



10/2/2018

VIA EMAIL

Angel Anguaino, Assistant Planner
City of Sacramento Community Development Department
300 Richards Blvd., 3rd Flor
Sacramento, CA 95811

RE: Amberwood at Natomas Meadows, Villages 1 & 4 (DR18-297)

Dear Mr. Anguaino:

The Amberwood at Natomas Meadows, Villages 1& 4 project proposal includes three floor plans, one of which doesn't have active living space at the front of the house. The front of Plan 2087 has a bedroom window and front door on the first floor, and a bedroom window and stair landing window on the second floor. Although this plan has poor "eyes on the street" from the front of the house, the side facing a street when the plan is used on a corner lot does have "eyes on the street" provided by the kitchen and dining room. Plan 2323, used on some corner lots, has windows into the great room and kitchen beyond facing the side.

The distribution of house plans and the use of plans with good "eyes on the side street" on corners should contribute to the walkability of Natomas Meadows. Our comments assume that floor plans 1836, 2087 and 2323 are equivalent to plans 1833, 2081 and 2274, respectively, on sheet C-1.

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. A 30-minute walk is about one and a half miles. If more people could obtain regular exercise by walking and bicycling to their regular destinations, in lieu of driving, it could yield significant health improvements to the resident population of this area. Reduced driving would also decrease vehicle emissions and the prevalence of asthma, cardiovascular disease, and other air pollution-related conditions. More trips by walking and bicycling could help reduce the current expensive burden on the health care system of providing medical care to more and more people with chronic conditions due to inactivity and poor air quality.

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.

Sincerely,

Chris Holm
Project Manager

