

October 3, 1999

Plan

OCT 18 1999

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

San Ramon Planning Commission
Donna Kerger, Chairperson
Mssrs. Livingstone, Sabye, Fahey, and DiGeronimo Commissioners
2226 Camino Ramon
San Ramon, CA 94583

Subject: Opposition to proposed working cemetery in the Bent Creek area of San Ramon

Dear San Ramon Planning Commission: Donna Kerger, Chairperson,
Mssrs, Livingstone, Sabye, Fahey and DiGeronimo Commissioners:

We are writing to express our strong opposition to the proposed working cemetery within the city limits of San Ramon, specifically the 134 acre site owned by Davidon Homes behind the Old Ranch Estates in the Bent Creek area of San Ramon.

We would like to reiterate that the San Ramon Zoning Ordinance currently does not allow for cemeteries anywhere within the City limits. Because it isn't considered an allowable "commercial use" within the Zoning District, it's currently against the law to build or operate a cemetery in the City. However, we are also fully aware of the effort to propose/create a "text amendment" to the City's Zoning Ordinance to include within the definition of an "Agricultural Zone" the addition of "Cemetery" to the list of commercial uses, which can be permitted subject to a use permit. Bottomline, this 'text amendment' will allow the City Council, *at some point in the future*, to explore granting a use permit to operate a cemetery within the City's Agriculture Districts without requiring a vote by the residents of the City. The "Applicant" for this requested action just happens to be Davidon Homes, who just happens to own 134 acres of rolling hills in our backyards currently zoned "Agricultural District."

As mentioned, we are writing to oppose the development of any cemetery within the city limits of San Ramon, agricultural district or not. We are also very appalled and disgusted at the legal tactics that the Planning Commission and Davidon Homes are involved in to maneuver themselves around the current laws that prohibit cemeteries anywhere within the City limits. The neighborhoods within the Bent Creek area are all strong family neighborhoods within the City limits of San Ramon. Many of us had chosen this city and these fine neighborhoods to raise our young families given the reputation of the city and the neighborhoods within the Bent Creek area. The possibility of a cemetery within the city limits and around our neighborhoods is very distressing as it associate a terrible stigma to our Bent Creek neighborhoods. Given the choice, most people would not live near a cemetery and would avoid it at all cost. This is especially true in our cultures, where it is considered bad luck to live by a cemetery. One buying a home should never invest in an area where a cemetery exists. It's considered "bad" and one should live as far away from it as possible!! When we bought our home over a year and a half ago, there was no disclosure of a possible cemetery around our neighborhoods. If there was even a possible inkling of this, we would not have chosen San Ramon and the Bent Creek area to invest in our home as well as start and raise our young family.

Please take into consideration our feedback as well as our strong opposition to the possibility of a cemetery existing within the San Ramon city limits, especially around the Bent Creek area. Regardless of whatever legal tactics and maneuvers are in process, the bottom line is very simple:

LATE COMMUNICATION # 1
AGENDA # 8.1 P.C. MTG. 10-19-99
AK
REC'D BY

NO CEMETERY WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF SAN RAMON, ESPECIALLY WITHIN THE BENT CREEK AREA!!!

Thank you for reading this letter and considering our feedback.

Regards,



Doris Wong and Mark Lagarejos
808 Amberwood Way
San Ramon, CA 94583
(925) 551-7678

cc: Charlie Mullen, Associate Planner
Phil Wong, City Planning Director
Herb Moniz, City Manager
Byron Athan, Mayor, City Council
Curt Kinney, Vice-Mayor, City Council
Dave Husdon, Council Member, City Council
Ron Raab, Council Member, City Council
Hermann Weim, Council Member, City Council

October 14, 1999

OCT 18 1999

Mr. Charlie Mullen & Planning Commissioners
Associate Planner
City of San Ramon
2226 Camino Ramon
San Ramon, CA 94583

PLANNING SERVICES

Dear Mr. Mullen:

I am writing to you to voice my concern regarding the proposed "text amendment" to allow the building of a Cemetery off of Old Ranch Road next to Old Ranch Estates.

I have lived in San Ramon for over ten years and I currently live in the Royal Vista Country Club section of San Ramon. Approximately five years ago, I was looking at the Old Ranch Estates model homes and I specifically asked (more than one individual in the sales office) about the open space as shown in their brochures and development model. The builder's representatives assured me that nothing would be built on that open space, and that it would remain undeveloped as presented. As it happened, we did not purchase in this development. Although, I feel if this text amendment is approved, the citizens of San Ramon have been cheated and deceived. This is truly wrong to allow developers to deceive potential buyers.

I request that you protect my rights as a citizen of San Ramon and deny the request for a text amendment for development of a cemetery in this regard. If you have any questions, I can be reached at 829-1637. Please keep me apprised of the progress in this case. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Jan Desmarais
114 Medinah Place
San Ramon, CA 94583

LATE COMMUNICATION # 2
AGENDA # 8.1 P.C. MTG. 10-19-99


REC'D BY

10/18/99

Charlie Mullen
Associate Planner
City Planning Commission
San Ramon, CA 94583

Dear Charlie Mullen,

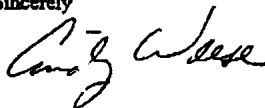
Thank you for returning my call this morning. As indicated, I am forwarding my thoughts on the proposal for the Text Amendment to the Agricultural District Zoning Ordinance to add cemetery to the list of commercial uses.

As a residence of the Bent Creek area, I am very disappointed in the city of San Ramon and its officials for entertaining this proposal. I feel that it is an abuse of power for city officials to consider this proposal because of the personal loss of one of their members children. I am very sorry for their loss, but it is most inappropriate to impose their feelings because of their misfortune and unfortunate life experiences on others in the community. I realize that one can easily get caught up in the problems in their lives, but government officials must be especially careful not to let those circumstances govern their actions to the extent that it negatively impacts the constituents in their community.

I would ask the city planning commission to be aware that the residence of this area fully understand that this text amendment is to make way for a cemetery on the property owned by Davidon Homes. Especially given that this is the only property left in the San Ramon district zoned for agricultural use. Therefore the plans for use of this property are quite obvious.


Placing a cemetery in this area would only serve as a daily reminder to the citizens of our community of sad events in our lives, increase traffic with the daily barrage of funeral processions through our residential community. It is one thing for a residential community to build up around a cemetery, because the home buyers moving into the area do so with their eyes open. But do not abuse the trust we place with you and allow the placement of such a sad reminder on an already established residential community. These plans were not disclosed to us when buying our homes and would certainly not be a positive addition. We will not be fooled into thinking that this will supply a service to our lives. Certainly it may supply a service to those not living in the area, but will only be a daily disruption for those who live directly around this type of operation (both physically and mentally). It is a known fact that residential areas with cemeteries close by do not command the price of comparable homes without a cemetery in their proximity. This proposal will hurt our property values, be a daily sad reminder and disruption and the residence of this community will not stand for it!

Sincerely



Cindy Weese
801 Springbrook Dr.
San Ramon, CA 94583

(925) 828-8311

LATE COMMUNICATION # 3
AGENDA # 8.1 P.C. MTG. 10-19-99

REC'D BY

TOTAL P.02

Mullen, Charlie

From: Jack Saada [jsaada@lucent.com]
Sent: Monday, October 18, 1999 11:18 AM
To: cmullen@ci.san-ramon.ca.us; dsteinbrenner@ci.san-ramon.ca.us
Cc: pwong@ci.san-ramon.ca.us; bathansr@prodigy.net; ckinney@ci.san-ramon.ca.us; dhudson@ci.san-ramon.ca.us; rraab@ci.san-ramon.ca.us; hwelm@ci.san-ramon.ca.us
Subject: No Cemetery Please!!

Mr. Charlie Mullen, and other staff of the San Ramon planning commission,

I am writing this letter in reference to TA-99-001 & IS-99-011 Agricultural District Text Amendment.

As San Ramon residents who live in Old Ranch Estates at a very close proximity to this proposed cemetery, my family and I are appalled that anyone who has the interests of San Ramon citizens in mind, would propose putting a cemetery in the middle of an established neighborhood. The idea defies all logic and is totally insensitive to the needs and desires of the community.

In our September 7 meeting much was said by that this was "only a text amendment" and that "don't worry, the cemetery at Old Ranch still will need a permit" and that "there is no project being proposed yet" and so on. Well, I don't know of any other land within the city limits that would fall under this text amendment. Let's face it, this text amendment is specifically proposed for the Davidon lot at Old Ranch.

This will simply ruin our beautiful neighborhood. Let's not talk about declining property values here (which, by the way, is certain to happen) but that a working cemetery will change the character of the city for the worse, it will ruin San Ramon's fine reputation and its construction will irritate and disgruntle the citizens and affect our lives in many negative ways.

A working cemetery within the city limits? Why? Why turn San Ramon into another Colma? Does the city of San Ramon have a dire need for a cemetery? We are not talking about a park, a community center, a church or place of worship, a YMCA center, etcetera. This will be a working cemetery, right in the middle of the city, at a very prominent location, and built against the will of the residents.

Dear Mr. Mullen, I totally disagree with your "Summary Statement". Are you serious when you say "a unique and beneficial use...", "compatibility with the surrounding neighborhoods...", "a low impact, aesthetically pleasant use of this land..."? I don't know of anyone who wishes to live next to a cemetery and I am yet to find a person who agrees with your statement.

I also disagree with your "Negative Declaration". A slew of problems will arise from this cemetery, including but not limited to traffic problems on Alcosta Boulevard and Old Ranch Drive from funeral processions, a negative aesthetic effect, vandalism and loiter, health concerns, having to raise our children next to a cemetery, a crematory 650 feet away from someone's house, a certain decline in property values, and the list can go on and on.

We moved from DC area (Maryland to be exact) to San Ramon in January 1998 and we just bought our house about two months ago. We chose San Ramon because of its perceived reputation for being family-friendly and a great place for raising a family. It is sad sad to say that we are regretting our decision and that we are very disappointed with these latest developments. ⁴ If we had a choice today, we would have chosen another bay area locality. AGENDA # 8.1 P.C. MTG. 10-19-99

NA
1 REC'D BY

Mullen, Charlie

From: Jack Saada [jsaada@lucent.com]
Sent: Monday, October 18, 1999 1:37 PM
To: pwong@ci.san-ramon.ca.us; bathansr@prodigy.net; ckinney@ci.san-ramon.ca.us;
dhudson@ci.san-ramon.ca.us; rraab@ci.san-ramon.ca.us; hwelm@ci.san-ramon.ca.us
Cc: cmullen@ci.san-ramon.ca.us; dsteinbrenner@ci.san-ramon.ca.us
Subject: Please say no to a Cemetery in San Ramon

Folks,

I have already copied you on the lengthy Email I sent to Mr. Charlie Mullen and San Ramon Planning Commission members about my opposition to TA-99-001 & IS-99-011 Agricultural District Text Amendment.

As a very concerned and extremely alarmed resident of San Ramon, I would like to re-iterate my opposition to a working cemetery within our city limits.

Putting a cemetery in the middle of an established neighborhood just does not make sense. This will affect our lives in many negative ways. Do we really have such a dire need for a cemetery? Are we doing this for the sake of other East Bay localities? There are many suitable unincorporated areas around San Ramon where a comprehensive plan for a cemetery makes a lot of sense.

To be honest I am very unhappy about these latest developments. I am not a long-time resident. We moved from Maryland to San Ramon in January 1998 and we just bought our house a short while back. We chose San Ramon because of its reputation for being family-friendly and as a great place for raising our sons. It is sad to say that we are regretting our decision to settle in San Ramon. If we had a choice today, we would have chosen another bay area locality. Believe me when I say that all of my neighbors share my point of view on this issue. I am yet to find anyone who doesn't oppose this proposal vehemently.

I am not here to make any personal attacks on anyone and I regret it when I see other people do it.


We as the residents are speaking out and we will do our best to stop this matter at the planning commission. This amendment should not make it to the City Council, but if it does, I would like to ask the members to do the sensible thing and vote NO on the cemetery question.

Yours,
Jack Saada
612 Bancroft Place
San Ramon, CA 94583
925/875-1707

LUCENT TECHNOLOGIES

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Senior Hardware Engineer
InterNetworking Systems 1701 Harbor Bay Parkway
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http://www.lucnet.com
Phone: (510) 747-6652

LATE COMMUNICATION # 5
AGENDA # 8.1 P.C. MTG. 10-19-99


REC'D BY

Wong, Phil

From: tswaka@pacbell.net
Sent: Friday, October 15, 1999 12:52 AM
To: bathansr@prodigy.net; pwong@ci.san-ramon.ca.us; dhudson@ci.san-ramon.ca.us; hwelm@ci.san-ramon.ca.us; rraab@ci.san-ramon.ca.us
Subject: No Cemetery

We want to voice our **strong** opposition to the Text amendment which would include cemetery (TA-99-001). We can not believe that San Ramon Planning Commission is seriously considering to allow a cemetery to be built so close to an established residential neighborhood. Also, we are very disappointed that the city of San Ramon had no plans to notify the residents of this Text Amendment. We live less than 1/4 mile from the proposed site. As a taxpayer, we have the right to know about such things that could affect the value of our homes and our daily lives. Why were we not notified?

We moved to 205 Blackthorn Ct. three years ago to raise our two young children because San Ramon is a family oriented community. If we knew there was a slightest chance that a cemetery could be built so close to our neighborhood, we would have **NEVER** moved here! It is one thing if the residents bought their homes knowing that the cemetery can be built one day, but to re-zone to include a cemetery **AFTER** the residents have all moved in, that is a crime. This is not the environment we would like our children growing up in. We don't want to be reminded of death every day we step outside our home. We don't want to see hearses driving up and down our neighborhood. We don't want funeral processions going through our neighborhood. We don't want to see people being buried when we are having birthday parties for our children in our backyards!

Any average person can figure out; the property values in the area will drop drastically if the Text Amendment is passed. Just the word cemetery will lose curve appeal. Please vote No.

Ted Wakamiya
Sally G. Joe-Wakamiya

LATE COMMUNICATION # 6
AGENDA # 8.1 P.C. MTG. 10-19-99

REC'D BY

10/18/99

Wong, Phil

From: Neil K. Jablon [njablon@attglobal.net]
Sent: Sunday, October 17, 1999 11:13 PM
To: Athan, Byron; Kinney, Curt; Hudson, Dave; Raab, Ron; Welm, Herman; Wong, Phil
Subject: NO on cemetery!

Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council, and Planning Director,

As residents of Old Ranch Estates since January 1993, we strongly oppose modifying the Agricultural District Zoning Ordinance to add "cemetery" to the list of commercial uses permitted for the open space owned by Davdon Homes next to the Old Ranch Estates. Succinctly, we don't want a cemetery to ever exist in our backyard!

We were originally attracted to Old Ranch Estates in large part because of the more spacious feeling of this development and the land surrounding it. During the home buying process, we asked about the hilltop space surrounding the development, and were told that it would remain as open space. Had we known that there was any serious possibility of this space being developed into a cemetery, we certainly would not have paid a premium to buy our home in this development.

In effect, we feel that the developer's promise of this space being kept undeveloped is being broken, with the consequences being paid by the residents of Old Ranch Estates and other surrounding developments (rather than by the developer -- who presumably has already locked in a healthy profit -- and the City of San Ramon). These consequences would be in terms of reduced quality of life (less open space, more crowded and commercial feeling, etc.) and reduced property values. Furthermore, daily viewing of a cemetery conveys very disturbing qualities on a personal level for ourselves and our child.

However, sadly, San Ramon's reputation as a city would also suffer, as word got around that the city supported the absurd notion of placing a cemetery next to one of its newest large neighborhoods, after everyone had already settled into their new homes.

We are also disturbed by how information about the proposed zoning change has been handled to date. For example, we have received only information from the City about the Planning Commission meeting, but no details of the rationale for the proposed change were ever sent to us (along with pros and cons), even though our property is fairly close to the open space. We question why an issue such as this one -- of great significance to at least hundreds of San Ramon households -- had to be handled in such a surreptitious manner.

We recommend that the Agricultural District Zoning Ordinance NOT be modified as proposed.

As voters, we will be paying careful attention to how this matter is handled.

Drs. Neil K. Jablon and Duen-Mei Wang
201 Rustic Place
San Ramon, CA 94583

LATE COMMUNICATION # 7
AGENDA # 8.1 P.C. MTG. 10-19-99

UK
REC'D BY

Wong, Phil

From: J & C Velson [velson@earthlink.net]
Sent: Saturday, October 16, 1999 7:47 PM
To: bathansr@prodigy.net; pwong@ci.san-ramon.ca.us; ckinney@ci.san-ramon.ca.us;
rraab@ci.san-ramon.ca.us; dHUDSON@ci.san-ramon.ca.us; hwelm@ci.san-ramon.ca.us
Subject: TEXT AMENDMENT PROPOSAL - CEMETERY

To: Mr. Byron Athan - Mayor
Mr. Curt Kinney, Vice Mayor
Mr. Ron Raab, Council Member
Mr. Dave Hudson, Council Member
Mr. Herman Weim, Council Member
Mr. Phil Wong, City Planning Director

As San Ramon residents of the Bent Creek development, we are very unhappy with the recently proposed cemetery rezoning effort being made on behalf of Davidson Homes. This is - simply put - a bad idea. No one in our neighborhood moved to this area thinking that a cemetery could be built here. Our homes, the environment we have chosen to raise our families in and the general quality of life in San Ramon will all be degraded by such a project. Of equal if not greater concern is the surreptitious manner in which the proposed rezoning has moved forward. I live two blocks away from the proposed cemetery site, but neither I nor my neighbors received any notification from the city or from the planning commission that this proposal had been made. It would appear that a select group is trying to push something through without community involvement as they fear - and rightly so - that this action would not receive popular support.

The best think that can be done is for this proposal to be dropped. At an minimum, you must ensure that the San Ramon city government notifies all concerned residents about the project and its backers so they can participate in the public debate on this topic.

We attended the Planning Commission meeting on October 5th and will again be present on October 19th as will our neighbors. We urge to fulfill your duty as public servants to engage the community in this discussion openly, without subterfuge.

Joe & Cecelia Velson
205 Pleasant Valley Ct.
San Ramon

LATE COMMUNICATION # 8
AGENDA # 8.1 P.C. MTG. 10-19-99

JK
REC'D BY

Wong, Phil

From: alan fong [alan30@netzero.net]
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 1999 6:43 PM
To: pwong@ci.san-ramon.ca.us
Subject: Zoning change

Mr..Wong:

I have been a resident of San Ramon for 23 years. I love the natural beauty of the San Ramon Valley especially the Old Ranch Hill. I am strongly against the zoning change of cemetery plan.

Alan Fong |

LATE COMMUNICATION # 9
AGENDA # 8.1 P.C. MTG. 10-19-99
NS
REC'D BY

10/18/99

Wong, Phil

From: Leon, Jenifer [jaleon@sandia.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 18, 1999 2:27 PM
To: 'bathansr@prodigy.net'; 'ckinney@ci.san-ramon.ca.us'; 'dhudson@ci.san-ramon.ca.us';
'rraab@ci.san-ramon.ca.us'; 'hwelm@ci.san-ramon.ca.us'; 'pwong@ci.san-ramon.ca.us'
Subject: Cemetery Concerns TA-99-001



Emissions from
Incinerators do...


Dear Sirs,

The attached letter is in regards to the proposal to allow cemetery as an acceptable use within the San Ramon area. This proposal would also allow for a crematorium to be built and operated on the site. The letter addresses the crematorium issue. A signed hard copy of this letter will be submitted at tomorrow's city planning commission meeting.

Thank you,

Jenifer Leon
Alfred Jin
519 Shadelands Place

LATE COMMUNICATION # 10
AGENDA # 8.1 P.C. MTG. 10-19-99


REC'D BY

Wong, Phil

From: rassy@ix.netcom.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 1999 10:23 AM
To: pwong@cl.san-ramon.ca.us
Subject: Cemetery in hills around Alcosta Boulevard

Dear Sir,

My husband and I are very much opposed to having a cemetery in the hills around Alcosta Boulevard. First, Alcosta is already busy as it is and to have continuous funeral processions in addition to the already existing traffic would be too much. Secondly, Old Ranch Rd and Alcosta are used by a lot of families taking their children to schools such as Wald Disney, Neil Armstrong, Pine Valley and Cal High. I do not want my children to be caught up in funeral processions once a week and to be continuously reminded of their own fate. And thirdly, I myself do not want to be constantly reminded of death - I would find it depressing to say the least.

I realize we might need a cemetery but it should be build in an area away from neighborhoods or in neighborhoods that are still being developed so that residents have full knowledge of their immediate environment when they buy their house. One just cannot put a cemetery in the middle of already existing neighborhoods whose residents would never have even dreamed of having to live next to one. We would never have bought our house if we had known there were plans for a cemetery nearby.

I have the impression that Davidon Homes was upset about having their housing plan rejected for the lot in question and the developer is now going to really show us all what he can do. San Ramon residents should not be treated as toys by developers nor should they be subjected to developers' wrath.

Sincerely,

Greta Avau
Stanley Krolikoski

584 Columbia Creek Dr
San Ramon, Ca 94583 (828-2626)

LATE COMMUNICATION # 11
AGENDA # 8.1 P.C. MTG. 10-19-99

MS
REC'D BY

October 18, 1999
Re:TA-99-001

Dear Sirs;

The proposal to include cemetery as an acceptable use within the city limits is before the city council. In evaluating the pros and cons of this issue, one must consider that a vote for granting 'acceptable use as a cemetery' could include the construction and use of a crematorium. There has been considerable media attention given to incinerators, some of which have been linked to cancer clusters. The potential individual risk for cancer from exposure to dioxin, an incinerator emission, increases from one in a million to 134 in a million. The potential individual risk for cancer from exposure to cadmium, another by product of incineration, increases from one in a million to 49 in a million. The potential individual risk for cancer from exposure to both dioxin and cadmium increases from one in a million to 262 in a million. The following information summarizes a number of articles written by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the California Air Resources Board on incinerators.

Sincerely,

Jenifer Leon, Industrial Hygienist
Alfred Jin, MS, CBSP, CM (AAM), M(ASCP)
Industrial Hygienist, Biosafety and Environmental Specialist.

LATE COMMUNICATION # 12
AGENDA # 8.1 P.C. MTG. 10-19-99
AS
REC'D BY

Emissions from Incinerators

Incinerators have been used as an effective method for waste disposal in order to reduce both mass and volume of waste. Incinerators have been used in local hospitals for years as a method to reduce transportation and disposal costs. There are many types and kinds of incinerators. Each are designed for a specific purpose and has its limitations. Incinerators can be used to dispose of general refuse, pathological, and hazardous waste materials. Incinerators used in crematoriums and hospitals are pathological incinerators.

Over the years, air pollution emission regulations have become stricter and the general public awareness and health concerns have increased exponentially. In California, the California Air Resource Board has the responsibility to identify toxic source emission and to require owners of incinerators to implement control measures to prevent over-exposing the general public to levels of contaminants that exceed ambient air quality limits.

Studies by the California Air Resources Board (CARB), Center of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) have identified a number of contaminants as indicators of air quality. Such indicators include smoke, ash emissions, hydrochloric acid, biological agents, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, sulfur dioxide, and organic pollutants such as dioxin, furans, cadmium, arsenic, chromium, lead, beryllium, nickel, and mercury.

In July 1986, the CARB identified dioxins and cadmium as toxic air pollutants. A toxic air pollutant is defined by CARB as an air pollutant that may cause or contribute to an increase in mortality or potential hazard to human health. Subsequently, CARB has identified 15 chlorinated dioxins and dibenzofuran as known animal carcinogens and potential human carcinogens causing liver, thyroid and other organ cancers. Cadmium is moderately toxic and has been identified to be a known animal carcinogen and probable human carcinogen causing respiratory cancer in humans.

In 1990, the CARB conducted a study in California involving a number of different types of incinerators that included hospital pathological incinerators. A list of pollutants can be seen in Table 1. The study classified these pollutants into 3 categories of adverse health effects: (1) acute health effects (i.e. hydrochloric acid, particulates), (2) chronic non-cancer health effects (i.e., Pb, Be, Fe Mn, Ni, Hg), and (3) additional risk of cancer.

Additionally, a health risk assessment was performed to estimate cancer and non-cancer health effects of dioxin, cadmium and other emission. Cancer risks are expressed as chances in a million of developing cancer from a lifetime (70 years) of continuous exposure to a pollutant. As seen in **Table 2** from uncontrolled incinerators, the potential individual risk for cancer from exposure to dioxin increases from one in a million to 13 in a million for inhalation exposure and from one in a million to 134 in a million for multi-pathway (via inhalation, soil ingestion, dermal adsorption and mother's milk) exposure. The potential individual risk for cancer from exposure to cadmium increases from one in a million to 19 in a million for inhalation exposure and from one in a million to 49 in a million for multi-pathway (via inhalation, soil ingestion, dermal adsorption and mother's milk) exposure. The potential individual risk for cancer from exposure to both dioxin and cadmium increases from one in a million to 262 in a million. The potential maximum individual risk would be higher if other exposure pathways are examined or if additional pollutants are considered.

As a result of their findings, the CARB has developed air emissions thresholds for chlorinated dioxin, dibenzofurans and cadmium and imposed strict regulations to control the emissions into the air. Incinerator owners are now required to reduce emission by installing engineering controls such as wet scrubber, dry scrubber, or fabric filters. Wet scrubber application uses a venturi scrubber/acid gas absorber. The dry scrubbing application removes particulates and acid gases by combining a lime sorbent spray dryer with a fabric filter.

Regardless of whatever technology is chosen to control emissions, each has its own limitations. Precious energy and water resources will be committed to operate such a facility. The end products will include the generation of smoke, ash, hydrochloric acid, biological agents, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, sulfur dioxide, and organic pollutants or metals into our neighborhood. Additionally the unsightly 50 foot stack hanging in the air with steam and other pollutants pouring into the atmosphere would be seen from miles around and would be enough to make one cough.

If the City Council chooses to amend the current zoning and a crematorium/ cemetery is eventually built in a residential area of San Ramon, then the City Council should be ready to face the children and residents of San Ramon who will be diagnosed and die of cancer. These individuals and their families will be asking if the crematorium was the cause of their disease and eventually their early demise.

Table 1

List of Pollutants Detected by California Air Resources Board on
 Pathological/ Hospital Incinerators Test
 (Excerpted from the Technical Support Document Proposed Dioxin Control Measures for
 Medical Waste Incinerators, May 25, 1990)

Compounds	Facility	Comments
Arsenic	ACDEFGH	
Ammonia	H	
Benzene	ABCDEFGH	
Bromodichloromethane	DG	
Cadmium	ABCDEFGH	Chronic Non Cancer
Carbon Dioxide	ABCDEFGH	
Carbon Monoxide	ABCDEFGH	
Carbon Tetrachloride	ABCEG	
Chromium	ABCDEFGH	
Chromium +6	H	
Chlorodibromomethane	DEG	
Chlorobenzene	H	
Chloroform	ACDE	
Chlorophenol	H	
Copper	H	
Cumene	ABCEF	
1,2 Dibromomethane	ACEFG	
Dichloromethane	ABCEFG	
Dichloroethane	ABG	
1,2 Dichloropropane	CE	
Dioxin/ Furans	ABCDEFGH	
Ethyl Benzene	ABCDEFG	
Freon	ABCDEFG	
Hydrogen chloride (Hydrochloric Acid)	ABCDEFG	Acute Health Effects
Hydrogen fluoride	H	
Iron	ABCDEFH	Chronic Non Cancer
Lead	ABCDEFGH	
Manganese	ABCDEFGH	Chronic Non Cancer
Mercury	ABCDEG	Chronic Non Cancer
Mesitylene	ABCDEFG	
Methylisobutylketone	B	
Nickel	AEF	Chronic Non Cancer
Nitrogen oxide	ABCDEFGH	
Particulate Matter	ABCDEFGH	Acute Health Effects
Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons	A	

Compounds	Facility	Comments
Naphthalene	BCDEG	
Sulfur dioxide	ACDEF	
Tetrachloroethane	ABFG	
Tetrachloromethane	G	
Tetrachloromethylene	CDE	
Toluene	ABCDEFG	
Total Hydrocarbons (THC or HC)	ABDFG	
Tribromomethane	EG	
Trichloroethane	CDE	
1,1,1 Trichloroethane	ABCDEF	
Trichloroethylene	ABCDFG	
Trichloromethane	ABDGF	
Trichlorotrifluoroethane	A	
Vinyl chloride	CD	
m-o- p-Xylene	ABCDEFG	
Zinc	H	

- *
A – Bag House
B – Venturi Scrubber
C – None
D – None
E – Wet Scrubber
F – None
G – None
H – Wet Scrubber/ Bag House

Table 2

Summary of Potential Maximum Individual Risk
Dioxin, Cadmium, or Dioxin and Cadmium Emissions from Tested Incinerators

(Excerpted from the Technical Support Document Proposed Dioxin Control Measures for
Medical Waste Incinerators, May 25, 1990)

	Dioxin				Cadmium				Dioxin & Cadmium			
	Multipathway*		Inhalation		Multipathway*		Inhalation		Multipathway*		Inhalation	
	Lo	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo	Hi
Shutdown Facilities												
	113.5	179.7	17.3	27.4	2.1	13	0.8	5.0	113.5	180	17.3	27.5
	0.7	1.3	0.1	0.2	0.03	0.3	0.01	1.0	2.8	14.3	0.9	5.2
	9.8	15.7	1.5	2.4	2.9	16.9	1.1	6.5	16.0	53.7	4.0	17.1
	6.6	10.5	1.0	1.6	6.2	38.0	2.4	14.6				
Uncontrolled												
	5.6	8.3	0.4	0.6	2.5	15.7	0.5	3.2	6.1	11.2	0.5	1.2
	63.9	101.5	4.6	7.3	0.5	2.9	0.1	0.6	71.3	146.6	6.1	16.5
	155.7	246	11.2	17.7	7.4	45.1	1.0	9.2	158.2	262	11.7	20.9
Overall Range of Potential Individual Risk of Cancer	0.7	246	0.1	27.4	0.03	45.1	0.01	14.6	2.8	262	0.5	27.5
	In a million		In a million		In a million		In a million		In a million		In a million	
Average Potential Individual Risk of Cancer	81-134 In a million		8-13 In a million		8-49 In a million		3-19 In a million		Unknown		Unknown	
Normal Risk of Cancer**	One in a million		One in a million		One in a million		One in a million		One in a million		One in a million	

* Multipathway route of exposure includes Inhalation, Soil Ingestion, Dermal Absorption, and Mother's Milk for 1 year period.

** - Cancer risks are expressed as chances in a million of developing cancer from a lifetime (70 year) of continuous exposure to a pollutant.

OCTOBER 18, 1999

Distinguished Chair, Donna Kerger
and Fellow distinguished Members
San Ramon Planning Commission

Re: Agricultural Zoning Change

This letter is written in support of the added designation of cemetery for the now existing open space on the east side of Alcosta ,APN210-550-017 & 018..

I have in the past noted that this would be such an asset to the community and a jewel in the crown of San Ramon's attributes. I see in the 21st century, a green hillside keep open and scenic with the help of recycled water. Less change of fires, more idyllic habitat for small animals, and another park like infill.

Those who would deny this change, have resorted to illegal posting of signs. Handing out flyers telling people who have no problem with this to do nothing, and that by their doing nothing that would be support enough. Well, if this is the case, in a city of 39,600 people, the majority have spoken. The minority are loud, but they are just that, a minority.

I have attached a copy of the editorial that appeared in the San Ramon Valley Herald in support of the rezoning to include cemetery. Only with the added distinction of cemetery will we be able to study this alternative for a future land use of this site, since homes are not wanted..

Don't let a few loud, scared, people, deny the rest of the population the right to explore future uses of our infill. After all, these loud people are living in the gate way of the DOUGHERTY valley and will soon see thousands more homes go up. Lets give us all a chance to experience more from our communities hillsides than dead grass and homes.


Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


Cynthia G. Jones

Attachment

LATE COMMUNICATION # 13
AGENDA # 8.1 P.C. MTG. 10-19-99


REC'D BY

They help kids who need help and have nowhere else to go. There is no reasonable excuse for Davis not to sign this bill, and we urge him to put pen to paper today.

Cemetery not so bad

ALL THE RESIDENTS ARE QUIET, and most of the visitors are, too. Seldom will the residents' homes block the view. They tend to be very polite and never trespass, never ask to borrow sugar and never disturb your breakfast. The grass is always cut, usually manicured and often filled with flowers. It seems like a cemetery would be one of the best neighbors a person could acquire.

So why are San Ramon residents arguing against a zoning change that would allow a cemetery to be put in agriculturally zoned land owned by Davidon, a development firm? A cemetery — that's still pretty open and passive, one of the things they have with their wilderness-like area and don't want to lose.

The residents want no change, but that's not how life works, especially when a developer owns the property next door. Residents won the fight last year to keep 47 houses from going up.

Now, using property values as one of their arguments, Old Ranch Estates residents will fight again. But property values seems a callous and self-involved argument when talking about the last home for your dead.

Thoughts of death, however, are often put off or pushed away. San Ramon residents may not think they'll live forever, but they may not plan to live in that Old Ranch Estates neighborhood forever either.

Maybe that accounts for the property values concern as well as not feeling a need for a place to be buried. Local cemeteries speak of roots in a community; stories and history live there.

People are going to die; it's a fact of life. Some of those people will be from San Ramon, and there needs to be a place for them to rest in peace.

Californians must be commended for their high use of alternatives to burial, and even if a new cemetery is provided, this should not change. But if you live and die in San Ramon Valley, there should be a place for you to be buried in the valley.

You should not take space from others in a cemetery out of your area after rejecting your own. So there's room in Lafayette; local people should not be squeezed out. And as Vice Mayor Curt Kinney argues, it does make it easier for family and friends when the cemetery is local.

Open space in this area may need to look for its own burial space. So residents should consider what new neighbor they want, and take another look at cemeteries.

But from a peace and tranquillity point of view, it seems like the dead would be better neighbors than the cows and pigs and other denizens that could populate agricultural land. But there must be many options. Davidon surely has some in mind.

Berkeley breaks a tie

THE BERKELEY CITY Council has sided with drivers

to have given some valley voters a tizzy fit. The CAPP ballot sure gives Livermore, Pleasanton, San Ramon and Danville cities the right to vote on their cities' growth plans. After city officials reviewed a housing growth plan it would then be the right of the voters to decide whether they agree with their elected leaders to allow traffic congestion, noise, drugs, crime, taxes, smog, water and our natural resources up and paved over.

Livermore voters would have the right to decide our City Council's "giant new town" project that would pave 75 percent of the Las North Livermore Valley for 12,500 houses, 25,000 cars and 37,000 people. Another 20 percent of the town/Vasco Road area is forecasted for the town of 57,000 population of Interstate 580. (Livermore's total is approximately 28,000 and Dublin's is 28,000.)

CAPP's valleywide initiative ignited a firestorm of protest from big business, real estate, doctors, bankers, chambers of commerce, politicians, bureaucrats and voter political groups who don't care enough about Livermore valley voters to let us decide the direction of what's a beautiful valley.

The negative anti-CA-580 out, "Leave it up to the voters to trust them, they know what's best for you." Do they? So far voters have been willing to let our valley right down the drain.

I urge citizens to vote on the CAPP ballot measures.

Proper balance

Achieving a proper balance between economic vitality and quality of life is not easy. We need a variety of available housing choices to meet the range of needs being created. A localized 20-unit "election box" never meet these needs and control to the county.

Vote no on Measure 5. Citizens, the current City Council's expert planning staff do their work.

Name-calling