

City of Merced Planning Commission

General Plan Amendment #24 – 02

March 18, 2025

To whom it may concern,

I want to go on record as saying that I am in support of this project but I believe there are some unanswered questions and some items that need to be addressed before moving forward. The current project as submitted should be in no way be approved by the planning commission. To move forward and adopt this zoning change as it is submitted would be a detriment to the surrounding communities to the south and east.

As a current resident of Oakmont Village #8 the lots in this area range from 8,025 square feet to the largest one being 15,692 square feet. There are only single story homes in this development. This project states that lots 1 thru 17 will be single or two story homes and that lots 18-41 will be 2 story homes. This project should not be allowed to build two story homes on lots 1 thru 17 that back up to existing single story R-1-6 low density residential lots.

As seen on Attachment E the color map dated 4/30/24 they clearly show a greenbelt of landscape with trees around the entire project with the exception of lots 18 and 19 that would be two story homes and back up to Parsons Avenue. Their map clearly shows the fence line backing up to the sidewalk. The rear setback for these two lots would be 5 feet. That means that the continuous greenbelt with trees would not be there and a two story home would be 5 feet from the sidewalk. Currently there is a in ground concrete box for street lighting and one labeled electric. In order to main optimum public standards I believe they should have to conform to what the subdivisions closest to them have done in the past and maintain a continuous green belt. On the color map it shows a green belt all the way around the two projects. The storage units do address in writing the required landscaping that the developer would have to adhere to. The

residential area does not address in writing exactly what they would or would not be providing as far as landscaping and if they are planning to keep the 25 redwood trees between this project and Oakmont Village #8. This creates a very grey area that could be construed as deceptive.

In the description of the project they state they will put in a 12 to 14 foot high block wall between the residential lots and the storage units and also between the resident to the east. No where do they address any possible changes in the rear fence between the homes to the south.

I would love to see the size of these lots be increased and the number of lots decreased to allow for a more harmonious transition between the two developments. This developer needs to work with the surrounding residents and make concessions that will for all parties involved.

Janet L. Wainwright