

From: [carol surrell](#)
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: I support library courtyard project
Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2025 2:32:30 PM

As a 29 year resident of Los Altos, and a frequent library user, I support the courtyard project. Removing a few trees to make room for the expanded library courtyard is well worth it. There are still plenty of apricot trees surrounding City Hall.

Thank you,
Carol Surrell
San Luis Ave, Los Altos

From: [Bill Hough](#)
To: [Public Comment](#)
Cc: [City Council](#)
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT LA City Council item #2 March 25, 2025
Date: Saturday, March 22, 2025 11:43:04 AM

I STRONGLY object to the Los Altos City Government raising the “Progress Pride” flag. Although I do not care what consenting adults do in the privacy of their homes, we should not recognize this flag as government speech. Public resources should not be used to celebrate one private sexual preference over another,

The City’s flag raising policy, adopted on November 29, 2022, prohibits flags that are “highly offensive to persons of average sensitivity within the community.” The “Progress Pride” flag represents controversial views that are in direct conflict with many people’s sincerely held religious beliefs. The flag promotes behavior that is highly offensive to some people, including many here in Los Altos.

Again, if a private individual wants to display the “Progress Pride” on private property, fine, However, the politically partisan “Progress Pride” flag is not appropriate government speech.

Raising the “Progress Pride” flag violates the city’s flag raising policy. If Council insists on going forward despite this obvious flag policy violation, have legal staff consider possible First Amendment violations.

From: [Maria Bautista](#)
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: City Council Meeting March 25, 2025: Consent Calendar Item #1 Approval of Minutes Correction
Date: Tuesday, March 25, 2025 9:26:23 AM
Attachments: [March 11 City Council Letter to Cure.pdf](#)

Please include the attached letter in Public Comment for the March 25, 2025 City Council Regular Meeting.

Thank you,

Maria Bautista

To: Los Altos City Council

From: Maria Bautista and PALLA

Date: March 23, 2025

Subject: City Council Meeting, March 25, 2025
Item #1 Approval of Meeting Minutes

RE: Demand to Cure March 11, 2025 Draft Meeting Minutes, and to Conduct a De Novo Public Hearing

Dear City Councilmembers,

This letter is a formal demand for you to correct and cure the Draft Meeting Minutes for the City Council Regular Meeting that took place on March 11, 2025 at 7:00pm for Public Hearing Item #11 Library Patio Appeal 2.

This letter is also a request to vacate the decision of the March 11, 2025 Public Hearing and proceed with a de novo hearing as a result of an erroneous disqualification of the appeal.

To cure the Draft Meeting Minutes errors, please strike from the record all details of the disqualification of the applicant; return to the applicant the \$1,000 application fee for failing to provide a fair and transparent Public Hearing, and invite and conduct a de novo hearing of the March 11, 2025 Item #11 Library Patio Appeal 2.

The issues with this erroneous disqualification, addended to the Motion to Deny the appeal and uphold the decision of the Los Altos Planning Commission, that states, “and as a separate and distinct grounds for appeal, find that the appellant lacks standing to bring the appeal” follow:

Per the clocked video recording of the meeting, at 2:45:40, once the appeal has been heard and denied, Mayor Pete Dailey states: “We have an issue with this appeal and standing with regard to distance from the appellant to the parcel in question and so first I would ask staff to comment on that particular issue.”

Staff proceeds to disqualify the applicant PALLA, Maria Bautista based first on the address of PALLA at 171 Main Street and then Maria Bautista at 71 Angela “Way” suggesting that neither address is within a 300 foot radius of the subject property and therefore, not qualified to appeal, per Line #4 of the Appeal Application.

- A. Per Mayor Pete Dailey’s comments, City Councilmembers had been briefed by Staff in advance of the hearings. Details of that briefing were not part of the agenda packet nor was the briefing, and its material details, disclosed to the public prior to the commencement of the Public Hearing.

- B. I, Maria Bautista, received a City-issued Public Notice prior to and in announcement of the February 6, 2025 meeting in the form of a mailed postcard addressed to 71 Angela Drive, a property I own. *See attached*. I was determined by the City to be an interested party by this noticing, and, in fact, reside within 300 feet of the subject property.

- C. The Preservation Action League Los Altos (PALLA), a community interest group, is made up of approximately 100 Los Altos residents and community members, some of whom live within 300 feet of the subject property.

- D. “Interested parties” for matters of public land use include residents of and property owners in Los Altos. The City of Los Altos holds property only as a trustee and administers property as an agent for the use and benefit of the public.

Furthermore, the matter of qualification to appeal is determined by the Los Altos Municipal Code, specifically Title 14, as stated by Development Services Director Nick Zornes on March 11 (2:46:42). Per the stated findings on Page 25 of the February 6, 2025 Joint Meeting of the Planning Commission and the Historical Commission ”With regard to the Design Review Permit, the Planning Commission find the following pursuant to Section 14.78.060 of the Los Altos Municipal code.” Title 14, Chapter 14.78 speaks to the qualifications to appeal as follows:

- **Chapter 14.78 - DESIGN AND TRANSPORTATION REVIEW—
MULTIPLE-FAMILY, PUBLIC AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES, OFFICE AND
ADMINISTRATIVE, AND COMMERCIAL DISTRICTS^[15]**

Chapter 14.78.100 - Appeals.

- A. Within fourteen (14) days of an action (approval or denial) on an administrative or zoning administrator design review application, the decision may be appealed to the planning commission by any interested party.

B. Within fourteen (14) days of an action (approval or denial) on a design review and/or variance application by the planning commission, the decision may be appealed to the city council by any interested party.

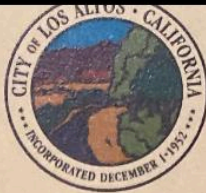
To deny the appeal based on the applicant's lack of standing is unjust and should be removed from the Draft Meeting Minutes and stricken from the record.

Please remove Consent Calendar Item #1 and properly cure and correct, and provide a written response to the entirety of this demand. If you fail to comply with this demand, we will pursue available legal remedies.

Sincerely,

Maria Bautista and Preservation Action League Los Altos (PALLA)

Notice postcard of the February 6, 2025 Joint Meeting by postcard mailed to 71 Angela Drive, Los Altos that was dated January 21, 2025.



JOINT PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE PLANNING COMMISSION/HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Project Site: 13 S. San Antonio Road

Meeting Date and Time: 6:00 p.m., Thursday, February 6, 2025

Applicant: Natalie Tan for SSA Landscape Architects

Project Description: Request for Design Review (D24-0002) and Historical Alteration Permit (H24-0003) to construct an approximately 8,265 square foot outdoor courtyard for the existing Los Altos Public Library. The project is categorically exempt pursuant to Section 15301 ("Existing Facilities") and Section 15303 ("New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures") of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.

Meeting Location: This meeting will be held virtually via Zoom and in-person in the Community Meeting Chambers, Los Altos City Hall, 1 North San Antonio Road, Los Altos, CA 94022. See below for detailed information.

Members of the Public may call (253) 215-8782 to listen into the conference call (Webinar ID: 817 7646 8782 or via the web at <https://tinyurl.com/3px8te82> with Passcode: 242017). Members of the Public may only comment during times allotted for public comments and public testimony will be taken at the direction of the Chair. Members of the public are also encouraged to submit written testimony prior to the meeting at PCPublicComment@losaltosca.gov. Emails received prior to the meeting will be included in the public record.

Project Planner: Sean Gallegos, (650) 947-2641
sgallegos@losaltosca.gov

The agenda report and plans will be available on the City's website the Thursday before the meeting date at <https://www.losaltosca.gov/planningcommission/page/joint-planning-commissionhistorical-commission-meeting>. Written comments can be mailed or delivered in person to the Development Services Department or emailed to the Project Planner. Verbal comments can also be made at the Public Meeting.

Notice Date: January 21, 2025

From: [Catherine Nunes](#)
To: [Public Comment](#)
Cc: [PALLA](#)
Subject: Re: Letter for City Council Meeting, March 25, 2025 Item #1 Approval of Meeting Minutes for March 11, 2025 Appeal Hearings
Date: Tuesday, March 25, 2025 9:50:40 AM
Attachments: [F Appeal 3 Mar 11 Complaint and Request for Cure March 11 Appeal Minutes and Hearing City Council Letter 3-25-2025.pdf](#)

Dear Los Altos City Council, City and City Clerk:

We respectfully submit this request letter to cure and correct the minutes and address matters regarding Appeal #3, March 11, 2025, the appeal hearing for the Library Courtyard Project that is scheduled for minutes to be reviewed and approved on the Consent Calendar at tonight's City Council meeting 3-25-2025.

Please confirm receipt.

Thank you,

Catherine Nunes, on behalf of the Preservation Action League Los Altos (PALLA)

To: Los Altos City Council

From: Catherine Nunes and Preservation Action League Los Altos (PALLA)

Date: March 23, 2025

Subject: Demand to Cure March 11, 2025 Draft Meeting Minutes, and to Conduct a De Novo Public Hearing

Dear City Councilmembers,

This letter is a formal demand for you to correct and cure the Draft Meeting Minutes for the City Council Regular Meeting that took place on March 11, 2025 at 7:00pm for Public Hearing Item #12 Library Patio Appeal 3, which was in fact submitted, recorded and accepted as an **“Administrative Appeal to the City Council of the Application of the Categorical Exemption and the Filing of NOE 25458** for the Library Courtyard Project for Design Review and Historical Alteration Permit.

This letter is also a request to vacate its decision, and reschedule a de novo hearing for Appeal #3 of the March 11, 2025 Public Hearing as a result of an apparent misunderstanding of the nature of the appeal per the draft minutes and a mistaken disqualification of the appeal application.

The issue with this disqualification erroneously states in the draft minutes following the motion to deny administrative Appeal #3 to include” as separate and distinct basis that the Council find that the appeal is untimely.”

The appeal application was submitted to and confirmed by the City Clerk on February 21, 2025, fourteen (14) days from the filing of the Notice of Exemption (NOE) on February 7, 2025, and fifteen (15) days from the City’s administrative application of a categorical exemption.

The application was submitted, accepted and recorded by the City as an administrative appeal on the proper forms as timely without any question, and in the City’s March 1, 2025 Affidavit of Publication in the Daily Post for the Los Altos City Council Notice of Public Hearing cites Appeal #3 to be as follows:

3. Appeal of Administrative Decision. Appellant Preservation Action League Los Altos, Catherine Nunes

The appeal was filed pursuant to **Los Altos Municipal Code Chapter 1.2 Appeals** pertaining to the administrative determination made by an official of the city.

1.12.030 - Time limit on notice of appeal. The appellant shall file the notice of appeal with the city clerk and pay the filing fee thereon within fifteen (15) days after the date on which the determination or decision is rendered.

The appeal application was submitted and recorded by the City Clerk on time and, as such, the denial of the appeal based on timeliness is unjust and should be removed from the Draft Meeting Minutes and stricken from the records as such.

On a separate and related matter, the Draft Meeting Minutes do not indicate which city council member seconded the motion to deny the Appeal,.

There was also no transcript recorded read out of the Appeal itself specific to Appeal #3 or proper identification of the Appeal #3. Appeal # 3 was specified and filed as an Administrative Appeal to the City Council for the **Application of the Categorical Exemption as confirmed with the filing of Notice of Exemption (NOE) ENV 25458 for the Library Courtyard Project.**

Appeal #3 was specifically submitted to allow the Council to deliberate the questionable application the use of a CEQA categorical exemption (Class 1 and Class 3) and the NOE filing which due to the Library Courtyard Projects encroachment and impacts on the Heritage Orchard qualify the review to apply proper review for its sensitive location, land encroachment onto a historic property and requirement for a full cumulative impact study of past, present and future projects on that historic land, in context with Library Patio Project impacts. The Appeal and deliberation were specific to the misapplication of categorical exemption and when these named Exemption(s) apply void the use of a categorical exemption. The City's discretionary administrative decision to consider this project categorically exempt from required environmental review, classifying it a "minor alteration and patio extension to an existing facility" using CEQA Section 15301 and 15303 did not account for Council's flagrant misapplication of the actual construction and project discussed in order to avoid the necessary environmental review. The record should be corrected in line with the specific Appeal and subject regarding application and that the filing was correct and lawful.

The March 11 Council Minutes the findings for Appeal #3 are stated:

Motion by Weinberg and Second by (???) to deny the appeal and uphold the decision of the Los Altos Historical Commission for Historical Alteration Permit (H24-0003) and the Los Altos Planning Commission for Design Review Permit (DR24-0002) for a new library courtyard, and affirming that the proposed project is categorically exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) and Section 15303 (New Construction and Conversion of Small Structures), of the State Guidelines implementing the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970 and that none of the exceptions outlined in Section 15300.2 apply...

To cure the Draft Meeting Minutes error, please strike from the record all details of the disqualification of the applicant; return to the applicant the \$1,000 application fee for failing to provide a fair and transparent Public Hearing, and invite and conduct a de novo hearing of the March 11, 2025 Item #12 Library Patio Appeal 3.

We request the minutes be pulled from the Consent Calendar, and taken up with Council for proper cure and correction and a written response to this complaint and these errors. If you choose to not correct these records and as well as provide cure for the Appeal hearing, we will be forced to compel the City to provide lawful records and hearings with all municipal governance and remedies in this matter.

PALLA has exhausted all administrative remedies.

Sincerely,

Catherine Nunes on behalf of the **Preservation Action League Los Altos (PALLA)**

From: [Eric Muller](#)
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: Public comment - 03/25/2025 City Council Meeting - item 4
Date: Tuesday, March 25, 2025 11:08:19 AM

Dear Council members,

In light of the continuing and growing assaults on civil liberties, and growing uses of state intimidation and violence, I renew my call to help our City and our Police Department, so that they are less likely to become tools against our community:

- disarm the Police Department as much as possible, and in particular retire rifles and drones immediately
- discontinue immediately the ALPR system in Los Altos, and physically dismantle the cameras.

Thanks,
Eric Muller
Los Altos resident

From: [Alice Mansell](#)
To: [Public Comment](#)
Cc: [PALLA](#)
Subject: Los Altos City Council 3/25/25 Agenda item #1
Date: Tuesday, March 25, 2025 12:00:39 PM
Attachments: [Affidavit 3.11.Library Patio Proj.CityLA.pdf](#)

This letter is a demand to correct and cure the Draft Meeting Minutes for the City Council Regular Meeting on March 11, 2025 for Public Hearing Item #12 Library Patio Appeal #1. This letter is also a request to vacate Council's decision and reschedule a de novo hearing for Appeal #1 from its March 11, 2025 Public Hearing. There was no need for me, as stated in the Draft Minutes, "to appear" personally on 3/11/2025 for the following reasons:

1. There were 2 other PALLA representatives present to speak for PALLA.
2. The Council Norms and Procedures adopted 2/28/2025 do not require a need for a "notarized" document from me nominating a substitute speaker as one Council member demanded as seen and heard on the meeting video. Any member of PALLA can speak on behalf of the group.
3. The appeal form filed with the City listed as its first named appellant "PALLA" thus anyone representing that entity could speak for PALLA due to it being listed patently on the filed appeal form. The City fee for the PALLA appeal was paid with a cashier's check by a fellow PALLA representative, Maria Bautista, who was present on 3/11/2025 as further evidence she was involved in PALLA Appeal #1.
4. The Public Notice by the City published in the "Palo Alto Daily Post" referred to Appeal #1 as follows (see attached City legal notice affidavit):

"The Appeals were received as follows and will be considered in the following order:

"1. Appeal of the Historical Commission Decision. Appellant: **Preservation Action League Los Altos**, Alice Mansell."

5. Attached to the filed and signed Appeal #1 form was a multi-page letter from PALLA's expert historic land law attorney with her numerous legal, factual and procedural arguments which were not discussed in written or oral detail by any City staff at the appeal hearing thus avoiding any Council or staff public discussion of the appeal's legal, factual and procedural merits, nor any opportunity by any PALLA representatives to provide rebuttal arguments after staff or Council discussions.
6. Based on the hearing video and witnesses there is reasonable verbal and body language evidence that a pre-written script was prepared by staff with a Council majority pre-coordination to dismiss Appeal #1 on arbitrary and capricious procedural grounds and thus the City of Los Altos' government avoided addressing all of Appeal #1's legal and factual merits.

PALLA has exhausted administrative remedies for Appeal #1.

Regards,
Alice Mansell
On behalf of PALLA (Preservation Action League Los Altos)

att: City of Los Altos legal notice affidavit

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

IN THE

DAILY POST

385 Forest Avenue, Palo Alto, California 94301
(650)328-7700

IN THE
SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA

No. H24-0003 & DR24-0002

LIBRARY PATIO PROJECT

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA

} SS

I, the undersigned, state that I am, and at all times herein mentioned was, a citizen of the United States of America, over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to or interested in the above entitled matter, that I was at and during all said times and still am the principle clerk of the publisher of the Daily Post in said County of Santa Clara, State of California; that said is and was at all times herein mentioned a newspaper of general circulation as that term is defined by Section 6000 and 6020 of the Government Code of the State of California; that said was adjudged as such by Superior Court of the County of Santa Clara, State of California, under date of February 27, 2017, Case Number 17CV305056; that the notice of which the annexed is a true printed copy, was set not smaller than nonpareil and was preceded with words printed in black-face type not smaller than nonpareil, describing and expressing in general terms, the purport and character of the notice intended to be given; that said notice was published and printed in said newspaper on the following dates, to wit:

03/01/2025

03/01/25

DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION IN THE DAILY POST

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on

03/01/2025

at Palo Alto, California

Signed



**LOS ALTOS CITY COUNCIL
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THREE (3)
SEPARATE APPEALS FILED REGARDING PROJECT NO. H24-0003
(HISTORICAL ALTERNATION PERMIT) AND DR24-0002 (DESIGN
REVIEW) FOR THE APPROVED LIBRARY COURTYARD PATIO
LOCATED AT 13 SOUTH SAN ANTONIO ROAD**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Los Altos, California, will hold a public hearing on March 11, 2025 at 4:30 p.m., to consider three (3) separate appeals filed regarding Project No. H24-0003 (Historical Alteration Permit) and DR24-0002 (Design Review) for the approved library courtyard patio located at 13 South San Antonio Road. The project was approved by the Los Altos Historical Commission and Los Altos Planning Commission at a Joint Meeting on February 6, 2025. The project was determined to be categorically exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) and Section 15303 (New Construction and Conversion of Small Structures) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines and that no special circumstances apply by the Los Altos Historical Commission and Los Altos Planning Commission at a Joint Meeting on February 6, 2025.

The Appeals filed were received as follows and will be considered in the following order:

1. Appeal of Historical Commission Decision. Appellant: Preservation Action League Los Altos, Alice Mansell.
2. Appeal of Planning Commission Decision. Appellant: Preservation Action League Los Altos, Maria Bautista.
3. Appeal of Administrative Decision. Appellant: Preservation Action League Los Altos, Catherine Nunes.

The City Council meeting will begin at 4:30 p.m. Members of the public can view the Public Hearing by accessing the Council Meeting via the link provided on the published agendas. Members of the Public that wish to speak on this item must attend the meeting in-person. Written Correspondence will be provided to the City Council. The agendas may be found at this website at least 72 hours prior to each meeting date: www.losaltosca.gov

Melissa Thurman. MMC
City Clerk