

From: [Jeanne Fleming](#)
To: [Lait, Jonathan](#)
Cc: [Clerk, City](#); [Kou, Lydia](#); [Stone, Greer](#); [Tanaka, Greg](#); [Lauing, Ed](#); "Julie Lythcott-Haims"; "Vicki Veenker"; [Planning Commission](#); [Architectural Review Board](#); [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Anticipated Cell Tower Applications
Date: Wednesday, March 22, 2023 10:03:09 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Thanks, Jon. I appreciate the confirmation.

Needless to say, when you do get a heads up that a small cell node cell tower application is going to be submitted, I hope you'll let us know.

Regards,

Jeanne

Jeanne Fleming, PhD
[REDACTED]

From: Lait, Jonathan <Jonathan.Lait@CityofPaloAlto.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 10:36 PM
To: Jeanne Fleming [REDACTED]
Cc: Sauls, Garrett <Garrett.Sauls@CityofPaloAlto.org>; City Mgr <CityMgr@cityofpaloalto.org>
Subject: RE: Anticipated Cell Tower Applications

Hi Jeanne,

I don't have any additional information or insight into when future applications may be filed.



JONATHAN LAIT
Director
Planning and Development Department
(650) 329-2676 | jonathan.lait@cityofpaloalto.org
www.cityofpaloalto.org

Provide Feedback on Planning and Administration Services

From: Jeanne Fleming [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 11:47 AM

To: Lait, Jonathan <Jonathan.Lait@CityofPaloAlto.org>
Cc: Clerk, City <city.clerk@cityofpaloalto.org>; Kou, Lydia <Lydia.Kou@CityofPaloAlto.org>; Stone, Greer <Greer.Stone@CityofPaloAlto.org>; Tanaka, Greg <Greg.Tanaka@CityofPaloAlto.org>; Lauing, Ed <evlauing@yahoo.com>; 'Julie Lythcott-Haims' <julieforpaloalto@gmail.com>; 'Vicki Veenker' <vicki@vickiforcouncil.com>; Sauls, Garrett <Garrett.Sauls@CityofPaloAlto.org>; Planning Commission <Planning.Commission@cityofpaloalto.org>; Architectural Review Board <arb@cityofpaloalto.org>; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Anticipated Cell Tower Applications

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Dear Jon,

I am resending my February 28th email, with the thought that, since I haven't heard from you, you may not have received it.

That said, the question I asked you—Does Staff anticipate receiving applications for new small cell nodes and/or new macro towers in the first half of 2023?—has been answered by Planner Garrett Sauls. As I understood him, the answer is “no.”

If you don't agree with Garrett's assessment, then, of course, I would appreciate it if you would let me know.

As always, thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Jeanne

Jeanne Fleming, PhD
[REDACTED]

From: Jeanne Fleming [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2023 3:53 PM
To: 'Lait, Jonathan' <Jonathan.Lait@CityofPaloAlto.org>
Cc: 'Clerk, City' <city.clerk@cityofpaloalto.org>; Lydia.Kou@CityofPaloAlto.org; greer.stone@CityofPaloAlto.org; greg.tanaka@cityofpaloalto.org; 'Edward Lauing' <evlauing@yahoo.com>; 'Julie Lythcott-Haims' <julieforpaloalto@gmail.com>; 'Vicki Veenker' <vicki@vickiforcouncil.com>; Planning.Commission@CityofPaloAlto.org; 'Architectural Review Board' <arb@cityofpaloalto.org>; 'French, Amy' <Amy.French@CityofPaloAlto.org>; [REDACTED]
Subject: Anticipated Cell Tower Applications

Dear Jon,

As I think you know, I have, in the past, been corresponding with Amy French regarding cell tower-related matters. Recently, however, Amy has informed me that she is not sufficiently involved in cell tower matters to be able to answer my questions. Hence I am writing to you.

I have only one question: Does Staff anticipate receiving applications for new small cell nodes and/or new macro towers in the first two quarters of 2023?

It is my understanding that applicants typically preview their intentions. And as I am sure you can understand, residents would appreciate knowing what those intentions are.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Jeanne

Jeanne Fleming, PhD



From: [Neilson Buchanan](#)
To: [Council, City](#); [Kamhi, Philip](#); [Bhatia, Ripon](#)
Cc: [Josh Orenberg](#); [George Ugras](#); [Dave Price](#); [Jocelyn Dong](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Miriam K. Freedman](#); [Nancy Larson](#); [Brooke Partridge](#)
Subject: Quiet Zone Study for Caltrain Crossing at Alma/PA Avenue
Date: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 12:31:04 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

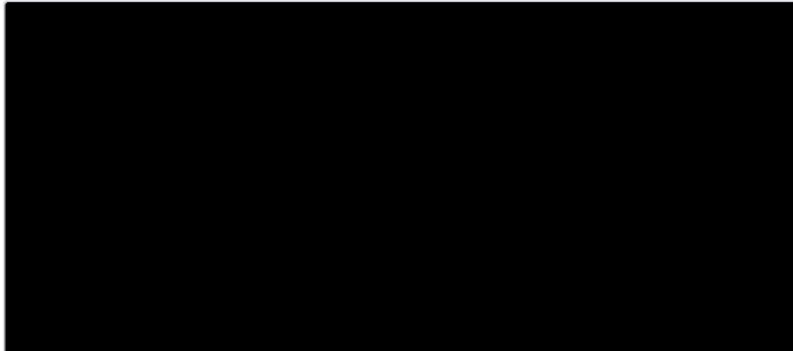
Dear City Council and Staff,

Please note my appreciation and support to remedy the train noise at Alma/PA Avenue Grade Crossing.

I am unable to attend the public meeting on March 23 and look forward to learning how this project will proceed forward with Palo Alto and Menlo Park City Council support.

Here is link to information about the Quiet Zone Study.

[Quiet Zone Study Community Meeting](#)



Quiet Zone Study Community Meeting

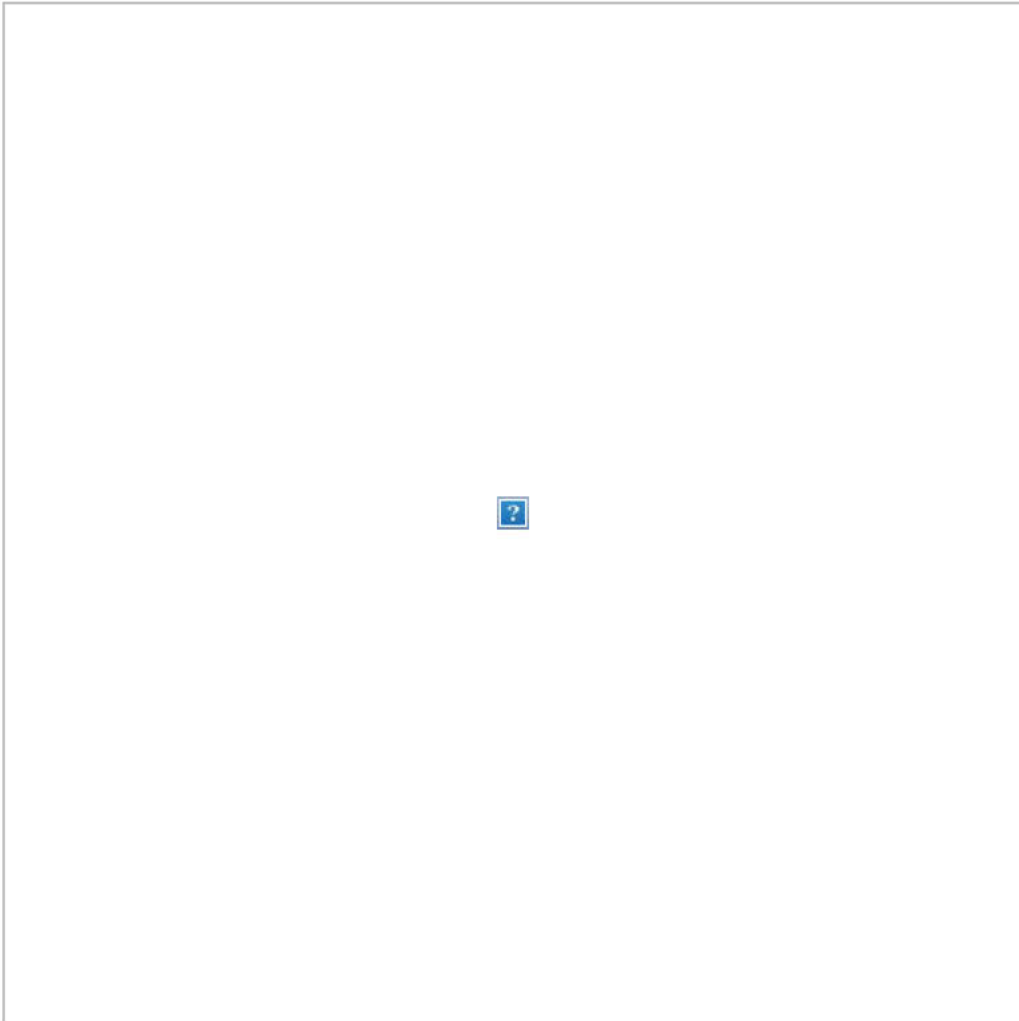
The City of Menlo Park and City of Palo Alto are collaborating to study the Palo Alto Avenue/Alma Street Railroa...

Neilson Buchanan



From: [Aram James](#)
To: [Human Relations Commission](#); [Kaloma Smith](#); [Council, City](#); [Julie Lythcott-Haims](#); [Sean Allen](#); [Lauing, Ed](#); [Jeff Moore](#); [Shikada, Ed](#); [Josh Becker](#); [Shana Segal](#); [Jethroe Moore](#); [Joe Simitian](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Supervisor Susan Ellenberg](#); [Joe Simitian](#); [Salem Ailuni](#); [Jack Ailuni](#); [Betsy Nash](#); [Cecilia Taylor](#); [Reifschneider, James](#); [Binder, Andrew](#); [Barberini, Christopher](#); [Jeff Rosen](#); [Wagner, April](#); [chuck jagoda](#); [Jay Bovarsky](#); [Michael Gennaco](#)
Subject: An attack on one of us is an attack on all of us
Date: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 12:15:47 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.



Dear Aram,

For too long now, Palestinians and their supporters have been attacked, maligned and smeared simply because we've spoken out against Israeli apartheid, or in favour of BDS.

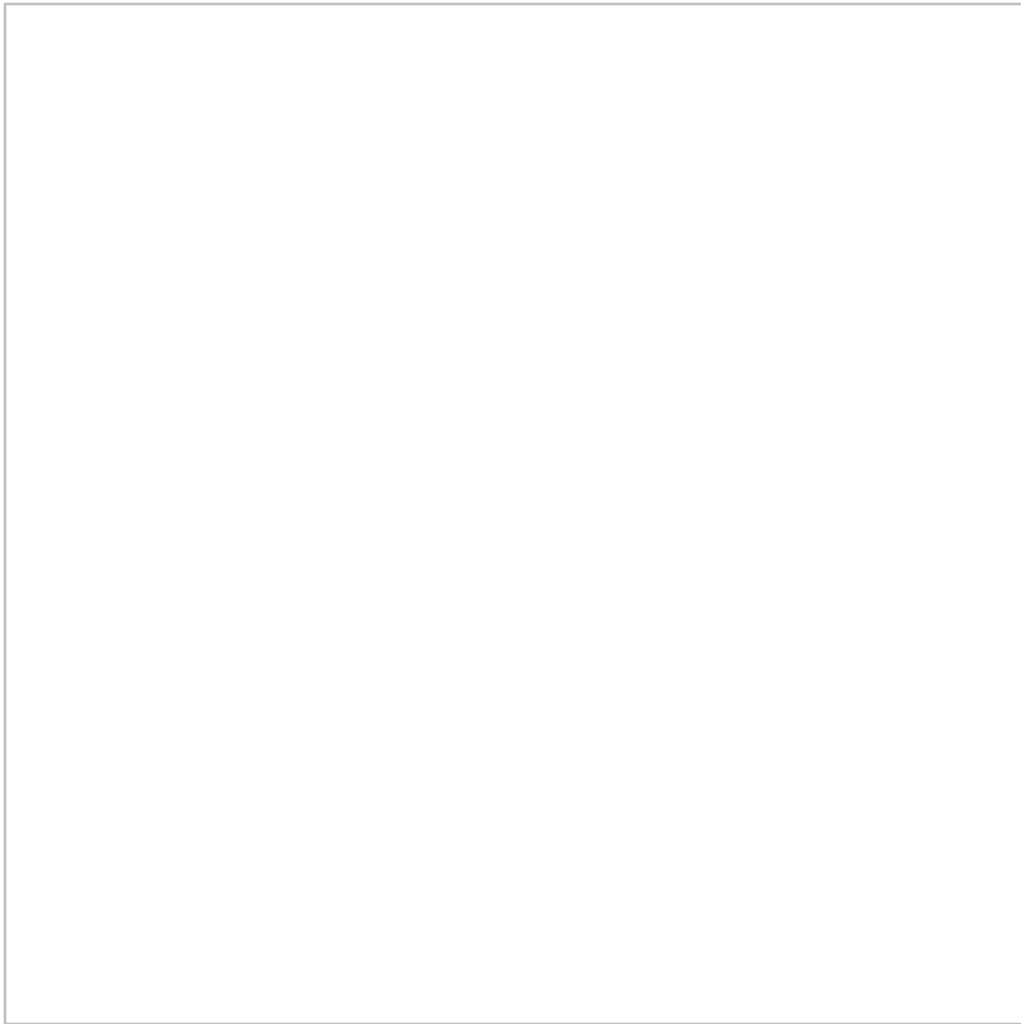
As we approach a provincial by-election in Hamilton Centre on March 16th, Ontario NDP candidate Sarah Jama has been caught

in the crosshairs of B'nai Brith Canada in a vicious smear campaign. B'nai Brith is alleging that Jama is antisemitic because of her commendable support for BDS and Palestinian human rights. What's more troubling is that they seem to be using the toxic **IHRA definition** as the barometer for concluding that Jama is antisemitic. This smear campaign against Jama, a Black woman, in the days leading up to a byelection is unfounded and racist.

We say these attacks are racist because there is a **documented pattern** of false accusations of antisemitism that the pro-Israel lobby overwhelmingly levels against people of colour. They perpetuate **anti-Palestinian racism**, and contribute to a climate of toxicity where racialized people are prevented from speaking out in support of other justice-seeking groups. Recall that earlier this month in Halifax, **Palestinian high school students were told** by the principal to take off their keffiyehs because they are "sign of war".

Unfortunately, the allegations against Jama were **reported on uncritically** by Rob Ferguson at the Toronto Star. We encourage you to write a letter to the editor at the Star to refute the baseless attacks, and to remind them that calling for Palestinian liberation or supporting BDS isn't antisemitic. Send your letters (150 words max) to **lettertoed@thestar.ca**.

I'm thankful to say that IJV members are taking action not only against this attack, but against the ability and legitimacy of the pro-Israel lobby to wage similar attacks in the future. Over the weekend, two of our members met with Ontario NDP leader Marit Stiles in Kingston. In the meeting, Stiles reiterated her support for Jama's candidacy, and we also pushed the ONDP to speak out against the IHRA definition. The meeting was very positive, and we're grateful to Stiles for taking our concerns seriously.



I'm thankful to say that IJV members are taking action not only against this attack, but against the ability and legitimacy of the pro-Israel lobby to wage similar attacks in the future. Over the weekend, two of our members met with Ontario NDP leader Marit Stiles in Kingston. In the meeting, Stiles reiterated her support for Jama's candidacy, and we also pushed the ONDP to speak out against the IHRA definition. The meeting was very positive, and we're grateful to Stiles for taking our concerns seriously.

Moreover, 120 Ontario Jews (and counting!), including many IJV members, have signed an [open letter](#) in support of Sarah Jama. If you identify as a member of the Jewish community in Ontario and want to sign your name to the letter, please email Rabbi David Mivasair at [\[REDACTED\]](#).

While these attacks are disheartening, I actually think that they make us stronger. As the old adage goes, an attack on one of us is an attack on all of us. When one of us gets smeared for speaking out for Palestine, 1000 more voices join the fold. And they only get louder.

With that in mind, don't forget to mark your calendars for IJV's [15th anniversary conference](#) in Toronto from June 16-18,

2023. It will be a historic opportunity to strengthen our intersectional anti-racist movements for justice, liberation and peace. I hope to see you there!

In solidarity,

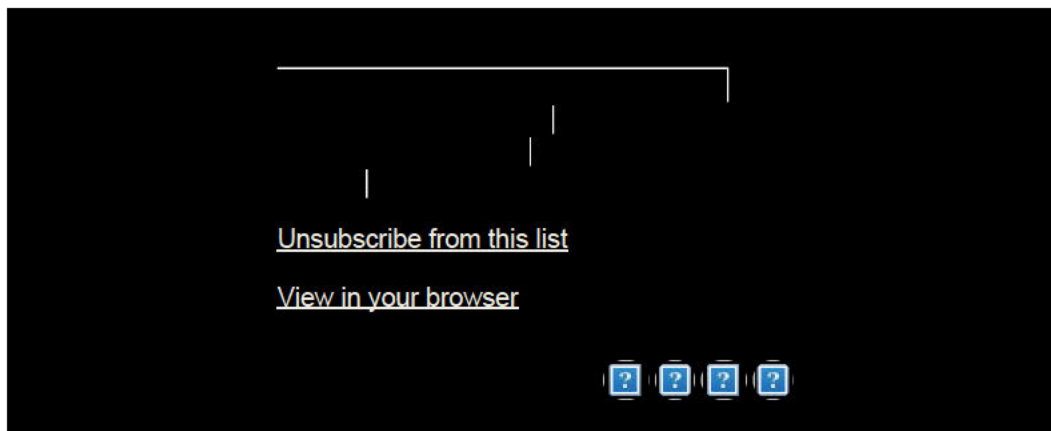


Aaron Lakoff,

IJV Communications and Media Lead



Donate to IJV or become a member!



From: [Jeanne Fleming](#)
To: [Lait, Jonathan](#)
Cc: [Clerk, City](#); [Kou, Lydia](#); [Stone, Greer](#); [Tanaka, Greg](#); [Lauing, Ed](#); "[Julie Lythcott-Haims](#)"; "[Vicki Veenker](#)"; [Sauls, Garrett](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Architectural Review Board](#); [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Anticipated Cell Tower Applications
Date: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 11:46:51 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Dear Jon,

I am resending my February 28th email, with the thought that, since I haven't heard from you, you may not have received it.

That said, the question I asked you—Does Staff anticipate receiving applications for new small cell nodes and/or new macro towers in the first half of 2023?—has been answered by Planner Garrett Sauls. As I understood him, the answer is “no.”

If you don't agree with Garrett's assessment, then, of course, I would appreciate it if you would let me know.

As always, thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Jeanne

Jeanne Fleming, PhD
[REDACTED]

From: Jeanne Fleming [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2023 3:53 PM
To: 'Lait, Jonathan' <Jonathan.Lait@CityofPaloAlto.org>
Cc: 'Clerk, City' <city.clerk@cityofpaloalto.org>; Lydia.Kou@CityofPaloAlto.org; greer.stone@CityofPaloAlto.org; greg.tanaka@cityofpaloalto.org; 'Edward Lauing' <evlauing@yahoo.com>; 'Julie Lythcott-Haims' <julieforpaloalto@gmail.com>; 'Vicki Veenker' <vicki@vickiforcouncil.com>; Planning.Commission@CityofPaloAlto.org; 'Architectural Review Board' <arb@cityofpaloalto.org>; 'French, Amy' <Amy.French@CityofPaloAlto.org>; [REDACTED]
Subject: Anticipated Cell Tower Applications

Dear Jon,

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Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Jeanne

Jeanne Fleming, PhD



From: [Neilson Buchanan](#)
To: [Council, City; Planning Commission](#)
Cc: [Shikada, Ed](#); [Eggleston, Brad](#); [Josh Orenberg](#); [Kamhi, Philip](#); [Dave Price](#); [Jocelyn Dong](#)
Subject: Menlo Park's The Almanac report on March 24 Caltrain quiet zone meeting
Date: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 9:24:46 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Neilson Buchanan

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

A DTN neighbor circulated the email below to other Palo Alto neighborhoods. I was not able to attend the community meeting but there is a large amount of community interest especially in Downtown North. I may have missed coverage of community meeting by Daily Post and Palo Alto Weekly.

Dear Neighbors,

Yesterday Menlo Park's *The Almanac* published a report about the March 24 quiet zone meeting. The article misses much information that was presented at the meeting, but with the thought that it might be of interest to some, I pasted the article below.

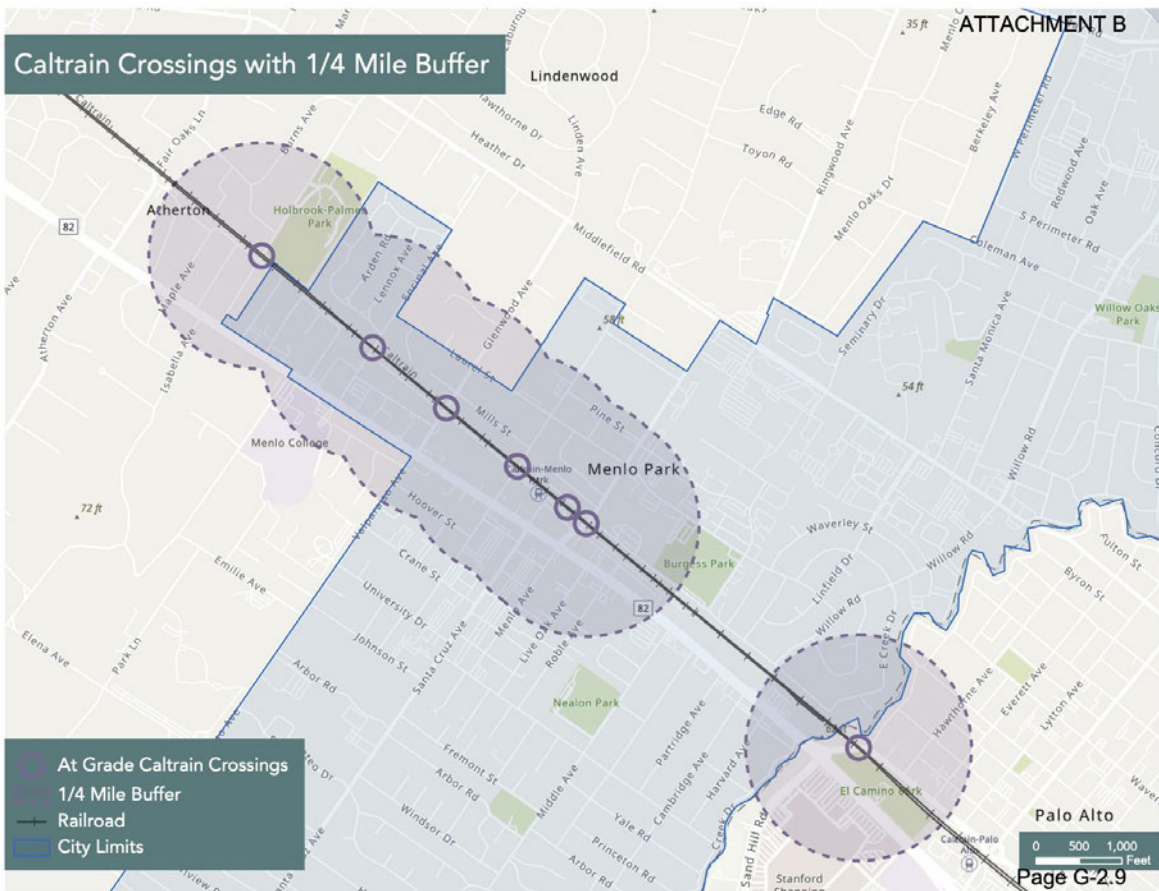
<https://www.almanacnews.com/news/2023/03/27/seeking-a-reprieve-from-loud-horns-menlo-park-residents-push-for-caltrain-quiet-zone>

Seeking a reprieve from loud horns, Menlo Park residents push for Caltrain quiet zone

by [Cameron Rebosio](#) / Almanac

Uploaded: Mon, Mar 27, 2023, 5:50 pm 3

Time to read: about 2 minutes



Because Menlo Park's Caltrain crossings are so close together, the Caltrain horn can blare up to 16 times at a maximum volume of 110 decibels over about a mile each time a train passes through the city. The noise is driving residents to urge the City Council to create a 'quiet zone' along the Caltrain corridor within the city. Courtesy city of Menlo Park.

Menlo Park residents are fed up with blaring train horns waking babies and rattling their nerves. At a March 24 community meeting, they implored city officials to create a quiet zone along the Caltrain tracks to give them some relief.

It's a topic that's clearly struck a chord in many people. At the city's March 18 priority-setting meeting, 41% of the hundreds of written comments from residents asked the city to establish a quiet zone for train noise.

"(Train horns) continue to be a quality of life issue that's been raised for two years now," resident Daniel Garden wrote. "The horns wake up my infant children from afternoon naps and is a source of stress. There are clearly less intrusive ways to ensure trains can cross the street safely."

Caltrain engineers have to sound the horn four times every time a train gets within a quarter-mile of its next crossing with a road. Due to the close proximity of Menlo Park's four rail crossings, the horn can blast up to 16 times over a distance of only about 1.1 miles as each train passes through the city. The sound of the horn is required to be between 96 to 110 decibels. For context, 110 decibels is as loud as a jackhammer.

One resident at the meeting said that he measured a level of 120 decibels in his yard, located 100 feet from the train tracks.

Establishing a quiet zone requires that the city introduce new safety measures at railway crossings. City

staff at the meeting said that these improvements would require cooperation between Menlo Park, Palo Alto and East Palo Alto. Each crossing has to have gates, flashing lights and warning time devices; the zone must be at least a half-mile long; and it must not have a regular (non-quiet) crossing within a quarter of a mile of the first or last crossing of the zone. With these safety improvements, the engineers would not have to blow the horns at each crossing and could only blow the horn if they encounter a hazard.

A resident at the community meeting who complained about sleepless nights due to train noise said, “So what can we do to get to the next step?”

City staff said that there are several steps that the process needs, starting with approval from multiple committees and City Council approval before city staff can start the design process. This is followed by meetings with Caltrans, Caltrain and other agencies, but the design process could be fast-tracked.

Atherton created a [quiet zone in 2016](#) by installing quad gates with detection loops, which prevent vehicles from driving around lowered crossing gates. The project got widespread support from the community but pushback from train engineers. Train operators continued to sound horns at crossings until they were [threatened with fines](#) from the town.

Grade separation projects are currently being considered for all four Menlo Park train crossings, so vehicles and pedestrians would no longer traverse the tracks. The city plans to make the quiet zone safety improvements in conjunction with these projects. Menlo Park’s current plan for grade separation is a hybrid approach in which the roads would be lowered and the train tracks would be raised.

From: [Robert Chen](#)
To: [City Mgr](#)
Cc: [Clerk, City](#); [Burt, Patrick](#); [Lauing, Ed](#); [Lythcott-Haims, Julie](#); [Stone, Greer](#); [Veenker, Vicki](#); [City Auditor](#); [City Attorney](#); [French, Amy](#); [Lait, Jonathan](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Furman, Sheri](#); [Glanckopf, Annette](#); [REDACTED]; editor@paweekly.com; news@padailypost.com
Subject: Code Violations on Ellsworth Place Have Not Been Enforeced
Date: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 2:12:33 PM
Attachments: [Letter To City of Palo Alto City Manager, March 27, 2023.pdf](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Dear City Manager Ed Shikada,

Please find attached a PDF of a signed letter from the Ellsworth Place Neighbors. The ongoing violation of city ordinance PC-2343 is an urgent matter for us, and we have been patiently waiting for over three months now for the city's laws to be enforced. Your action in this matter may be required.

Sincerely,

Robert Chaoqiang Chen
on behalf of the Ellsworth Place Neighbors

City of Palo Alto
City Manager
250 Hamilton Ave.
Palo Alto, CA 94301
650-329-2392

March 27, 2023

Dear City Manager Ed Shikada,

We Ellsworth Place neighbors have been advised to email you directly about an urgent safety problem occurring on our street and an apparent violation of the city's tree removal ordinance on the same property.

We ask for your oversight on the progress of the code enforcement case we have opened with the City of Palo Alto, regarding the violation of PC2343 Ordinance, by the placement of a chain-link fence and a large dirt and wooden stake pile on the Sutter Arms apartment parking lot (702 Ellsworth Place), located on the Ellsworth Place side of their property. The narrowing of the street as caused by this fence and the loss of overflow parking continue to be a safety hazard to our street. In fact, the fence has been hit several times by vehicles and we have heard animals scurrying in the dirt pile, which is left completely exposed with a small tarp that flaps about in the wind.

This code violation was originally opened on December 20, 2022, when a call was made to code enforcement directly, due to a drilling rig operating without a permit on this parking lot parcel, and the construction crews partially blocking our street with large flatbed trucks. The man operating the core sample rig told us a permit was on file, but no such city permit existed.

At that time, Robin Ellner, Administrative Associate III in Planning and Department Services, was able to find that this is a violation of PC-2343, (as amended from Ordinance 1810), while she was on the phone with Kristen A. Van Fleet. She then opened the code complaint on December 20, 2022, but this case is yet unresolved three months later.

Then, between February 19-23, 2023, nine neighbors from Ellsworth Place used the "Palo Alto 311 website" to submit additional code enforcement complaints pertaining to this issue, including Enforcement #'s 13307707, 13307776, 13307817, 13325858, and yet the safety and code violations remain to this day. The fence is still in place, and there is still a large dirt pile in the parking lot, which is dangerous and in violation of the PC-2343 Ordinance.

(Photo below shows the drilling rig; taken through a neighbor's window on December 20, 2022)



(The photo below of the parking lot was taken by a neighbor on Friday, March 24, 2023)



In case there is any question about these ordinances, here are links to them:

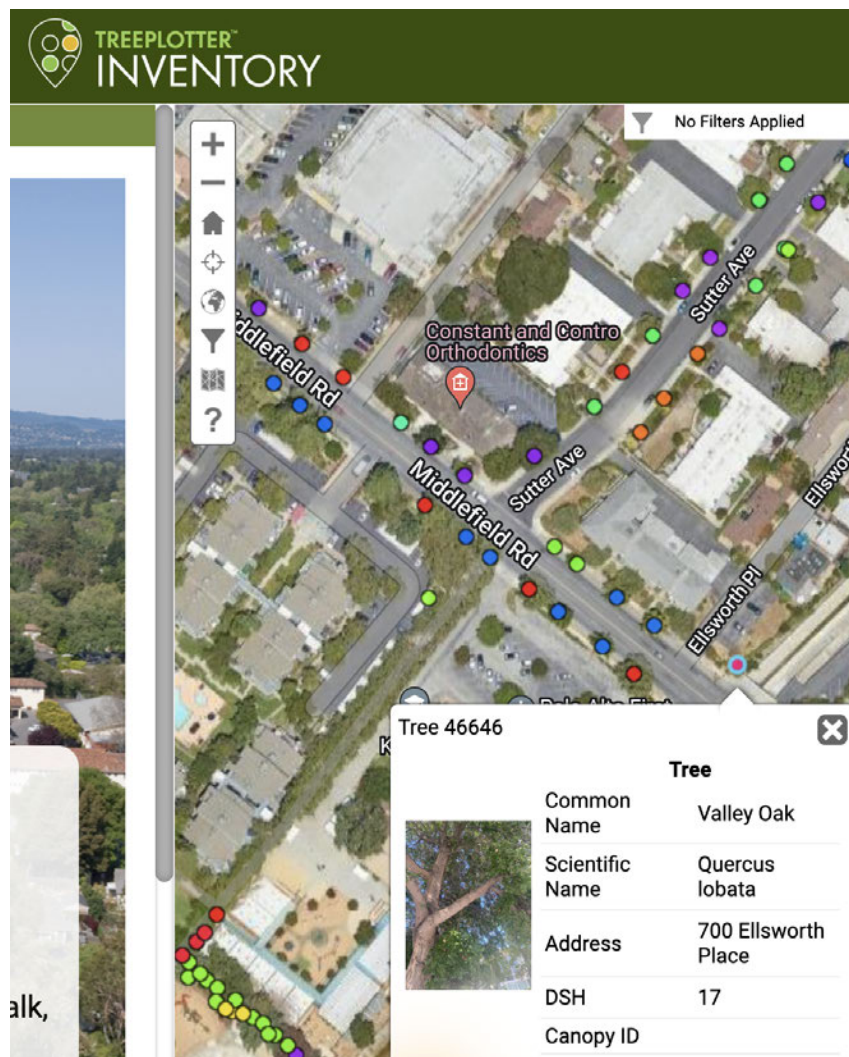
ORDINANCE 1810 - Title / Description 1951 1960, Ordinances Numbers: 1317-1988:

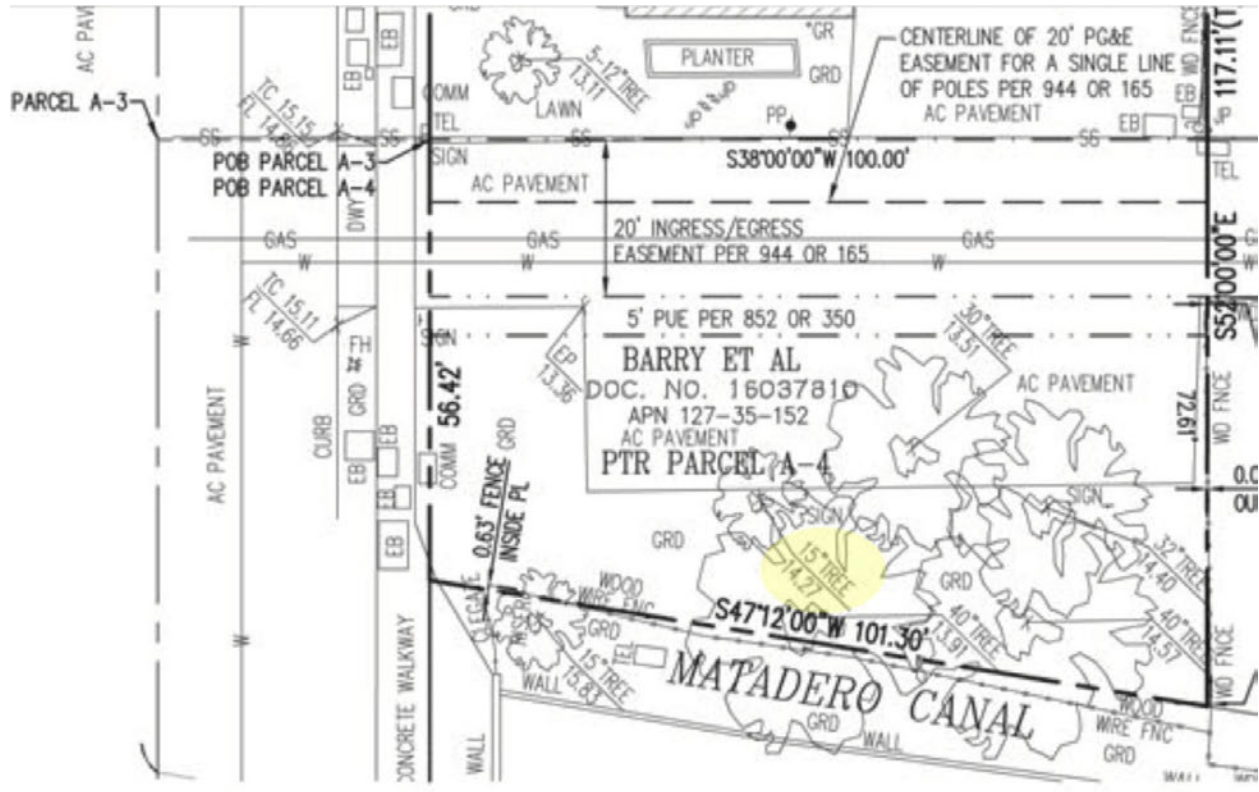
<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/files/assets/public/city-clerk/ordinances/ordinance-master-lists/1951-1960-ordinance-master-list.pdf>

ORDINANCE 2343 - Ordinances 1961 - 1970 Ordinance No.'s 1989- 2591:

<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/files/assets/public/city-clerk/ordinances/ordinance-master-lists/1961-1970-ordinance-master-list.pdf>

In addition, the City has not told us of any effort it has taken to investigate the October 2018 removal of [a protected Valley Oak, Quercus Lobata, recorded as tree 46646 by Canopy](#) from 702 Ellsworth Place (a.k.a. 700 Ellsworth Place). It had a mean breast height of 15 inches in diameter in a private survey of July 12, 2017, that the City has access to, and was also recorded as having a diameter of 17 inches by Canopy, as the following illustrates:





Your personal time and attention toward correcting these matters is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely, THE ELLSWORTH PLACE NEIGHBORS

Fris #724

Robyn A. Ziegler #730

[Signature] #717

Susana #705

[Signature] #717

Chaogiang Chen #740

Bonam Iyer #712

Thanh Nguyen #706

[Signature] #731

Minh Do #706

[Signature] #731

[Signature] #718

[Signature] #724

Juvia Smith #718

[Signature] #717

[Signature] #741

[Signature] #723

Gata Beykin #741

[Signature] #742
Kelly Moore

Matalie Fisher #736
John K. Abraham #736