



Los Altos Town Crier

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Resident questions LASD lawsuit

Mark Goines' (president of the Los Altos School District Board of Trustees) letter to the editor (Jan. 30 Town Crier) was a glaring example of the vendetta that the school district has against the Bullis Charter School.

The suit the district filed against the Santa Clara County Board of Education over attendance preferences is counterproductive and will cost the taxpayers of our district twice.

The Los Altos School District is facing a \$1.1 million deficit for 2008-2009. To cut programs for our children yet press on with expensive litigation against the county shows the enormity of blind rage that the district exhibits in attempting to destroy Bullis Charter School. The district's actions will cost hundreds of thousands dollars – another example of the lack of responsibility to the other 4,000-plus children in the district.

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The district stated that the new attendance areas drawn up for the reopening of Bullis were going to require about 380 students to transfer from their neighborhood schools to one farther away. Now apparently this upheaval will impact closer to 800 children. Many parents justifiably feel betrayed.

Quite simply, allowing the charter school to move to Bullis almost completely solves this massive dislocation problem. The Los Altos School District continues to stonewall this simple and positive solution.

Why is the school district spending your tax money to overturn a decision by the Santa Clara County Board of Education, rather than putting this money toward your children's education? It's time to do what is best for our children, and set the pettiness aside.

Mark and Jill Jensen

Los Altos Hills

Trail of dissension

I want to thank you for publishing the letter from Otto Sterba (Jan. 30 Town Crier), which discussed his opposition to the Stevens Creek trail link.

As Mr. Sterba described, the agendas of the two public meetings were only for feedback on the placement of the trail link; there was no forum for those opposed to the trail in Los Altos to express our opinions or concerns. Your printing of his letter is the first public acknowledgement of a dissenting vote for the trail, and it was much appreciated.

According to Larry Lind, who will present the study's findings to the city council, the team was required by the city council to hold two public meetings.

The next step will be to present their study findings to the city council.

Those who attended and gave their contact information at the public meetings will be informed of the date and time of the presentation to the council.

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I hope you will inform your readers on the timing of that meeting.

Nicole Frees

Los Altos



Trail link will benefit community

As a resident of south Los Altos for 23 years, I must voice a viewpoint different from those expressed in Otto Sterba's letter "Longtime resident speaks out against proposed trail link" (Jan. 30).

I was also at the bike trail meeting at Grant Park on Dec. 5 and wish to commend members of the Trail Feasibility Study Task Force for their work championing a project that I think will benefit many in Los Altos and its surrounding communities.

I have never associated bicycles and their riders with congestion, noise or crime. I live in a quiet neighborhood frequently traversed by students going to school and adults going between Grant Road and Fremont Avenue and always thought their presence added more life to the streets.

I look forward to having safer bike routes connecting Los Altos to Mountain View, Sunnyvale and Cupertino.

Mr. Sterba thinks differently, but his opinion does not reflect the majority of South Los Altos attendees at the meeting.

Another suggestion for renaming Bullis

Having two schools with the Bullis name is confusing. To honor more than 40 years of graduates, the charter school should rename itself "Los Altos Charter School." This eliminates the Bullis name confusion and offers continuity to an established and important historical school.

Gary Herbert

Los Altos

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In Our Opinion

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Is everything really 'fair game'?

Mr. Randy Kenyon said ("LASD facing \$1.1 million deficit after state budget cuts," Jan. 30) that "...everything is fair game" when it comes to looking at what should be cut to address the \$1.1 million deficit our school district faces. I wish that were really true.

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