JAN 2 2 2013

CITY OF SAUSALITO
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

From: Nancy Osborn [mailto:nj-osborn@att.net]

Sent: Tuesday, January 22, 2013 1:54 PM

To: Alison Thornberry

Subject: Re: PC decision for 30 Excelsior Lane

Dear Planner Thornberry,

I would apppreciate your forwarding the following to the Planning Commission as Late Mail. Thank you. Nancy Osborn $\ \ \,$

Dear Commissioners,

We are disappointed to see the Staff Report supporting the plan for additions to 30 Excelsior Lane.

As members of Sausalito Presbyterian Church, across the Lane from these apartments, we have found the architecture of the complex to be quite mundane, but the existing landscaping has managed to shield the Church somewhat from a view of the garages. The proposed planting does not do this, nor is bamboo a suitable plant for any area where its invasive nature can be detrimental. We have members and many visitors for weddings and other events who will find the proposed changes a "visible blight" and a downgrade from what now exists.

We agree with the neighbors who've pointed out the many negatives involved in adding onto something that's never reflected the surrounding residences and our historic Church (repeating the Church's siding hardly seems to be adequate). Nor is the increased traffic generated by the additions something to be overlooked. The Lane can be very busy, not only on Sundays but on Wednesdays when the Church hosts a lunch for homeless who arrive in volunteer driven vehicles...and the congestion caused by deliveries for weddings as well as the trips generated by neighbors on down the Lane can be quite daunting.

In addition to the design's shortcomings, we would like to emphasize how important this area is to many residents & visitors to Sausalito and how its aesthetics should not be downplayed. We've witnessed many, many visitors coming up the steps and then continuing on up the Lane to Bulkley and beyond. We've heard them comment on the beauty of the Church and the view back down to the fountain and elephants in the Park.

We, therefor, ask that this entire project be reconsidered and, if approved, certainly improved to reflect more of what this entire area has to offer in architecture and landscaping. These enhance rather than degrade the aesthetic values of not only its surrounding neighbors, but those of beautiful Sausalito.

Thank you for considering our concerns when making your decision.

Nancy & Jim Osborn, (33 yr. Sausalito residents) 2 Kendell Ct. Sausalito, CA 94965