Saratoga, CA 95070  
14500 Fruitvale Ave.  
8/6/23

\* Please print. Your name and comments become public information and may be released to interested parties if requested.

Please either deposit this sheet at the sign-in table before you leave today, or fold, stamp, and mail. Insert additional sheets if needed. Comments can also be emailed.

Mailing address:

Saratoga Retirement Community  
c/o Cynthia Richardson  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue  
Saratoga, CA 95070

Email:

Cynthia Richardson  
[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)

Public Comment Period:

July 6, 2023 to August 21, 2023

Comments will be accepted until August 21, 2023 by 5:00 PM





# SARATOGA

California

Commenter: ROSIER-M-8

Draft Environmental Impact Report  
Meeting  
August 2, 2023

## Comment Form (please print)

Name\*: MARY ANN ROSIER

Affiliation (if any)\*: RESIDENT OF SARATOGA RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Email address\*: MARY ANN ROSIER3 @ SBGLOBAL.NET

### Comment:

8.1

I am against the PSR plan to expand our community.

I support the Alternative 1 plan. It addresses all the objections of the PSR plan.

Alternative 1 plan makes the necessary improvements without the terrible impact of the PSR plan.

Mary Ann Rosier  
14500 Fruitvale Ave.  
Apt. 4110  
Saratoga, CA 95070  
8/6/23

\* Please print. Your name and comments become public information and may be released to interested parties if requested.

Please either deposit this sheet at the sign-in table before you leave today, or fold, stamp, and mail. Insert additional sheets if needed. Comments can also be emailed.

### Mailing address:

**Saratoga Retirement Community**

c/o Cynthia Richardson  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue  
Saratoga, CA 95070

### Email:

**Cynthia Richardson**

[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)

### Public Comment Period:

July 6, 2023 to August 21, 2023

**Comments will be accepted until August 21, 2023 by 5:00 PM**



# SARATOGA

California

Commenter: ROSIER-M-9

Draft Environmental Impact Report  
Meeting  
August 2, 2023

## Comment Form (please print)

Name\*: MARY ANN ROSIER

Affiliation (if any)\*: RESIDENT OF SARATOGA RETIREMENT community

Email address\*: maryannrosier3@sbcglobal.net

Comment:

9.1

I am against the PSR plan to expand our community.

I support the Alternative 1 plan. It addresses all the objections of the PSR plan.

Alternative 1 plan makes the necessary improvements without the terrible impact of the PSR plan.

Mary Ann Rosier

Apt 4110

Saratoga, CA 95070

Saratoga Retirement Community

8/6/23

\* Please print. Your name and comments become public information and may be released to interested parties if requested.

Please either deposit this sheet at the sign-in table before you leave today, or fold, stamp, and mail. Insert additional sheets if needed. Comments can also be emailed.

Mailing address:

**Saratoga Retirement Community**

c/o Cynthia Richardson  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue  
Saratoga, CA 95070

Email:

**Cynthia Richardson**

[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)

Public Comment Period:

July 6, 2023 to August 21, 2023

**Comments will be accepted until August 21, 2023 by 5:00 PM**



Park 1 . pdf

Cynthia Richardson, Project Planner,  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue, Saratoga, CA 95070

Dear Planning commissioner and the City Council,

10.1

We residents here at Saratoga just love our bocce ball court. That & our putting green are our only outdoor games on campus. We also enjoy the chairs & picnic tables set up in that same park. The large oak tree there was lost in a storm last year & it has not been replaced with anything — not even grass or ground cover. Why? Because the PRS Expansion project plans to eliminate this park entirely (our only park) to make way for more buildings.

If we wanted a campus full of buildings we would have moved to any number of more financially reasonable ones in the Bay Area.

Please help us save our green space.

May Ann Rossi 816123  
Apt 4110  
Saratoga Retirement Community  
14510 Fruitvale Ave  
Saratoga, CA 95070



# SARATOGA

California

Commenter: ROSIER-M-11

Draft Environmental Impact Report  
Meeting  
August 2, 2023

## Comment Form (please print)

Name\*: MARY ANN ROSIER

Affiliation (if any):\* RESIDENT OF SARATOGA RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Email address:\* maryannrosier3@sbcglobal.net

Comment:

11.1 I am against the PSR plan to expand our community.

I support the Alternative 1 plan. It addresses all the objections of the PSR plan.

Alternative 1 plan makes the necessary improvements without the terrible impact of the PSR plan.

Mary Ann Rosier  
Saratoga Retirement Community  
14500 Fruitvale Ave.  
Apartment # 4110  
Saratoga, CA 95070 8/6/23

\* Please print. Your name and comments become public information and may be released to interested parties if requested.

Please either deposit this sheet at the sign-in table before you leave today, or fold, stamp, and mail. Insert additional sheets if needed. Comments can also be emailed.

Mailing address:

Saratoga Retirement Community  
c/o Cynthia Richardson  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue  
Saratoga, CA 95070

Email:

Cynthia Richardson  
[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)

Public Comment Period:

July 6, 2023 to August 21, 2023

Comments will be accepted until August 21, 2023 by 5:00 PM





# SARATOGA

California

Commenter: ROSIER-M-12

Draft Environmental Impact Report  
Meeting  
August 2, 2023  
6

## Comment Form (please print)

Name\*: MARY ANN ROSIER

Affiliation (if any)\*: RESIDENT OF SARATOGA RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Email address\*: maryannrosier3@sbcglobal.net

### Comment:

12.1 I am against the PSR plan to expand our community.

I support the Alternative 1 plan. It addresses all the objections of the PSR plan.

Alternative 1 plan makes the necessary improvements without the terrible impact of the PSR plan.

Shay Ann Rosier  
14500 Fruitvale Ave. Apt 4110  
Saratoga, CA 95070

\* Please print. Your name and comments become public information and may be released to interested parties if requested.

Please either deposit this sheet at the sign-in table before you leave today, or fold, stamp, and mail. Insert additional sheets if needed. Comments can also be emailed.

Mailing address: Saratoga Retirement Community  
c/o Cynthia Richardson  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue  
Saratoga, CA 95070

Email: Cynthia Richardson  
[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)

Public Comment Period: July 6, 2023 to August 21, 2023

Comments will be accepted until August 21, 2023 by 5:00 PM



Lynda Sayre  
153 Del Mesa Carmel  
Carmel, CA 93923

Cynthia Richardson  
13777 Fruitvale Ave  
Saratoga, CA 95070  
July 31, 2023

Re: SARATOGA RETIREMENT  
COMMUNITY EXPANSION PLAN

Dear Ms. Richardson,

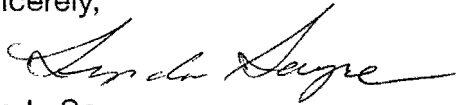
1.1 Although you see from my address that I no longer live in Saratoga, my husband and I did live there for 26 years. It has come to my attention that the SRC is planning to cut down 123 trees, including 28 Redwood and 26 Coast Live Oak. Some of the trees are over 100 feet tall and/or 6 feet in diameter. 85 of these trees are protected per city code 15-50-050. Saratoga has been named TREE CITY every year since 2006, requires residents to protect trees on their property and encourages tree planting not killing.

As you undoubtedly know, our climate is changing. It looks like July will be the hottest month ever recorded on the planet. According to the report issued by the American Planning Association, temperatures are exacerbated by concrete pavement, tall heat-retentive buildings, and a lack of shady greenery. The elderly and people with chronic health conditions are more vulnerable to heat-related illness or death. Air conditioning helps when people are inside but also contributes to the warming of the earth.

Planting trees or keeping them in the ground mitigates these effects. Saratoga is very lucky to have so many native trees. In addition to providing much needed shade, studies have shown that spending time in nature increases a feeling of well being.

Please encourage the management of SRC to work with the residents to find a way to preserve the trees and allow some expansion on campus.

Sincerely,



Lynda Sayre  
lyndasayre@gmail.com

**From:** [Cynthia Richardson](#)  
**To:** [Rawnsley, Emma](#)  
**Subject:** FW: PRS build plan time line.  
**Date:** Monday, July 17, 2023 10:59:41 AM

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This message came from outside your organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

[Report Suspicious](#)

**Cynthia Richardson | Project Planner**

City of Saratoga | Community Development Department  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue | Saratoga, CA 95070  
[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us) | [www.saratoga.ca.us](http://www.saratoga.ca.us)  
Office Hours Mondays and Thursdays

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**From:** Don Schmidek <dis6933@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 15, 2023 4:33 PM  
**To:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Cc:** Berglund Bob <rbergie@aol.com>; Bardin Tsing <tsingtb@gmail.com>; Griffin Michael <jazzbuff@comcast.net>; DuBridge Pat <pddubridge@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: PRS build plan time line.

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hi

Thanks for your last response.

1.1

WOW! The city does not care about the time line?

Does this suggest that the process may take 8-10+ years, as someone forecasted? Does this mean that the main section of the campus will be in noise, dust, mud and dirt for all this time? That the roads will be jammed with trucks, etc? That the safety of walking, driving and standing will be greatly jeopardized?

Is this what seniors should expect while paying the high accommodation rates?

What protection do we have that this will be financially sound and that residents will not suffer

1.1  
Cont.

financially while suffering from low quality of life levels?

Does the City of Saratoga look at this when Seniors' lives are concerned?

Can we request that only ONE building be constructed and finished at a time, and when finished the next one can be started to be dug and built.

This may protect the campus from unfinished construction, residents from chaos, etc.

This plan would minimize the maelstrom that we can anticipate on the campus and along West Cottages Lane and Pavilion Circle **unless** the Alternate plans are accepted and undertaken.

How do we request that this be considered and stipulated by the City?

Is this request something we can bring up in the next 45 days?

I know this is a mouthful, but the future looks very dusty and muddy to us, the financial situation questionable, the schedule unrealistic, and the impact staggering!

Thanks and I apologize for this dump, but we all have just one life, and we do not want to end it in a terrible dusty, noisy construction zone that the proposed plan will bring to us.

Don

**Rawnsley, Emma**

---

**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 2, 2023 3:22 PM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: Comments to EIR  
**Attachments:** Comments to SRC EIR 5 C.docx; Comments to SRC EIR 3A.docx; Comments to SRC EIR 6 D4.docx; Comments to SRC EIR 4A.docx; Comments to SRC EIR 1.docx; Comments to SRC EIR 2A.docx

**This Message Is From an External Sender**

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Report Suspicious

**Cynthia Richardson | Project Planner**

City of Saratoga | Community Development Department  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue | Saratoga, CA 95070

[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us) | [www.saratoga.ca.us](http://www.saratoga.ca.us)

Office Hours Mondays and Thursdays

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**From:** Don Schmidek <dis6933@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 1, 2023 2:54 PM  
**To:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Subject:** Comments to EIR

FORM TO PROVIDE INPUTS TO THE PLANNING DEPT OF SARATOGA CITY, CA.  
email to: Cynthia Richardson <[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)>

**EIR1. SRC**

**THESE ARE MY COMMENTS ABOUT THE PRELIMINARY EIR OF THE SARATOGA RETIREMENT COMMUNITY EXPANSION PROPOSAL.**

1. Version of EIR: SCH#2021110366 July 2023
2. Alternate Plan Numbers: Circle Alt 2 & 3
3. Name of Submitter: D. Schmidek\_\_\_\_\_
4. Residence of Submitter: Street:\_\_\_14500 Fruitvale Ave, \_\_\_Apt 6116  
City: Saratoga State: CA. - 95070 Date: 7/22/2023
5. Date of Submission: July 2023 Do you approve of the EIR: **NO**
6. Topic: Name of the topic of your comments:  
Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including Alt 1,2,3
7. EIR Page numbers: From\_\_\_\_\_ALL\_\_\_\_TO:\_\_\_\_\_EIR chapter number\_\_\_\_\_
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR overall

**Schedule credibility and safety:**

**This project, as documented and its schedules of under 3 years, will requires so much mitigation, changes, controls, time extensions etc. that it is most probably above the ability and capacity of construction management and SRC management, thus endangering the lives of residents and converting the campus to a Danger Zone, not suitable for seniors.**

The EIR should address the safety issues of building all concurrently and sequentially, and analyze The traffic, machinery, noise, safety issues and not permit such a perilous sequence and exposure which demonstrates a lack of concern about resident wellbeing, sanity and lives.

**The latest information from PRS estimates this project to take over 7 years vs. the EIR documents under 3 years which should NOT be allowed.**

2.1



FORM TO PROVIDE INPUTS TO THE PLANNING DEPT OF SARATOGA CITY, CA.  
email to: Cynthia Richardson <[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)>

**EIR 2**

**THESE ARE MY COMMENTS ABOUT THE PRELIMINARY EIR OF THE SARATOGA RETIREMENT COMMUNITY EXPANSION PROPOSAL.**

1. Version of EIR: SCH#2021110366 July 2023
2. Alternate Plan Numbers: Circle Alt 2 & 3
3. Name of Submitter: D. Schmidek\_\_\_\_\_
4. Residence of Submitter: Street:\_\_\_14500 Fruitvale Ave, \_\_\_Apt 6116  
City: Saratoga State: CA. - 95070 Date: 7/22/2023
5. Date of Submission: July 2023 Do you approve of the EIR: **NO**
6. Topic: Name of the topic of your comments:  
Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including Alt 1,2,3
7. EIR Page numbers: From\_\_Pg\_\_III\_\_\_\_TO: \_\_Pg\_\_III\_\_\_\_EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

2.2

- |   |               |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Project Objective Pg III. PRS Plan.  | <b>REJECT</b> |
| Item 4) <b>HEALTH CARE</b> - This is NOT in the plan submitted or in the schedule- this is far out in the future, but there is mention of it. The EIR should not approve or include it as it is not a construction or a detailed description or a "plan", and should be stricken out, not to confuse. It is a "promise" that may happen sometime..... |               |

2.3

- |   |
|---|
| Item 11) Maintain Landscape..... PRS plan — not described, detailed or scheduled or listed anywhere, thus it should not be included, unless it is intended to define the repair of the open spaces, the trees, etc. that would be impaired. |
|---|

FORM TO PROVIDE INPUTS TO THE PLANNING DEPT OF SARATOGA CITY, CA.

email to: Cynthia Richardson <[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)>

### EIR3

THESE ARE MY COMMENTS ABOUT THE PRELIMINARY EIR OF THE SARATOGA RETIREMENT COMMUNITY EXPANSION PROPOSAL.

1. Version of EIR: SCH#2021110366 July 2023
2. Alternate Plan Numbers: Circle **Alt 1**,
3. Name of Submitter: D. Schmidek\_\_\_\_\_
4. Residence of Submitter: Street:\_\_\_14500 Fruitvale Ave, \_\_\_Apt 6116  
City: Saratoga State: CA. - 95070 Date: 7/22/2023
5. Date of Submission: July 2023 Do you approve of the EIR: **YES with Modification**
6. Topic: Name of the topic of your comments:  
Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including Alt 1,2,3
7. EIR Page numbers: From Pg. IV Line. TO:\_\_\_Pg\_\_\_IV\_\_\_EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

Alternative 1 – Pg. IV. Line 8 –

Residents' plan drawing. **ACCEPT THIS PLAN but modify the erroneous drawing footprints:**

This plan was **not as submitted** by the Preserve group and thus both Buildings were misrepresented:

- a. Bldg. C1 footprint is NOT correct in the EIR - this was drawn by Ankrom - **it is not** the same construction and footprint as PRS Bldg. C; similar yes, but shorter. Also important is that **Colfax realignment is not needed and all current roads can be retained.**

Note: This location "C" is ill suited for a Residential building, given its proximity to the busy street on one side and on the other side dominated by the AL building. The use of this building as an HC is more appropriate as the duration of stay for medically incapacitated residents is usually short, and traffic and proximity to AL would not be a major issue. Access to Ambulances is also more advantageous and exit from SRC campus emergencies is greatly facilitated.

- b. Building D would be a new Building, on the same footprint as the **current HC** is, but 2 stories high and a garage under it, and **NOT** the **3 stories building**, similar the Bldg. 4000, which **PRS/Ankrom (?) drew incorrectly and submitted.**

- c. The rest of the campus **would NOT see any construction under this plan**, but for the Fitness Expansion building.

2.4

FORM TO PROVIDE INPUTS TO THE PLANNING DEPT OF SARATOGA CITY, CA.

email to: Cynthia Richardson <[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)>

**EIR4**

THESE ARE MY COMMENTS ABOUT THE PRELIMINARY EIR OF THE SARATOGA RETIREMENT COMMUNITY EXPANSION PROPOSAL.

1. Version of EIR: SCH#2021110366 July 2023
2. Alternate Plan Numbers: Circle Alt 3
3. Name of Submitter: D. Schmidek\_\_\_\_\_
4. Residence of Submitter: Street:\_\_\_14500 Fruitvale Ave, \_\_\_Apt 6116  
City: Saratoga State: CA. - 95070 Date: 7/22/2023
5. Date of Submission: July 2023 Do you approve of the EIR: NO
6. Topic: Name of the topic of your comments:  
Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including Alt 1,2,3
7. EIR Page numbers: From Pg. IV Line. \_\_\_\_\_TO:\_\_\_Pg\_\_\_\_\_EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

2.5

Alternative 3 – Pg. IV. Bldg. D, HC, Meeting Rm, Trail, etc.

PRS Plan -

**REJECT THIS PLAN**

This plan its similar to the original PRS plan, but deletes Bldg. B in front of the Manor and places a new Bldg. D onto the corner parking lot. It also defines a Manor dining area, removal of small traffic circle, destruction of the Park, Public Trail (questionable as it has been resolved years ago), and Bldg. A in the Park. The location of the new Bldg. D has significant issues: the short length of the driveway ~8-10 Ft. connecting to a side walk and busy street, the overlooking of the neighbor's home on one side and close proximity to busy street on other side, removing a live-in cottage, residents having to cross a busy street to get to the rest of campus buildings. The driveway's short length is half of that demanded by other cities in CA. This is a matter of safety and life preservations. Finally the tagging of the Meeting Rm. To the West Side of the Mannor is a terrible aberration and should Not be allowed.

FORM TO PROVIDE INPUTS TO THE PLANNING DEPT OF SARATOGA CITY, CA.  
email to: Cynthia Richardson <[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)>

**EIR 5 C**

THESE ARE MY COMMENTS ABOUT THE PRELIMINARY EIR OF THE SARATOGA RETIREMENT COMMUNITY EXPANSION PROPOSAL.

1. Version of EIR: SCH#2021110366 July 2023
2. Alternate Plan Numbers: Circle \_\_\_\_\_ Alt 2
3. Name of Submitter: D. Schmidek \_\_\_\_\_
4. Residence of Submitter: Street: \_\_\_\_\_ 14500 Fruitvale Ave, \_\_\_\_\_ Apt 6116  
City: Saratoga State: CA. - 95070 Date: 7/22/2023
5. Date of Submission: July 2023 Do you approve the EIR: **NO**
6. Topic: Name of the topic of your comments:  
Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including Alt 1
7. EIR Page numbers: From \_\_Pg\_IV\_\_ Line \_\_\_\_. TO: \_\_Pg\_VI\_\_ EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

2.6

**ISSUES TO BE RESOLVED.** Pg. IV- VI.

**REJECT THIS PLAN**

The EIR includes a Reduced Alternate Plan 2 cobbled up by the EIR consultants without intimate understanding of the issues, the impositions on Senior Residents, the needs of the community, the omission of key needs and requirement, etc.  
The inclusion of Bldg. A in the Park is totally unconscious, and in full disregard of Resident needs, expectations and wants. This is another Community destructions plan! This plan would be similarly invasive to the residents, as all major constructions in the hart of the community will be required, with its noise, dust and DANGERS.

The selection of a project version developed by the same hired EIR consulting group is not what the State defines as the responsibility of the consulting group. They have to study and define issues and choices of what was submitted.....period .... Not present their biased ideas.

By selecting Alternative 1 instead of self imagined Alt 2, no mitigation is required for the very many Major concerns, which are extensive and overbuilding on the other 2 locations would not be needed. Only Building C' would be on a new location, no streets would be blocked and moved, and the Park would be preserved.



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email to: Cynthia Richardson <[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)>

EIR 6

THESE ARE MY COMMENTS ABOUT THE PRELIMINARY EIR OF THE SARATOGA RETIREMENT COMMUNITY EXPANSION PROPOSAL.

1. Version of EIR: SCH#2021110366 July 2023
2. Alternate Plan Numbers: Circle Alt 1, 2 & 3
3. Name of Submitter: D. Schmidek\_\_\_\_\_
4. Residence of Submitter: Street:\_\_\_14500 Fruitvale Ave, \_\_\_Apt 6116  
City: Saratoga State: CA. - 95070 Date: 7/22/2023
5. Date of Submission: July 2023 Do you approve of the EIR: **NO**
6. Topic: Name of the topic of your comments:  
Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including Alt 1,2,3
7. EIR Page numbers: From. **Pg. XVI.** Line. \_\_\_\_\_TO:\_\_\_Pg\_\_\_\_EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

D. **Impact NOI-1 Ambient Noise/Vibration. Pg XVI.**

**~~REJECT ALT 2 & 3~~**

As documented, "substantial" (**overwhelming**) generation of noise, traffic and disruption will occur with **Alt 2 and 3**, while **Alt 1** will impact only a small section of the AL building, vs. the impact of **5 buildings** on W. Cottages by Alt 2 and 3.:

- 1) **Park – one very large 2 stories building**
- 2) **Front of the Manor (or in the parking lot, etc.)** and
- 3) Side of the **Manor ugly appendage**.
- 4) Noise and vibration from **Building C**, as defined by the Alt 2, that requires **2 streets realignments**, will affect Manor residents. (**Building C'**, as defined by Preserve is ~~shorter~~ and does ~~not~~ require realignment of 2 streets.)

**Very little is mentioned about the safety/dangers that building 5 structures on one street will bring - W. Cottages Ln.** – with domiciles on both sides, for SEVEREAL YEARS vs. the building of **ONLY two main building on the East** side of the campus, where extensive open space exists on 3 sides of the proposed buildings.

2.7

**Rawnsley, Emma**

---

**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 2, 2023 3:22 PM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: SRC EIR COMMENTS 2  
**Attachments:** Comments to SRC EIR AA.docx; Comments to SRC EIR D.docx; Comments to SRC EIR CCC.docx; Comments to SRC EIR B1.docx; Comments to SRC EIR A.docx; Comments to SRC EIR BBB.docx; Comments to SRC EIR C2.docx

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**Cynthia Richardson | Project Planner**

City of Saratoga | Community Development Department  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue | Saratoga, CA 95070  
[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us) | [www.saratoga.ca.us](http://www.saratoga.ca.us)  
Office Hours Mondays and Thursdays

---

**From:** Don Schmidek <dis6933@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 1, 2023 2:56 PM  
**To:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Subject:** SRC EIR COMMENTS 2

FORM TO PROVIDE INPUTS TO THE PLANNING DEPT OF SARATOGA CITY, CA.  
email to: Cynthia Richardson <[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)>

**EIR A**

THESE ARE MY COMMENTS ABOUT THE PRELIMINARY EIR OF THE SARATOGA RETIREMENT COMMUNITY EXPANSION PROPOSAL.

1. Version of EIR: SCH#2021110366 July 2023
2. Alternate Plan Numbers: Circle \_\_\_\_\_ Alt 2
3. Name of Submitter: D. Schmidek \_\_\_\_\_
4. Residence of Submitter: Street: \_\_\_14500 Fruitvale Ave, \_\_\_ Apt 6116  
City: Saratoga State: CA. - 95070 Date: 7/22/2023
5. Date of Submission: July 2023 Do you approve of the EIR: **NO**
6. Topic: Name of the topic of your comments:  
Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including Alt 1,2,3
7. EIR Page numbers: From \_Pg. V\_ Line. \_\_\_\_\_ TO: \_\_\_\_\_ EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

A. **ENVIRONMENTALLY SUPERIOR ALTERNATIVE.** Pg. V. **REJECT**

**IT IS STATED THAT AMONG THE ALTERNATIVES, AN ENVIRONMENTAL SUPERIOR ALTERNATIVE BE SELECTED.**

**WHO REQUESTED THAT AECOM DEVELOP AN ALTERNATIVE? THEY ARE NOT A PARTY INVOLVED in the DEVELOPMENT! THEY DO NOT MAKE THE SELECTION ONLY A SUGGESTION!!!!!!**

**The creation of Alternative 2 by AECOM shows great PRETENTION, bias and MIS-understanding by the EIR developing organization and a significant lack of perception of what the Senior community needs and wants, as it locates Bldg. A in the Park.**

It fails to recognize the significance that destruction and elimination of the Park and the removal of its very many trees and its facilities would have on the campus, its resident and the environment. The Park is used by residents daily and it provides a very important environmental and mental contribution to all residents.  
**IT ALSO FAILS TO COMPEHEND THE IMPACT OF BUILDING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SENIOR CAMPUS.**

3.1

EIR Pag AA

**Comments to EIR**

**Traffic study. 3.16.3. Pg. 3-285**

EIR FORM TO PROVIDE INPUTS TO THE PLANNING DEPT OF SARATOGA CITY, CA.  
email to: Cynthia Richardson <[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)>

THESE ARE MY COMMENTS ABOUT THE PRELIMINARY EIR OF THE SARATOGA  
**RETIREMENT COMMUNITY EXPANSION PROPOSAL.**

1. Version of EIR: SCH#2021110366 July 2023
2. Alternate Plan Numbers: Circle Alt 2 & 3
3. Name of Submitter: D. Schmidek\_\_\_\_\_
4. Residence of Submitter: Street:\_\_\_14500 Fruitvale Ave, \_\_\_Apt 6116  
City: Saratoga State: CA. - 95070 Date: 7/22/2023
5. Date of Submission: July 2023 Do you approve of the EIR: **NO**
6. Topic: Name of the topic of your comments:  
Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including Alt 2 & 3
7. EIR Page numbers: From\_\_Pg\_2-34 Par 2.4.4\_\_TO:\_\_Pg\_\_IV\_\_EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

3.2

**Traffic study. 3.16.3. Pg. 3-285. MM-TRA-3b**

**Garage exit driveways and entries to 3 buildings are too short and dangerous to pedestrians and vehicles.**

*Review of the drawings and documentation available from PRS and AECOM MM-TRA-3a/b.*

**Garage exits and entries driveways are too short to be safe.**

According to the visual examination of the drawings of the entrance and exit driveways from 3 garages, they measure as significantly shorter than the 20ft. considered required for safety, by several other California towns (Los Gatos) and cities (Sacramento) and many other California communities. Saratoga City has not addressed this consideration so far, but they should not allow such a "clear and near danger" for a Senior community.

The driveways of the 3 proposed buildings range from 8 ft to 12 ft. and pose grave danger for senior citizens while walking on the sidewalk in front or driving on the street in front of these 3 Buildings.

The Garages of (1) **Bldg. D**, Bldg. (2) **Meeting Hall** and (3) **Bldg. A** have short and dangerous garage exits. The **Meeting Hall** garage is located after a downhill **curve** of the W. Cottage Ln. that obfuscates the exit for downhill traffic, while exit from **Bldg. A** (3) garage runs into double parked delivery trucks, pedestrian walking down W. Cottages Ln. or exiting Bldg A. and traffic that uses Pavilion Dr. Driveway of **Building D garage** is short and exits to busy Odd Fellows Ln. where semis, trucks and cars drive by continuously and Residents walk down the sidewalk.

There is a requirement that the garage exit view not be blocked for 150 ft. It is questionable if this requirement will be met by any one of the 3 garages, thus endangering the lives of drivers and walkers. Why this is defined as vegetation not to block the line of sight, thus is assumed that it is unconditional requirement for line of sight.

It is also stated that the Project Applicant shall develop and implement a delivery schedule for vendors so that the number of simultaneous deliveries to the campus does not exceed the available loading space!  
*This is a challenge now, and during the years of construction of Alt 2 and 3 an impossibility.*



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email to: Cynthia Richardson <[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)>

**EIR 3 B**

THESE ARE MY COMMENTS ABOUT THE PRELIMINARY EIR OF THE SARATOGA RETIREMENT COMMUNITY EXPANSION PROPOSAL.

1. Version of EIR: SCH#2021110366 July 2023
2. Alternate Plan Numbers: Circle                      Alt 2
3. Name of Submitter:                      D. Schmidek\_\_\_\_\_
4. Residence of Submitter: Street:\_\_\_14500 Fruitvale Ave, \_\_\_Apt 6116  
City:    Saratoga                      State: CA. - 95070                      Date: 7/22/2023
5. Date of Submission:    July 2023    Do you approve of the EIR:                      **YES if corrected**
6. Topic: Name of the topic of your comments:  
Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including **Alt 1**
7. EIR Page numbers: From Pg IV    Line. Alt. 2    TO: Pg    EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

**ENVIRONMENTAL SUPERIOR ALTERNATIVE BE SELECTED (1) Pg. V**

**Accept this erroneous 2 buildings plan AND REQUEST THAT THE CORRECT BUILDING "D" PLAN BE SUBMITTED as well as Building "C1" Plan.**

**WRONG & MISLEADING Depiction by Ankrom/PRS of the PRESERVE BLDG D as similar to the Bldg. 4000 layout but Three (3) stories high.**

**THE PRESERVE SUBMITTED PLAN WAS TO BE BUILD TO THE SAME FOOTPRINT AS THE CURRENT HC BUILDING BUT 2 STORIES HIGH AND GARAGE UNDERGROUND.**

In addition it depicts Bldg. C1 as a same length as the their plan, but the Preserve Plan Bldg C is **Shorter** and does NOT require the alteration of the 2 streets.

**The Plan A was incorrectly depicted and described and thus the claimed advantage over it by Plans 2 & 3 is fallacious.**

**This Plan also places a second Building (A) in the Park, which is a major incursion into a space and place most appreciated and used by residents and eliminates many outdoor facilities.**

**The list of reduced issues of the "Reduced Development Alternative" is a biased self-glorification that creates more issues and does NOT satisfy the original objectives.**

3.3

EIR BB

EIR FORM TO PROVIDE INPUTS TO THE PLANNING DEPT OF SARATOGA CITY, CA.  
email to: Cynthia Richardson <[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)>

THESE ARE MY COMMENTS ABOUT THE PRELIMINARY EIR OF THE SARATOGA **RETIREMENT COMMUNITY EXPANSION PROPOSAL**.

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2. Alternate Plan Numbers: Circle Alt 2 & 3
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City: Saratoga State: CA. - 95070 Date: 7/22/2023
5. Date of Submission: July 2023 Do you approve of the EIR: **NO**
6. Topic: Name of the topic of your comments:  
  
Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including Alt 1,2,3
7. EIR Page numbers: From\_\_Pg\_2-34 Par 2.4.4\_\_\_TO:\_\_\_Pg\_\_\_IV\_\_\_EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

*Construction 3.15.3. Pg. 3-279*

*As stated: Project construction would **not conflict with any applicable program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system**, including transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities, the impact would be **less than significant.....and therefore, would not cause a significant impact under this threshold. The temporary effects of Project construction on internal vehicular and pedestrian circulation on private roads within the Project site is therefore not a potential physical effect on the environment requiring analysis under CEQA, but rather is an issue for SRC management to address directly with their construction contractor and existing residents.***

*Reminds me of Pontius Pilate when he washed his hands!!!! No kidding.....  
This time the Residents will be the ones that get run over.....during the short term.....*

Moreover, the proposed Project's effects would only be noticed during the **short-term** construction period and would not have long-lasting impacts that could adversely affect operations or plans for new elements or improvements to the transportation network.

3.4

FORM TO PROVIDE INPUTS TO THE PLANNING DEPT OF SARATOGA CITY, CA.

email to: Cynthia Richardson <[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)>

**EIR C. PG VI**

**THESE ARE MY COMMENTS ABOUT THE PRELIMINARY EIR OF THE SARATOGA RETIREMENT COMMUNITY EXPANSION PROPOSAL.**

1. Version of EIR: SCH#2021110366 July 2023
2. Alternate Plan Numbers: Circle Alt 1, 2 & 3
3. Name of Submitter: D. Schmidek\_\_\_\_\_
4. Residence of Submitter: Street:\_\_\_14500 Fruitvale Ave, \_\_\_Apt 6116  
City: Saratoga State: CA. - 95070 Date: 7/22/2023
5. Date of Submission: July 2023 Do you approve of the EIR: **NO**
6. Topic: Name of the topic of your comments:  
Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including Alt 1,2,3
7. EIR Page numbers: From\_\_**Pg. VI** Line. \_\_\_\_TO:\_\_\_Pg\_\_\_EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

3.5

ISSUES TO BE RESOLVED - as stated in EIR:

The State CEQA Guidelines require that an EIR present issues to be resolved by the lead agency. These issues include the choice among alternatives and whether or how potentially significant impacts can be mitigated. The major issues to be resolved by the City regarding the Project are:

**It is not reasonable or expected that the Organization Preparing an EIR should also create an alternative solution. This creates a conflict of interest, as the EIR agency should be an uninterested party.**

**EIR CCC**

EIR FORM TO PROVIDE INPUTS TO THE PLANNING DEPT OF SARATOGA CITY, CA.  
email to: Cynthia Richardson <[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)>

**THESE ARE MY COMMENTS ABOUT THE PRELIMINARY EIR OF THE SARATOGA RETIREMENT COMMUNITY EXPANSION PROPOSAL.**

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4. Residence of Submitter: Street:\_\_\_14500 Fruitvale Ave, \_\_\_\_\_Apt 6116  
City: Saratoga State: CA. - 95070 Date: 7/22/2023
5. Date of Submission: July 2023 Do you approve of the EIR: **NO**
6. Topic: Name of the topic of your comments:  
Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including Alt 1,2,3
7. EIR Page numbers: From\_\_Pg\_3-286 Par TRA-4
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

3.6

**Project-Related Interference with Emergency Access**

Closure of streets for extended periods of several months. How do we get to our garages. How about disabled residents?

As stated:

However, construction activities would require temporary closures of some internal roadways within the Project site, including West Cottages Lane and Colfax Lane for approximately three months during Phases 2 and 3. The construction contractor has indicated that at least two out of the three main access roads into the campus from Odd Fellows Drive (West Cottages Lane, Colfax Lane, and McLaren Lane) would be open for emergency vehicle access at all times.

Movement and maneuvering of construction traffic and equipment could also cause temporary congestion along Odd Fellows Drive and the short section of San Marcos Road connecting it to Fruitvale Avenue, and on other private roadways on the SRC campus,

MM-TRA-3a, described previously, would require the development and implementation of a detailed plan to manage construction traffic and internal road closures throughout the construction period to ensure continued access during emergencies, and to communicate that plan with emergency response providers and affected SRC residents and neighbors. Therefore, with implementation of MM-TRA-3a, potential impacts to emergency access during Project construction would be **less than significant with mitigation**.

Note: Just like it would be very questionable that the whole project could be completed in 26 months, same applies to the 3months of street closures.



3.6  
Cont.

WE DO NOT NEED THIS PROJECT AS DEFINED BY A REMOTE ARCHITECT – IS A PROJECT IS NEEDED IT MUST CONSIDER THE SENIOR POPULATION THAT HAS MADE LARGE ENTRY FEES AND PAYS HIGH MONTHLY FEES. IF A PROJECT IS NEEDED, IT SHOULD BE WITH DUE CONSIDERATION OF EVERYTHING!

FORM TO PROVIDE INPUTS TO THE PLANNING DEPT OF SARATOGA CITY, CA.  
email to: Cynthia Richardson <[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)>

**EIR NOI-1**

THESE ARE MY COMMENTS ABOUT THE PRELIMINARY EIR OF THE SARATOGA **RETIREMENT COMMUNITY EXPANSION PROPOSAL**.

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4. Residence of Submitter: Street:\_\_\_14500 Fruitvale Ave, \_\_\_Apt 6116  
City: Saratoga State: CA. - 95070 Date: 7/22/2023
5. Date of Submission: July 2023 Do you approve of the EIR: **NO**
6. Topic: Name of the topic of your comments:  
Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including Alt 1,2,3
7. EIR Page numbers: From \_\_Pg\_XVI Line\_\_\_\_\_TO: \_\_Pg\_\_\_\_\_EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

**3.7**

**Impact NOI-1 Increase in Ambient Noise/Vibration. Pg. XVI**

As documented, “substantial” generation of noise will occur with all Alternatives, except Alt 1, which may impact ONLY a very small portion of the AL building, vs. the impact of building in Park, in the front of the Manor or side of the Manor which will affect most of the central campus. Noise and vibration from Building C, as defined by the Alt 2, that requires street realignment, will also affect Manor residents. Building C’, as defined by Preserve, is shorter and does not require street re-alignments. It also does not requires staging of construction materials, etc. in the Park.

**Very little is mentioned about the safety or dangers that building 5 structures concurrently on one street – W. Cottages – for several years!**

This compared to building two main building on the campus East side, with extensive open space on their 3 sides and not in the path of pedestrians or vehicles.  
In addition, a different, unused and available space for staging would be much closer and readily available. This in contrast to staging in the Park for the whole building duration of XX?? years is a major difference on the horrible effects on residents, etc. that

**Rawnsley, Emma**

---

**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 2, 2023 3:23 PM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: EIR COMMENTS E-N  
**Attachments:** Comments to SRC EIR M.docx; Comments to SRC EIR H.docx; Comments to SRC EIR G.docx; Comments to SRC EIR E.docx; Comments to SRC EIR k.docx; Comments to SRC EIR F.docx; Comments to SRC EIR N.docx; Comments to SRC EIR L.docx

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**Cynthia Richardson | Project Planner**

City of Saratoga | Community Development Department  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue | Saratoga, CA 95070  
[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us) | [www.saratoga.ca.us](http://www.saratoga.ca.us)  
Office Hours Mondays and Thursdays

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**From:** Don Schmidek <dis6933@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 1, 2023 2:58 PM  
**To:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Subject:** EIR COMMENTS E-N

FORM TO PROVIDE INPUTS TO THE PLANNING DEPT OF SARATOGA CITY, CA.  
email to: Cynthia Richardson <[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)>

**EIR3**

THESE ARE MY COMMENTS ABOUT THE PRELIMINARY EIR OF THE SARATOGA **RETIREMENT  
COMMUNITY EXPANSION PROPOSAL.**

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City: Saratoga State: CA. - 95070 Date: 7/22/2023
5. Date of Submission: July 2023 Do you approve of the EIR: **NO**
6. Topic: Name of the topic of your comments:  
  
Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including Alt 1,2,3
7. EIR Page numbers: From\_\_Pg\_XIX. Line. \_\_\_\_TO:\_\_\_Pg\_\_IV\_\_\_EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

4.1

**Impact TRA-3. Pg XIX: Potential for Creation of Substantial Traffic-Related Hazards LTSM**

The Project could (WILL) substantially increase traffic-related hazards.

Mitigation: "MM-TRA-3a: Construction Traffic Control Plan" **is a joke.**

This subject was glanced over and not analyzed. The closure of streets over many months (8++?) will prevent SENIOR residents from getting to their domiciles and garages (W. Cottage Ln cottages) for MANY +++ months.

**Impact REC-1: Pg XIX. Construction or Expansion of New Recreational Facilities**

The Project would NOT increase the use of needed existing recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated.

**It would REDUCE the use and availability of Recreational facilities!!!**

**These two issues were just glanced over by suggesting that Mitigation via a Traffic Control Plan would solve this. VERY Questionable solution, or lack of a solution. What does deterioration have to do with this?**



EIR FORM TO PROVIDE INPUTS TO THE PLANNING DEPT OF SARATOGA CITY, CA.  
email to: Cynthia Richardson <[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)>

**EIR F Pag 2-34.**

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City: Saratoga State: CA. - 95070 Date: 7/22/2023
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Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including Alt 1,2,3
7. EIR Page numbers: From\_\_Pg\_2-34 Par 2.4.4\_\_\_TO:\_\_\_Pg\_\_\_IV\_\_\_EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

4.2

F. **TRAFFIC CONTROL /STREET CLOSURES:** 2.4.4 Pg. 2-34 Par 3  
Emergency access routes within the campus would be maintained throughout construction. **Colfax Lane and West Cottages Lane** would be **temporarily rerouted** for approximately 3 months during Phases 2 and 3; however, at least two of the three access roads would be open for emergency vehicle access at all times. This rerouting of just 3 months is illusory (would you believe 9?), and does not address how residents of the W Cottages will be able to enter their garages, get to their domiciles, etc.

**This is a real double talk. In one section it is said that analysis and resolution of the traffic within the SRC campus during construction is a SRC issue, and that the EIR does not address such.**

4.3

In another section it is stated that the Park would be used for staging ***During the whole XX years of construction (Pg 2-37)***

**This is really grand** – see Site Management Plan

Effort to endanger and encumber the lives of residents for who will have to put up & suffer with this for who know how many years.

The last stated duration was announced on July 20, 2023 by the PRS hired Consultant and Project Leader, that it would take 7 (seven) years to complete the construction of plan 3, so for all these years we would be looking at dirt, trucks, etc.

***This is not ACCEPTABLE, THIS IS NOT WHAT WE CONTRACTED FOR, THIS IS A HORRIBLE DEMONSTRATION OF THE LACK OF CONCERNS THE PLANNERS HAVE FOR SENIOR WHO CAME TO SRC FOR THEIR PEACEFUL LAST YEARS.***

EIR Pag 2-35. G

EIR FORM TO PROVIDE INPUTS TO THE PLANNING DEPT OF SARATOGA CITY, CA.  
email to: Cynthia Richardson <[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)>

THESE ARE MY COMMENTS ABOUT THE PRELIMINARY EIR OF THE SARATOGA **RETIREMENT  
COMMUNITY EXPANSION PROPOSAL.**

1. Version of EIR: SCH#2021110366 July 2023
2. Alternate Plan Numbers: Circle Alt 3
3. Name of Submitter: D. Schmidek\_\_\_\_\_
4. Residence of Submitter: Street:\_\_\_14500 Fruitvale Ave, \_\_\_Apt 6116  
City: Saratoga State: CA. - 95070 Date: 7/22/2023
5. Date of Submission: July 2023 Do you approve of the EIR: **NO**
6. Topic: Name of the topic of your comments:  
Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including Alt 1,2,3
7. EIR Page numbers: From\_\_Pg\_2-33 Par 2.4.4\_\_TO:\_\_\_Pg\_\_\_EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

4.4

**CONSTRUCTION PHASING. PG 2-33 - PAR 2.4.1**

The time line of 2.3 years for all 5 buildings, **July 2023-August 2025** is extremely questionable!

The durations of the **construction of 25 months** is a so unrealistic plan, that it questions the entire PRS Plan C. This would cause unbelievable anguish and disruption to the residents, as well as to the Saratoga streets. The renovation of the HC has been defined as occurring between July 2023 and July 2025 as well... an other questionable date and not relevant to this EIR?

The latest verbal statement from the Manager of the total plan, at a meeting of prospective residents, has put the construction to 7 years! (Hmmm..... very auspicious and realistic time line never before stated!!!)

**EIR Page 2-35 item H**

EIR FORM TO PROVIDE INPUTS TO THE PLANNING DEPT OF SARATOGA CITY, CA.  
email to: Cynthia Richardson <[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)>

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COMMUNITY EXPANSION PROPOSAL.**

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7. EIR Page numbers: From\_\_Pg\_2-34\5 Par 2.4.3\_\_TO:\_\_\_Pg\_\_\_EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

4.5

**Volume of material to haul off campus. Pg. 2-34 Par 2.4.3**

It is stated that 37,000 cubic yards would be off hauled for the entire construction plan.

It is unclear if this is for B plan or C plan. That translates to thousands of trucks round trips on Odd Fellows Ln. as well as on other campus streets – W. Cottages, Pavilion Dr., etc. Large double trucks, with trailers, could not turn around on SRC streets readily.

Other calculation, estimates more than double++ this dirt load for the original B plan, somewhat less for the updated plan relocating the Bldg. B to location D. The Preserve plan A. has the least amount of dirt to be hauled away.

A normal truck, which could enter SRC campus, can haul ~10 yards of uncompressed soil and **not 16**. This would require some 7400 **one way** truck trips on Odd Fellows lane, and up and down campus streets, of which mostly will be on W. Cottages.

Something to look forward to – dust, dirt, noise, traffic, blockage of street, etc.

Note that large dirt trucks with trailers (16 cu. ft.) could not turn around in SRC readily thus could not be used.

EIR K

Page 3-14. Par 3.2.2

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Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including Alt 1,2,3
7. EIR Page numbers: From\_\_Pg\_3-14 Goal OSC-2 and OSC 2.1. EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

4.6

**The plan and proposal DOES NOT meet the open spaces element, and actually destroys the one Open Space Park in the community.**

**Regulatory Framework. Par 3.2.2 Pg. 3-14**

*Open Space Element*

**Goal OSC 2:** To preserve the City's existing character which includes small town residential, rural/semi-rural areas and **open spaces**.

**Policy OSC 2.1:** Ensure that all development proposals, public and private, are sensitive to the natural environment and the community's **open space resources**.



**EIR L.**

Pag 2-34. Par 2.4.4

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Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including Alt 1,2,3
7. EIR Page numbers: From\_\_Pg\_2-34 Par 2.4.4\_\_TO: \_\_Pg\_\_IV\_\_EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

4.7

**F. CONSTRUCTION STAGING AND TRAFIC CONTROL: PAR 2.4.4 Pg. 2-34**

Emergency access routes within the campus would be maintained throughout construction.

**Colfax Lane and West Cottages** Lane would be **temporarily rerouted** for approximately 3 months during Phases 2 and 3; however, at least two of the three access roads would be open for emergency vehicle access at all times. This rerouting of just 3 months is illusory, and does not address how residents of the cottages will be able to enter their garages, etc. Same applies to Pavilion Circle.

This is a real double talk. In one section it is said that analysis and resolution of the traffic within the SRC campus during construction is a SRC issue, and that the EIR does not address such.

***In another section it is stated that the Park would be used for staging During the whole XX years of construction. This is really a grand!!!!***

Effort to endanger and encumber the lives of residents for who knows how many years. The last stated duration was announced on July 20, 2023 by the PRS hired Consultant and Project Leader, that it would **take 7 (seven) years to complete the construction of plan 3, so for all these years we would be looking at dirt, trucks, etc.**

**EIR M**

Page 3-199-200 Par 3.11.1

EIR FORM TO PROVIDE INPUTS TO THE PLANNING DEPT OF SARATOGA CITY, CA.

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Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including Alt 1,2,3
7. EIR Page numbers: From\_\_Pg\_2-34 Par 2.4.4\_\_TO: \_\_Pg\_\_IV\_\_EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

4.8

**Project Site. Pg 3-199. 3.11.1**

Environment Setting - **Existing Zoning** (Pg. 199-200). Project Site 2<sup>nd</sup> Par Pg. 3-199

**An approximately 1.1 acres landscaped area with outdoor recreational facilities is located just south of the Manor building** (and Bldg. A will be built on it and the recreational facilities buried under the building!)

The Project site is designated as a Community Facilities Sites in the City's General Plan, R-1-40,000 and must be evaluated and comply with criteria indicating its compatibility with adjacent uses and to provide space for community facilities needed to **complement residential areas**.

***This is the site ( 1.1 acres) that will be covered by a building - no description of its use - and shall deprive residents of open space and park atmosphere and utilization. This may violate the City's Building Intensity as it must comply with adjacent uses.***

***This is a terrible plan that violated the Contractual implications and abuses seniors in a senior community!***

EIR N.

EIR FORM TO PROVIDE INPUTS TO THE PLANNING DEPT OF SARATOGA CITY, CA.  
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7. EIR Page numbers: From\_\_Pg\_2-34 Par 2.4.4\_\_TO:\_\_\_Pg\_\_\_IV\_\_\_EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

4.9

THIS IS A VERY SCARY PLAN WHICH WILL OVERWHELM THE THEN RESIDING RESIDENTS, ENDANGERING THEIR LIVES AND LIMBS.

F. **TRAFFIC CONTROL** : 2.4.4 Pg. 2-34 Par 3

Emergency access routes within the campus would be maintained throughout construction. **Colfax Lane and West Cottages Lane** would be **temporarily rerouted** for approximately 3 months (!!!) during Phases 2 and 3; however, at least two of the three access roads would be open for emergency vehicle access at all times.

This rerouting of just 3 months is illusory, and does not address how residents of the cottages will be able to enter their garages, etc.

**This is a real double talk. In one section it is said that analysis and resolution of the traffic within the SRC campus during construction is an SRC issue, and that the EIR does not address such.** It just Promises that emergency routes will be open – but what about normal inhabitants??

**In another section it is stated that the Park would be used for staging During the whole XX years of construction.**  
This is really a grand!

Effort to destroy, endanger and encumber the lives of residents for who knows how many years.

The last stated duration was announced on July 20, 2023 by the PRS hired Consultant and Project Leader, that it would take 7 (seven) years to complete the construction of plan 3, so for all these years we would be looking at dirt, trucks, etc.

**Rawnsley, Emma**

---

**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 2, 2023 3:35 PM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: EIR INPUTS O-Z  
**Attachments:** Comments to SRC EIR P.docx; Comments to SRC EIR T.docx; Comments to SRC EIR Z.docx;  
Comments to SRC EIR R2.docx; Comments to SRC EIR Y.docx; Comments to SRC EIR X.docx;  
Comments to SRC EIR O.docx; Comments to SRC EIR S.docx; Comments to SRC EIR Q.docx

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Report Suspicious

**Cynthia Richardson | Project Planner**

City of Saratoga | Community Development Department  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue | Saratoga, CA 95070  
[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us) | [www.saratoga.ca.us](http://www.saratoga.ca.us)  
Office Hours Mondays and Thursdays

---

**From:** Don Schmidek <dis6933@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 1, 2023 2:59 PM  
**To:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Subject:** EIR INPUTS O-Z

EIR O

Pag 3-287 to 3-295., 3-284

EIR FORM TO PROVIDE INPUTS TO THE PLANNING DEPT OF SARATOGA CITY, CA.

email to: Cynthia Richardson <[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)>

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6. Topic: Name of the topic of your comments:  
  
Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including Alt 1,2,3
7. EIR Page numbers: From\_\_Pg\_3-287 to 3-295Par 2.4.4\_\_\_TO:\_\_\_Pg\_\_\_IV\_\_\_EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

5.1

**Environment setting - Cumulative impact 3.16.4 Pg 3-287 to 3-295**

**Contrary to what the EIR states, the project will have impact on physical division of community by inserting a building in the Park, providing a path with steps which, will prevent Seniors with walkers or other devices to reach the area and the Fitness Center or the Bldg. A front entrance.**

Quote: Project while continuing to serve existing development in compliance with Policy LU 5.2 and Policy LU 13.1. In addition, as discussed in Section 3.17, *Transportation*, the Project would not lead to any significant impacts at the study intersections in compliance with Policy LU 5.3.

These are very questionable statements, and just opinions and not decipherable. It is not clear which intersection this refers to but it has to be the one next to the Bldg. A garage exit, which is an accident begging to occur.

Finally the statement that the area is Partially Developed (used to be a well organized and maintained Park, but was intentionally by the Management left to decline for 7 years with no maintenance or grounds support), this is an understatement and expresses a wrong opinion and not that of RESIDENTS!

To confuse the issue further, the expansion of Fellowship Plaza was introduced, with no justification or consideration into this argument for further complexity and confusion!!!



**EIR P**

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email to: Cynthia Richardson <[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)>

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Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including Alt 2,3
7. EIR Page numbers: From\_\_Pg 3-207. Par 3.12\_\_\_\_TO:. Pg\_3-327 \_\_3.19.4
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

5.2

Page 3-207 to 3-242. **Par 3.12 Noise**

This plan and AECOM conclusions are an imposition on seniors of astronomic proportions and totally unacceptable.

After reading all the Fundamentals (!), we came up with the real NOISE. To begin measuring the current noise at 5 locations over 20 minutes, in the afternoon, around 2 and 3 PM proves little. The 24 hrs. measured location is away from traffic and residences.

What relationship this has with construction noise is a mystery.

The Peak construction traffic is very optimistic, and does NOT address the **SRC Campus traffic**.

The discussion about construction noise is baffling as the expectations and suggestions are that resident should absent themselves from their domiciles during the high noise?

The list of Mitigations demanding residents vacating their residences is overwhelming (Page 3-226) etc. is shocking. Having noise barriers across the street of cottages for the long construction periods are a negation of the peace and quiet we contracted for.

**THIS IS TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE FOR A SENIOR COMMUNITY, OR ANY OTHER.  
THERE IS A BETTER PLAN! THE RESIDENTS PROPOSED PLAN!**

EIR Q

Page. 3.13. 3-243-247.

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6. Topic: Name of the topic of your comments:  
  
Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including Alt 1,2,3
7. EIR Page numbers: From. Pg\_3-243. Par 3.13 TO: Par 3-13.4 Pg.. 3-247 EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

Population Housing

5.3

This section describes the existing setting of the Project area related to population and housing and evaluates whether the Project would result in adverse effects on population and housing.

Concerns about the misalignment between the demographic of people that the project aims to serve, and the demographic (e.g., "up-scale" retired individuals) that the proposed housing will serve. It rambles on about population growth, and concludes that these new apartments will satisfy future demands and requirements.

**Conclusion of the section on Page 3-247. 3.13.4**

**As discussed above, the Project would have no impact related to inducement of unplanned population growth or displacement of people or housing. Therefore, the Project would not contribute to any potential cumulative impacts associated with population and housing requirements.**

The City of Saratoga has an overabundance of planned constructions in the income bracket, more than the State requires, and the apartments that the PRS plan suggests in this section of the EIR is

5.3  
Cont

superfluous and does not convey the reality of the requirements. It just confuses the reader, if any reader ever gets this far in the EIR!

**EIR R**

**Public Service - Environmental Setting.**

EIR FORM TO PROVIDE INPUTS TO THE PLANNING DEPT OF SARATOGA CITY, CA.

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7. EIR Page numbers: From\_\_Pg\_3-249 Par 3.14.1\_\_\_TO:\_\_\_Pg\_\_\_IV\_\_\_EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

5.4

Pag 3-249 . Par 3.14.1

**The EIR does NOT address all the services** provided to the Campus and Residents as pertinent, as they are not considered "public services" under CEQA. Not clear which services are NOT Considered, such a **food delivery, trash, taxi, SRC Bus, Mail to mailboxes, Amazon, Fed-Ex, etc.** but these services are essential and MUST be considered in the plan.

Lack of consideration and provisions of these over **several years of construction will have a devastating effect on senior residents** who rely on such services. (It goes into lengthy diatribe about **Fire Protection** and the organization of these but does not negate the services ability)

The analysis does address the accessibility of Fire Engines, Ambulances, Police Vehicles, etc. during years of construction **very casually**.

**With street closures** the access to certain dwellings and apartments will be severely hindered. There is no workaround or plans addressing these issues.

Note that the Preserve Plan **does NOT have such critical issues**, as:

**NO streets will be blocked** that may limit access to ANY parts and all of the habitations on the campus

EIR S

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7. EIR Page numbers: From\_\_Pg 3-258 Par 3.15.2\_\_\_TO:\_\_\_Pg\_\_\_IV\_\_\_EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

5.5

It fails to address some of the key requirements in Alt 2 & 3:

Regulatory Framework – City of Saratoga General Plan -- Page 3-258 . Par. 3.15.2

The Open Space and Conservation Element of the City's General Plan provide objectives, policies, and programs regarding recreational facilities. The following General Plan policies relating to recreational facilities apply to the Project:

**Goal OSC 2: To preserve the City's existing character which includes small town residential, rural/semi-rural areas and open spaces.**

**Policy OSC 2.1: Ensure that all development proposals, public and private, are sensitive to the natural environment and the community's open space resources.**

**Goal OSC 3: To provide and maintain parks and a variety of passive and active recreational sites which are located, designed, and improved to serve the needs of the residents, the community, and the neighborhoods of Saratoga.**

**Policy OSC 3.1: Ensure that existing and future parks and dedicated open spaces remain part of the public domain in perpetuity.**

**Policy OSC 3.3: Promote retention and dedication of land which provides room for a variety of passive and active recreational pursuits and offers important opportunities for the fulfillment of human and psychological needs, including: .**



5.5  
Cont.

The EIR fails to meet the above City objectives by overbuilding over the one Park the Senior Community has.

EIR T

Pag 3-260. Pg 3.15.3 .

### Project Impacts and Mitigations

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7. EIR Page numbers: From\_\_Pg 3-260 Par 3.15.2\_\_TO:\_\_\_Pg\_\_\_IV\_\_\_EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

5.6

**Impact REC-1 Project would NOT use neighborhood parks, Which is a questionable question, given the average age of SRC residents and their ability to walk to regional parks!**

**The Project does NOT require the construction of a City Park, but does require that the current Park not be built over by Bldg. A or any other!**

The Analysis of the impact as written is fallacious as it addresses only 4 of the outdoor activities in the Park, which they propose to **build somewhere, BUT NOT the whole Park**.

Even the Relocating of the 4 activities has not been resolved or presented and would eventually be forgotten and not provided or would be minimized.

**As to the trail, that has been resolved years ago and is just a smoke screen or lack of knowledge! Introducing the expansion of Fitness Center has no connection with recreational facilities.**

The most incorrect statement is that the Project may have significant impact on neighborhood park or regional parks!!!

The next **most egregious statement** is the one stating that there **are 28 acres of parks within one mile of the campus** as well as Freemont Older and Villa Montalvo on Pg. 3-261 .

5.6  
Cont.

Apparently, the author of the EIR does not comprehend what a Senior facility is, and that Seniors cannot go 1 mile or more to a park with their walkers.  
We moved to SRC because it **DID HAVE** a Park!

EIR X

**Comments Public Services**

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email to: Cynthia Richardson <[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)>

THESE ARE MY COMMENTS ABOUT THE PRELIMINARY EIR OF THE SARATOGA **RETIREMENT COMMUNITY EXPANSION PROPOSAL**.

1. Version of EIR: SCH#2021110366 July 2023
2. Alternate Plan Numbers: Circle Alt 2 & 3
3. Name of Submitter: D. Schmidek\_\_\_\_\_
4. Residence of Submitter: Street:\_\_\_14500 Fruitvale Ave, \_\_\_Apt 6116  
City: Saratoga State: CA. - 95070 Date: 7/22/2023
5. Date of Submission: July 2023 Do you approve of the EIR: **NO**
6. Topic: Name of the topic of your comments:  
Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including Alt 1,2,3
7. EIR Page numbers: From\_\_\_Pg\_3-275 Par 2.4.4\_\_\_TO:\_\_\_Pg\_\_\_IV\_\_\_EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

5.7

**Environment Setting. 3.15.4. Pg. 3-249 ->276**

***Cumulative Impact on Recreational Facilities. 3.15.4. Pg 3-262*** The overall cumulative impact for C-REC-1 would be **potentially significant**, however, the Project's contribution would be **less than cumulatively considerable** -- **?????? PLEASE EXPLAIN!!!!!!**

***Cumulative Impact Analysis*** As described previously, there are 87 acres of existing parkland within the City, including 63.5 acres of City Parks and a network of open wilderness areas and trails. Based on the 2020 City population of 31,030, this equates to approximately **2.8 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents**, which is substantially **below the City's goal of 5 acres per 1,000 residents**. High land costs and the limited amount of undeveloped land pose challenges to the City in seeking to attain its goal. The overall cumulative impact could be **potentially significant**.

***Really????***

***This is another bit of double talk. If it is "potentially significant" the elimination of a Park space within a stone's throw distance for a senior population, why then build over it, and suggest that seniors who do not drive could access a City Park miles away with their walker! In addition, the whole space of the PARK would be covered over with a huge multistory building. The impact of this devastating plan would be enormous and irreplaceable and should NOT be permitted. We were promised a good life, but this is an affront to seniors, a breach of promises, and will have everlasting negative effects! The city apparently is BELOW their goal of 5 acres/1000 so why make this even lower?***

EIR Y

EIR FORM TO PROVIDE INPUTS TO THE PLANNING DEPT OF SARATOGA CITY, CA.  
email to: Cynthia Richardson <[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)>

THESE ARE MY COMMENTS ABOUT THE PRELIMINARY EIR OF THE SARATOGA **RETIREMENT COMMUNITY EXPANSION PROPOSAL**.

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6. Topic: Name of the topic of your comments:  
Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including Alt 1,2,3
7. EIR Page numbers: From\_\_Pg\_3-283 Par TRA-3\_\_\_TO:\_\_\_Pg\_\_\_\_\_EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR:

5.8

This is the statement in the EIR **Environment Setting. 3.15.4. Pg. 3-249 ->276**, and **Transportation. 3.16 Pg. 3-265**. which does suggest that:

**At a future time the campus traffic will be defined, safety considered and plans submitted:**

***TRA-3 Impact Analysis:***

Construction

All construction staging activities would occur on the Project site or within the designated off-site staging area at West Valley College Parking Lot #6. Temporary traffic controls, temporary lane closures, and construction zone entrances may be required within the Project site itself on the network of internal roadways within the SRC campus, or at the entrance to Odd Fellows Drive from San Marcos Road. **The Project Applicant's contractor has submitted a preliminary "Construction Management Plan" to the City as part of their application, but the preliminary plan lacks the level of detail required to ensure that the potential for traffic safety hazards would not be increased.** If temporary controls, closures, and entrances are not implemented in accordance with the City's standards, there is potential for increased traffic safety hazards within the Project site.

**This impact could be potentially significant and life threatening.**



5.8

Cont.

Comments:

Discussion of Transportation is the issue of Campus internal traffic as well as external truck traffic of deliveries and exportation of excavated dirt and removed trees, and the importation of various construction equipment and materials has been very meager.

The article failed to consider and include the normal truck traffic experienced without construction. The truck number of 5633 over a span of 535 days, or about 10 trucks per day, appears **grossly understated and confusing**. The number of 29 avg. trips per day vs. the 10 is also confusing and understated. There should be a penalty of \$500 per truck trip per day for any trips exceeding the forecasted one to be paid to residents.

The submitted plan TOTALLY omits the major traffic issues on the Campus, what with street closures, Park used for storage of construction materials, machinery, etc. and the use of heavy noisy equipment roaring during digging, transportations, etc. The suggestion to relocate residents is a real winner.

**This plan, which applies to the PRS plan and the AECOM plans, totally disregards the Senior resident's lives, health, etc. vs. the Preserve plan which avoids almost entirely these issues.**

This cannot be acceptable to any jurisdiction that considers senior Lives, security and health a vital responsibility! The submitted plan TOTALLY omits the major traffic issues on the Campus, what with street closures, Park used for storage of construction materials, machinery, etc. and the use of heavy noisy equipment roaring during digging, transportation, etc. **The suggestion to relocate residents is a real winner.**

EIR Z

EIR FORM TO PROVIDE INPUTS TO THE PLANNING DEPT OF SARATOGA CITY, CA.  
email to: Cynthia Richardson <[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us)>

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2. Alternate Plan Numbers: Circle Alt 2 & 3
3. Name of Submitter: D. Schmidek\_\_\_\_\_
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City: Saratoga State: CA. - 95070 Date: 7/22/2023
5. Date of Submission: July 2023 Do you approve of the EIR: **NO**
6. Topic: Name of the topic of your comments:  
Objections to the EIR as presented on multiple issues, including Alt 1,2,3
7. EIR Page numbers: From\_\_\_Pg. 3-276 Par 3.16.3\_\_\_TO:\_\_\_Pg. 3-279\_\_\_IV\_\_\_EIR
8. Describe your concern with the DEIR Pg 3-279:

5.9

**Project Impacts and Mitigation. 3.16.3.** As stated in the EIR Pg 3-279 Par. 2 Line 4:

*Project construction would not conflict with any applicable program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, and therefore, would not cause a significant impact under this threshold. **The temporary effects of Project construction on internal vehicular and pedestrian circulation on private roads within the Project site is therefore not a potential physical effect on the environment requiring analysis under CEQA, but rather is an issue for SRC management to address directly with their construction contractor and existing residents.** Nonetheless, it is noted that MM-TRA-3a, requires the construction contractor develop and implement a construction traffic control plan to mitigate potential impacts relating to traffic safety and emergency access (see Impacts TRA-3 and TRA-4 below).*

However, during the period when all phases of construction overlap, up to 29 truck trips could travel to/from the Project site each day. Assuming that construction truck traffic would be spread throughout an eight-hour workday, this equates to approximately 4 truck trips per hour. The Project would not exceed the recommended screening criterion from the ITE for construction traffic, which sets a threshold level of 50 or more new truck trips during the peak hour, below which a detailed construction truck traffic evaluation is not required. This is the most current "industry standard" guidance for assessing the effects of construction Projects that create temporary traffic increases (ITE 1988).

**Considerations and concerns:**

***Given the above dismissal of responsibility, and negating due concerns, by stating that the CEQA does not care about resident lives and wellbeing, but an SRS management responsibility, it becomes very clear that there will be Extreme disturbances and dangers during the MANY years of construction.***

**Note that the Preserve plan does not expose residents and visitors To any life and limb dangers.**

## Rawnsley, Emma

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**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 3, 2023 10:37 AM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: Elr comments

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### Cynthia Richardson | Project Planner

City of Saratoga | Community Development Department  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue | Saratoga, CA 95070  
[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us) | [www.saratoga.ca.us](http://www.saratoga.ca.us)  
Office Hours Mondays and Thursdays

---

**From:** Don Schmidek <dis6933@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 2, 2023 10:16 PM  
**To:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Subject:** Elr comments

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Hi Cynthia

6.1

Here are my observations about **specific items in the EIR**, as I thought we were asked to present.  
I am not sure that it matters, as well as I am not sure that the lady from AECOM cared or captured the points. But, as I did not have sufficient time to express my observations, I am trying to remedy this way.  
I have also provided my inputs (~30) about the rest of the EIR to you, but the fact that AECOM gets to vote on our future as a non involved party, with Alternative 2, is WRONG.  
I just want to pass on the key issue of the EIR, is that the concepts generated by AECOM should NOT be considered, as they are not an interested party or an affected one, now, during or after construction.

Thanks

Don Schmidek

Talk at the Saratoga City (4)

I have turned the 646 pages of the EIR and have some comments.

6.2

1. The organization of the EIR is baffling. If I search for a topic I get the Page number --- but the pages do not have numbers.... Amazing....

6.3

2. The EIR was to have 2 or 3 choices or plans, but it had 4, one of the opinions was from the EIR originators. Is this self-generated plan a function for the EIR writers and analyzers? or is their task to just render solid commentary and analysis on the submitted plans - 2 or 3 - and suggest the optimal in their analysis?

6.4

3. The EIR is ~80% full of stuff that is of no benefit to most, and it detracts from the essence of the objectives and needs! It may meet the requirements, but it is not clear or crisp or comprehensive!

6.5

4. The method used by AECOM to select is arbitrary, mysterious and capricious, and to suggest that table 4.7-1 (Par. 4-195, Pg. #??) supports Alternative 2 as the optimum, requires great imagination, questionable science ... as it also places a building in the Park.

6.6

5. The EIR has grossly incorrect information thus conclusions on the plan are erroneous. Alt 1 shown in EIR uses a PRS interpretation (Pg. 4-13, Fig 4.4-2) of Building D (replacing the HC) with a 3 stories building, footprint similar to Bldg. 4000, is an incredible screw up (Ankrom drawing). The Preserve Plan has a 2 story Building, with a configuration similar to the current HC. (Pg. 4-11). Need I say more!

6.7

6. On Pg. 4-36 are many comments of Alt 1, some notable: Due to the extended duration of Alt 1, and additional haul trucks trips associated with the demolition, Alt 1 would result in higher overall energy consumption... really? ... vs. a full Building A in the Park? The Conclusion has been reached... do not bother me with facts...

6.8

7. My take on EIR presented version is that the Preserve Two (2) building plan is the best between Alt 1 and Alt 3, as it does not create a multi-year (2.2 or really 7) year construction zone and preserves the essential features of the SRC campus, while providing the 50 apartments and the much-needed replacement and modernization of the old Health Center. As to Alt 2, it should be totally disregarded as the authors did not understand the issues.

## Rawnsley, Emma

**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 10, 2023 11:39 AM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: Selection of optimum construction plan - SRC

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### Cynthia Richardson | Project Planner

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Office Hours Mondays and Thursdays

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**From:** Don Schmidek <dis6933@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 4, 2023 1:52 PM  
**To:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Selection of optimum construction plan - SRC

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Hi Cynthia

Thanks for putting up with all of us and answering the many questions that were posed so far.

7.1 Among the many issues found in the EIR, the one that is most mysterious, is the conclusion that Alt 2 is the best choice. Naturally the unbelievable error is the inclusion of incorrect plans, in the Preserve section, of maps, etc. generated by/for PRS/ANKROM, **this must be remedied first.**

I have studied over the concluding tables 4.7-1 which allegedly give more merit to Alt 2 than to the other 2, in the opinion of the authors, and I have been unable to understand these and follow to their conclusions. There needs to much more clarification about these conclusions, these tables, etc. specially as the final conclusion and selection of Alt 2 is by the **same organization** that generated the EIR, generated Alt 2!

That is by definition not proper - I will not draw comparisons!



7.1  
Cont

To start I would suggest that the Alt 2, generated by the group that wrote the EIR, be rejected due to conflict of interest, lack of understanding by the authors of issues, campus life, resident needs, etc. We do not need a solution which does not fit the needs and requirements of either party.

Given the implications the 2 EIR tables below allegedly provide, I would expect that much more clarification and common sense be extracted from the data, which is not understandable (just raw data) and was identified as the justification for the selection of Alt 2, which the EIR group generated! We cannot accept a scoring system which is arbitrary and not impartial.

7.2

I would appreciate the mathematical work-up as well as the definitions of each impact. LUP-1 mean nothing to a reader! To have to go back and forth to find what AES-4, etc. are, should not be imposed on the readers and decision makers.

7.3

Also, given the very close scores of 58, 62, 62, we really need to use common sense and not just arbitrary numbers to justify the selections and scoring. As a minimum the items which have the highest grades of long term impact need to be discussed and analyzed with more details by all parties. This is not first grade arithmetic! Also note that **Project Duration** has great impact on the scoring, which is a very arbitrary comparison, specially since the duration the of construction of Alt 3 in just 2.2 years ( EIR Pg. 4-182 shows 48 months while Pg 2-33 shows 25 months for Alt 3) is extremely questionable (with 100-206 workers on campus each day), and further does not consider the written commitment made by the IOOF organization for not building Bldg A in the Park for 7 years after the approval of the project by the City of Saratoga.

7.4

Finally, I would suggest that Alt 2 be removed as it is judged not acceptable by either party (as I understand) and as it was generated by a third party not familiar with the campus and the Residents needs, Management needs and Campus life. It is really questionable why such a selection and submission should be made by a less than an involved party which may not, and does not, understand all the issues and negative implications of their inputs. For the same organization to be Judge, Jury and Plaintiff is not proper.

7.5

I may have misunderstood the derivations and conclusions the EIR group made, but reading the EIR, the selection does NOT jump out, just to the contrary.....the table below mixes critical items with minutia, etc. and gives all items equal scores, etc.

There are just a few critically impacting issues with the proposals, and these should have major values..... I suggest that the two interested parties submit their **top** ~10-20 issues and objectives, and then a best can be derived.

Just for clarification, the opinions, conclusions and suggestions stated above are my own.

Thanks

Don Schmidek

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT - For Public Review

Environmental Impact	Proposed Project	No Project Alternative	Alternative 1: Residents' Alternative	Alternative 2: Reduced Development	Alternative 3: Applicant's Alternative
Impact LUP-1	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI
Impact LUP-2	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS
Impact NOI-1	LTSM	NI	LTSM	LTSM-	LTSM+
Impact NOI-2	LTSM	NI	LTSM-	LTSM-	LTSM+
Impact NOI-3	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI
Impact POP-1	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI
Impact POP-2	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI
Impact PSR-1	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS
Impact REC-1	LTS	NI	LTS-	LTS	LTS
Impact REC-2	LTS	NI	LTS-	LTS	LTS
Impact TRA-1	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS
Impact TRA-2	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS
Impact TRA-3	LTSM	NI	LTSM	LTSM	LTSM
Impact TRA-4	LTSM	NI	LTSM-	LTSM	LTSM
Impact TCR-1	LTSM	NI	LTSM-	LTSM-	LTSM
Impact UTI-1	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS
Impact UTI-2	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS
Impact UTI-3	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS
Impact UTI-4	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS
Impact UTI-5	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS
Impact WF-1	LTSM	NI	LTSM	LTSM	LTSM
Impact WF-2	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS
Impact WF-3	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS
Impact WF-4	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS
Agriculture and Forestry Impacts	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI
Mineral Resource Impacts	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI
Number of impacts with higher significance level	N/A	0	4	0	0
Number of impacts with lower significance level	N/A	47	1	1	1
Number of impacts with same significance level	N/A	16	58	62	62

Source: compiled by AECOM. For each alternative, the significance determination shown in the table for a particular impact is the most severe of the construction or operational-phase impact.

Acronyms: N/A = Not Applicable; NI = No Impact; LTS = Less than Significant Impact; LTSM = Less than Significant with Mitigation; S&U = Significant and Unavoidable.

**Bold** indicates that impact is different level of significance than the Project.

- indicates that although the overall level of significance for the Alternative would be the same as the proposed Project, the duration or intensity of the impact would be less, and/or fewer mitigation measures would be required.

+ indicates that although the overall level of significance for the Alternative would be the same as the proposed Project, the duration or intensity of the impact would be greater, and/or additional mitigation measures would be required.

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT - For Public Review

Table 4.7-1 Comparison of Proposed Project and Alternatives

Environmental Impact	Proposed Project	No Project Alternative	Alternative 1: Residents' Alternative	Alternative 2: Reduced Development	Alternative 3: Applicant's Alternative
Impact AES-1	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI
Impact AES-2	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI
Impact AES-3	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI
Impact AES-4	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS
Impact AIR-1	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS-	LTS
Impact AIR-2	LTSM	NI	LTSM	LTSM-	LTSM
Impact AIR-3	LTSM	NI	LTSM+	LTSM	LTSM+
Impact AIR-4	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS
Impact BIO-1	LTSM	NI	LTSM+	LTSM	LTSM
Impact BIO-2	NI	NI	LTSM	NI	NI
Impact BIO-3	NI	NI	LTSM	NI	NI
Impact BIO-4	LTSM	NI	LTSM	LTSM	LTSM
Impact BIO-5	LTS	NI	LTS-	LTS-	LTS
Impact BIO-6	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI
Impact CUL-1	S&U	NI	LTS	LTSM	LTSM
Impact CUL-2	LTSM	NI	LTSM-	LTSM-	LTSM+
Impact CUL-3	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS
Impact ENE-1	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS
Impact ENE-2	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS
Impact GEO-1	LTS	NI	LTSM	LTS	LTS
Impact GEO-2	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS
Impact GEO-3	LTS	NI	LTSM	LTS	LTS
Impact GEO-4	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS
Impact GEO-5	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI
Impact GEO-6	LTSM	NI	LTSM-	LTSM-	LTSM+
Impact GHG-1	LTSM	NI	LTSM	LTSM-	LTSM
Impact GHG-2	LTSM	NI	LTSM	LTSM	LTSM
Impact HAZ-1	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS+
Impact HAZ-2	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI
Impact HAZ-3	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI
Impact HAZ-4	NI	NI	NI	NI	NI
Impact HAZ-5	LTSM	NI	LTSM	LTSM	LTSM
Impact HYD-1	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS
Impact HYD-2	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS
Impact HYD-3	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS
Impact HYD-4	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS
Impact HYD-5	LTS	NI	LTS	LTS	LTS

## Rawnsley, Emma

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**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 14, 2023 11:00 AM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: EIR Fluff

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**From:** Don Schmidek <dis6933@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 11, 2023 12:36 PM  
**To:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Subject:** EIR Fluff

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Hi

8.1

In order to bypass the issues about the elimination of the Park in the middle of the SRC campus, which was so dedicated by the Odd Fellows years back, a lot of extraneous information is included in the EIR.

**In the EIR on Pg 3-53 and 3-54 reference is made to a Camp 1.5 miles from SRC.** Of what value is to suggest such an abandoned site, away more than the 3+ times the 1.5 miles suggested, on really hard mountain roads to drive on, is mind blowing. It is referenced as the nearest "largest open space". Is this to replace the Open Space, i.e. the **Park**, that the Alt 2 and Alt 3 plans eliminate by their suggestion to building upon with Bldg. A?

In addition, on same page, it mentions an Eucalyptus Grove and 5 acres of open space on the SRC campus. The grove was cut down some time ago for safety reasons, and is not and was not accessible! The 5 acres are not accessible either, are unkept, are steep, have bushes, fallen branches, and do not have trails and are defined as not accessible Open Space. Again why mention such locations, if they are of no consequence or use. It also mentions a San Marcos Open Space trail. Again this is not easy to access, is relatively distant, and has worn steps and trails, and is quite steep in sections.

8.1  
Cont.

The EIR is replete with such information which **obfuscates the real issues** of the horrible construction plans (Alt 2 and Alt 3), the many years of total disruption in the SRC Community, and ultimate elimination of open spaces.

Regards

D. Schmidek  
Resident

**Below is the current description of the referenced Camp Stuart.**

History of the Nearest Large Open Space: Camp Stuart.  
Founded in 1944, this camp is a defunct camp in Saratoga, California. The camp contains 144 acres (0.583 km<sup>2</sup>).


The camp had a pool, dining room, multipurpose building, flush toilets, shower building, meeting lodge and many campsites. The site served as a Cub Scout day camp, one of the largest in the United States, serving nearly 3000 Scouts each year.

The camp's last summer of operation was in 1988. The Santa Clara County Council already owned two other camps, and decided to sell this camp to take advantage of rising land values. The camp was sold in 1989, shortly before several buildings were damaged in the Loma Prieta earthquake. The county has not demolished or developed the camp, and has no funds or apparent plans for the area.


<b>Basic Information</b> <b>Type:</b> Buildings and Outdoors <b>Status:</b> Abandoned <b>Accessibility:</b> Easy <b>Recommendation:</b> worth the trip		<b>Physical Information</b> <b>Address</b> Saratoga, California United States <b>Owner:</b> Santa Clara County Council	
<b>Hazards</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• asbestos</li> <li>• rust</li> <li>• unsafe flooring</li> <li>• air quality</li> <li>• rat feces, tons of mold in buildings, nails, abundant overgrowth, ticks</li> </ul>		<b>Interesting Features</b> Pristine with minimal (if not any) graffiti (at least I didn't see any)	
<b>Security Measures</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fences</li> <li>• barbed wire</li> <li>• frequent Sheriff patrol, nosy neighbors</li> </ul>		<b>Historical Dates</b> <b>Built:</b> 1944 <b>Closed:</b> 1988	
<b>Required Equipment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• flashlight</li> <li>• long pants / sleeves</li> <li>• towelettes</li> <li>• warm waterproof boots with thick soles</li> </ul>		<b>Recommended Equipment</b> breathing mask or simple white mask respirator	
<b>History</b> Founded in 1944, this camp is a defunct camp in Saratoga, California. The camp contains 144 acres (0.583 km <sup>2</sup> ).  The camp had a pool, dining room, multipurpose building, flush toilets, shower building, meeting lodge and many campsites. The site served as a Cub Scout day camp, one of the largest in the United States, serving nearly 3000 Scouts each year.  The camp's last summer of operation was in 1988. The Santa Clara County Council already owned two other camps, and decided to sell this camp to take advantage of rising land values. The camp was sold in 1989, shortly before several buildings were damaged in the Loma Prieta earthquake. The county has not demolished or developed the camp, and has no funds or apparent plans for the area.			
<b>Media Coverage</b>		<b>Future Plans</b> no plans to demolish or rebuild. Completely abandoned	



Location DB > United States > California > Saratoga > Abandoned Boy Scout Camp

<b>Name</b>	<b>Database Info</b>
Abandoned Boy Scout Camp	created by Anonymous on 5/6/2007 3:03 AM last modified by Anonymous on 2/23/2020 1:20 PM
<b>Viewing Options</b>	<b>Viewability</b>
<i>Log in to activate viewing options</i>	 <b>Publically Viewable</b> This location has been labeled by its creator as Public, and therefore can be viewed by anyone.

**Overview**



## Rawnsley, Emma

**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 14, 2023 11:02 AM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: EIR Pg ii. and Pg 609

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#### Cynthia Richardson | Project Planner

City of Saratoga | Community Development Department  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue | Saratoga, CA 95070  
[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us) | [www.saratoga.ca.us](http://www.saratoga.ca.us)  
Office Hours Mondays and Thursdays

**From:** Don Schmidek <dis6933@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 11, 2023 8:07 PM  
**To:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Subject:** EIR Pg ii. and Pg 609

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#### 9.1 Comments about the EIR for SRC augmentation

**This section already assumes that a Proposed Project was selected and awarded. Really?**  
**This is a shameful section.**

The EIR contains broken promises, contradictions and errors regarding the Park in Alt 2 and 3, as both eliminate the Park and its uses. Park uses are a plethora, from open air picnics with relatives, to Bocci Ball plays (7+ different matches each week with about 90 participants, to Horse Shoes (which has not been up-kept for years) to just ordinary sitting in an open air Park with friends and relatives for a Pic-Nic or just a rest.

It also negates the PRS proposal's construction time frame of 2.2 years, which is hard to believe.

Below are EIR sections with the broken promises regarding the Bocci Ball and Horse Shoes that were to be relocated, had Alt 2 or 3 been selected, to a location where the Bocci Ball Court would preserve its length of ~90 Ft. as well as space to allow spectators to be present during competitions.

Same applies to the Horse Shoes court which need much fixing, including the need for new horse shoes intended for seniors.

As to the trail, that has been resolved about 2 years ago with the City of Saratoga and its Trails Section and it just adds more line items to the EIR that are superfluous.

## 4.7 Environmentally Superior Alternative

Pg II.

"Recreational facilities displaced by construction (i.e., the putting green and bocce ball court) would be relocated to the **west of Building A**. The proposed Project would also include a public trail connection along Odd Fellows Drive, connecting Fruitvale Avenue with the San Marcos Open Space, via Chester Avenue, Gypsy Hill Road, and Via De Marcos."

**Pg 609 Par 4-193**

Alternative 3, the Applicant's Alternative, would avoid the proposed Project's significant and unavoidable impact to historical resources, but would require the same mitigation measures as the Project (MM-CUL-1a through MM-CUL-1c), and an additional mitigation measure (MM-CUL- 1d-ALT3), in order to reduce the potential impact to historical resources to less than significant with mitigation (Impact CUL-1). Alternative 3 would slightly increase the intensity of several impacts compared to the **proposed Project** due to the larger construction footprint and **extended**

Saratoga Retirement Community AECOM Environmental Impact Report  
Prepared for City of Saratoga 4-193

### DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT - For Public Review

**construction duration**, e.g., construction-related air emissions (Impact AIR-1), tree removal (Impact BIO-5), potential for encountering archaeological, tribal or paleontological resources (Impacts CUL-2, GEO-6, and TCR-1), greenhouse gas emissions (Impact GHG-1), construction noise (Impact NOI-1) and construction vibration (Impact NOI-2), even though the overall level of significance for these impacts would be the same. Unlike Alternative 1, Alternative 3 would not introduce any new or more significant impacts.

Because Alternative 2 would avoid the significant and unavoidable impact to the historic resource and would not introduce any additional impacts or require additional mitigation measures, the **City has determined that the next environmentally superior alternative to the No Project Alternative would be Alternative 2, Reduced Development Alternative.**

## Rawnsley, Emma

**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 14, 2023 11:03 AM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: PRS EIR misrepresentation Pg 4-193 of EIR

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#### Cynthia Richardson | Project Planner

City of Saratoga | Community Development Department  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue | Saratoga, CA 95070  
[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us) | [www.saratoga.ca.us](http://www.saratoga.ca.us)  
Office Hours Mondays and Thursdays

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**From:** Don Schmidek <dis6933@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 11, 2023 8:20 PM  
**To:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Subject:** PRS EIR misrepresentation Pg 4-193 of EIR

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Hi Ms Richardson

10.1

Here is an other contradiction of many, of the time line the PRS proposal suggests and others. It also draws **wrong conclusions on construction durations**, but it also uses the **wrong building design** that the EIR submittal includes, based on PRS documentation and not on Preserve documentation.

**The whole EIR should be scrapped and a new one provided based on real information, less erroneous assumptions, and biased opinions. And the proposal from AECOM omitted.**

Extracted from EIR:

Alternative 3, the Applicant's Alternative, would avoid the proposed Project's significant and unavoidable impact to historical resources, but would require the same mitigation measures as the Project (MM-CUL-1a through MM-CUL-1c), and an additional mitigation measure (MM-CUL- 1d-ALT3), in order to reduce the potential impact to historical resources to less than significant with mitigation (Impact CUL-1). Alternative 3 would slightly increase the intensity of several impacts compared to the **proposed Project** due to the larger construction footprint and **extended**

10.1  
Cont.

Saratoga Retirement Community AECOM Environmental Impact Report  
Prepared for City of Saratoga 4-193  
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT - For Public Review

**construction duration**, e.g., construction-related air emissions (Impact AIR-1), tree removal (Impact BIO-5), potential for encountering archaeological, tribal or paleontological resources (Impacts CUL-2, GEO-6, and TCR-1), greenhouse gas emissions (Impact GHG-1), construction noise (Impact NOI-1) and construction vibration (Impact NOI-2), **even though the overall level of significance for these impacts would be the same. Unlike Alternative 1, Alternative 3 would not introduce any new or more significant impacts.**



## Rawnsley, Emma

---

**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 14, 2023 11:04 AM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: SRC EIR Comments

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#### Cynthia Richardson | Project Planner

City of Saratoga | Community Development Department  
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Office Hours Mondays and Thursdays

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**From:** Don Schmidek <dis6933@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 12, 2023 4:58 PM  
**To:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Subject:** SRC EIR Comments

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11.1

Please note that the construction has just doubled to 48 months from the previous 2 years and 2 months.  
This nullifies the issue of the extended construction period that the Preserve suggested for the Alt 1 Plan.

AECOM 4-181

## Transportation

### ***Impact TRA-1: Conflict with Transportation Plan, Program, O***

#### Construction

Construction of Alternative 3 would result in a temporary increase in traffic at the SRC campus due to construction workers commuting to the site, construction debris export and deliveries, similar to the Project. Construction traffic and movement of larger construction vehicles would create traffic-related hazards. Construction-related traffic would be concentrated at the site, with five partially overlapping phases of construction.

The primary haul truck travel route to the Project site under Alternative 3 would be the proposed Project (i.e., from SR 85 to Saratoga Avenue, Fruitvale Avenue, and Odd Fellows Drive).

The estimated daily average construction truck trips for each phase of construction are shown in Table 4.4-9, along with estimated number of worker commute trips from homes to the offsite staging area at West Valley College), and from the staging area to the Project site (between the offsite staging area and the Project site). Similar comparisons can be found in Table 3.16-3 in Section 3.16 above, for comparison.

As shown, when averaged over the entire 48-month construction would be an average of approximately 10 truck trips per day which is less than the daily average of 22 truck trips per day with month duration of the proposed Project.

The most intensive phase of truck traffic during Alternative 3 would be when Phases 2, 3 and 5 overlap, when an average of 18 truck trips per day would be required. This would be less traffic and a shorter duration than for the maximum (the 11-month period when all four construction phases would be required) truck trips per day would be required.

Assuming that construction truck traffic would be spread throughout the project duration, Alternative 3 would result in approximately 2 truck trips per hour for the Project). Therefore, Alternative 3 would be below the screening criterion from the ITE for construction traffic, which sets the threshold for new truck trips during the peak hour, above which a detailed traffic analysis is required. This is the most current "industry standard" guidance for assessing traffic impacts that create temporary traffic increases (ITE 1988).

## Rawnsley, Emma

**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 14, 2023 11:05 AM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: SRC EIR Comments

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Office Hours Mondays and Thursdays

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**From:** Don Schmidek <dis6933@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 14, 2023 10:41 AM  
**To:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Subject:** SRC EIR Comments

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Hi

12.1

There are hundreds of issues with the SRC EIR.

Here are the few key ones as I see it:

12.2

1. The fact that AECOM decided to be judge and jury and had the gall to present THEIR Alt 2, which is not a compromise or anything acceptable

12.3

2. The facts that they misrepresented and misjudged the Alt 1 by **NOT** using the Building footprint and size that was submitted by Preserve.

12.4

3. By having numerous gross errors, contradictions and totally irrelevant material in the EIR as filler, preventing reasonable analysis of the alternatives.

12.5

4. By minimizing or omitting reference to critical and life impacting conditions, by suggesting that life issues are campus internal and not pertinent to EIR.

5. By not addressing the terrific impact of the contradictory multi years (**2 or 4 or 6 or ???**) constructions and closures on lives of ~300 inhabitants of SRC

12.6

Bottom line: The EIR is a compendium of error, misstatement, incorrect conclusions and assumptions, using incorrect construction plans, and irrelevant information, which confuses the readers and will prevent correct final selection.

Regards

Don Schmidek  
Resident



**Rawnsley, Emma**

**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 17, 2023 10:07 AM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: The SRC augmentation EIR

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**Cynthia Richardson | Project Planner**

City of Saratoga | Community Development Department  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue | Saratoga, CA 95070  
[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us) | [www.saratoga.ca.us](http://www.saratoga.ca.us)  
Office Hours Mondays and Thursdays

**From:** Don Schmidek <dis6933@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 16, 2023 9:50 AM  
**To:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Subject:** The SRC augmentation EIR

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Hallo Cynthia

Subject: **The EIR for the Saratoga Retirement Community.**

13.1 Here is an other set of reasons why the PRS so called **Project** in the EIR should be rejected, and this is to include the **Alt 2 and Alt 3**, as all three will impact the living center of the SRC campus for years of construction and gravely affect the **SRC senior residents**.

These three (3) project alternatives have a very similar terrible effect on the lives of current and future residents and NONE of them should be considered acceptable and thus approved.

All 3 Alternatives introduce horrible disruption of the lives of a Senior Community for many years, and thus the ~ 200 current and future residents. It also removes open air facilities by a building in the Park.

This project, in any disguise, will affect Residents for **430,000 days in their lives**. Just for validation here is the calculation:

13.1  
Cont.

—> 200 residents in IL, for 356 days per year, for 6 years, results in 430,000 person days, will be affected by this project during construction. (This excludes secondary affects on the Assisted Living and HC residents.)

Please note that the duration of the constructions is defined differently in different sections of the EIR, and is questionable given the assumption of manpower availability, of up to 200 workers at the same time on the campus, etc. Just the transportation of workers from the WV College campus will take hours, twice per day, and the truck traffic will be horrible, and the noise unacceptable. To top it off, streets will be closed for months, not allowing Residents safe access to their Cottages and to their garaged vehicles, etc.

Is this what a Senior in a senior community in Saratoga should expect? Is this why we paid huge entry deposits and pay large monthly fees? Our contracts did not have this devastating eventuality exonerated!

This does not address the disruptions and noise in the current HC building, when bathroom shower upgrades may be made to all **Double Beds rooms** - somehow the single bed rooms were not included in the upgrade plan.

The PRS proposed plans and alternatives are a horrible treatment of Seniors in a Senior Community, which the City of Saratoga **MUST not allow**.

If it must be, **THERE IS A BETTER WAY!**

Regards

D. Schmidek  
SRC resident

**Rawnsley, Emma**

**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 24, 2023 10:44 AM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: ISSUES WITH THE SRC PLAN - Porta Potties

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Cynthia Richardson | Project Planner  
City of Saratoga | Community Development Department  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue | Saratoga, CA 95070  
crichardson@saratoga.ca.us |  
[https://urldefense.com/v3/http://www.saratoga.ca.us/!!ETWISUBM!10jE00gpr4aLQkdNUYXII-cZY-ZKt4KmNN-9j\\_lzjkoDYxxAVgQqV4rTn0z-60tRi5HJMvs0eQJPOuV6eRjy7bf\\_fPc9\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/http://www.saratoga.ca.us/!!ETWISUBM!10jE00gpr4aLQkdNUYXII-cZY-ZKt4KmNN-9j_lzjkoDYxxAVgQqV4rTn0z-60tRi5HJMvs0eQJPOuV6eRjy7bf_fPc9$)  
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-----Original Message-----

From: Don Schmidek <dis6933@gmail.com>  
Sent: Sunday, August 20, 2023 8:52 AM  
To: Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
Subject: ISSUES WITH THE SRC PLAN - Porta Potties

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Hi Cynthia

14.1

One of the key features that all constructions generally have is the provision for human needs for all the different construction plans over the full duration of each of the plans.

I would expect that the EIR would include the location, quantity, installation durations, of Porta Potties for the each of the five (5) plans identified in the EIR for up to 200 daily workers.

We would expect that such locations be somewhat obfuscated and not “in your face” to reduce the visual unpleasantnesses of the constructions and thus of the view of these facilities during the many years of construction.

To show that I am an advocate of the Preserve Plan, Alt 1, these provisions for these human needs could be located in a much less visible and in less your face location, just off McLaren Ln, in open space.

I appreciate you bringing this up to assure that the next version of the EIR addresses such needs.

Regards

Don Schmidek  
Resident.

## Rawnsley, Emma

**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 24, 2023 10:45 AM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: An other misstatement.

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#### Cynthia Richardson | Project Planner

City of Saratoga | Community Development Department  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue | Saratoga, CA 95070  
[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us) | [www.saratoga.ca.us](http://www.saratoga.ca.us)  
Office Hours Mondays and Thursdays

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**From:** Don Schmidek <dis6933@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 20, 2023 12:01 PM  
**To:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Subject:** Fwd: An other misstatement.

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Hi Cynthia

15.1 This is the commentary to theCity announcement about the SRC project.

I have some of my own comments as current resident of SRC:

1. Relocation of outdoor facilities — should read: Elimination of outdoor facilities/Park
2. New Landscaping — Wonder where this may be???
3. Public Trail — this was defined, agreed to and documented with city many months ago - it is not a trail.
4. Meeting Room — is more like a 2 stories Building with Garage for XX vehicles appended to the Manor
5. Protected trees — should state “majestic redwood” and other trees for a total of ~65
6. Received plans from the **public** - SRC residents are not “public” but 120 plus Senior SRC Residents.
7. Also included is an minimalistic alternate (?) Plan from the EIR consultants.

I would think that the EIR description in the City web site deserves more clarity and revising.

Don Schmidek



SRC resident.

From the City announcement:

#### Proposed Saratoga Retirement Community Project

##### Saratoga Retirement Community History

The Saratoga Retirement Community (SRC) campus is located at 14500 Fruitvale Avenue on three contiguous parcels, totaling approximately 37 acres. The General Plan land use designation of the property is Community Facility Sites, and the zoning is R-1-40,000.

The original Odd Fellows Home is located on the property. The Odd Fellows Home was constructed in the early 1900's by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows to care for older members of the order. It is now listed on the City of Saratoga's Historic Resources Inventory.

On February 21, 1996, the City Council approved an increase to the number of residential units permitted at SRC from 170 to 307 units (164 independent living units and 143 assisted living units) and an increase in the number of skilled nursing beds permitted from 68 to 99 beds. SRC did not build all the units permitted in 1996. The facility currently has 249 units (143 independent living units and 106 assisted living units) and 94 skilled nursing beds.

##### Proposed Project Description

On June 21, 2019, SRC submitted an application to the City seeking approval of three new buildings which would contain 52 independent living units. If approved, this would bring the total residential units to 298 and skilled nursing beds to 52. A new **meeting room** would be added to the existing Manor building, and a new workout room would be added to the existing fitness center. The project proposal also includes a net increase of 109 additional parking spaces, **new landscaping**, removal of **65 protected trees**, **relocation of outdoor recreation facilities**, a new Fire Department emergency access road from Chester Drive, and construction of a public trail connecting Fruitvale Avenue with the San Marcos Open Space.

##### Environmental Impact Report

The Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) 45-day review period is from July 6 to August 21, 2023. The California Environmental Quality Act requires that an EIR describe and evaluate a range of reasonable alternatives to the proposed project. The City has received plans from both the applicant and **the public**, which are both evaluated as alternatives within the Draft EIR.

## Rawnsley, Emma

**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 24, 2023 10:46 AM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: An other question about the PRS submittal justification

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### Cynthia Richardson | Project Planner

City of Saratoga | Community Development Department  
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Office Hours Mondays and Thursdays

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**From:** Don Schmidek <dis6933@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 20, 2023 8:56 PM  
**To:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Subject:** An other question about the PRS submittal justification

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Hi Cynthia

16.1 I have one additional comment as a current resident of SRC:

8. The current PRS request for additional buildings is based ONLY on the fact that the 1996 approved expansion did not build all the units approved, thus the new submittal is based on ONLY unbuilt "number of units" and not by approved buildings by size? Was not the previous approval based on specific building size (Width, Length, Height) or just on number of Units to be constructed. (Note that a present suggestion (Alt 2) is to reduce the size of units, to thus be able to structure more apartments in the same space!)

I would think that the PRS submission and the EIR description in the City web site deserves more clarity, completeness and revising.

Don Schmidek

SRC resident.

**From the City announcement:**

**Proposed Saratoga Retirement Community Project**

**Saratoga Retirement Community History**

The Saratoga Retirement Community (SRC) campus is located at 14500 Fruitvale Avenue on three contiguous parcels, totaling approximately 37 acres. The General Plan land use designation of the property is Community Facility Sites, and the zoning is R-1-40,000.

The original Odd Fellows Home is located on the property. The Odd Fellows Home was constructed in the early 1900's by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows to care for older members of the order. It is now listed on the City of Saratoga's Historic Resources Inventory.

On February 21, 1996, the City Council approved an increase to the number of residential units permitted at SRC from **170 to 307 units** (164 independent living units and 143 assisted living units) and an increase in the number of skilled nursing beds permitted from 68 to 99 beds. SRC did not build all the units permitted in 1996. The facility currently has 249 units (143 independent living units and 106 assisted living units) and 94 skilled nursing beds.

**Proposed Project Description**

On June 21, 2019, SRC submitted an application to the City seeking approval of three new buildings which would contain 52 independent living units. If approved, this would bring the total residential units to 298 and skilled nursing beds to 52. A new **meeting room** would be added to the existing Manor building, and a new workout room would be added to the existing fitness center.

**Rawnsley, Emma**

**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 10:33 AM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: ISSUES WITH THE SRC PLAN on web site

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13777 Fruitvale Avenue | Saratoga, CA 95070  
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**From:** Don Schmidek <dis6933@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 18, 2023 1:54 PM  
**To:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Subject:** ISSUES WITH THE SRC PLAN on web site

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hi Cynthia

I just found the description of the SRC project on the Saratoga City web site that includes some information not found (?) in the EIR and at the same time it fails to fully analyze the traffic in the proposed plan. Most significantly it omitted the view from Garage exits of several building, and thus the very high danger of this plan.

If you view the maps copied for the Project description you will notice:

1. The Garage entry/exit from the Meeting Room has not been considered for safety and uphill viewing.
2. The intersection between the Pavilion Circle and West Cottages lane similarly has not been analyzed for safety, etc.
3. The analysis of several intersections did not consider the blocked views by parked cars.
4. The width of W. Cottages Ln. appears to have been reduced as parking places have been eliminated.
5. Sidewalks on W. Cottages Ln. appear to have been deleted and entry to the Meeting Rm. for visitors is very hazardous.

17.1  
Cont.

6. The view of the truck unloading on Pavilion Circle in the trash staging area is bogus. No semi will be able to back into that space.

Regards

D. Schmidek

Proposed Saratoga Retirement Community Project

All the above increases the dangers posed by vehicular traffic on pedestrians.

Proposed Saratoga Retirement Community Project

Saratoga Retirement Community History

The Saratoga Retirement Community (SRC) campus is located at 14500 Fruitvale Avenue on three contiguous parcels, totaling approximately 37 acres. The General Plan land use designation of the property is Community Facility Sites, and the zoning is R-1-40,000.

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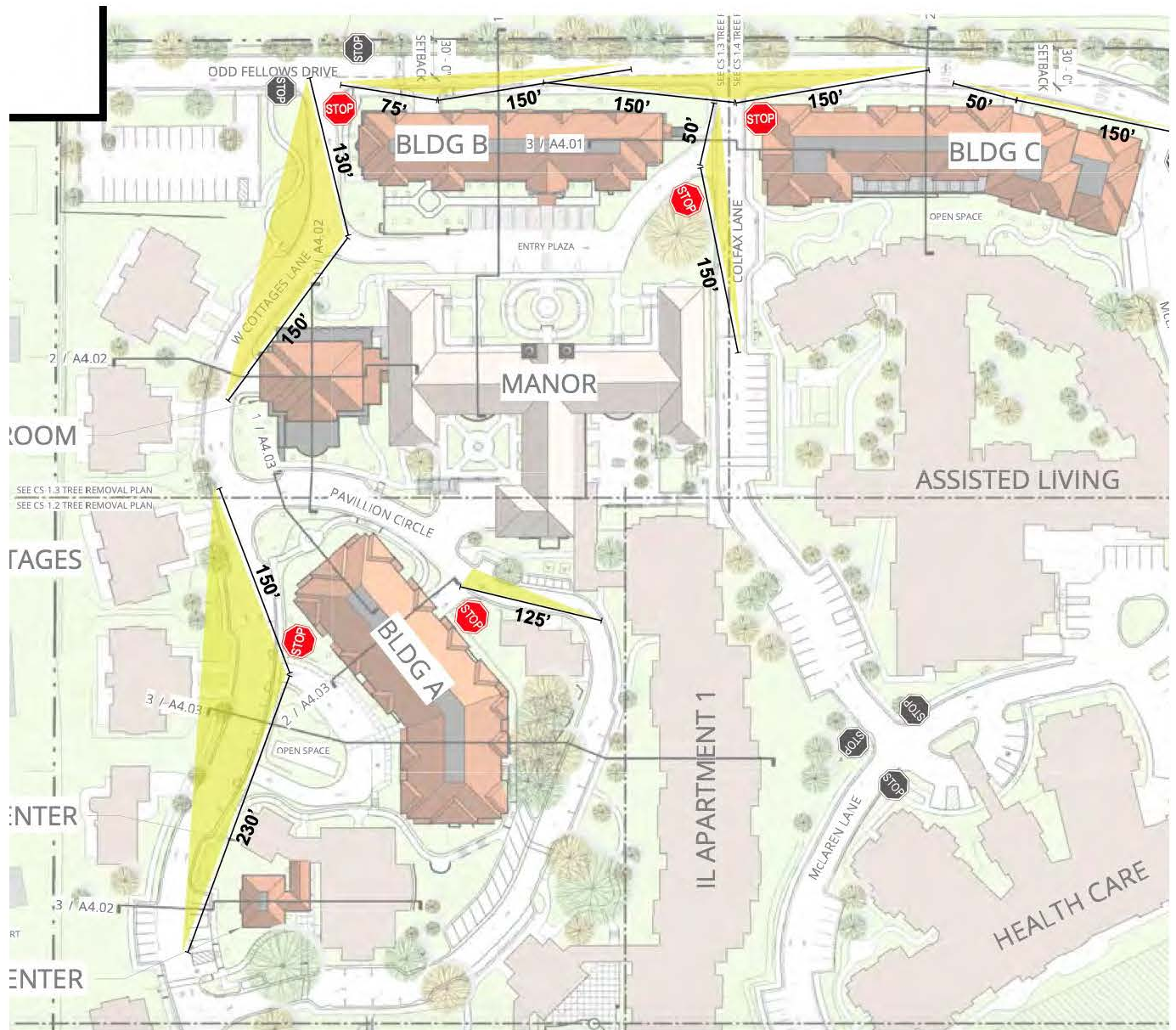
Environmental Impact Report

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# **Proposed Saratoga Retirement Community Project**

## **Saratoga Retirement Community History**

The Saratoga Retirement Community (SRC) campus is located at 14500 Fruitvale Avenue on three contiguous parcels, totaling approximately 37 acres. The General Plan land use designation of the property is Community Facility Sites, and the zoning is R-1-40,000.

The original Odd Fellows Home is located on the property. The Odd Fellows Home was constructed in the early 1900's by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows to care for older members of the order. It is now listed on the City of Saratoga's Historic Resources Inventory.

On February 21, 1996, the City Council approved an increase to the number of residential units permitted at SRC from 170 to 307 units (164 independent living units and 143 assisted living units) and an increase in the number of skilled nursing beds permitted from 68 to 99 beds. SRC did not build all the units permitted in 1996. The facility currently has 249 units (143 independent living units and 106 assisted living units) and 94 skilled nursing beds.

## **Proposed Project Description**

On June 21, 2019, SRC submitted an application to the City seeking approval of three new buildings which would contain 50 independent living units. If approved, this would bring

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# Proposed Saratoga Retirement Community Project

## Saratoga Retirement Community History



## Rawnsley, Emma

**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 10:34 AM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: SRC EIR

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Report Suspicious

### Cynthia Richardson | Project Planner

City of Saratoga | Community Development Department  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue | Saratoga, CA 95070  
[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us) | [www.saratoga.ca.us](http://www.saratoga.ca.us)  
Office Hours Mondays and Thursdays

**From:** Don Schmidek <dis6933@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 19, 2023 1:41 PM  
**To:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Subject:** SRC EIR

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Hi Cynthia

Subject: Construction alternative for SRC expansion - considerations..

Please add these comparisons to the EIR comments, in case the readers have a hard time finding this in the EIR.

Not sure what Bldg. D in Alt 1 is in Table 4.4.1, and why it requires the longest construction time. (Should be C1)

Also not clear why Alt. 3 (ACD) has a duration of 48 months (Max. 165 workers) while Original (ABC) has a duration of 25 months, with an average of 99 workers (Max. 206 workers). Note that the Preserve plan has an average of 45 workers, with a max of 75, less than half of the workers for the other plans, and thus much less intrusive and invasive.

In addition it must be considered the location of the constructions. The PRS and AECOM are in the middle of the campus, while the Preserve are at the periphery of the campus, thus hardly invasive to the residents or campus.



18.1  
Cont.

The Alt 2, construction of Bldg. A and Bldg. C concurrently would be a real nightmare and pose great hazards.

Finally, using averages, for worker numbers, this is not the real picture for workers on site, as over many months the number ranges between 165 and 205, which equates to the number of IL Residents at SRC!

Given the worker shuttle capacity of about 15 persons per trip from the WVC parking lot to SRC, this would require over one hour to bring all the workers to the work site, and an other hour to shuttle them from the site, thus reducing the actual hours worked, and extending the overall duration of construction by ~15% or more.

Bottom line..... Having from 100 to 200 workers per day on the campus for years, with noisy and dirty construction in process, would be such an horrendous disruptions to the lives of all SRC residents, that it cannot be considered or allowed.

This would be an INHUMAN actions taken on Senior SRC Living Residents.

Thanks

Don Schmidek

Table 2.4-1 Estimated Construction Personnel

ORIGINAL

Construction Phase	Estimated Duration	Workers (average)	Workers (maximum)
Phase 1 – Building A & Fitness Center	17 months (360 working days)	50 per day	74 per day
Phase 2 – Building B	17 months (355 working days)	27 per day	41 per day
Phase 3 – Building C & Meeting Room	21 months (440 working days)	46 per day	75 per day
Phase 4 – Health Center Renovation	24 months (495 working days)	10 per day	16 per day
<b>TOTAL*</b>	<b>25 months (535 working days)</b>	<b>99 per day</b>	<b>206 per day</b>

Source: RCP Construction Inc. 2021, 2022.

\* The total average number of workers shown in table is averaged over entire 25-month duration. The total maximum number of workers shown in the table is for the 11-month period (approximately 240 working days) when all four construction phases would overlap (February through December 2024). The total average number of workers over this same 11-month period would be 133.

Table 4.4-1 Estimated Construction Personnel – Alternative 1

PRESERVE

Phase	Estimated Duration	Average Number of Workers	Maximum Number of Workers
Phase 1 – Skilled Nursing	28 months	46 per day	75 per day
Phase 2 – Patient Transfer	1 month	10 per day	15 per day
Phase 3 – Demolition	2 months	20 per day	30 per day
Phase 4 – Building D	26 months	50 per day	75 per day
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>58 months</b>	<b>45 per day</b>	<b>75 per day</b>

Note: Number of construction personnel for Phase 1 is same as Building C from proposed Project. Information for other phases is approximate only, adjusted from estimates provided by Project Applicant for the proposed Project or AECOM knowledge of other projects involving similar activities.

Table 4.5-1 Estimated Construction Personnel – Alternative 2

AECOM #2

Phase	Estimated Duration	Average Number of Construction Personnel	Maximum Number of Construction Personnel
Phase 1 – Building A	17 months	50 per day	74 per day
Phase 2 – Building C & Meeting Room	21 months	46 per day	75 per day
Phase 3 – Health Center Renovation	24 months	10 per day	16 per day
<b>TOTAL*</b>	<b>25 months</b>	<b>81 per day</b>	<b>165 per day</b>

Source: Adjusted from proposed Project information in RCP Construction Inc. 2021, 2022.

\* The total average number of workers shown in the table is averaged over the entire 25-month construction duration. The total maximum number of workers shown in the table is for the 13-month period (approximately 305 working days) when all three construction phases would overlap (November 2023 through December 2024). The total average number of workers over this same 13-month period would be 106.

Table 4.6-1 Estimated Construction Personnel – Alternative 3

PKS NEW

Phase	Estimated Duration	Average Number of Workers	Maximum Number of Workers
Phase 1 – Site Prep/Parking & Staging	3 months	10 per day	15 per day
Phase 2 – Building C	20 months	46 per day	75 per day
Phase 3 – Building D, Meeting Room, Fitness Center Addition, and new Cottage	16 months	48 per day	74 per day
Phase 4 – Building A	17 months	50 per day	74 per day
Phase 5 – Health Center Renovations	24 months	10 per day	16 per day
<b>TOTAL*</b>	<b>48 months</b>	<b>57 per day</b>	<b>165 per day</b>

Note: Number of construction personnel for Phases 2, 4, and 5 are assumed to be the same as for Building C, Building A and Health Center renovations from the proposed Project, respectively. Information for other phases is based on information provided by the Project Applicant.

\* The total average number of workers shown in the table is averaged over the entire 48-month construction duration. The total maximum number of workers shown in the table is for the 6-month period (approximately 120 working days) when Phases 2, 3 and 5 would overlap (January through June 2026). The total average number of workers over this same 6-month period would be 104.

## Rawnsley, Emma

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**From:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 24, 2023 10:51 AM  
**To:** Rawnsley, Emma  
**Subject:** FW: Surprising statement in EIR

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Report Suspicious

### Cynthia Richardson | Project Planner

City of Saratoga | Community Development Department  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue | Saratoga, CA 95070  
[crichardson@saratoga.ca.us](mailto:crichardson@saratoga.ca.us) | [www.saratoga.ca.us](http://www.saratoga.ca.us)  
Office Hours Mondays and Thursdays

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**From:** Don Schmidek <dis6933@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 22, 2023 12:28 PM  
**To:** Cynthia Richardson <crichardson@saratoga.ca.us>  
**Subject:** Surprising statement in EIR

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hi Cynthia

19.1 How can such a determining and concluding statement be in the Preliminary EIR: **The City has Determined?**  
I did not think that the City had determined anything yet.

Does this suggest that a One Building alternative would be even more superior?

Thanks

Don Schmidek  
SRC

For these reasons, the City has determined that the next environmentally superior the No Project Alternative would be Alternative 2, the Reduced Development Alternative.

## NOTICE OF PREPARATION COMMENTS

Section 15213 of the CEQA Guidelines requires that the lead agency identify and resolve any controversy and issues to be resolved, including issues raised by other agencies. The Notice of Preparation and written comments received in response to the Notice of Preparation are included in **Appendix A**.

Section 1.2.1, “Notice of Preparation and Scoping Meeting” of this EIR provides the issues raised during the scoping period and directs readers to where such issues are addressed within the analysis.

Saratoga Retirement Community  
Environmental Impact Report  
Prepared for City of Saratoga

## Environmental Impact Report

The Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) 45-day review period is from July 6 to August 21, 2023. The California Environmental Quality Act requires that an EIR describe and evaluate a range of reasonable alternatives to the proposed project. The City has received plans from both the applicant and the public, which are both evaluated as alternatives within the Draft EIR.



To EIR Consultants, Planning Commissioners and City Council,

I find the EIR studies are inadequate, here are my concerns,

1.1

1. Where is the parking tabulation? It should be included in the DEIR as it talked about parking many times, but there is NO clear comparison of parking spaces. Parking is listed as #10 In project objectives. How many parking spaces in Alt. 2 compared with the current parking spaces? How many surface and underground parking spaces? Where are they?
2. No mention in the details of renovating Skilled Nursing, even though it is the Project objectives #4. Where is the schedule and how will the renovation carry on while the patients are in the nursing home? What is the environmental impact on noise, vibration, dust during construction? The length is said to be 2 years, are these rooms renovated in sequential or in parallel? We had very bad experience while the management was doing the balconies repair in 2018-2021. It took 9 months to repair each balcony while residents had no natural light, no fresh air and cannot use the terrace. The repair was done as one block at a time so the whole block of balconies were under this kind of situation for 9 months at least. No compensation for the residents during the entire repair period. Is there any assurance that the renovation will be finished in 2 years? How do you enforce the schedule and the length of renovation? It should be clearly stated in the EIR. If the renovation is lengthened the environmental impact will be bigger.

Thank you for your attention,

Jan Schmidek

Virginia Ann Schmidek

8/17/23

#6116



2.1

Concerning the Environmental Impact Report on Saratoga Retirement Community

Let me ask you a question.

If you had a swimming pool in your back yard, & you were told, "We're taking it away from you & building an apartment house in its place."

How would you feel?

If they told you that it would be of minimal impact on you because the YMCA a few miles from you has a very nice pool.

How would you feel?

And if they said to you: "We're taking your remaining yard away from you to build even more apartments. No matter. You have plenty of open space just a few miles away."

How would you feel?

And what if you couldn't drive to get to that pool or park or open space?

And what if you had limited mobility — and even hiring an Uber would be out of the question?

And what if you currently pay for those lovely resources which were promised to you even before you moved in?

And what if you had to continue to pay for these amenities even after they were taken away from you?

How would you feel?

Would this be of minimal impact to you? Minimal to your life style, to your comfort, to your well being, to your very health?

The DEIR does not even begin to understand or address these issues.

These matters not only affect the 200 Independent Residents of SRC, but the 130+ Residents in Assisted Living, the 18 folks in Memory Care, the 60 patients in the Health Center, the families who visit us, and all the outside residents who live in the areas surrounding the SRC campus who use our space for their own enjoyment.

Put yourself for a moment in the place of all those folks. And NOW, How do you feel?

We are not against enhancements & modernizations. But please review & adopt the Residents Plan. It addresses & implements the needed improvements but without the devastating impact that the PRS plan would have on our lives.

Jan Schmedek

Dorothy Ann Schmedek

8/17/23

#6116

To EIR Consultants  
Suggested input on DEIR

3.1

The Project Description in the Executive Summary includes the following statement:

“the number of skilled nursing beds within the Health Center would be reduced from 94 to 52 (ie., a reduction of 42 skilled nursing beds)” The number of memory care and skilled nursing beds is proposed to be reduced due to conversion of semi-private double-occupancy rooms to private single-occupancy rooms each with their own fully-accessible bathroom.”

The Project Objectives #4 states:

“Provide upgrades to the existing Health Center, which would include converting existing semiprivate rooms to private rooms with private baths.”

**That seems to be where references to the Renovation of the Health Center stops.**

There are no references to the construction work that will proceed in stages in the Health Center, nor are there any references to the impact on the 50 to 60 vulnerable senior patients housed in the Health Center during this 2 year construction:

**Reference MFS-3 (Direct or indirect Adverse Effects on Human Beings).**

Additionally, there are no references to the noise, vibrations, dirt and dust or displacing these senior patients to make way for construction while raising significant hazards to their health. Reference HAZ-1, HAZ-5, LUP-1, NOI-1, NOI-2, POP-2, UTI-1, UTI-3, WF-3 and MFS-3.

The only Alternative which avoids this problem is the Residents' Alternative 1. The DEIR needs substantial revisions to recognize this issue.

Jan Schmidek  
Virginia Schmidek

8/17/23  
716116



To CyhThia Richardson.

4.1

Bullet points for Skilled Nursing issues

- Fails to address the requirement for a health center while the current one is remodeled.
- Not to mention completely ignoring the residents plan for building a new one while continuing to use the old one before replacing it with a residential building.
- No mention in the details of renovating Skilled Nursing, where is the schedule and how they will do it while the patients are in the nursing home.
- What is the environmental impact on noise, vibration, dust during construction?
- The length is said to be 2 years, are these rooms renovated in sequential or in parallel? We had very bad experience while the management was doing the balconies repair in 2018-2021. It took 9 months to repair each balcony while residents had no natural light, no fresh air and cannot use the terrace. The repair was done as one block at a time so the whole block of balconies were under this kind of situation for 9 months.

Jan Schmidek

8/17/23

Dorineia Ann Schmidek #6116