



5/20/2020

VIA EMAIL

Daniel Abbes, Assistant Planner  
City of Sacramento Community Development Department  
300 Richards Boulevard, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95811

**RE: Hilton Garden Inn at Woodlake (DR20-052)**

Dear Mr. Abbes:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Hilton Garden Inn at Woodlake project. We have two recommendations for the project to encourage more physical activity for better health of the hotel guests and employees.

The dense spacing of tall deciduous trees between the building and Expo Parkway plus the articulated and highly glazed rear elevation facing the street will create a good street view. However, even though there's a double-door secondary entrance with vestibule facing Expo Parkway and there's a sidewalk adjacent to entire side of the building, there is no connection between the entrance and the public sidewalk. It's notable, too, that a mid-block crossing is midway between the secondary entrance and the building's southeast corner. The North Sacramento Commercial Design Guidelines and the Citywide Commercial Design Guidelines recommend facing key pedestrian entries toward the street, but the intent isn't met when the door faces the street but doesn't connect to the public sidewalk that's about 16' away.

**Recommendation #1: Add a sidewalk between the door on the south side of the building and the Expo Parkway sidewalk.**

The four-story height of the building will make it feasible for most checked-in hotel guests to achieve more physical activity during their stay by using the stairs rather than the elevator. Daylighting of building interiors is recognized as a health-promoting design feature and incorporating daylighting in stair wells can encourage people to use the stairs. Daylighting the stair wells would also complement the goals of Hilton programs such as *Five Feet to Fitness* and *Project Grow*. Daylighting the stair wells would also provide a way for guests to move between floors without having to be in elevators with other guests where social distancing may be impractical. **Recommendation #2: Add windows to the stairwells to provide daylighting and views of the outdoors.**

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 public health and physical fitness, better air quality, a stronger sense of cohesion and safety in neighborhoods, and more sustainable communities and local economies.

Sincerely,

Chris Holm  
Project Manager