



December 5, 2016

To: Mayor Al Corti, City Council members Don Mosier, Sherryl Parks, Terry Sinnott, Dwight Worden, City Manager Scott Huth:

Re: the City Hall Project

We are unable to be at the December 7th, 2016 meeting due to a long standing previous commitment.

We live across the street from City Hall, in the Edelweiss House. We have been quiet neighbors, happily, for many years. Julie has owned and preserved the Del Mar landmark since 1972. We are in favor of a reasonable City Hall complex. However, we respectfully object to some newly proposed and yet to be created elements of the current evolving project.

Specifically:

#### Illumination

Del Mar has a history of carefully controlling the intrusion of light into homes and even into the night sky. Static illumination coming from structures and moving light coming from autos are an invasion of one's interior home privacy. A living room can be intruded on by a blast of light of a constant flow of light that can penetrate even through shades. We expect a lighting design and operational plan will be constructed to provide city hall neighbors with illumination privacy. The design and plan will, we hope incorporate not only low intensity light directed to Camino Del Mar in the Town Hall but a comprehensive parking structure ingress and egress system to keep car light out of living spaces. This may include closing the exit from 10th Street onto CDM.

#### Neighborhood Character:

Lower 10th Street is the original corridor of development for Weed, later Del Mar. We support the placement of the Alvarado House as a Del Mar History Center and learning center. We believe it should fit into the neighborhood from which it came, that is facing 10th Street. We hope in the near future that lower 10th Street can become a historical district with learning opportunities for local children and visitors to our community. It is important to preserve what we have left of our history and to make it available to the community as a point of pride.

While we recognize the utilitarian temptation to build every square foot out to the edges of the lot we believe that open space itself has a significant value to the human psyche. Uncluttered space offers value. A south east view terrace is proposed. An additional south west view/entertainment terrace is a major intrusion of light and noise without a significant benefit to our city that currently, in addition to the proposed south east terrace, has multiple public ocean view and entertainment/educational venues. The terrace proposal does not conform with the calm and quiet character of the oldest and most historical neighborhood in Del Mar. It seems to us a potential nuisance attraction, a platform that invites after hours intrusion into our neighborhood. We ask that the south west terrace idea be rejected.

#### In Summary:

We are among the closest neighbors to city hall. We are preserving and enhancing one of the most historical homes in our community. Edelweiss is accepting of two years of construction noise, dust, traffic, etc, carefully planned to be kept to a minimum, in the hope that we will all have a better community government system that serves us all. Please help our neighborhood to preserve our historic character, keeping it livable and protected from voyeur platforms and trespassing lights.

Thank you,

Julie Maxey-Allison and Bradford Allison  
227 10th Street