



10/30/2015

VIA EMAIL

Elise Gumm, Associate Planner
City of Sacramento
Community Development Department
300 Richard Boulevard, 3rd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95811

RE: 816 T Street (P15-046)

Dear Ms. Gumm,

WALKSacramento has reviewed the Development Project Routing for the 816 T Street Project. Thank you for the opportunity to review and provide comment on the project.

Development projects that lead to more walking and active travel are critical to our community's future. Human beings need moderate exercise, such as walking, for about 30 minutes a day in order to prevent the development of chronic disease and overweight. Only 30% of the population in the Sacramento region is active at this minimal level, often due to limitations placed by a built environment not suited to walking and other types of physically active travel. This project proposes three new residences in Midtown, creating the opportunity for a significant amount of walking and biking trips. To best accommodate those trips it is imperative that safe, accessible, and direct pedestrian routing is provided to and from the site. Based on our review we offer the following observations and recommendations:

WALKSacramento commends the project as an infill development project that will help to activate and put more eyes on one of Sacramento's many alleys. Alleys represent a great alternative transportation route option as they are often low speed and entirely off street. However, if they are poorly lit, of poor pavement condition, overgrown, or inclusive of spaces that make for good hiding places, alleys can quickly become an unsafe and uninviting travel path.

As proposed, there is no through access from T Street to the entrances of the alley facing units. The only access, both for pedestrians and motorists, is via Tomato Alley. As the City of Sacramento sees more infill projects that front alleys, such as the proposed 2010 F Street residential project, it is imperative that direct, safe, pedestrian access be provided. This can be accomplished by creating direct access paths to adjacent east-west streets, and/or by upgrading alleys with landscaping, lighting, pavement, aesthetic and other factors that make for an inviting pedestrian space.

WALKSacramento is working to support increased physical activity such as walking and bicycling in local neighborhoods as well as helping to create community environments that support walking and

bicycling. The benefits include improved physical fitness, less motor vehicle traffic congestion, better air quality, and a stronger sense of cohesion and safety in local neighborhoods.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments and recommendations. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me at (916) 446-9255 or kkumar@walksacramento.org

Sincerely,

Kirin Kumar
Project Manager