

## Melissa Thurman

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**From:** Bin Hu <bh526r@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2025 11:30 AM  
**To:** Public Comment  
**Subject:** Discard "No Parking" Restriction in the Neighborhood around Los Altos High School

Hello City Council,

I am a resident in the neighborhood of Los Altos High School. I have more opinions regarding the "No Parking" restriction in the neighborhood surrounding Los Altos High School, and the "Safety Issue" reason behind it. The stakeholders' controversial comments in the City Council meeting on January 14th, 2025 certainly means the immaturity of "No Parking" restriction.

There are 3 different concepts here:

- **Safety Issue,**
- **Solutions to a Safety Issue,** and
- **Right of Voting by Stakeholders.**

Those three different concepts are **NOT mutually exclusive**, especially **addressing a safety issue does NOT exclude the Right of Voting by Stakeholders.**

The first is the **Safety Issue**. On behalf of the majority of my neighbors, we want to know what specifically and exactly is the Safety Issue that the City means in my neighborhood. For example:

- What are the criteria the City has used to determine a Safety Issue?
- What data has shown that the Safety Issue indeed has existed according to the criteria?
- For example, what data has shown:
  - The number of incidents / accidents of Safety Issue according to the criteria?
  - What property damages (e.g \$\$\$) has the Safety Issue caused?
  - What personal injuries has the Safety Issue caused?
  - Any other data that can qualify and quantify the safety issue?

Secondly, the **Solution to the Safety Issue** is a different concept from the Safety Issue itself. We want to know:

- What are the possible Solutions the City has considered and discussed?
- What are the criteria in the decision process the City has used to make a decision among all possible solutions?
- Based on the criteria, why did the City decide to adopt the "No Parking" restriction on our neighborhood?

Last but not least, whatever the Safety Issue is, it certainly concerns all stakeholders in the neighborhood. **Why did the City decide NOT to have a stakeholder vote for a best Solution?** While Safety experts involvement is important, certainly there are **multiple Solutions to a Safety Issue. Safety experts' involvement does NOT exclude stakeholder voting for a most acceptable solution.** Thus the stakeholder voting is the most reasonable way to choose the most acceptable Solution by the majority of stakeholders. Please note that the neighborhood voting process has always been used in the past to determine a Solution to other similar issues in the neighborhood, including other Safety Issues. **Why NOT this time?**

Thus we hereby request again:

- The City immediately dismisses all parking tickets issued during this period.
- The City immediately removes the "No Parking" signs in our neighborhood
- The City immediately engages all stakeholders, including neighborhoods, high school community and Safety experts to
  - identify the criteria of a Safety Issue

- determine the exact Safety Issue
- identify all possible solutions to addressing the Safety Issue
- allow stakeholders to vote for the best solution that can be accepted by the majority of stakeholders.

I am looking forward to your answers to my questions.

## Melissa Thurman

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**From:** Andi Barnett <andib513@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2025 2:03 PM  
**To:** Public Comment; City Council  
**Subject:** Parking near LAHS | comment for 2/25 meeting

Dear Council members,

I would like to address the poorly planned implementation of the 'no parking' zone near LAHS. My hope is that alternative solutions can be found that will benefit the entire community, which absolutely includes LAHS students.

I have read and heard comments from the City that this is simply LAHS's problem to deal with. Keep in mind that many, or most, LAHS students are part of the Los Altos community, are your constituents, and do not exist in a vacuum. This also affects teachers many of whom travel from far outside of the community, and volunteers. Additionally, it's a huge inconvenience for residents of the neighborhood and their visitors.

There are many factors that should have been considered, and this issue cannot be looked at solely on the basis of traffic in the neighborhood. To be honest, the argument that safety is the biggest concern is specious. I urge you to drive on Jardin on a rainy day at 8:25 and observe the increased chaos caused by multiple additional parents dropping kids off in their rush to their next destination, making dangerous u-turns and other maneuvers. Determine how safe that feels.

Keep in mind that only a minority of LAHS students even have a drivers license, and you can assume that if a student needs to drive they have a good reason to do so. Why punish all driving students because of a few who disrespect parking regulations?

There are many possible solutions that balance the needs of residents and their visitors as well as LAHS students, and without considering reasonable options and without even consulting this group of stakeholders, 'no parking' signs were put up with no warning to those affected.

Feasible solutions include:

- Permit parking on some parts of the affected blocks and unrestricted parking in other parts
- alternating sides for allowed parking (ie M/W/F allowed on one side and T/Th on the other)
- permit parking for residents with limited permits issued to students or staff on a case by case basis
- more aggressive ticketing of those people violating parking regulations

It's not reasonable to compare the situation to MVHS which has substantially more parking spaces and places to park in front of the school. When talking about LAHS, it is not a private school renting space, it's literally a government entity with which you should be coordinating neighborhood solutions together. You have not talked to a single student or family to determine why on a given day, they might need to drive.

Thank you,  
Andrea Barnett

146 Pasa Robles Ave

*Parent of LAHS student who bikes 90% of the time but would like the option to drive when needed*

## Melissa Thurman

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**From:** Lawrence Cofield <lawrencecofield@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2025 4:07 PM  
**To:** Public Comment  
**Subject:** Los Altos High School parking gong show

**Importance:** High

The parking restrictions negatively impact over one hundred students who must drive to school in the morning. These students live miles away in Los Altos Hills, or have to cross dangerous roads like El Camino, Shoreline, and Rengstorff. The restrictions also impact students with outside extracurriculars: they're at risk of being late to their jobs or sports because they have to walk at least 10 minutes to get to their car.

Many students are unable to find parking within a quarter mile of school and have to arrive at least 30 minutes before classes start. Many homeowners are also proposing expanding parking restrictions and having resident-only parking permits.

The restrictions are inequitable towards the students and were made without consulting them and how it would impact their lives. We need to show the Los Altos City Council the immense impact this decision has had on LAHS students.

Lawrence Cofield (voter in Los Altos)  
650.789.3243

## Melissa Thurman

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**From:** Alicia Larsen Dabney <alicia.dabney@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 14, 2025 6:49 PM  
**To:** Public Comment  
**Subject:** Public Comment - LAHS Parking Issue

To Whom it May Concern,

I am a voter and local resident whose child attends Los Altos High School, and am writing to register a public comment regarding the parking issues that were created with the new No Parking signs. I have been following this issue since it first came to the school community's attention and have seen several egregious safety issues that did not exist before the new signs were placed. I have two points to make around this:

1. There was already a scarcity of available parking for LAHS students, staff, and volunteers compared to other school campuses in the area, including MVHS. This is significant because LAHS has already had a strong push for biking, walking, and carpooling for several years as part of regular communications from school leadership.

Given the school communications around walking and biking, please consider that the balance of students, staff, and volunteers who drive to school *must do so, and have valid reasons for such*. It is problematic to hear that your overall responses to this have been dismissive. It indicates that assumptions are being made about student/family needs, rather than respecting that each family's situation informs their decisions to walk, bike, or drive. The new signs heighten issues of access and equity that were already present with the scarce parking.

2. In my observation, I strongly feel that the new No Parking signs have created a safety issue *that did not exist before*, most notably because so many streets in Los Altos do not have proper sidewalks. I have observed far more egregious safety issues for cyclists and pedestrians, and several near-misses of accidents since the signs went up than I have in the previous two school years combined. The placement of the signs did little to change the percentage of students who walk, bike, or drive to school (see my point above). Rather, it only displaced parking to nearby streets and leaves more students walking longer distances in the streets amidst traffic.

I strongly urge you to reconsider your position and return to the drawing board. Please revisit this with a fresh plan and collaborate with the school community to make changes that better serve—and keep safe—the students and overall school community.

Thank you,  
Alicia Dabney

**Alicia Larsen Dabney, LMFT, LPCC, ATR-BC**  
*Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist #136816*  
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## Melissa Thurman

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**From:** Laura Larghi <laura\_larghi@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 15, 2025 10:40 AM  
**To:** Public Comment  
**Subject:** Please reconsider the parking restrictions around LAHS

Hi,

I am a LAHS parent, and I am writing to ask you to please reconsider the parking restrictions around the school.

The new restrictions are making life more difficult for everybody:

- Students need to park far away and have to walk to the school on roads without sidewalks
- Neighbors cannot park in front of their houses and their visitors have to park far away
- The traffic has not improved only the chaos has expanded to more roads

Los Altos is a highly populated town and parking is necessary. Why don't we focus on ticketing who parks illegally and remove the restrictions?

I believe that the long term goal is to have better public transport and more people biking and walking but this does not happen overnight.

I really hope you can reconsider the parking restrictions.

Thank you and best regards

Laura

LAHS parent



## Melissa Thurman

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**From:** Tootoo Thomson <tootooh@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 15, 2025 12:50 PM  
**To:** Public Comment  
**Subject:** Los Altos high school parking headache

Dear honorable city council members  
Wish you and the family are having a great day.

Please allow me to share my concerns of limited parkingspace at Los Altos High school

My student actually rides bike to school every day, so it should not have bothered us.  
But recently, I realized I cannot even find parking for myself when I try to volunteer at school or go to school Site Council meetings

I have to drive around the block many times to find a parking that's quite far. To the point, I don't volunteer now.  
The school is a community and it needs support of the whole village And they cannot run well without the volunteers. Eventually, everyone will suffer.

The recent parking restriction really is unfortunate, and it has caused so much petition and safety concerns.

There has to be something would work better. please work with the school and the parents and the kids and of course, the neighbors to come up with something agreeable.

Humbly yours  
Tootoo Thomson

## Melissa Thurman

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**From:** Melissa <melmcv@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 16, 2025 9:21 AM  
**To:** Public Comment  
**Subject:** Parking around Los Altos High School

Hello,

I am writing to express my concern and disappointment with the no parking ordinance around Los Altos High School.

First, this was decided with no notice to the school community and no opportunity for negotiation or compromise. There was no outreach to the school, only a poorly communicated meeting. This seems deliberate to obfuscate the ordinance from the LAHS community. Then the signs were put up during the winter break, again hiding this from the LAHS community.

Second, it sends a message to the students and school volunteers that they are unwelcome in the neighborhood surrounding their school. And many of the students and volunteers who drive and park around the school are from lower income neighborhoods in Mountain View. They often drive because they have other responsibilities (jobs, caregiving, etc). Unfortunately there is a clear perception that some element of students and volunteers are not welcome in the neighborhood surrounding their school.

Third, I understand that the argument from includes the concept of safety. Was any sort of safety study undertaken? How did the council determine this? Were bicycle and pedestrian safety taken into consideration? Again, this seems discriminatory towards students and volunteers who are driving and parking. Would the council please share the evidence that those who are parking are endangering the safety of the neighborhood (but not those on bicycles or foot)?

Generally, this seems to me a statement of how the neighborhood feels about the LAHS community. It's truly unfortunate that the residents and city council did not take the opportunity to work with the school, volunteers, and students to find a solution and instead chose to build a wall around the neighborhood. A true opportunity to show that the city council wants to encourage community participation was missed.

Thank you for considering an alternative point of view.

Melissa McVicker  
432 Baywood Ct, Mountain View, CA 94040  
408-582-3117  
[melmcv@gmail.com](mailto:melmcv@gmail.com)

## Melissa Thurman

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**From:** Eugene Jhong <ejhong@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2025 9:17 AM  
**To:** Public Comment  
**Subject:** Fwd: Parking at 467 Alicia Way during School Hours

Hi - I understand this is a difficult issue. My main request is that you implement a resident permit program for the residents if you add parking restrictions or for the current parking restrictions. I'm happy to pay a small fee for the permit.

Thank you

Eugene Jhong - 467 Alicia Way

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Larry Lang <[llang@losaltosca.gov](mailto:llang@losaltosca.gov)>  
**Date:** Mon, Feb 17, 2025 at 9:09 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Parking at 467 Alicia Way during School Hours  
**To:** Eugene Jhong <[ejhong@gmail.com](mailto:ejhong@gmail.com)>

Dear Mr. Jhong,

I'm reaching out because the Los Altos City Council plans to take up the issue of parking around Los Altos High School again during our meeting on Tuesday, February 25. You've previously provided thoughtful feedback about this issue, and I wanted to keep you informed.

Information about the meeting itself will be posted here:

<https://www.losaltosca.gov/citycouncil/page/city-council-meeting-203>

Nothing much there yet, but the agenda will be forthcoming, as will Q&A and public comments.

Speaking of public comments, if you have further thoughts, please share them with the council:  
<https://www.losaltosca.gov/citycouncil/page/public-comments>

Advance written comments are particularly useful, because they give us and staff time to research real answers.

A challenge with the high school parking issue is that it crosses the jurisdictional boundary between the city and the high school district. To bridge that divide, Mayor Dailey and I have arranged a 2x2 meeting with our colleagues serving on the district board. That meeting will take place this Friday afternoon, and of course your participation would be welcome:

<https://www.losaltosca.gov/csic/page/mvla-and-los-altos-city-council-2x2-0>

My colleagues and I on the city council hold regular office hours, to make ourselves available to residents who have thoughts and ideas to share, on this or other issues. Between now and the meeting next Tuesday, here are the office hours scheduled:

Councilmember Larry Lang

<https://www.losaltosca.gov/citycouncil/page/councilmember-larry-langs-office-hours>

Vice Mayor Neysa Fligor

<https://www.losaltosca.gov/citycouncil/page/vice-mayor-neysa-fligors-office-hours-0>

Mayor Pete Dailey

<https://www.losaltosca.gov/citycouncil/page/mayor-pete-daileys-office-hours-1>

I'll be straight with you. The issue of how best to accommodate parking around the high school involves differing priorities and points of view. No silver bullet answer that delights everyone is going to emerge.

But I'm confident that sharing ideas and listening to each other carefully will yield the best possible outcome for our community. Thank you for investing your thoughtful time and energy in helping us find the best path forward.

Kind regards,

Larry



**Larry Lang**

**City Councilmember, City of Los Altos**

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