

Davidson, John

From: Gary Hurst [gshforot@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 03, 2011 2:13 PM
To: Davidson, John; City Owned Property; district5@sanjose.gov; district1@sanjose.gov; district2@sanjose.gov; district3@sanjose.gov; district4@sanjose.gov; district6@sanjose.gov; district7@sanjose.gov; district8@sanjose.gov; district9@sanjose.gov; district10@sanjose.gov; mayor@sanjose.gov; Lauren Moll
Subject: Rancho del Pueblo golf course

I want to go on record as a San Jose taxpayer in opposition to the rezoning of this recreational facility. The golf course and driving range are a gathering place for a large number of diverse people from the surrounding community who have no other place to come together and share their common interest. Rezoning the golf course to allow more housing will eliminate one of the few facilities in the area that draw people from many cultural and economic backgrounds together, and will eliminate one of the few remaining open spaces in the area. Why not increase the housing stock in the area by eliminating the Mexican Heritage Center or the PAL field that appear to be far less used and require large city subsidies to remain open even after the cost of renting city-owned land is eliminated. Even the park across the street from the golf course will see diminished use because so many park users park their cars in the golf course parking lot while using the park.

Depriving seniors, young First Tee students, novice golfers, women and others of the best golf course in the area for their programs, style of play, and opportunity to interact and build the community will be a step backwards. Denser housing in this area will also surely lead to an increase in the crime rate and add to the city's costs above and beyond the resulting tax increases.

Why not focus on annexing the property of the former Pleasant Hills golf course into the city and developing that property which is larger, closer to planned light rail expansion, and currently unused and earning virtually no tax revenue?