



12/15/2020

VIA EMAIL

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

**RE: Township 9 Housing (P20-030)**

Dear Mr. Thacker:

Thank you for routing the second submittal for Township 9 Housing to WALKSacramento. The first and second submittals propose a transit-supportive neighborhood on seven block-sized parcels. With the Township 9 light rail station and the American River Parkway one block south and north of Township 9 Housing, respectively, walking, biking and transit will be convenient ways to get to jobs, services, dining, and many other daily needs.

The second submittal slightly improved the short-term bike parking, but much more is needed to accommodate more bicycling and improve the project's sustainability. The major change was splitting the only proposed set of bike racks into two sets and relocating them to other locations on each of five parcels, and moving the only proposed set of bike racks to another location on each of two parcels.

The bike racks are better dispersed on each parcel, in general, but they will poorly serve most of the buildings on each parcel. Short-term bicycle parking will be used primarily by people visiting Township 9 residents – visitors that could be from surrounding areas or that could be neighboring Township 9 residents – hence bike parking should be in obvious locations that are easy to find and access.

Convenience and security are of utmost importance in choosing the location of the bike racks. Locating bike racks near the entrance of the building to be served makes it easy for the bike rider to find a parking spot because it will be near their destination. A bike locked to a rack near the building entrance will be observed by people going in and out of the building and there will be greater opportunity for residents in the building to keep an eye on the bike.

The bike racks proposed for Township 9 Housing are generally close to one of between four and six of the entrances of each building, but that leaves three other buildings on each parcel that do not have bike racks nearby. Also, with the entrances for each building evenly split between two opposite sides of the buildings, only one-half of the one building on each parcel that has bike racks is well served by the racks.

It's encouraging that the site plan for each parcel has a note that bike parking locations are preliminary and subject to change. We recommend that short-term bike parking locations be established using the following criteria. 1) Bike racks are located within the street edge in front of each building on every parcel. 2) Bike racks are located such that every interior-facing building entrance is less than 200 feet from a bike rack and each building is served by at least two parking spaces.

We also note that a portion of the long-term bike parking on each parcel utilizes stacked lockers. We recommend using only single-level lockers. Loading a bicycle into the top locker of a stacked set can be difficult for many people.

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