

Stephen Scott

From: John Arnett [jarnett@ClassicHotels.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 07, 2012 11:24 AM
To: Stephen Scott; Brandt Grotte; David Lim; Maureen Freschet; John "Jack" Matthews; Robert Ross
Subject: St. Matthew's School Proposal

Good Morning,

I want to take a moment of your time to express my desire for the expanded gym proposal at St. Matthew Catholic School and in the process seek your support as well.

My daughter spent 9 years attending St. Matthew Catholic School and has recently graduated. However, during that period I spent considerable time in the gym attending a variety of sporting and social events. I can attest that the facility is at best inadequate.

I understand neighborhood concerns and I believe that in large part the issues raised have been significantly minimized if not totally resolved. As the spouse of the incoming school principal, I can assure you that there is a resolute commitment to create and maintain an extremely cooperative rapport with the surrounding community.

I hope that at the upcoming City Planning meeting on June 12th, you will be compelled to support the modifications which are being proposed. These improvements not only benefit the school, but the community at large.

Thank you,

John Arnett | President
Classic Hotels & Resorts
330 Primrose Road, Suite 217 | Burlingame, CA 94010
P 650-343-3400 | F 650-343-9400 | w classichotels.com

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Stephen Scott

From: Toni Dicapua
Sent: Thursday, June 07, 2012 9:28 AM
To: Stephen Scott
Cc: Ronald "Ron" MuneKawa
Subject: FW: St Matthews Project

From: Anna Kuhre [<mailto:akuhre@myastound.net>]
Sent: Thursday, June 07, 2012 9:27 AM
To: Planning Commission
Subject: St Matthews Project

San Mateo United Homeowners Association

P.O. Box 1023

San Mateo Ca 94401

June 7, 2012

To the attention of the Planning Commissioners,

The San Mateo United Homeowners Association wishes to restate its original stance on all construction and development projects for the City of San Mateo.

We support that all codes and ordinances be upheld on construction projects. These codes were put in place by citizen majority approval and exist to protect neighborhoods and citizens. Variances set a bad precedence for future development and construction projects. When quality of life is at stake for neighborhoods, SMUHA will always support guidelines as outlined by our city.

Sincerely,

Ben Toy

President San Mateo United Homeowners Association

Stephen Scott

From: Kristin Makarewycz [kmilotich@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 06, 2012 12:59 PM
To: Stephen Scott
Subject: St. Matt's gymnasium project

June 6, 2012

Dear San Mateo City Planning Commission and City Council members,

We are San Mateo residents and our daughter attends St. Matthew Catholic School. We fully support the St. Matthew's Catholic School gymnasium project for several reasons. Primarily, we think it is important for any school as large as St. Matts (about 600 students) to have a regulation-size "home" gymnasium, so that all home games can be played on-campus. Not only does this encourage school spirit by allowing students to cheer on their school teams at school, but it also will increase team spirit by infusing a sense of "home" for our games, which we currently don't have. We think both school and team spirit are powerful motivators for children.

We also understand that the proposed plan calls for 108 additional parking places, including a traffic and parking management plan which currently does not exist. Therefore, the proposed plan is a win-win situation for both our children and the neighboring residents by improving existing conditions for everyone. We urge you to support this project.

Sincerely,

Kristy and Alex Makarewycz

Stephen Scott

From: Angela Caltagirone [ACaltagirone@WSGC.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 05, 2012 11:28 PM
To: Stephen Scott
Cc: John "Jack" Matthews; Brandt Grotte; David Lim; Robert Ross; Maureen Freschet; Planning Commission; Caltagirone Paolo-CPC046
Subject: Saint Mattheew Catholic School Gym Project - Please Read

Dear Mr. Scott,

Our children have attended Saint Matthew School since 2003. Our daughter recently graduated and our son is entering junior high. We live in San Mateo near the school and we are writing you to express our passion for supporting the Saint Matthew Catholic School gym project. We are urging you to help us support the largest elementary school in the entire San Francisco Archdioceses that has educated over 4,400 children. Saint Matthew Catholic School has been an active, positive influence in the community and deserves support. This project is intended to improve the facility for the children while having a minimal impact on our neighborhood. As has been committed by Saint Matthew, there will also be a cap on the future number of students and employees at the current level and no intensification of current programs and no new uses in addition to the continued implementation of a comprehensive Traffic & Parking Management Plan.

We can attest that in our experience over the last nine years traffic flow changes led by the parent community have been embraced to ensure the school community is being a respectful, good neighbor. As an example, for years we have completely gone out of our way every morning to avoid parking and entering school on Aragon Blvd which would be the most logical route given our proximity. Also given we live ½ block from a public middle school, our observation is that Saint Matthew's vigor and commitment to being a good neighbor and provide clear traffic and parking guidelines is very strong in comparison. Saint Matthew's has spent five years responding to the input of the City and the community to develop this comprehensive program that should at this point meet all requirements. It is our belief no school in San Mateo County has gone to such great lengths to satisfy neighbors and as San Mateo residents, good neighbors, and passionate families wanting to give our children an updated, proper facility similar to public schools and other parochial school facilities, we humbly plead for your thoughtful and serious consideration of this proposal.

Please note that the school's full time, dedicated resource, Brian Swartz, is available to answer any specific project questions at 415 272 6897. We are happy to also answer any questions and provide additional perspective as parents, San Mateo residents, and respectful neighbors who firmly desire that this fair and logical project that meets all requirements, be finally approved..

Sincerely,
Angela and Paolo Caltagirone

1244 Quince Street – San Mateo
650-571-5592
acaltagirone@wsqc.com
p.caltagirone@motorolasolutions.com

Stephen Scott

From: Roxanne Ivory [roxanneivory@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 05, 2012 10:39 PM
To: Stephen Scott
Cc: Planning Commission; John "Jack" Matthews; Brandt Grotte; Maureen Freschet; David Lim; Robert Ross; brian@cascapecapitalllc.com; Jeff.Lowenstein@outsourcetitnc.com
Subject: Support for the St Matthew Catholic School gymnasium project

Dear Mr. Scott,

I have been a resident of San Mateo for 23 years and a parent at St Matthew Catholic School for the past 12 years. I have four boys who are passionate about sports and active members of the St Matt's community - 2 have graduated from St Matt's and the other 2 will keep me at the school for the next 11 years. It is for them, their friends and their teammates that I pledge my support for the Saint Matthew Catholic School gymnasium project. As a former resident of Aragon Park and a long time parent at the school I have seen St Matt's make tremendous strides to minimize the school's impact on the surrounding neighborhood. The school and the parish have increased the consciousness of all who attend and worship here about our role as good neighbors in this community. They have also gone to great lengths to balance the needs of the school and the students with those of nearby homeowners. The current plan provides for increased onsite parking, a limit to the number of students and employees, a cap on the number and type of events for which the gym will be used, and a comprehensive traffic and parking management plan.

As parent and educators, we are committed to improving the learning and recreational environment for our students. We ask for your support in helping us do that.

Regards,
Roxanne Ivory
54 West Bellevue Ave
San Mateo, CA 94402
650-255-7593
roxanneivory@yahoo.com

Stephen Scott

From: John Hunter [jphhunter@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 05, 2012 2:30 PM
To: Stephen Scott
Subject: St. Matthews School New Gymnasium

June 5, 2012

San Mateo Planning Commission
Attention: Stephen Scott, City Planner

Dear Planning Commissioners:

Please accept this e-mail for the record of your public hearing on June 12, 2012 to consider the request by St. Matthews Church and School for a new gymnasium. The request is reasonable, one that will fulfill the school's need for a regulation-size gymnasium facility on its campus. The proposal has undergone much public scrutiny and has passed the test of environmental review. As a result, the Planning Department is recommending approval of the application with conditions and restrictions.

It is important to point out that the current auditorium cannot accommodate league competition and St. Matthews is required to lease space elsewhere for its home games. This is a problem that most private schools do not face. As a resident of San Mateo since 1949 and the father of two sons who attended local schools, I am a strong advocate for improving the quality of athletic programs for our youth. As a community we should be encouraging physical education programs at all levels as well as after school sports, this at a time when many young people have chosen to experience competition through video games.

Neighborhood concerns related to parking and traffic have been addressed in the recommendations for approval. I urge your Commission to approve the request and forward to the City Council for final action. Thanking the Members for considering my input.

Sincerely,

John P. Hunter
833 N. Humboldt Street

Stephen Scott

From: Cindy Harper [Cindy.Harper@macys.com]
Sent: Monday, June 04, 2012 4:46 PM
To: Stephen Scott
Cc: John "Jack" Matthews; Brandt Grotte; Maureen Freschet; David Lim; Robert Ross
Subject: Saint Matthew Catholic School Gymnasium Project

Dear Mr. Scott and City Councilmembers,

I am a Baywood resident and I am reaching out to you to convey my support of the Saint Matthew Catholic School gymnasium project. Saint Matthew's is a very large school (both parents and students integral to the City of San Mateo) and in dire need of a facility upgrade.

I am aware that the impact on the Aragon neighborhood has been of concern. I served 3 years on the Traffic and Parking Committee and can assure you that our Administration and parents are committed to enforcing an effective traffic/parking policy, throughout the school week as well as during the minimal special events. This project has a cap of 6 special events per year via City approvals where no limits exist today.

I haven't served on the Traffic Committee for over 2 years (have rotated on to other committees), yet still drive down Aragon everyday to ensure our policy is in place. My personal support/involvement is not atypical. Our entire campus has and will continue to support and execute our comprehensive Traffic and Parking Plan. We are committed to being good neighbors!

Mr Scott and City Councilmembers, I know you all understand and appreciate the need to improve outdated facilities in order to enrich our students overall academic, athletic and social experiences. I reside at 530 Kentucky Ave, near Baywood Elementary and Aragon High School. As you know, both campuses are undergoing major expansions and renovations to improve the overall experience for our San Mateo children. While Baywood residents do not enjoy a school sponsored parking/traffic policy to control congestion and noise, I completely agree with the expansions in support of our student's needs.

I am hoping that you will support the needs of our St Matthew's students as well.

Sincerely,
Cindy Harper

Cindy Harper | Vice President Merchandise Manager | Macy's Inc. -- Impulse Beauty
170 O'Farrell Street, 8th Floor | San Francisco, CA 94102
☎: 415 954-6628 | ✉: Cindy.Harper@macys.com

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Stephen Scott

From: Eileen DiFranco (Renner) [erenner2010@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, June 04, 2012 1:29 PM
To: Stephen Scott
Cc: John "Jack" Matthews; Brandt Grotte; Maureen Freschet; David Lim; Robert Ross; Planning Commission
Subject: Support for St Matthew Gymnasium Project

Dear Mr. Scott, Planning Commission and Council Members,

We are residents of San Mateo's Aragon Neighborhood and are writing you this email to express our support of the Saint Matthew Catholic School gymnasium project. Saint Matthew Catholic School is an important and vibrant part of the community as well as the largest elementary school in the entire San Francisco Archdioceses. We live approximately 3 blocks from the school and believe that the project will actually improve existing conditions while having a minimal impact on the neighborhood.

We have received information from both sides of the issue and what is most reassuring to us as neighborhood residents is that we have been told that over 100 additional new parking spaces will be built to accommodate events, there will be no concurrent use of the church, school gymnasium and auditorium allowed and that there will be a cap of 6 special events per year via City approvals where no limits exist today. No other school in San Mateo County and probably beyond has gone to such great lengths carefully manage the existing conditions around it.

As Aragon residents, St Matthews parishioners and parents, we believe this gymnasium project will be a significantly valuable addition to our neighborhood, an enhancement to the community and we urge you to support the approval of the necessary city approvals.

Thank you for your sincere consideration of this matter.

Regards,
Stephen & Eileen DiFranco
314 Aragon Blvd, San Mateo

Stephen Scott

From: Scatena Donald [donscatena@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, June 04, 2012 9:12 AM
To: David Lim; John "Jack" Matthews; Robert Ross; Maureen Freschet
Cc: Stephen Scott
Subject: Saint Matthew Catholic School Gymnasium Project

Dear Maureen Freschet, David Lim, Jack Matthews, and Robert Ross,
You may remember me, my name is Don Scatena, the Principal of Peninsula High School (SMUHSD) in San Bruno. We first met on May 21, 2012, at the City Council work study that discussed possible relocation of Peninsula High School. We reviewed how Peninsula High School serves 200+ San Mateo students annually. I appreciated all of your feedback, and look forward to hosting your visit to my campus in the fall. Today, I write you on a more personal matter, that again, would help serve many of our San Mateo children.

I am writing to give you my support for the Saint Matthew Catholic School gymnasium project. As an educator, modern state-of-the-art facilities are critical to student achievement and overall school climate. This project will vastly improve our aging facilities that serves over 600 students. These improvements will have a minimal impact on the neighborhood, in addition, they will improve the overall safety and security of the campus and surrounding areas. Unlike public schools that charge outside agencies facility use fees to off-set budget short falls, Saint Matthew WILL NOT allow outsiders to use the gymnasium. Traffic and congestion will be vastly improved with the addition of 108 parking spaces (50% increase), and these structural improvements will occur first, prior to any modernization of the gymnasium.

Your support is necessary for this project. My son Luca (kindergarten) attends the Saint Matthew Catholic School. Serving our San Mateo students is paramount. I thank you for your consideration, and look forward to seeing you again.

Sincerely,
Donald J. Scatena
Principal, Peninsula High School
San Mateo Union High School District
dscatena@smuhsd.org
donscatena@yahoo.com
650-558-2400

Mark D. Hudak
230 West Fifth Avenue, #404
San Mateo, CA 94402
(650) 393-5789

June 1, 2012

Stephen Scott
Planning Department
City of San Mateo
330 West 20th Avenue
San Mateo, CA 94403

Re: St. Mathews Gymnasium

Mr. Scott:

I wanted to give you a bit of input about the current proposal by St. Mathews to build a gymnasium on its San Mateo campus.

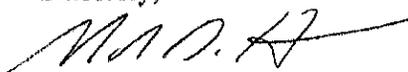
As the parent of a teenage athlete and a former school board member, I have come to understand the importance of modern athletic facilities for our young citizens. We continually exhort students to put aside their electronic devices and get active, but we have to supply the right fields, gyms, and courts if we are to be taken seriously. Student athletes are very aware of the quality of the facilities; inferior facilities that do not meet regulations will not work.

When I learned about the initial proposal back in 2009, I was concerned that the proposed community center would not be focused on the exercise needs of the students. I also was concerned that the nonathletic uses for the community center would place an unfair burden on the immediate neighborhood. I was not a supporter at that time.

The revised proposal for a gymnasium appears to address these issues. I understand that the gym will be limited to use by St. Mathews students and teams and will not be used for other sporting events. It also appears that there will be strict, enforceable limits on the uses and hours so that impacts on the neighbors will be minimized. These are substantial improvements over the prior proposal.

As a community, we need to continue renewing our facilities so that they meet current standards. And we need to ensure that our students have the right places to exercise and compete. I support this effort by St. Mathews.

Sincerely,



Mark D. Hudak

Stephen Scott

From: Ronald "Ron" Munekawa
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2012 2:09 PM
To: Stephen Scott
Subject: FW: St Matthew Catholic Parish & School

fyi

From: Shari Schoenfeld [mailto:shari_schoenfeld@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2012 2:08 PM
To: Ronald "Ron" Munekawa
Subject: St Matthew Catholic Parish & School

We are again contacting you as concerned property owners on East Capistrano.

We cherish our San Mateo neighborhood and the environment fostered by the community that resides on this street. It has been an ideal place to make a home and raise our 3 year old child.

For the third time, St. Matthew's is submitting their building proposal without adequate modifications or addressing the concerns of the community that will be impacted the most. They have categorically ignored community concerns and the objections of the Parking and Traffic Commissioner of San Mateo. We are frustrated and angry that the church's strategy seems to be one of trying to wear out the opposition to their plans. Their lack of proper planning and parking should not be burdened upon the city or by us the homeowners. We strongly object to their persistent resistance to listening to the community.

It seems that reasonable accommodations and parking concerns could be addressed if St. Matthews was willing to work with its neighbors instead selfishly against them. On behalf of myself and my neighborhood, I urge you to again reject their proposal and ask them to modify their project plans.

Many Thanks,
Shari Schoenfeld Meyers