



1/16/2013

VIA EMAIL

Evan Compton, Associate Planner
Community Development Department, Current Planning Division
City of Sacramento
300 Richards Blvd
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Curtis Park Village Subdivision Modification (P12-026)

Dear Mr. Compton:

WALKSacramento appreciates the opportunity to provide the following comments on the proposed Curtis Park Village Subdivision Modification 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. 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.

We are pleased to see several changes to the subdivision map that should contribute to more walking and active travel in Curtis Park Village. There are three important changes we'd like to highlight.

First, and perhaps the most significant improvement, is that a 12'-wide esplanade has replaced Road E along the west side of the park. This new walkway will provide a safe, pleasant, and convenient travel way for pedestrians and bicyclists. The pedestrian-scale lighting will create a safer walkway for commute travel during the morning and late afternoon darkness during the winter and recreational walking during the pleasant, warm evenings of summer. Its connection with the north-south easement through the two multi-family housing villages and the three commercial lots will provide convenient access between housing, entertainment, shopping, and the City College light rail station bridge.

Second, we are pleased to hear from the applicant there will be a raised crosswalk across Road A at the south end of the esplanade across Road A. The long, straight segment of Road A between Road F and Road D segment has been a concern for WALKSacramento, but the raised crosswalk should slow traffic, making crossing Road A safer and walking along the street more pleasant.

The third revision benefiting pedestrians is the addition of detached sidewalks on the west side of lot 24, which is on the extension of 21st Street between Portola Way and Portola Way 5th Ave Alley. This continuation of the sidewalk on 21st Street north of the project area will improve access to the 4th Avenue light rail station and other destinations to the north.

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 cholm@walksacramento.org.

Sincerely,
Chris Holm
Project Analyst