



Mountain View Coalition for Sustainable Planning
817 Montgomery Street
Mountain View, CA 94041

March 5, 2017

City Council
City Hall, 500 Castro Street
PO Box 7540
Mountain View, CA 94039-7540

Re: Charleston East project

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council Members:

Mountain View Coalition for Sustainable Planning strongly supports the approval of the Charleston East development by Google. We have previously commented on this project, and the staff and the applicant have done a good job of being responsive to community and council concerns for the project.

MVCSP supports the strong sustainability features of Charleston East. Achieving Platinum LEED, incorporating the roof solar canopy, and bird-safe design will provide a significant asset to the community. MVCSP is also very supportive of the focus on truly local native landscaping and intense water conservation methods. Finally, planning for sea level rise and 100-year flood makes this a very sustainable project.

The transportation plan sets the stage for a car-light and innovative mobility network. in North Bayshore. Connections to the green loop and the public pedestrian walkway through the center of the building provide the type of pedestrian and bike friendly atmosphere MVCSP and the City have promoted for North Bayshore.

This project is feasible from a traffic standpoint because Google has committed to a 50% trip reduction of peak hour trip compared to site with no TDM plan. MVCSP has reviewed the detailed TDM plan submitted by Google and feel it's a very innovative approach with a good probability of success. The short-term parking plans for 1,200 at Shoreline Amphitheatre and longer term at Landings is importantly very consistent with the 50% trip peak hour trip reduction goal.

The Charleston East TDM Plan was developed before housing is considered an allowable use in North Bayshore as part of the concurrent Precise Plan update. It is the opinion of MVCSP that there is a strong correlation of the long term success of the Google TDM program goals and a commitment by Google to build the mixed use development including significant amounts of housing affordable to workers employed by Google in North Bayshore. MVCSP's support for the Charleston East office development assumes that Google will be a leader in development of a significant amount of housing in North Bayshore.

Without significant North Bayshore housing, the primary pillar of the achieving this very ambitious trip reduction goal is sustaining free shuttle service for local and long distance trips. MVCSP would like to see the following additions to the conditions of development approval:

- Requirement to maintain free shuttle service for the life of the project.
- If 50% trip goal not achieved, mandatory employee paid parking to achieve the 50% trip reduction goal. In our opinion, the penalties in the conditions of approval are important, but likely not terribly meaningful to an applicant with such a large valuation.

Finally, as community members, we would really like to see the public plaza come to fruition; this would be an invigorating presence for North Bayshore and a community benefit for the rest of Mountain View. We see a future where Parks & Recreation plans public events and outdoor exercise classes there, and it will bring more community members to North Bayshore, to take advantage of Shoreline Park, trails, the retention basin, etc. This plaza will be a great open space to support high-density housing we want to see built in North Bayshore.

Thanks for your consideration.



Cliff Chambers
for the Mountain View Coalition for Sustainable Planning

About Mountain View Coalition for Sustainable Planning

The Mountain View Coalition for Sustainable Planning is a group of local volunteers dedicated to making Mountain View as beautiful, economically healthy, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian accessible, and affordable as possible. MVCSP member interest and expertise covers areas such as housing, transportation, the environment, the economy, and beyond!

For more information, see <http://www.mvcsp.org>.

To contact us, send email to mvcsp.info@gmail.com.