

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Sinclair, David](#)
Subject: Modification of CUP #3278 - Neighborhood Church Property
Date: Monday, February 14, 2022 8:11:48 AM

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Dear Mr. Sinclair and Hearing Officer,

I am writing in opposition to the request for modification to the Conditional Use Permit being requested by the Neighborhood Church / Sequoyah School property at 301 North Orange Grove.

I have been told that there are approximately 142 students right now and understand they are requesting to be able to go up to 195 next year.

This is a very large increase. We have not yet experienced the campus at 170 students. Well, actually we have - when St. Monica's Academy was there and it was a disaster in terms of its impact on the neighborhood.

By increasing without ever experiencing 170 students seems counterintuitive. This goes against the previous rationale that Sequoyah would increase enrollment in steps (so that all parties can gauge the impact on the neighborhood).

Sequoyah has never had a higher enrollment than they do currently. And although they have been responsive and generally a very good neighbor, there has been a traffic impact on our streets and obviously an increase in noise. There certainly is more traffic at drop-off and pick-up. (Roughly 8 am and 3:15 pm).

As I indicated above, we have seen 170 before. And while the Church is more sensitive and clearly Sequoyah is not St. Monica's, nonetheless we have never experienced the "mid level step" of 170 from Sequoyah to see how they/the Church and neighborhood will absorb the 20% or so increase in number of students, much less that the almost 40% they are requesting.

Just getting to the currently permitted 170 would be approximately a 20% increase over what Sequoyah has ever had. 195 would be almost a 40% increase.

Also, the School does not exist and operate in a vacuum. Independently, the Church is resuming more activities. The impact of that property is not just the school but the sum total of all events. Hard to measure those impacts as we have had some 18 months-two years of a pause in events/usage due to the pandemic.

It seems like it would be rational to test the campus at 170, before allowing any additional students. Once they get permitted to a higher number, I assume it would be very hard to seek a decrease in enrollment even if there were adverse effects on the neighborhood.

I hope you will allow there to be an significant evaluation period before increasing beyond the currently permitted 170 students.

Thank You -

William W. Morris



From: [REDACTED]
To: [Sinclair, David](#)
Subject: Modification of CUP #3278
Date: Monday, February 14, 2022 12:25:09 PM

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Dear Mr. Sinclair and Hearing Officer,

> I hope you will consider having the church/school go to an intermediary step of 170 students before giving approval to increase to the requested 195. Because Sequoyah is currently only at 142 students, we have not seen the full impact of 170 students on campus.

> The Church has indicated they will be adding more events following Covid. In the words of a Board Member "we have the building we might as well use it". I believe the point of having the stepped increase was to judge the impact and safety on the neighborhood. It seems if the approval for the increased students is ahead of the current enrollment it will be difficult to reverse the approval if problems exist.

> I do want to acknowledge that Sequoyah has been very responsive when issues have come up. An example of this is they had discontinued having an adult monitor cars at the exit after the return to campus after Covid. When we brought up the problem of cars not stopping and turning right at exit on Arroyo Terrace they reinstated an adult there.

> It appears the Church is not keeping their calendar up to date as events are happening based on cars in lot and on the street, but are not listed on the calendar. As the church amps up their events business, we will have a better idea of their ability to comply with the CUP.

> The concern as a neighbor is the double impact of a lot more students during the day and a plan by the church to resume their busy events business.

> Our hope is you will have the numbers align with current enrollment so the extended assessment can be made before moving forward with a greater enrollment. I believe the school would like to have 170 students for the fall so the number could accommodate that projection.

> Thank you for your consideration.

>

> Sincerely,

>

> Janet Morris

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Tam, Hayman; Sinclair, David](#)
Subject: Modification of CUP #3278
Date: Monday, February 14, 2022 3:56:10 PM

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To the Hearing Officer, Senior Planner, and Recording Secretary -

The City of Pasadena is holding a special meeting this Wednesday, February 16, 2022 at 5:30pm. I am writing to comment on Item 2 C. CUP #3278: 301 N. Orange Grove Blvd (Sequoyah School), in Council District 1.

Our family has had kids attending Sequoyah High School for 5 years now. We are well informed by the school about the rules for parking, traffic circulation, pick up and drop off and receive regular reminders throughout the school year via dedicated emails, as well as part of our weekly communications. The school even has an adult and a sign at the exit of the parking lot to keep our community in compliance. This message is not only getting to the parents: my students tell me about the rule precluding them from driving to and from the campus.

Sequoyah School has remained on top of the CUP requirements. I am in strong support of the fulfillment of their increase in enrollment per the proposed schedule to allow our School to continue to thrive.

Sincerely,

Renee Dake Wilson
Sequoyah High School parent