

From: Hamidah Sadler [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2023 2:15 PM
To: Maria Ristow <MRistow@losgatosca.gov>; Rob Moore <RMoore@losgatosca.gov>; Matthew Hudes <MHudes@losgatosca.gov>; Rob Rennie <RRennie@losgatosca.gov>
Cc: Mary Badame <MBadame@losgatosca.gov>; Nicolle Burnham <NBurnham@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Pinehurst Community Garden & Lynn Ave Pedestrian Path

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Good Afternoon,

I live on Lynn Ave and I oppose both the garden and the pedestrian path. It won't be good for the kids, traffic, parking, Blossom Valley Dr or Lynn Avenue.

Secondly, I believe the only people who should have a real say in this process is the houses that back up to the open space. The only opinion on this matter should be those 24 families that will be directly affected by the building of a Garden and Pathway. Please ask them directly and have their votes be the only that count. That is the kindest thing you can do.

Again I am opposed to all proposals.

Thank you,

Hamidah Sadler
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: Gavin Hayes [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2023 3:19 PM
To: Nicolle Burnham <NBurnham@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Pinehurst Community Garden - Please Approve

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Hello Nicolle,

As an LG local and Lynn Ave resident of 10+ years I am writing in full support of the proposed 'Pinehurst Community Garden' on the east side of town.

Would love to see the space activated and also provide an alternative for kids to traverse Union into the neighborhood towards Alta Vista and Union Middle School.

Thank you,
Gavin Hayes
[REDACTED]

From: Kay Akervik [REDACTED]
Date: December 15, 2023 at 9:11:56 AM PST
To: Nicolle Burnham <NBurnham@losgatosca.gov>, Marina Chislett <MChislett@losgatosca.gov>, Clerk <Clerk@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Special Meeting of the Town Council: Study Session Public Comment Item #1

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Dear Esteemed Town Council of Los Gatos,

My name is Kay Van Kirk and I am a resident of Lynn Ave. My home would be directly affected by the addition of a community garden. Please take a moment to consider the following items and put yourself in our shoes.

Thank you for your time.

Kind regards,

Kay

There are several reasons why you might not want a public garden located behind your house. Here are some considerations:

1. **Privacy:** Public gardens can attract visitors and potentially compromise your privacy. Strangers walking by or using the garden may be able to see into your property.
2. **Noise and Activity:** Public gardens can be gathering places for social events, which may lead to increased noise and foot traffic. This could disrupt the peace and quiet of your home.
3. **Maintenance and Responsibility:** A public garden requires ongoing maintenance, and there may be concerns about the responsibility for upkeep falling on nearby homeowners or the local community.
4. **Safety Concerns:** Depending on the design and usage, a public garden could potentially attract undesirable activities or individuals, raising safety concerns for the residents. Public gardens tend to be used at first, and then, with time, they fall apart, which brings in some of the least desirable visitors.
5. **Property Value:** Some individuals worry that a public garden behind their house may impact property values. While well-maintained public gardens can be nice, poorly-maintained ones might have the opposite effect. *This neighborhood has ample yard space for each home; this is not a dense urban area. Is this garden*

being reserved for those who live in apartments? What is the justification for this need?

6. **Environmental Impact:** Public gardens might affect local flora and fauna, particularly if the garden includes non-native plants or heavy use of pesticides, which could impact the local ecosystem.
7. **Parking and Traffic:** The garden may lead to increased traffic in the area, and visitors may struggle to find parking, which could be frustrating for homeowners. (see soccer plus garden impact)
8. **Property Access:** Access to your property may become more challenging due to increased foot traffic and parked cars. It may also affect your ability to use your outdoor space.
9. **Conflict of Use:** The public garden might lead to conflicts over its use, such as disputes over noise, hours of operation, or events hosted in the garden.
10. **Changing Character of the Neighborhood:** Some homeowners may worry that the addition of a public garden will fundamentally change the character of their neighborhood and the reasons they initially chose to live there.

Overall, for the people living behind the proposed garden (none of our neighbors have expressed any enthusiasm for this project, sadly, it is the exact opposite on our street), there will be a reduction in Quality of Life: This can manifest in various ways, such as the loss of a peaceful and private outdoor space, increased stress due to noise and activity, or a sense of discomfort and intrusion caused by strangers regularly accessing the area behind our house. These factors will contribute to a decrease in our overall well-being and satisfaction with our living environment.

Now, compound that with a major soccer field/facility across our front yard (with several hundreds of kids daily), already impacting parking and our quality of life. This raises several concerns that are further exacerbated by the addition of a public garden behind our house.

11. **Parking Challenges will Grow:** The presence of a major soccer field and its associated facilities across our front yard has already led to parking challenges in our neighborhood. With limited parking options, residents already struggle to find suitable spots for their vehicles, and the addition of a public garden behind our houses will exacerbate this issue. As a result, people may be more prone to double park, illegally park, or block driveways, making it difficult for actual residents to access our properties and maintain a sense of order in the community.
12. **Increase in Traffic Congestion:** The combination of the soccer field and the public garden will likely result in higher levels of traffic and congestion in our neighborhood. This could lead to more delays and potential safety hazards, especially if traffic rules and parking regulations are not adequately enforced.
13. **Increased Noise and Activity:** The soccer field and its events have brought increased noise and activity to the area. Adding a public garden will compound these disturbances, making it more challenging to find peace and quiet at home, ultimately impacting our quality of life. Why must the residents of Lynn Ave be asked to make an additional sacrifice when this garden could be placed elsewhere where the burden can be shared?
14. **Loss of Privacy:** The garden's installation behind our house will further compromise your privacy on top of the vast amount of soccer players and families that already impact the neighborhood. With people frequently passing by or using the garden, the sense of solitude and security that a backyard typically provides will diminish, impacting every resident's overall comfort and well-being.
15. **Impact on Property Value:** The cumulative impact of a soccer field and a public garden may affect property values in the area. The potential downsides of these facilities can make the neighborhood less attractive to potential buyers or tenants, which can have a negative influence on property values.

From: Hanne Olofsen [REDACTED]
Date: December 15, 2023 at 10:47:04 AM PST
To: Janette Judd <jjudd@losgatosca.gov>, Marina Chislett <MChislett@losgatosca.gov>, Nicolle
Burnham <NBurnham@losgatosca.gov>
Subject: Pinehurst Community Garden

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Please see attached letter

Regards

Hanne Olofsen

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Type to enter text

My Name is Hanne Olofsen I live at [REDACTED] I am writing in regards to the suggested Pinehurst Community Garden. I do not know if the members of the Arts or Park Commission are aware of that some years ago it was suggested to have a community garden at Pinehurst. The idea never came through since we as neighbors were opposed to the idea.

We already have a big parking problem at Lynn Ave and part of Pinehurst due to sports going on at Union Middle School. Sometimes I can hardly get out of my driveway. I do tolerate it since I think it is a good idea for kids to do sports.

I have a hard time to see that we need a community garden since everybody around here have there own garden. It will create more parking problems plus attract young kids and homeless people.

If the town wants to do something for the neighborhood why can we not have a little Park like the one on Thomas Drive. I walk there often with my dog and it is a very peaceful place.

What we really need on Lynn Ave is a speed bump like the one on Longridge. Only 50% of the cars that come from Blossom Valley Dr. to turn right respect the stop sign. They come flying around the corner and I admit it is hard not to speed when the stretch is a straight line.

In regards to the pedestrian Path Design if it goes through I hope that there will be a strict division between pedestrians and bikes. The young kids on their electric bikes are dangerous. They hardly ever have lights on and they are so quiet so you cannot hear them when they come from behind.

I am 100% opposed to the idea of a community garden
