



City of Sierra Madre

Office of the City Clerk

232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.,

Sierra Madre, CA

(626) 355-7135

THE BROWN ACT PROVIDES THE PUBLIC WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE PUBLIC COMMENTS AT ANY PUBLIC MEETING.

THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED IN ADVANCE OF THIS MEETING AND WILL BE POSTED ONTO THE CITY'S WEBSITE FOR PUBLIC ACCESS AND TRANSPARENCY.

THE COMMENTS ATTACHED ARE SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC. THE CITY DOES NOT CONFIRM THE VERACITY OF THE STATEMENTS PROVIDED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

Amber Carrillo

From: Catherine Adde [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 7, 2025 1:11 PM
To: Public Comment; Public Comment
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public comment to submit for the April 8th council meeting

CAUTION: This message is from an EXTERNAL SENDER - be CAUTIOUS, particularly with links and attachments.

To Esteemed city council and Mayor,

As upper canyon residents,
We respectfully request that the city public works or ? please schedule time to remove the burnt/charred debris behind and between our houses and the Mt Wilson trail that is on CITY property.

Thank you,
Catherine Adde
Skyland Drive
Neighbourhood watch upper canyon
Sierra Madre Library Trustee

Catherine Addé, MA, CTC
Certified Travel Counselor ®
[REDACTED] direct line
[626-795-0291](tel:626-795-0291) travel agency

Independent Affiliate
~ TravelStore Chairman's Club ~
www.travelstore.com/travel-experts/catherine-adde

TRAVELSTORE



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its content to any other person. Please consider your environmental responsibility before printing this email & any documents.



Amber Carrillo

From: Rambo [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 7, 2025 11:01 AM
To: Public Comment
Subject: [EXTERNAL] comment on Alverno review of conditional use permit 22-03

CAUTION: This message is from an EXTERNAL SENDER - be CAUTIOUS, particularly with links and attachments.

I, Careayre J Rambeau who lives one block below the campus of Alverno, wishes to express a **positive** toward the annual review of conditional use permit 22-03 for private rental event and filming at the villa del sol d'oro.

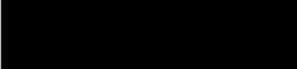
I support their use.

--



Rambo

Mission: Getting You Results.



Careayre J Rambeau
Dre# 01144785

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NOTICE TO PRINCIPLE IS NOTICE TO AGENT.
NOTICE TO AGENT IS NOTICE TO PRINCIPAL

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Amber Carrillo

From: Carolyn [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 7, 2025 9:04 PM
To: Public Comment
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Traffic on Michillinda after AHA events

CAUTION: This message is from an EXTERNAL SENDER - be CAUTIOUS, particularly with links and attachments.

Dear Members of Sierra Madre City Council,

First of all, thank you so much for remembering my mother's great friend and someone who knew me for 26 years, Lisa Spigai. Her memory is a blessing. It's been a deep loss for us.

Okay, so I come to visit my family who lives on Michillinda across the street from Alverno. I came before the fires, with my own family. On one particular night, October 12th, at around 10:10, we heard loud laughing and screaming across the street from our house. I looked through the window on Cartwright and saw many cars coming down Michillinda leaving the Michillinda gate exit at Alverno. My mom had gone up the street to visit a friend. I was really worried. I did not know who this group of young people were, however, they were loud. I could only imagine that they came out of Alverno. My mother and Mark later confirmed it. We couldn't sleep with the noise. My mom told me that many times this has happened when people coming from Alverno just park in front of her house and are loud. Why are you using Michillinda as an exit? My family can't sleep with the noise. One of my family members leaves for work early Sunday morning and hears the noise as well, making it difficult for him to sleep.

Alverno is not monitoring their guests. I guess they feel that after they leave they have nothing to do with them. Since alcohol is given at Alverno's events, are they being monitored so that they are even able to drive?

Please have them leave from another exit - you have two on the Sierra Madre side. I can't return here since the dump trucks are still traveling everyday with fire debri AND that Alverno makes it difficult to sleep when we come over. Give Michillinda a break.

Please fix this. I went to SME and my mom taught there for 23 years and just retired. We love Sierra Madre but not the noise generated by Alverno.

Dyani Halpern

Amber Carrillo

From: Will Serrano [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 7, 2025 10:26 PM
To: Public Comment
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda item Alverno CUP Villa review

CAUTION: This message is from an EXTERNAL SENDER - be CAUTIOUS, particularly with links and attachments.

Dear City Councilmembers and Mayor of Sierra Madre,

I'm writing to you tonight with a few concerns about the upcoming meeting regarding Alverno's Villa. My wife and I had to move temporarily due to the smoke and ash from the Eaton fire that damaged our home. We have not been home to experience any of the weddings at the Villa since January.

My wife was reading the agenda regarding the recent CUP meeting which we thought was a school meeting not a Villa meeting. We found it rich that Alverno families are being touted as our voices. My wife and I have been living on Grandview for a while now, and we've noticed that there are still a few issues with the events that are held there. Yet there's a couple who lives way down on Grandview who attended the last meeting and from what we understand always says Alverno can do no wrong. They do not understand what a CUP is and why neighbors are trying to hold Alverno to the rule. I hear they have family attending so it makes sense that they would say what they do but when it makes it into the agenda as us too, not cool. They don't speak for the rest of us who have been keeping logs, writing to the city, attending city meetings and trying to resolve issues with the filming and violations of the CUPs and city code. Residents, including some on Grandview have still complained about the noise and the crowds. That couple is not the voice of Grandview neighbors, and it's not fair to us to be lumped with the voices of Alverno supporters.

We do not have access to our notes but we did call twice when wedding music became obnoxiously loud. We can always tell when the doors are opened up now that we have had some closed door weddings. Night and day. The police said they had staff on site. Isn't this a conflict of interest to hire off duty police who have a clear relationship with the school?

We understand that the council is trying to help the residents. We think that the number of events should remain reduced. We counted around 20 events on the calendar, but we thought there were only 13. The changes are difficult to keep up with. We continue to ask that there be a limit on how many events can be held in any given month. Every weekend is too much no matter what month it is.

We are not the only Grandview neighbors who have seen people in the parking lot during non-school events playing basketball. According to the school CUP, there should be no basketballs in the parking lot at all and no Alverno supporter should be trying to say otherwise and call us liars. This is the same couple that let their dogs bark incessantly, home illegal squawking chickens that we can hear from the street (just like the basketball), and when the doors of the Villa are open during the DJ portion -- yet their opinions are being written up as the voice of Grandview neighbors? They do not speak for myself or any other Grandview neighbors or friends of ours. Alverno continues to twist the truth.

I hope that you'll consider our concerns when taking action to address the paid events. We really appreciate your time and effort in helping us out.

Thanks,
Speaking for myself and my family only
W. Serrano
Sierra Madre Resident

Amber Carrillo

From: Elie Halpern [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 8, 2025 12:16 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Meeting on review of Alverno's following codes

CAUTION: This message is from an EXTERNAL SENDER - be CAUTIOUS, particularly with links and attachments.

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,
I live on Michillinda across from Alverno. We still call it Alverno. I wanted to tell you that I hear the noise coming from Alverno when your guests leave from their Saturday events. I usually am watching tv the rest of the time - I love to watch Dateline - but turn off the tv to go to sleep at 9:00 pm. I am under the care of doctors at a hospital nearby. Bless them all. But the noise that school makes after 10 pm with their traffic and noisy patrons wakes me up and I already have a bad time falling asleep. It wakes up my dog, too.

Did we do something to upset you?
Because I know that my family member,

Carolyn Halpern, has been telling Alverno for years to use another street when the patrons leave. She has also been telling you folks and the folks on the planning commission. Why doesn't someone listen to us? Why doesn't Alverno watch their patrons leave and remind them to be quiet?

That school is already very noisy during the day. They seem to have something going on all of the time. My daughter went to LaSalle where they listened to the residents and resolved many problems with the city of Pasadena. Why can't you do that?

Why do we have to deal with their noise on a Saturday night as well? Make it stop. Please. So, my dog and I can get a good night's sleep.

Eli Halpern

Amber Carrillo

From: Leesa Bland [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 8, 2025 4:59 AM
To: Public Comment
Subject: [EXTERNAL] L. Puleo Public Comment - City Council Meeting April 8, 2025

CAUTION: This message is from an EXTERNAL SENDER - be CAUTIOUS, particularly with links and attachments.

Please submit the following public comment for tonight's Sierra Madre City Council Meeting item 2. 2025 SEMI-ANNUAL REVIEW OF CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT 22-03.

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

Alverno Heights Academy (AHA) has shown NO significant positive changes since the last CUP review, in fact, I believe their behavior has been more egregious than ever before!

I contacted AHA security on November 16, 2024 at 6:21 pm and September 21, 2024 at 7:41 pm, and the Sierra Madre Police Department on March 29, 2025 at 8:55 pm and March 22, 2025 at 8:35 pm and complained about excessive noise. The voice of the DJ, pounding bass, screams of the partygoers, toasts, speeches, and the words of every song were clearly audible from my home at each of these events. The Villa doors were open during these events which amplified the sound. Partygoers and wait staff continue to idle and park in front of my home on West Highland Avenue.

On January 17, 2025 AHA had a rental event when tap water was deemed potentially unsafe to drink and many residents had not returned to their homes after the mandatory evacuations. I observed outdoor fire torches at a Villa rental event on January 25, 2025; the Eaton Canyon fire was not contained until January 31, 2025. I was not home during any other rental event.

I observed AHA school children playing on the softball field on the afternoon of January 7, 2025. West Highland Avenue was evacuated on the evening of January 7, 2025 due to the Eaton Canyon Fire and air quality was poor throughout the day.

I am abhorred by AHA's lack of fire safety, concern for the health and welfare of their own students and our community, and respect for those who lost their lives and property in the Eaton Canyon fire. I am hopeful that the Council will see their blatant disregard for others during these challenging times as proof positive that they cannot be trusted and allowed any more rental events.

To my knowledge the last published calendar was from December 2024 and there are no current entries. AHA continues to have difficulties informing neighbors of rental events.

I refuse to attend AHA neighbor meetings because they are scheduled during my work day, my concerns are generally dismissed, minimized and ridiculous excuses are made by AHA staff and board members, and meeting notes provided to the Council do NOT accurately reflect discussions that have occurred. They are honestly a waste of my time and I believe other neighbors feel the same.

I am confident that other neighbors will provide compelling testimony tonight because, frankly, I don't have the energy to fight any longer. I will be putting my home on the market because of AHA's egregious and unlawful behavior and preventing the quiet and peaceful enjoyment of my home over the last TWO DECADES. Their influence over lawmakers, and disrespect of the people and the laws of my beloved hometown of Sierra Madre, has proved to be no match for me.

Regards,
Leesa Puleo

Amber Carrillo

From: Leesa Puleo [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 8, 2025 5:03 AM
To: Public Comment
Subject: [EXTERNAL] L. Puleo Public Comment - City Council Meeting April 8, 2025

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Regards,
Leesa Puleo

Amber Carrillo

From: K S [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 8, 2025 8:38 AM
To: Public Comment
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Alverno CUP item on CC meeting agenda April 8, 2025

CAUTION: This message is from an EXTERNAL SENDER - be CAUTIOUS, particularly with links and attachments.

Dear Sierra Madre City Council and Mayor Parkhurst,

Please accept the following email, which we sent to Alverno for the last CUP meeting. We were unable to attend in February due to being displaced from the wind and fire event of January 7, 2025. We are still not fully recovered from the event. We requested the meeting minutes but never received them from Alverno. After reviewing the city report for tonight, we feel disrespected as our concerns were dismissed and misrepresented to align with Alverno's agenda. To set the record straight:

We had to contact the police regarding one particular wedding that became excessively loud. We were told the doors were open so we referred them to the condition that says the Villa doors must be kept closed. Apparently, other neighbors had also made similar complaints so we assume they would be written up in the police or school reports. The noise subsided for us once the doors were closed, which was beneficial for our home and guests that night.

Violation of AHA CUP #11 is ongoing. There is no concrete sidewalk on Grandview Avenue just a dirt path. We have dates and evidence, along with other neighbors who witnessed basketball being played in the Michillinda parking lot—not on a non-existent sidewalk. We did reference a date of February 15 in our email because Alverno usually disputes or gaslights what we experience. We were outside assessing exterior damages to our home with our adjuster during the game. We can provide additional dates.

Similarly, we have evidence and dates of mid-day track use of the Michillinda parking lot, as well as time and date stamps can be obtained by our neighbors' security footage.

The city will not allow us to upload security footage or images that show why the noise alerted us to these events. Otherwise, you could verify the information for yourself. We are available at your convenience to show you the footage in person.

Our neighbors have a security camera in their tree pointing at the street and Alverno. We are sure they can provide video evidence along with our photo of a parent found sleeping in their car after morning drop-off on November 1, 2024. There is a police record of an officer responding to the scene and attempting to wake the individual.

We have several photographs, although the city will not accept them, of families using Grandview Avenue as their drop-off and pick-up location in front of our home.

We do not appreciate being maligned by the couple claiming to represent Grandview neighbors, nor Alverno, a Christian-based school, or their representatives. We just want Alverno to abide by their CUPs and stop making excuses or denying. Listen, correct and move on.

If Alverno is going to continue to misrepresent our truth and callously take advantage of our not personally being able to be in attendance due to being unhoused then we have no choice but to ask you deny their request for additional paid events. Sadly, we feel they still cannot be trusted.

Respectfully yours,
Mr. & Mrs. K Stephens

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Begin forwarded message:

From: K S [REDACTED]
Subject: Alverno Neighbor Meeting Concerns Thursday, February 27th at 5PM
Date: February 27, 2025 at 2:54:07 PM PST
To: facilities@alvernoheights.org
Cc: CLin@sierramadreca.gov, JReynoso@sierramadreca.gov, KKriebs@sierramadreca.gov

To be included for the record:

As we mentioned before, this date doesn't work for us. Our top priority right now is family and getting back into our home after damage from the Eaton fire and wind event.

****1. Ongoing Violation of Condition #11****

Student runners have been led out by staff to perform several laps around the parking lot in the middle of the school day. During numerous after-school and weekend school-related events, basketball has inevitably been played located in the northwest corner of the parking lot. A group was heard using the hoops as recently as Saturday the 15th.

2. Parents continue to park on Grandview Avenue to circumvent the pickup/drop-off line. Occasionally, they occupy a position directly in front of our residence. On one particular morning, we were compelled to contact the police because a guy was sleeping in his car. The parent decided to take a nap in their vehicle after dropping off their child. Could you give your parents room to park on campus?

3. Please speak with your gardeners/landscape manager. We trust that your gardeners are not being instructed to blow the dirt path as it is a nuisance. Also blowing trash left on the parkway into the street for neighbors to retrieve is not cool.
(see image) We happy to see they recently switched to electric blowers too.

4. We are delighted to learn that construction of the sport court building has commenced. Will the building still be situated at a lower elevation compared to the surrounding area?

5. 12/7 we woken up at 6:15AM to two trucks making snow. The trucks running, their snow machine made a loud ruckus for the next hour and the crew yelling to be heard over it. We

didn't appreciate finally having to call Ms. Bertollini and being told to wait it out. The snow took an hour to manufacture. She apologized for not giving the neighbors a heads up. We feel Alverno knew when they scheduled this vendor that it was too early therefore no warning was forthcoming.

The snow was a fun idea but we request scheduling vendors at a time that does not violate the noise code or hours. Alverno events can be scheduled later.

Please attach this email to the meeting minutes you submit ahead of the upcoming city meeting and send us a copy. We want to know what are Alverno's plans. Thank you.







Respectfully yours,
Mr. & Mrs. K Stephens

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message:

From: K S [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Alverno Neighbor Meeting Date Clarification - Thursday, February 27th at 5PM
Date: February 20, 2025 at 12:38:51 PM PST
To: Alverno <jharabedian@alvernoheights.org>
Cc: facilities@alvernoheights.org, Kelly Kriebs <kkriebs@cityofsierramadre.gov>, Gustavo Barrientos <gbarrientos@cityofsierramadre.gov>, Clare Lin <clin@cityofsierramadre.gov>

Dear Principal Harabedian,
We are writing to express our concern about the AHA neighborhood meeting you scheduled for February 27th. We have been displaced from our home due to the recent Eaton fire and wind events. We are unaware of a letter from AHA.

The notice period is quite short, and many of us in the area are still grappling with the aftermath of the recent fires. Our homes and families are our top priorities at the moment, and many neighbors are struggling to cope.

We kindly request your understanding and consideration in rescheduling this meeting. It would be greatly appreciated if you could find a more suitable time that would allow us to address our concerns effectively. Later in March would be appropriate given many of your neighbor's situations.

Let us know if you will consider what your neighbors are facing an reschedule with more time to plan on attending. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully yours,

Keith Stephens

cc:
Mayor and City Council
Hon. Chair and Planning Commissioners
Mr. Jose Reynoso, City Manager
Ms. Claire Lin, Planning Manager

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Respectfully yours,
Mr. & Mrs. K Stephens

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On Feb 18, 2025, at 8:38 AM, Andrea Bertollini
<abertollini@alvernoheights.org> wrote:

Hello, Neighbors,

It was brought to my attention that a typo was made in the letter for the neighbor meeting next week.

The neighbor meeting will be on Thursday, February 27th.

Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Have a blessed day,

To: Alverno Neighbors

From: Joanne Harabedian, Head of School

Subject: Annual Neighbor Meeting – Alverno Heights Academy

Dear Alverno Neighbors,

Alverno will be holding an annual neighbor meeting regarding the Master Plan and the Villa Rented Events. The meeting will be held on Thursday, February 27, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. in the school's Learning and Technology Center.

We request that you RSVP your attendance to Ms. Andrea Bertollini if you plan to attend the February 27th community meeting: Facilities@alvernoheights.org

cc: AHA Board of Trustees

Mayor and City Council

Hon. Chair and Planning Commissioners

Mr. Jose Reynoso, City Manager

Ms. Claire Lin, Planning Manager

Mr. Ted Tegart, Sierra Madre Filming Coordinator

Chief of Sierra Madre Police Department

Sincerely,

Andrea Bertollini '91

abertollini@alvernoheights.org

Direct Line: 626-826-9742

Facilities Director

Wedding, Events and Film Coordinator

Assistant for Development and Institutional Advancement

Amber Carrillo

From: La Simbiosis Nature School [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 8, 2025 8:49 AM
To: Public Comment
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item- Reopening of BCWP

CAUTION: This message is from an EXTERNAL SENDER - be CAUTIOUS, particularly with links and attachments.

Dear City Council,

I am unable to attend today's meeting. After talking with people from Sierra Madre's Community Service Dept, Public Works, Police Dispatch, and the US Forestry Dept about the reopening of the lower Bailey Canyon Wilderness Park, it seems that it's closure through the end of the year is completely unnecessary, and would like to request it's reopening to be considered as soon as the heavy rains end.

A couple of trees that fell during the Eaton Fires will need to be moved. Beyond that, the damage is minimal. (I am a member of SMEAC and will be happy to help with park restoration.) The park does not fall under the US Forestry Dept jurisdiction, which is under the federally mandated closure, but under Sierra Madre's Public Works Dept. The park can be easily contained if the rotary gate gets locked. Could we please aim to reopen the park this summer?

Thank you for your time and consideration!

Sincerely,

Kylie Takashima

--

LA SIMBIOSIS NATURE SCHOOL

Amber Carrillo

From: Martin Ericks [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 8, 2025 12:47 PM
To: Public Comment
Subject: [EXTERNAL] PRIVATE RENTAL EVENTS AND FILMING AT THE VILLA DEL SOL D'ORO
2025 SEMI-ANNUAL REVIEW OF CUP 22-03(CUP 22-03)

CAUTION: This message is from an EXTERNAL SENDER - be CAUTIOUS, particularly with links and attachments.

Dear City Council,

These reviews come up quite frequently. I do not feel an increase in the events is warranted. We have visited our friends on Grandview, Wilson, Michillinda and Highland during some of the intrusive past pre-fire paid events. The other 3 streets are more impacted than Grandview because the events are usually (but not always) facing them. It's not that we don't hear them, it's that my home is not as bad as my friends have it.

I tried to call about a wedding prior to 2025. I was told security was already on the complaint. They knew the doors were being left open and requested closure. Lights in the parking lot remain on past 10. The condition regarding lights makes it difficult to determine if it is the staff (and there seems to be a lot after 10), includes guests too. Trash is not being picked up with regularity along Grandview Avenue. I have found cocktail napkins, beer cans, etc. that were not there prior to events. The rental trucks seem to be coming more on Sundays. Even when there is nothing special noted on the Monday school calendar.

It's going around that Alverno is reporting that Grandview neighbors are fawning over the school and the events. That was not me and would like to protest this blatant misrepresentation. I have been very involved with fire recovery so I have not been around for the latest weddings.

And to top it off I could not even get in to see what damage my home sustained in January while the mountains still burned yet Alverno had several open flame fires burning! Tone deaf. I do not feel an increase in the events is warranted.

Sincerely,

Martin Ericks
Sierra Madre resident

Amber Carrillo

From: Carolyn [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, April 8, 2025 2:16 PM
To: Public Comment
Subject: [EXTERNAL] City Council meeting April 8th

CAUTION: This message is from an EXTERNAL SENDER - be CAUTIOUS, particularly with links and attachments.

April 8, 2025

Dear Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council,

I live on Michillinda in Pasadena, across from Alverno. I am asking you not to allow Alverno to have any more events than the 20 they already have. I was quite surprised that they were given 20 when we have been writing to the City Council as well as the Planning Commission about the noise, late leaving from the gates on Michillinda, and the parking in front of our home for partygoers who want to continue to party or wait for a ride.

I want to state that on October 12th, I received a call from Carolyn Halpern, to walk her home after visiting our neighbor, Chui Chow who lives right across from the Alverno gate on Michillinda. The first thing that I noticed walking up the street was the noise from the partygoers who were still screaming on the campus while getting into their cars. Carolyn was coming out of the house before 10 pm. We watched that the gates were not closed at 10 pm but after. Carolyn called the SMPD to let them know that the gates were not locked as well as there was no person at the gates. We also noticed a group of kids who were very loud and who had parked in front of our neighbor's house to continue the party. That neighbor was not in town at the time. The noise from the partygoers was so loud that someone in our home called the Pasadena police since they could not sleep.

We just waited and finally someone came to lock the chain gate around 10:10 or later. I told Carolyn not to say anything to him but she did anyway. She yelled out that the gate was supposed to be closed by 10:00 pm. He yelled back "Right?".

It has been my understanding the the gates are locked by 10:00 pm. All of the patrons had not even left at that time. Many times, after patrons leave the parties,

and some speed away, we are left with them in front of our house or our neighbors' homes. They continue to party or wait for an Uber or someone to pick them up.

I work early on Sunday mornings. The noise coming from AHA prevents me from getting a good night's sleep in order to get up and work on my feet all day.

It is my understanding that Alverno has violated a code section or more than one. Also, we would like to see another street used for the exits of patrons other than Michillinda. You can use your Wilson or Highland.

Please consider the neighbors, even those of us on Pasadena when making any decisions for AHA's constant weekend events. Do not give them anymore events than the 20 they already have.

Yours truly,
Mark Fleischman
Michillinda
Pasadena

Amber Carrillo

From: Carolyn [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 8, 2025 2:22 PM
To: Public Comment
Subject: [EXTERNAL] City Council Meeting April 8th -hopefully the photos will come out with the email; otherwise we actually turned in a copy of this letter to Laura

CAUTION: This message is from an EXTERNAL SENDER - be CAUTIOUS, particularly with links and attachments.

Dear Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council,

First, I want to thank you for recognizing my very dear friend, Lisa Spigai, who passed away last October. She was both a great friend and colleague at SME. She was the soul of the school.

I live on Michillinda across from Alverno. I have lived in this generational home since 1956.

I will be addressing the meeting tonight but going as fast as I can in order to get to most of the salient points. I can go into more depth here in this letter.

My understanding is that this is a review of AHA regarding the Villa events, seeing if there are any violations, checking if they been working with neighbors, and whether or not you will allow them 6 more events for a total of 26. I have found numerous violations. They have not been working with neighbors. Therefore, I would not give AHA any more events than they already have.

I attended the neighbor's meeting on February 27th via Zoom. I also recorded it. I went through all of the paperwork submitted, have kept my own log, taken photos, and literally observed with others, some of AHA's behavior, which I submit to you as evidence . First of all, there was some disconnect from the authors of the documents turned in. Information varied and changed. Many documents turned into you were incorrectly done so I had to do some tidying up to get to my own results.

My findings are that AHA has violated some of the actual code sections. They have not worked to mitigate neighbors's concerns. Frankly, they still do not care about what the neighbors think or say and gaslight the Sierra Madre city government into thinking

otherwise. Since they have been given chance after chance after chance to get it right, and it still isn't right, do NOT allow them any more Villa events.

Therefore, I tasked myself to go through all documents submitted to the City Council, go through my own notes, my telephone calls, and read every Event checklist. I also included things that I personally witnessed. You should be receiving other letters from residents stating the same incidents.

I have spent numerous hours reconciling all evidence given, seen or reported. There were 11 events from October 1st until March 29th; not 7 or 10 as reported in some of the documents.

I have not seen any remediation or an mitigation of neighbors' concerns taken place by AHA for anything. Their gates are still not locked at 10:00 according to code. They still have very very rowdy party goers leaving their gate on Michillinda, waking us up. These type of complaints have been brought up repeatedly year after year, yet the city government, both city council and planning, continue to give AHA chances, listening to their gaslighting and excuses, adding events to their rosters, and turning a blind eye to the concerns of neighbors, not only in Sierra Madre, but to Pasadena residents as well.

I met with a former trustee of LaSalle, where my daughter went to school. He told me that during his tenure, they sat down with Pasadena and Sierra Madre residents who were upset with issues from LaSalle. Along with the City of Pasadena, they implemented measures to remove many of them. That is mediation and mitigation. AHA has done none of that.

I found the following violations

2.2.4 Only the event monitor, AHA representative, and security guards shall remain on campus past 10:00 pm.

On 10-12, I was up the street at Chui Chow's home. Her house is right across from AHA's Michillinda gates. All of a sudden around 9:50 pm, not only did we hear a lot of noise but blinding light was coming from the glass in her front door. We walked outside to see that very raucous groups of people were leaving from AHA. Party participants were still leaving after 10:00 since the gates were not locked. I called the SMP at 10:05. We didn't even see someone come to lock the gate. Finally, around 10:10-10:15 the gate was locked after numerous partygoers were still leaving after 10. These were not security or AHA reps, they were party goers. I even yelled out to the gate locker that the gate was supposed to be locked by 10:00 and he said "Right?"

He left later in a car driven by a woman who had been waiting for him on Michillinda (AHA side).

We noticed that one group of loud partygoers (and alcohol was used at this party) after exiting the gate, parked on Michillinda and Cartwright continuing their party there, very loudly. This lasted for a good 10-15 minutes until someone came to pick up one of the people.

This happens a great deal, where, since Michillinda is the only exit being used for the parties, that people pull to the side in front of our homes on Michillinda and continue to party, or wait for an Uber, or cab, or their mommy. Pasadena Police are aware of this and told me to log down the times this is happening.

Fabrication of form from 10-12-24

Now, further with this after 10 pm business, if you look at the event checklist from 10-12, the monitor states that the gate was closed at 10:00. It was not and I observed that myself. It was also observed by two other people. It was also written into the event checklist that at 10pm, "guests were already outside the property." No, they were not. Guests were still leaving and in fact, one group pulled to the side of Michillinda and stopped to continue the party, in a very loud and raucous manner.

My concern is that if this event checklist was fabricated, how many other times might it have been fabricated? I'm actually confused as why the monitor would write down that he closed the gates at 10:00 when there were literally people actually out there to see that he did not.

There was only one event where the monitor who wrote down that the gate was closed after 10:00. He did write down that the gate was closed at 10:07 on 11/2. So, almost 20% of the time, the gate was not closed at 10:00 pm according to the CUP.

We went to great lengths at meetings to get this time approved by AHA for the closure of the gate. We had asked for an earlier time for guests to leave but AHA did not agree with us, and thus, the later time was given to them. It has been emphasized numerous times that all are out and gate is locked at 10 pm. This was not followed in two incidences that we can confirm.

Using only Michillinda as the exit for partygoers after an event has got to stop.

Complaints that Michillinda is the only exit used by partygoers has gone on for quite a while. I do not understand why Michillinda is the ONLY EXIT used in the Traffic and Management Plan, despite citizen's request to either rotate or not use Michillinda.

When I brought this up at the neighbor's meeting on 2/27 Mr. Farfsing stated that they are following the CUP. Andrea said that Michillinda is a public street. That is true but so are Highland and Wilson. This would have been a perfect time to not get defensive as AHA did, but to try and listen to neighbors and work this out. I see in Harabedian's letter dated 3/31/2025 that she is willing to work with a rotation of streets to use the exit. I am not interested in a rotation. I do not want Michillinda used. We have had enough.

I think that the real issue here is that all streets surrounding Alverno have been unduly burdened for such a small school with parent traffic, filming, evening events, and afterschool events, that we have all just HAD IT!

Harabedian is only asking now for a rotation of streets? AHA knew full well that neighbors have been complaining about this for quite a while -for years, even. I looked at the various letters from the public. How come this has not been changed? If AHA themselves had lead the charge on this, the neighbors on Michillinda would have been much happier.

I request that Michillinda is taken out of the loop for the exit of partygoers and that Highland and Wilson are used only. Michillinda is already heavily used by AHA. During the day, the parents turn it into a parking lot. They start parking there at 2:30 waiting in line. They still park on the red zones, making it very difficult for cars coming out from Highland to see. I think that it is time to use Sierra Madre streets for the exit of the AHA partygoers.

Violations I have witnessed of the Second Amendment to CUP 22-03

Violation of 2.2.4 - Only the event

Monitor, AHA representatives, and security guards shall remain on campus past 10pm and are exempted from these time restrictions-

Violation evidenced by October 12th, by actual observance and photos.

Violation of 3.8 The Villa is in a residential area and guests should minimize noise and conversations while leaving the premises.

October 12th incident for sure. Evidence actual observance and photos.

Violation of 5.5 under Traffic and Parking

. Guests will be instructed to quietly and slowly exit via the Michillinda Avenue exit. Violation evidenced by observation on October 12th and other evenings. A speed monitor had to be placed outside of my home by Pasadena police to remind them to stop speeding.

Violation of 5.6

The Applicant and Property Owner shall install signs placed in conspicuous onsite locations (i.e., near entrances and exits to the Villa, near vehicular entrances and exits, and adjacent to Alverno Heights Academy parking lots), instructing event guests:

5.6.1 To quietly and slowly exit via the Michillinda exit.

5.6.2 The Villa is in a residential area and guests should take care not to speed.

5.6.3 The Villa is in a residential area and guests should minimize noise.

Signage for Partygoers???

It also states that AHA tells partygoers that this is a residence and that they should have signage up for this. I have never seen the signage. Violation as I have never seen the signs. Guests leave in the evening and after alcohol has been given. You need more than signage to get them to slow down, and be quiet. Pasadena police have been notified about the continuing of the Alverno event parties along the Pasadena side of Michillinda.

Noise reports-

The amount of noise related complaints that the SMPD received is more than they put in the report. I know this because it was my own calls that were not in the report. I have phone records of the times I called plus the number of the complaints.

It is noted that there are 4 noise related calls in the document page under Findings, in what is presented to you tonight. That number is incorrect.

The dates in bold are from the Findings page. Those dates in *Italic* have been omitted.

October 12th - 2

November 2 - 6:19 Highland and Michillinda

November 2 - 7:16 Cartwright and Michillinda (my call to the police)

7:19 call to Andrea; although it is stated in the notes that she did not received any complaints, my records show otherwise, She did not pick up nor call me back.

November 16 - lower bass (went to Security) in the event monitor checklist

March 22 -1

March 29th - screaming from AHA; called in at 8:33pm to police (2503290025)

So, actually there were at least 7 complaints about the noise. As you can see, complaints to the police can get omitted by the checklists as in my case. If this happened to me, can there be others?

Finally, here is a picture of our mountains on fire on January 7, 2025. About 80 houses burned down in Upper Hastings Ranch. You were affected as well. We all pray for Altadena. Take a look. Horrible. Right?





So, on January 25th during the wedding taking place, AHA put up torches to keep the guests warm while out on the patio area. Really? Not a code violation but how crazy is this? By the way, our Pasadena fire department talked to me one day about the unkept lawn/weed area outside of the Villa and the numerous highly flammable plants on Michillinda. Why would they do this just after having the worse fire in the history of Southern California literally in our backyard? Because they do not care about anyone but themselves.

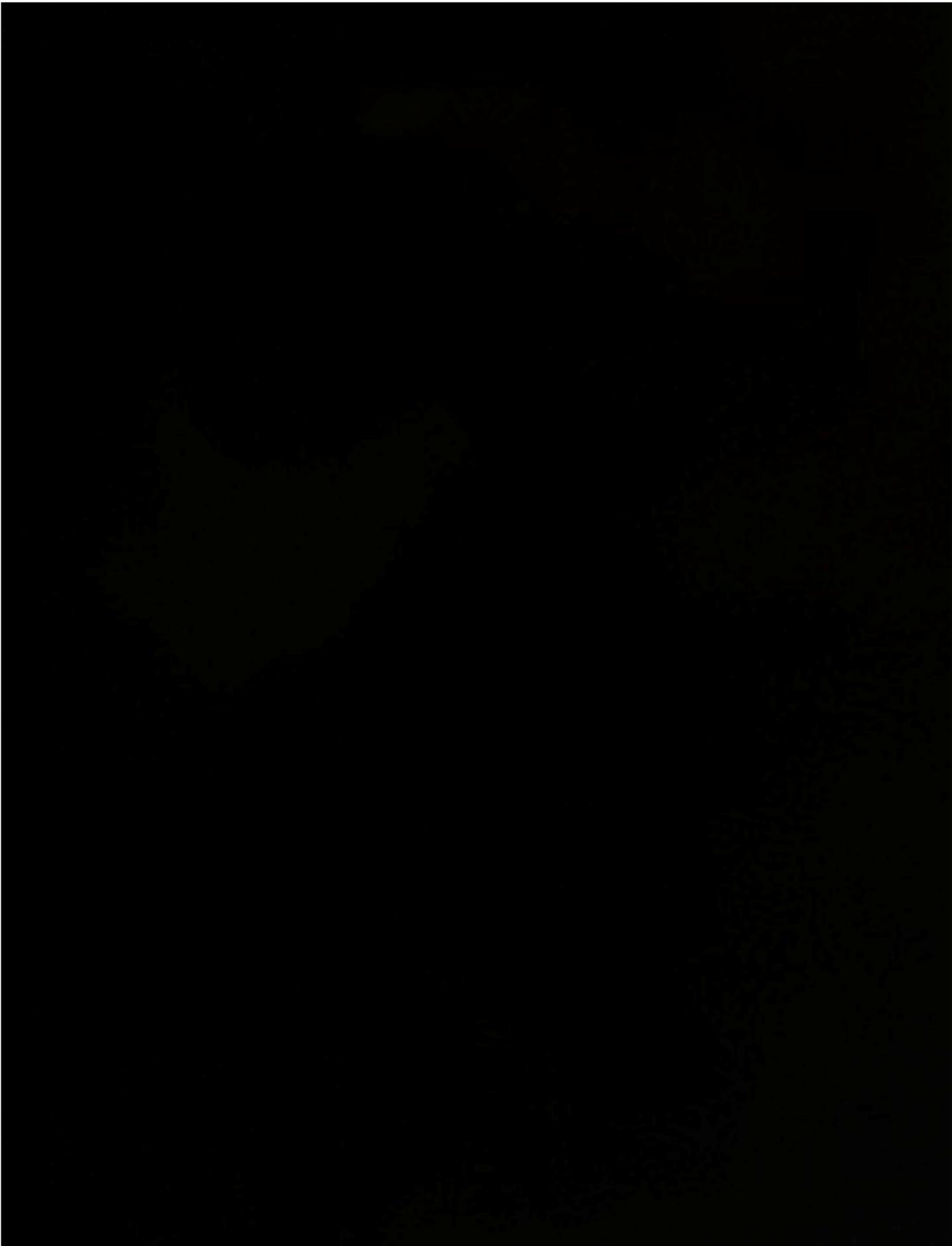
I hope that you will see that Alverno has been given many many chances to get their act together. And why? Why are they allowed all of these chances? Gates still unlocked, noise is out of control leaving the exit on Michillinda, numerous complaints about the music and screaming. You are taking away our right to have a quiet and enjoyable Saturday night in my home and other homes surrounding Alverno. A leopard does not change its spots. Do not give them any more events.

Thank you for the opportunity to give you this information and for you to listen to it while you make your decision. Again, the Michillinda neighbors are not wanting any more events for AHA>

Yours truly,

Carolyn Halpern
Michillinda
Pasadena

Bright lights from cars coming out of Alverno gates that shine in a neighbor's home



Partygoers who park along Michillinda after the party and who are loud

