



1/4/2019

VIA EMAIL

Robby Thacker  
City of Sacramento Community Development Department  
300 Richards Blvd, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95811

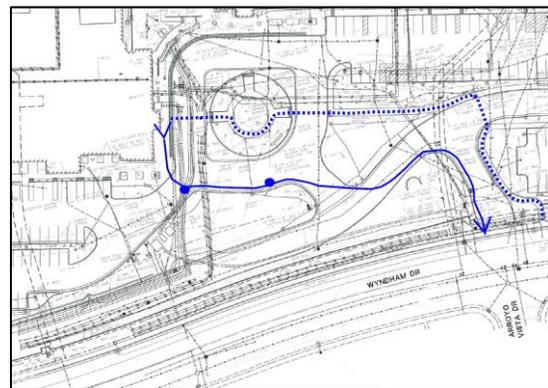
**RE: Kaiser South Sacramento Emergency Department Expansion (Z18-214)**

Dear Mr. Thacker:

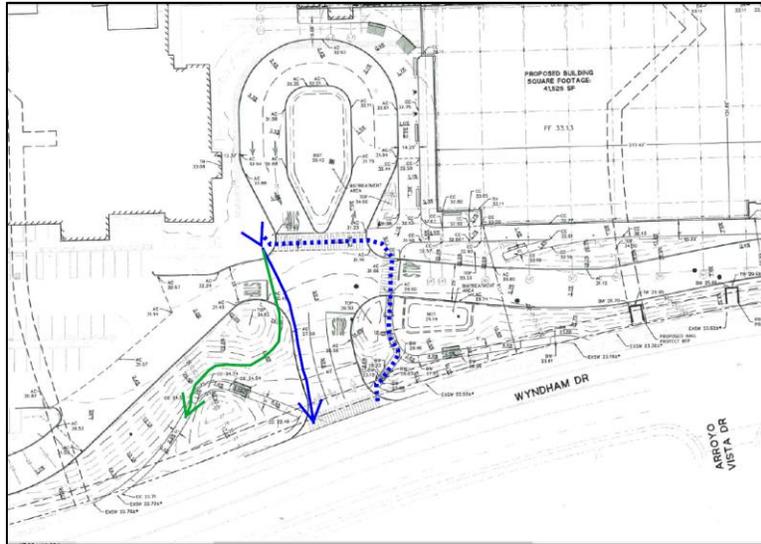
WALKSacramento has reviewed the project routing for Kaiser South Sacramento ED Expansion (Z18-214) and we offer the following comments to improve the walkability of the project site.

With the proposed construction of a new Emergency Department building, the vehicle and pedestrian infrastructure between the hospital and Wyndham Drive will also be reconstructed. A major change to the Kaiser South campus vehicle circulation will include shifting the hospital entrance driveway to the west and connecting it directly to Wyndham Drive. The proposed site plan will simplify automobile traffic, but we don't believe it adequately improves the pedestrian travel way between the hospital entrance and Wyndham Drive.

The image below on the left is a street view from Google Maps looking south from the hospital circular entry drive. Note there are two pedestrians walking in the driveway. It doesn't appear they were walking to cars in the parking lot, so it may be they were taking a path (solid blue line in the image on the right) to on-street parking or the bus stop on Wyndham Drive. There are also many multi-family and single-family homes within walking distance of the hospital on the south side of Wyndham Drive. The distance walking in the driveways for these two people would not have been significantly less than using the sidewalks (dashed blue), yet there they are walking in the driveway. Google Maps displaying this may be indicative of common pedestrian behavior at the hospital.



The proposed site plan provides a path of travel (dashed blue line in the figure below) that is significantly shorter than on the existing site. Unfortunately, it's indirect and doesn't come close to a desire line, especially if they're going to the bus stop which is near the bottom right corner of the diagram below. We recommend adding a sidewalk that facilitates a more direct route (solid green line) to the street and bus stop so that people will be less inclined to walk in the driveway (solid blue line).



We'd also like to call attention to the south elevation of the new Emergency Department building. The terracotta rain screen creates a monotonous wall. The pergola appears to have nearly vertical slats that will provide little protection from the elements and could allow direct solar heating of the terracotta during the summer. We recommend modifying the wall and the pergola to add visual interest and to provide better protection from the weather.



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, better air quality and a stronger sense of social cohesion and safety in our neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

Chris Holm  
Project Analyst