

## Sierra Davis

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**From:** Coralie Berg <ajcberg775@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 2:46 PM  
**To:** Sierra Davis  
**Subject:** Project at 1716 Morton Avenue  
**Attachments:** Project 1716 Morton Avenue.docx

Ms Davis,

Thank you for your time this morning, and for clarifying some aspects of the proposed project. As suggested, I am sending you a letter to express our concerns regarding this project.

Thank you in advance for sharing with the other members of the Planning Commission. I will attend the meeting tonight.

Best Regards,  
Coralie Schwartz  
650-305-6000

Coralie Schwartz  
1759 Kircher Ct  
Los Altos, CA 94024

Community Development Department  
City of Los Altos  
One North San Antonio Road  
Los Altos, CA 94022-3087

April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016

RE: Project at 1716 Morton Avenue

Dear Mrs Davis,

Our property is located on 1759 Kircher Court, and after having the chance to review the proposed project at 1716 Morton Avenue, I wanted to express our concerns:

- 1) The house main structure is being moved from its current location to along their back fence, with a second story directly overlooking our backyard. The second story shows 4 windows, and we are very concerned about the loss of privacy.
- 2) Because of the driveway on the side of the property and the detached garage, the part of the house with the 2 story might require the removal or additional trimming of one or two mature oak trees. We thought these type of trees, especially when healthy, were protected? They provide precious shade, anchor the soil near the creek and help with water retention in addition to providing a habitat for animals.
- 3) Even if the these oak trees are not removed, it would likely be very damaging to them to do excavation and major construction work so close to them as it would certainly affect their root system and cause them to die soon or later.
- 4) Trees such as Pittasporum are proposed to insure privacy along the garage and part of the house with the second story. While this seems sensible, our vegetable garden is located directly behind the future garage, and trees left to grow tall would block the sun. The trees to hide the 2<sup>nd</sup> story would be welcome, although the whole length of our pool would also now be in the shade.

Ideally, the footprint of the proposed structures would be moved further away from the fence and the Oak trees, and the second story would not be located along the back fence. But at a minimum, we hope that you will insure that the oak trees will not be affected in any way (they have already been severely recently trimmed). You would also eliminate any window overlooking our yard or require such height that our privacy would be preserved. Lastly we trust that you would insure that our garden (and possibly pool), are not left in the shade. May I suggest that any new fence with trellis or planting of trees be done in the initial phase of the construction so as to maximize the growth time and protect us sooner than later?

Thank you for your consideration.  
Sincerely,  
Coralie Berg