

From: Joseph Licari <licari.jm@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 17, 2014 2:36 PM
To: Penaranda, Elmer
Subject: Heron Bay - Proposed Modification of Planned Development 6/19/2014

Good Afternoon Elmer,

As a concerned citizen, yet avid supporter of actions which deter crime, I'd like to submit the following to the Planning Commission, Council, and other Representatives from the Police Department.

I first became aware of the notice this morning via a post on the private social network, Nextdoor.

The same information I've submitted below has also been posted for Nextdoor members to view at:
http://nextdoor.com/news_feed/?post=5323655

With that, please ensure that the parties mentioned above have the following information when deliberating the proposed changes to the planned development.

Kind Regards,

Joseph Licari
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Based on a post I read from the Manor East section, I took some time today to visit the area and gather some more information about this proposed modification of the Heron Bay Master Plan. The Planning Commission meeting is slated to be held on Thursday, June 19th @ 7:00 PM.

Agenda: <https://sanleandro.legistar.com/View.ash...>

The proposed gates and fencing includes construction of:

- 1) resident's vehicular and pedestrian gates measuring up to eight feet tall located on Bayfront Drive;
- 2) visitor's gates up to eight feet tall located on Anchorage Drive; and
- 3) fencing and gates up to seven feet tall for the open space at the northern entrance of the development, setback approximately 25 feet from the face of the curb of the Lewelling Boulevard circle

What's not listed on the agenda but is posted by the Heron Bay traffic circle is the addition of surveillance cameras. I also took note of a hand written sign stating "Bay Trail will be accessible to pedestrians and cyclists 24 hours per day"

Some things my fellow residents, council members, and planning commission members should consider include:

First and foremost; PUBLIC SAFETY

-There is currently only one primary entrance from Lewelling Blvd to the Heron Bay master planned community. Already a disadvantage for emergency vehicles such as police, medical, and fire.

-Even with the mandated electric key switch control stations and or other receiver system controlled by public safety radio systems this plan has a the propensity to adversely affect public safety response.

-Being that any evidence supporting a gated community is anecdotal and varies greatly, one must consider there is a propensity for this to have no effect on crime.

ANCILLARY Considerations, Misconceptions, and Opinion:

I urge residents to note the proven method to decrease crime is strong relationships within the community. That's what creates social cohesion... Visit with your neighbors, say hello, and learn their names. Society functions best when residents participate and share a sense of responsibility for their neighborhood. Thankfully, the majority of San Leandro Residents already have a sense of common good, genuine concern for other's welfare, and the resources we share as city residents.

-There is no concrete data that proves or disproves that gated communities or private fencing provides residents a higher level of security or decreased crime rates. (Note: a recent San Leandro car burglary took place in a gated community. The suspect was apprehended due to a citizen's observation and the swift response of the San Leandro Police Department <http://sanleandro.patch.com/groups/polic.....>)

-The integrity of a gated community is only as strong as the integrity of the residents within it. Again, I offer the repeating theme of social cohesion... it takes the effort of the residents to impact crime. Burglars and criminals are not restricted from living within a gated community, along with the fact their visitors are not restricted from visiting the same community. Consider some facts from our neighbors on the Peninsula, other East Bay communities, and even Southern California where there are documented cases of gang members using gated communities as a place to hide from police.

-One could draw the conclusion that this proposal resemble the citadels of the middle ages and medieval times. It may only be missing bastions and artillery fortification.

IN CLOSING; My observation about the Heron Bay Community:

There's a concept within planning I've come to know over the years... CPTED. That stands for Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design. Heron Bay Residents should take note of their community as they stroll and or drive through. It is, after all, a master planned community which has CPTED concepts throughout it.

None the less, the most important CPTED idea I would like to convey to each citizen within San Leandro is, it is you, the ordinary person, not the police, a gate, a fence, or other obstacle, that is the first line of defense against crime. If you see something or someone suspicious you should call the SLPD. In fact, I strongly suggest that you reach out to the SLPD for feedback on this issue. It will likely hinder their efforts as noted above.

Sadly, the proposed gates are only an illusion of added security. Again, the majority of San Leandro Residents already have a sense of common good, genuine concern for other's welfare, and the resources we share as city residents.

Stay together San Leandro.

J