

Lashun Cross
Contra Costa County Planner
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94554-1229

CONTRA COSTA

2009 FEB 23 P 1:20

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

0
ANONYMOUS

RE: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary

Dear Ms Cross:

I am a member of Sufism Reoriented and wish to request my opinion be considered. I am well aware that we need a new center however, I do not approve of the present plan. I wish to remain anonymous and will not sign this letter. I do not want anyone in the group to know of my opinion. I would like the building to be one of beauty that blends with the neighborhood. I as an aspiring Sufi believe in the process of blending and becoming One with all. I do not approve of badgering or demanding the community at large for what the group needs. We are not a church and yet we are claiming church status. This is a spiritual order and we originally were asked not to proselytize or demand, but to serve. I do not feel that this building is a service to the community at large and it is causing much unhappiness to everyone.

For whatever my opinion is worth I would think we could come up with a plan that would not interfere with our neighbors and perhaps build where we already have a building. We could meet in other buildings we now possess while our new center is being built. We need rehearsal rooms and a book store, a place to show art, and a place for quietude and worship. We could make it beautiful right where we are, or perhaps purchase a lot that does not interfere with a small neighborhood.

Please consider this request and know that some others may feel the same way but are not inclined to speak out since we are asked to be in favor of the plan for the Sanctuary. Please also be aware that I am committed to this path of worship and want a beautiful and necessary new center.

February 7, 2009

D ✓

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name Karen L. Abu-Hamdeh

Print name KAREN ABU-HAMDEH

Address 101 Park Ave, Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

**Mike and Myra Adams
113 Kendall Rd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595**

CONTRA COSTA

08 DEC -9 PM 12: 30

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

December 4, 2008

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Regarding: The necessity of requiring 'story poles' for analysis of the application for a conditional use permit for a new worship center for Sufism Reoriented, Inc.

Dear Ms. Cross:

I had heard today that the County Planning Office is considering not requiring story poles as part of the evaluation process in the above referenced application. Frankly, that is very hard to believe.

As you know, story poles are used to show the elevations and silhouettes of a proposed building or an addition to an existing building. According to numerous land use planning sources, story poles are a very helpful tool in helping both the community and the local decision makers visualize the actual size, height and overall scope of a project (source: [www.google.com/search?hl=en&q=%22story+poles%22&btnG=Google+Search&aq=f&og="](http://www.google.com/search?hl=en&q=%22story+poles%22&btnG=Google+Search&aq=f&og=)).

Story poles are a common land use planning tool that results in better decisions being rendered. Residents of Saranap are used to seeing them as they are used quite commonly in the neighboring communities of Walnut Creek and Lafayette, often even for residences, but certainly for large commercial or institutional projects. I would hope that the residents of Saranap will not be getting a less complete or thorough level of project analysis and review, just because they most of Saranap is in the County.

From the over 100 letters received by the County protesting the inappropriate size and the out of character nature of the proposed Sufi Reoriented, Inc. project, how could it be

anything other than crystal clear to our land use professionals and local decision makers that this project is controversial to a substantial portion of our neighborhood?

Given that the project is controversial, a lack of the requirement of story poles for a project of this size and type would give the distinct impression that the County Planning Department was not doing all that it can and should do to thoroughly evaluate project. It also may be a violation of the County's own due process for major projects of this type.

I strenuously object to the lack of the requirement of story poles for this project. They represent the best way for the community, the decision makers and even for the current proponents and developers of the project to get a sense of the actual scope of the project and its potential encroachment on the Saranap neighborhood.

This development, which is huge is size and has issues of compatibility with the overall character of the Saranap neighborhood needs to be fully studied and go through a fully transparent and as professional an evaluation process as possible so that the community and the County decision makers will have the most complete information on the nature of the project in order to make the decisions in the best interests of the community. The use of story poles is one critical tool that is needed for a complete analysis of this project.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Mike and Myra Adams

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike & Myra Adams". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Cc: The Honorable Gayle Uilkema,
Contra Costa County Supervisor
District 2



mpadams1@comcast.net
12/07/2008 03:21 PM

To gayle uilkema <gayle@bos.cccounty.us>
cc
bcc
Subject saranap home owner

COPY

Ms. Uilkema,

Dec. 7, 2008

Please consider the enormous size of the building the sufism reoriented group intends to build in the saranap area. As a home owner for 10 years I really would be disappointed to see this large structure come to existence. It does not in any way shape or form fit in with the saranap area. Even in the sense of it being a partially industrial area. This is actually rediculously HUGE. Please have them place story poles so that we can convince ourselves that is really isn't very big.

Sincerely,

Mike and Myra Adams
113 Kendall rd.
Walnut Creek, Ca. 94595

CONTRA COSTA
James D. Akridge
31 Garden Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94549
08 DEC -5 PM 10:05

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

December 4, 2008

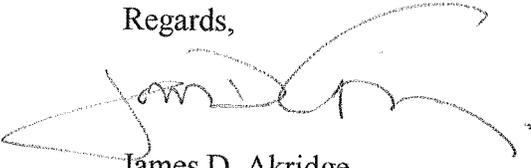
LaShun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

RE: Sufism Reoriented Proposed Compound.

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am writing in outrage over the Sufi's attempt to ruin the Saranap Community character and fabric. I have lived in Saranap since 1968, and in all my years as a resident have never seen a more hostile and self serving attempt to destroy the integrity of my neighborhood. This project is exactly what we as a community have fought for many years to prevent. Beyond the thinly veiled "good faith effort" as they have coined it. From a Building and Zoning Ordinance Standard perspective, this proposed project simply does not comply. I beg of you to support my effort in rejecting this monstrosity, and maintain the integrity of my community.

Regards,



James D. Akridge

C.c. LaShun Cross, Contra Costa County Planner

2-P-09

, 2009

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Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

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Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

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Sincerely,

Sign name

Larrinda Allen

Print name

LARRINDA ALLEN

Address

632 Center St

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

Matthew and Christina Angell
2441 Warren Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CENTRA COSTA
08 DEC -8 PM 1:21
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

December 4, 2008

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Regarding: The necessity of requiring 'story poles' for analysis of the application for a conditional use permit for a new worship center for Sufism Reoriented, Inc.

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Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt & Christina Angell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Matthew & Christina Angell

Cc: The Honorable Gayle Uilkema,
Contra Costa County Supervisor
District 2

K

CONTRA COSTA

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT
11 Boulevard Way
Martinez, CA 94533-1229
2008

Lashun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation
and Development Dept.
651 Pine Street
Martinez, Ca. 94533-1229

Reference application
08-2034/MS 08-0011

Dear Sir:

The subject of this letter is
regarding SUFI REORIENTED SANCTUARY.

1. My main concern is the zoning
of the area, since we are R-5 10
residential. We are a pristine area
with large ranch style homes.

2. During heavy rains we have really
poor drainage the water travels
along Boulevard Way across Warren
Road to a large catchall which
is maintained by the county.

3. Their plans indicate, a school
and cafe is being added. The
congestion of traffic is bad now
but worse when picking up the
children.

Cont: Pg. 2
Reference Application
L POS-2034/MS08-0011

I live on Boulevard Way, about 150 yards from their completion of wall. The traffic is so bad in front of my house I usually have to wait for ten to fifteen cars to pass before I can proceed.

Thank you for your time, in reading this, and these are some of my concerns, I hope you take in consideration before agreeing to the permits.

Thank you.

Pauline M. Angell
14 11 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, Ca -
94595-1303

Copy: SUPERVISOR
Gayle Wilkema.

Month day, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JAN 23 P 12:53

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am a Saranap neighborhood resident who opposes the Sufism Reoriented proposed sanctuary development. The 66,000 sq. ft. building is too large for the site, the project is under-parked, and there is not adequate screening to soften the appearance from the adjoining neighborhood. I am also opposed to cutting down all of the existing mature trees on-site, including multiple Heritage Oak trees.

I request that the County provide direction to the applicant to modify their design to accommodate reasonable changes that address our concerns. I also request that the County require the applicant to install story poles, so that the neighbors and other interested parties can view the proposed layout and massing of the building.

Sincerely,

Pauline M. Angell



Pauline M Angell
1411 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595-1303

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1076

*ENCL. My concern of this project, too
large for area in a RS-10 residential
and the changing of the ZONE
LAWs,
Pauline Angell*

to

Kathy August
11 Allendale Ct
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

December 3, 2008

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Regarding: The necessity of requiring 'story poles' for analysis of the application for a conditional use permit for a new worship center for Sufism Reoriented, Inc.
Application LP08-2034/MS08-0011

Dear Ms. Cross:

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From the over 100 letters received by the County protesting the inappropriate size and the out of character nature of the proposed Sufi Reoriented, Inc. project, how could it be anything other than crystal clear to our land use professionals and local decision makers that this project is controversial to a substantial portion of our neighborhood?

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Thank you for your consideration of my comments. PLEASE consider the Story Poles.

Cynthia Ayers
30 La Casita Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94595-1318

CONTRA COSTA

2009 MAR 27 P 1:27

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

March 1, 2009

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Re: The Application for a Conditional Use Permit for a new Worship Center for
Sufism Reoriented, Inc. and its Potential Impact on the Environment

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am writing you because of my concern of the possibility of an excessively oversized
Worship Center for Sufism Reoriented being considered to be built in the Saranap area of
Walnut Creek. The building is supposed to be 66,000 square feet.

For 52 years I have resided in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek. I was born and raised in
this area, and when I could purchase a home for myself, I purchased a home in Saranap
because of my love of the quaint, quiet neighborhoods that Saranap offers.

The homes are older, the streets are narrow, there are no sidewalks, and the reason that
this area is desirable to live in is because people want it to stay as it is. Even though
home prices throughout Contra Costa County have dropped, the prices of homes in the
Saranap area have decreased the least and homes are still selling at a higher price. This
area is desirable for the charm and character that it has to offer.

I did not purchase my home in Saranap to be invaded by a building that looks like a
spaceship and is the size of a mini mall. I am positive that almost all the other residents
in Saranap did not purchase their homes with the desire to have a monstrosity of a
building built in our neighborhood.

This proposed building will have the following adverse effects upon the neighborhood:

The narrow streets will be over crowded by cars traveling to meet at this huge
convention size center. Will traffic lights have to go in and will the tax payers be
responsible for this cost? Don't we have enough costs to worry about now that
the economy is in such straights, without having to bear the cost of street
upgrades and traffic control?

The proposed site of this worship center is above and not far from the Las
Trampas Creek. The creek has had erosion issues for years. Will the county bear

the cost of cementing the walls of the creek to prevent further erosion and what wildlife, fish and other native creatures will be endangered by this action?

The native trees that will have to be removed to build this worship center will be a great loss to the neighborhood. There are several beautiful oaks that are well over one hundred years old. Unless trees this age are diseased, there is no reason to remove them. The character of the neighborhood will be destroyed by the removal of these ancient beauties.

The loss of revenue of property taxes from the residential homes that will be demolished to build this structure will impact the county. The additional cost of the Sheriff's department having extra patrols for the functions that the Worship Center will be putting on is a cost that the taxpayers are going to have to bear. Even though we are told that there are only 375 members of Sufism Reoriented, Inc., the 66,000 square foot building that they are planning to build will be large enough to hold concerts, lectures or any activity that would bring in a large number of people. Can we afford to pay overtime to our already overworked officers in the Sheriff's Department?

We are currently zoned for single family homes in this area. If the zoning is to change, will this building be sufficient for Sufism Reoriented, Inc.? Will they continue to purchase homes around the Saranap area so they can build yet another large building that will not fit in with the rest of the neighborhood? What will the impact be then when home values decrease so much that the County loses property taxes and income to pay the wages of the county employees because this once desirable neighborhood is no longer desirable and prices plummet?

My final comment for your consideration is that for all of the years that Sufism Reoriented, Inc. has been in the Saranap neighborhood, they have never reached out to the neighborhood until right before the plans were revealed that they wanted to build this 66,000 square foot building. They have never invited us to any functions at their building at 1300 Blvd. Way. The door is closed and locked and to gain entrance you have to be buzzed in. Yet, the Jewish Community Center, less than one mile away on Tice Valley Blvd., has always welcomed the entire neighborhood. They took an abandoned school and now they offer classes and events for everyone that wants to come; jazzercise, summer school for children, movie festivals, to name a few. They built a swimming pool and offered memberships to anyone who wanted to join. They built a sports center for the use of the people in the area and the children of the Walnut Creek School District play basketball, soccer, futsal, and other sports on this property. They did not cut down old growth trees. They renovated an existing building and added on to it, but did not build anything that does not look out of place for the neighborhood.

My concern is that what has been proposed is not beneficial for our neighborhood. Please consider the adverse effects of this project and please do not allow it to happen.

Thank you



Ayers
30 La Casita Ln
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

James R. Baird
20 La Casita Ln.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
08 JUL 31 PM 1:17

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

July 29, 2008

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Regarding: The Application for a Conditional Use Permit for a new Worship Center for Sufism Reoriented, Inc. and its Potential Impact on the Environment

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am writing in because of my concern about the real and potential adverse environmental impacts that would occur if the conditional use permit for the above referenced project is granted. Because of these substantial environmental impacts, and because there is significant controversy in the Saranap neighborhood over the impacts to our neighborhood, the potential impact of this project must be studied in an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), in order to allow fully informed decisions during the County's further consideration of the project.

As an almost 30 year resident of Saranap, I have developed a love and appreciation for this special community. Saranap is the special place where so many of us have raised our families and truly appreciated the character of the neighborhood.

The proposed development is not even remotely compatible with our neighborhood. It would have tremendous environmental impacts which need to be analyzed by professionals so that the County authorities can make the optimal decisions about the proposal with the best information available. That is why an Environmental Impact Report is so critical to this process. It is absolutely critical to good decision making in this case because of the major environmental impacts described as follows.

1. The Size of Development is Entirely Inappropriate for the Neighborhood

The proposed 60,000 square foot non residential structure (approximately two football fields of building space), sets precedent for huge development. We do not see any reason why a 375 member group needs that much space? There are no guarantees

that their existing facility and other properties they currently own will not be retained and incorporated in to a much larger campus or compound which would be even further out of step with the neighborhood, and would also have additional and larger environmental impacts.

2. The Design and Architectural Style and Incompatible with the Neighborhood

The proposed Sufism Reoriented campus sets precedent for enormous growth inconsistent with the semi-rural character of the neighborhood. The design has a look and feel that is absolutely incompatible with the surrounding neighborhood. The very large and very tall domes, the extremely long high concrete walls, and the overall height of the project are not only out of character with nearby and neighborhood homes, but are also completely inconsistent with neighborhood business commercial properties in this area.

3. The Project Results in a Significant Net Reduction of Residences and is Detrimental to the prospect of Future Responsible Residential Infill

The project will result in the destruction of 7 existing residential structures. While this in itself is bad, the overall project and previous Sufi-related projects have and will utilize substantial additional land that would otherwise be available for additional homes if it were properly utilized for responsible residential infill that is compatible with the overall character of the neighborhood and is the intent of the current zoning of the property. The impacts of the number of overall existing homes that would be destroyed and the lost opportunity for additional responsible residential infill needs to be studied in order to properly assess the full impact of this huge project. .

4. Traffic Nuisance and Safety

The amount of traffic generated would clog the neighborhood streets. Warren Road traffic is likely to increase as motorists attempt to enter the planned facility near a blind curve. It is likely that Boulevard Way will have to be widened to accommodate non residential traffic patterns. How many stoplights and turning lanes might be needed? Anticipated traffic impacts need to be fully analyzed in an Environmental Impact Report.

5. The Project Will Have a Negative Fiscal Impact the Tax Revenues of the County

The combination of the reduction of existing residential structures, the lost opportunity for responsible infill residential and commercial development, the unknown costs of mitigating many negative impacts of the proposed development such as traffic and drainage, and the fact that this huge development is being undertaken by an entity which operates on a tax exempt basis will together potentially have huge negative fiscal impacts on Contra Costa County. Currently there is no data on this, which is again another reason why the EIR is needed.

6. The Project is Likely to Create Substantial Drainage Problems

Significant drainage issues exist at the corner of Warren Road and Boulevard Way. Drainage issues resulted in rejection of a previous incompatible development (Lion's Gate development). The subject project is a short distance from a wild creek with a history of unresolved erosion control issues, and a project of this size is likely to cause problems with land stability. The project would require significant grading, in excess of 50 cubic yards, with a large area of new impervious surfaces with unknown impacts to nearby property owners and existing drainage systems overall.

7. The Project will Result in the Loss of Native and Compatible Trees

Saranap Area continues to lose heritage oaks and other mature trees, including the oaks and other native species which exist on the property to be developed. The impacts of these losses need to be quantified and part of an environmental study.

8. The Proposed Development Would Provide for Uneven Property Rights

Should this project proceed, as a non profit organization, Sufism Reoriented is being provided with access to significant development rights under R10 zoning which are denied to current local residential property owners located in areas of R-10 zoning. These plans allow a drastic change to the character of the neighborhood while the majority of Saranap Area residents comply with the R10 zoning restrictions in order to preserve the community.

9. Lack of Due Notice to Property Owners

The decision on requiring an Environmental Impact Report is being made in a vacuum because the neighbors and businesses in the surrounding area and throughout Saranap have not been properly notified. Residents and businesses have not been provided notice of upcoming deadlines and actions. All residents within a reasonable radius of the property should receive information about this project, including notice of public actions, events, hearings, applications, etc. With a project of this huge size and potential adverse impacts, residents living or working with a half mile radius of the projects should be dully noticed.

10. Their is Substantial Controversy Concerning the Impact of the Proposal

In spite of the lack of adequate notice, the County no doubt knows by now that this massive proposal and its potential adverse impacts are extremely controversial to a majority of the residents of the overall Saranap neighborhood. In accordance with CEQA, not only the nature of a project of this type and size, but also the significant controversy this project has generated provide a legal basis that argues significantly for the requirement of a thorough Environmental Impact Report. To do any less would run over the rights of a majority of the neighbors who deserve to make sure the decision makers have all the facts prior to making decisions on a project of this type and scope.

Summary

The potential substantial adverse environmental impact of this huge development which is significantly incompatible with the overall character of the Saranap neighborhood needs to be fully studied and go through a fully transparent evaluation and public input process so that the County decision makers will have complete information on the nature of the project in order to make the decisions in the best interests of the community. A study of the potential adverse impacts of the project, and what, if anything could be done to mitigate them is a critical part of the information the decision makers will need to help retain the character of our community.

I truly hope that, as it has done with controversial developments in our community before, the County, in its wisdom, will give this very large development with its very large potential impacts on the Saranap neighborhood the full appropriate consideration it deserves, which should begin with an Environmental Impact Report to fully assess the potential impacts of this development.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,



James R. Baird

Jim and Jeanette Baird
20 La Casita Ln.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
08 DEC -4 PM 1:01
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

December 3, 2008

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

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From the over 100 letters received by the County protesting the inappropriate size and the out of character nature of the proposed Sufi Reoriented, Inc. project, how could it be

anything other than crystal clear to our land use professionals and local decision makers that this project is controversial to a substantial portion of our neighborhood?

Given that the project is controversial, a lack of the requirement of story poles for a project of this size and type would give the distinct impression that the County Planning Department was not doing all that it can and should do to thoroughly evaluate project. It also may be a violation of the County's own due process for major projects of this type.

I strenuously object to the lack of the requirement of story poles for this project. They represent the best way for the community, the decision makers and even for the current proponents and developers of the project to get a sense of the actual scope of the project and its potential encroachment on the Saranap neighborhood.

This development, which is huge in size and has issues of compatibility with the overall character of the Saranap neighborhood needs to be fully studied and go through a fully transparent and as professional an evaluation process as possible so that the community and the County decision makers will have the most complete information on the nature of the project in order to make the decisions in the best interests of the community. The use of story poles is one critical tool that is needed for a complete analysis of this project.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,



Jim and Jeanette Baird

Cc: The Honorable Gayle Uilkema,
Contra Costa County Supervisor
District 2

A

July 30, 2008

LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553-1229
FAX: (925) 335-1200
Re: Application LP08-2034/MS08-0011

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am a resident in Saranap and I am opposed to the proposed Sufi Reoriented project for many reasons. First, they already have two existing compounds on large pieces of property on Boulevard Way. The Sufi Reoriented organization does not pay property tax on both properties save for the small supplemental taxes, due to their church status. I accept this. However, it does not make sense that they need more sanctuary land and building space for such a small membership of which they have stated they "do not see growing." This new sanctuary would also not contribute to the tax base. The existing houses that would need to be removed currently contribute to the tax base. I understand that this land is slated for high-density housing, according to the "general plan." These houses would contribute individually to the tax base of our community, altogether a large amount. I am not opposed to a church presence in our community, but I am opposed to a church dominance in our community.

The proposed building and surrounding enclosure do not in any way fit with this neighborhood. In fact, it will stick out and draw attention to itself just as the other two properties do, and even much more so. If I were looking in this area to buy and I saw all three compounds (which you will not be able to miss) I would seriously reconsider my thoughts of moving to the area. This concerns me greatly because I do not want my property value to fall because more people would be deterred from moving to the area. Why so many compounds, and why so large for such a small group? It doesn't make any sense. If this is a small organization, with no plans to expand (its membership) why do they own upwards of 14 properties on Boulevard Way?

My main objection goes back to the cornerstone of the Saranap Association: "to retain the semi-rural feel of the area." This proposal does not fit in at all with this theme. We need to retain residential property for residential purposes.

Please keep us informed of any developments and public hearings.

Sincerely,

Sara Ball
1268 Dewing Lane
Walnut Creek, Ca. 94595

cc. Supervisor Gayle Uilkema FAX: (925) 335-1076

July 30, 2008

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

CONTRA COSTA
08 JUL 31 PM 1:17
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Ms. Cross;

We have been recently notified that Sufism Reoriented, Inc. has submitted plans to construct a 60,000 square foot facility in our neighborhood. As residents of the Saranap area since 1985, we are in opposition of this project for the following reasons:

1. The size of this project is inappropriate for our neighborhood.
2. The design of this project is incompatible with our neighborhood.
3. This project would add additional traffic to Boulevard Way. This would also negatively impact our neighborhood. Our property is adjacent to Olympic Boulevard. Since the widening of Olympic Boulevard from two lanes to four lanes, we have personally experienced an increase in noise and traffic. We DO NOT NEED more noise and traffic to further disturb the peace and tranquility of our semi-rural neighborhood.
4. This project will result in the loss of native heritage trees which would have a negative impact on our neighborhood.

We are concerned and upset that we have not been notified by Contra Costa County regarding decisions, upcoming deadlines and actions taken by the County that directly affect us as residents of the Saranap area. Had we received proper and timely notification from the County, we would have immediately voiced our objections to this project.

We demand a thorough environmental review of this project before any further action is taken.


Terry Barnum


Melia Barnum

400 Center Street
Walnut Creek, CA. 94595
925-935-7322

Cc: Gayle B. Uilkema

2.7.09, 2009

0/

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name

Robert Becken

Print name

Robert Becken

Address

142 Pans Ave
PARK AVE

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

X

July 28, 2008

LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Re: Opposition to Sufism Reoriented, Inc. Proposal
Saranap Area Development
Boulevard Way, Walnut Creek

Dear Ms. Cross,

I just learned of the proposed 60,000 square foot development application by Sufism Reoriented, Inc.

I have several concerns about the proposed development. My main issues are:

1. Increased traffic to a semi-rural area. The traffic impact on such a large facility would be enormous.
2. The proposed architectural style (onion-shaped domes) does not fit in with the single-family residential flavor of the neighborhood.
3. Size of the development (60,000 square feet). Such a large compound is also not in keeping with the neighborhood. A side point is the lack of proposed parking. The current parking is inadequate as evidenced by the cars lining the streets when there are meetings.

Please consider delaying the discussion on the conditional land use permit until notice has been given to the neighborhood regarding the application. August 1 is not a reasonable time frame.

Sincerely,



Sandy Belk

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
Supervisor, District 2

①

February 4, 2009

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am a Saranap neighborhood resident who opposes the Sufism Reoriented proposed sanctuary development. The 66,000 sq. ft. building is too large for the site, the project is under-parked, and there is not adequate screening to soften the appearance from the adjoining neighborhood. I am also opposed to cutting down all of the existing mature trees on-site, including multiple Heritage Oak trees.

I request that the County provide direction to the applicant to modify their design to accommodate reasonable changes that address our concerns. I also request that the County require the applicant to install story poles, so that the neighbors and other interested parties can view the proposed layout and massing of the building.

Sincerely,

Heidi Benenson

Heidi Benenson
70 Park Avenue
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1076

February 4, 2009

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am a Saranap neighborhood resident who opposes the Sufism Reoriented proposed sanctuary development. The 66,000 sq. ft. building is too large for the site, the project is under-parked, and there is not adequate screening to soften the appearance from the adjoining neighborhood. I am also opposed to cutting down all of the existing mature trees on-site, including multiple Heritage Oak trees.

I request that the County provide direction to the applicant to modify their design to accommodate reasonable changes that address our concerns. I also request that the County require the applicant to install story poles, so that the neighbors and other interested parties can view the proposed layout and massing of the building.

Sincerely,



Herb Benenson
70 Park Avenue
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1076

April 7, 2009



0/

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

2009 APR -9 A 11: 30

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am a Saranap neighborhood resident who opposes the Sufism Reoriented proposed sanctuary development. I am a supporter of the Sufism efforts in education, my daughter was a student at Meher School from the age of 3 until completion of the 5th grade. And I also support their desire to construct a new sanctuary. However, the 66,000 sq. ft. building is not the answer for the proposed site or this neighborhood.

It is only too apparent that the land use design is based on the largest possible structure at the expense of adequate parking or traffic flow. Forcing a driveway to a non-standard location to close to a blind corner will result in extremely dangerous traffic condition and a hazard to the public, both vehicular and pedestrian.

As a member of the heavy construction and development community for almost 30 years I am quite familiar with the current environmental considerations that go along with a project like this one. The land plan provided by Sufism Reoriented is lacking in several areas. The removal of Heritage trees goes against all current planning doctrine. Any other site would be required to design around these trees. The issue is not that the trees have to be removed but are being sacrificed for an overly large structure for the size of the site. Failure to address this issue alone would appear to be grounds to challenge the project as submitted.

Due to the oversized structure little perimeter areas are dedicated for screening landscaping. The installation of the precast or other wall system is not a neighborhood friendly option. The "prison look" is not what this area needs nor should the County allow. That is something for an industrial area not a housing area.

Lastly I strongly suggest that the design of the structure is not something for this neighborhood. There is no possible way for the Start Wars design to "fit comfortably in the neighborhood". There is no possible way that this design will not be an eyesore for all portions of the Saranap area.

Page 2

I believe the objections I have raised are based on real issues and facts not emotion or bias. I firmly support the rights of property owners to develop their property. However, the development must be considered in light of the surrounding properties and established residents. We rely on our elected officials to insure that adjacent property owners are protected from inappropriate development within a given area. That is why I am writing you regarding this matter.

I request that the County provide direction to the applicant to modify their design to accommodate reasonable changes that will result in a more appropriate design, both in size and appearance. Furthermore, I am more than willing to be part of and participate in any focus meetings or other discussions regarding this project should the need arise. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Mark J. Berch
161 Kendall Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
(925) 915-9191
mjberch@comcast.net

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1076

X

UNTRA COSTA

08 JUL 31 PM 1:17 Walnut Creek, Ca 94595
73 Del Hambre Circle
July 30, 2008

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street
Martinez, Ca 94553-1229

Dear Ms. LaShun:

I am writing to you as a concerned homeowner and parent of the Walnut Creek Saranap neighborhood. Recently and surprisingly it has come to my attention that the religious community, Sufism Reoriented, is intending to build a 60,000 square foot facility in our quite neighborhood without a complete environmental study on the impact to our community. The proposed building site would be the largest structure in our rural-like community. As a tax paying homeowner in the Saranap neighborhood, I have not been given the opportunity to voice or discuss my concerns about this proposal.

My husband and I almost ten years ago choose to purchase our home in this neighborhood for its quite charm. We love the tree lined streets and eclectic houses. I enjoy daily walking through the neighborhood with my infant son.

I am greatly concerned about the impact the project and the building will have on the future of our beloved community. I am concerned about the burden of increased traffic and safety threat to our children playing and riding bikes on our streets. I am also concerned about the fiscal impact to our community. Also, I am concerned about the rezoning of the existing site.

I believe strongly that the proposed design and architectural style of the building does not fit in with the look and feel of the Saranap community. The removal of existing native trees and adding a long and extensive concrete wall, in my opinion, will ruin the look and character of our neighborhood. The impact of such a large project and restructuring of a community needs to be fully studied and discussed by all members of the Saranap neighborhood.

Sincerely,



Katherine G. Besocke

**Ms. LaShun Cross
Contra Costa County Planner
651 Pine St. 4th floor-North Wing
Martinez 94553-1229**

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL 31 PM 1:17

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

July 29 2008

Dear Ms. Cross

As a 25 year resident of the Saranap community, I wish to go on record that I am opposed to the current proposed Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary to be built on Boulevard Way in unincorporated Walnut Creek.

I feel that its architecture and massive size is not in keeping with the long preserved character of this neighborhood. A project of this size and scope should include an EIR and community forums before any approvals on the part of the County are made.

Please add me to the notice/ correspondence list for this project.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Paul Borgwardt

2656 W. Newell Ave.

Walnut Creek 94595

947-2937

Pborgwart04@aol.com

2/7, 2009

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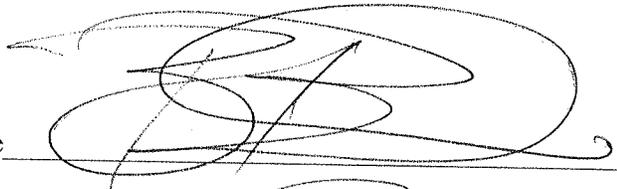
Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely, 

Sign name _____

Print name BERT BOWLER

Address 31 GRANDVIEW TC Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

Feb. 7, 2009

D
def

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name

Glenda Bowler

Print name

Glenda Bowler

Address

31 Grandview Pl

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

LC
X

County Conservation and Development Department,

Wednesday we received a letter from the Saranap Improvement Association stating that on Friday you would start the approval process on the Sufism plans to build a 60,000 square foot building in our neighborhood. We are horrified at the proposed project. Right now our water pressure is so low we are unable to use the dishwasher and washing machine at the same time. The impact of such a huge facility would cause traffic problems, water problems, and is not something anyone wants in their neighborhood. The design with high domes is not something we want in our area. Cottage Vet on the corner of Tice and Olympic looks like a home and is tucked into the neighborhood. We do not want a monster building campus here. It will definitely reduce our property value. The county will not be ahead with a non profit development and the home owners will be the ones who suffer. The traffic on Boulevard is bad now and with more people it will become worse. We have tried to get some relief at Bridgefield from the county and have written letters and nothing is done. We try to get out on Olympic and you can wait for as many as 32 cars before you can merge left or right. There are at least 20 cars trying to get on Olympic to 1 from Newell and nothing is done not even a counter that was promised 2 years ago. Traffic is one huge problem in this area as well as Walnut Creek and especially Alpine. Loading residential neighborhoods with huge developments really makes homeowners upset. We have to deal with Rossmoor each and every day. They use Boulevard way as well as single home owners and we do not need to cope with more traffic and buildings that reduce our property values. The County should act in a responsible way and protect the existing home owners who have paid their taxes and wish to keep their property values and not be forced to tolerate developers that come in and ruin their neighborhoods.

Gayle Uikelma has always been our protector and help in such situations and her efforts are appreciated.

Don and Gene Bozorth
3380 Freeman Road
Walnut creek, CA 94595

08 AUG -7 AM 11:21
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT
ONIRACOSIL

*unfortunately we did not get the Saranap letter
or read of the meeting until Thursday evening.
we had no fax so we realize this letter
will be tossed but we decided to send
it anyway*

7-19-08

L
X

Dear Planner,

CONTRA COSTA

I am a homeowner at 1443 Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek. I oppose the Sufism Reoriented project. I speak for many who want this part of Saronas to remain residential. We are an 'R-10' zoning, I believe

I oppose the project for several reasons. It is walled, so as to be exclusive to others outside of this religious sect. The project would remove several existing homes, one of which is 70 yrs. old and recently restored. It is a landmark and of sentimental value to many. (The photo does not do it justice, but I include it)

The structure is far too large, and would exist (as well) below ground. This will undoubtedly cause many environmental and drainage issues. Traffic is a great concern as we all know of Boulevard Way's unceasing flow and its dangerous curves.

This project in no way is suitable to our neighborhood. I must also add that the plans show domes at its highest point. I, as a patriot find this so disturbing. Please oppose this project.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Stacey Brodsky

8-20-08 X

CONTRA COSTA

08 AUG 25 PM 2:23

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Ms. Cross,

I neglected something when I wrote last month requesting your opposition to the Dufurson Reoriented's project. Please add my name to the list for notification of any hearing or hearings.

Stacey Bradbury
1443 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, Ca

94595-1303

Thank you,

Stacey A. Bradbury



Stacey Bradbury
1443 Blvd. Way
Walnut Creek, Ca. 94595-1303
CALIFORNIA

12-508

08 DEC -5 PM 12:36

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT
Ms. Tashun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation & Development Dept.
651 Venice St., 4th floor N. Wing
Martinez, Ca. 94553-1229

Re: Story Poles for LP08-2034/MS08-0011

Dear Ms. Cross,

It is my understanding that putting
Story Poles for a project is relatively
inexpensive. Please require sufficient
Rebrianted to put up these poles on their
proposed site, in order to be accountable
and transparent to the community
upon which it encroaches.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Stacey R. Bradbury

Again, Please be sure I am
notified of any upcoming hearings.)
Thank you.

1-21-09

✓

LaShun Cross
Community Conservation & Development Dept.
651 Rind St, South Floor 2009 W. 22nd St. #12
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

CONTRA COSTA

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

RE: App # LP08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary

Dear Ms. Cross,

This is to keep "fresh" my continued opposition to the proposed Sufism Re-oriented sanctuary. Please consider another impact on our neighborhood.

I am requesting that research be done on the environmental impact of radiated heat from the structure and walls, impacting surrounding homes and landscape. I have lived at my present Saronap address on Blvd Way for 24 yrs. It is a small (1200 sq ft) home and it is, and has always been, white in color. I understand white is the proposed color for this project, a point upon which Sufism Reoriented will not concede.

In earlier years, (with younger trees shading) the reflected heat to my yard, even though a small structure, was significant. To this day, summer days between about 11 and 3 are still

blistering in my backyard. My house is small: the proposed sanctuary is enormous. From what I experience, I can only imagine the intensity of heat radiating from this corner site.

Please add to the Environmental Impact Report, if you have not already done so, the impact of this high heat.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,

Stacey A. Bradbury

Stacey Bradbury
1443 Blvd. Way
Walnut Creek, Ca 94595-1303

1-22-09

VO

Joshua Cross
Comm. Conservation & Development Dept.
651 Pine St., Fourth Floor
Martinez, Ca 94553-1229

CONTRA COSTA
JAN 26 11:51 AM
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

RE: # LP08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary

Dear Ms. Cross,

Please require the Sufism
Reoriented Development to put
up "story poles". At a meeting
held in our neighborhood on Jan.
15, Chris Martin himself said
that they could not, because the
^{proposed} structure ~~was~~ is "too big"!

This lack of transparency on their
part is not right. The neighbor-
hood needs to see the proposed
height and scope.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Stacey Bradley

Lisa & Jonathan Bredekamp
2359 Warren Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

July 30, 2008

Ms. LaShun Cross, County Planner
Contra Costa County
Community Conservation and Planning Department
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL 31 PM 1:17

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

RE: Opposition to the plans to build the Sufi Reorientation Sanctuary on Boulevard Way

Dear Ms. LaShun Cross:

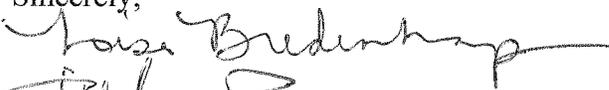
As homeowners in the Saranap neighborhood we have concerns about the plans to build the Sufi Reoriented Sanctuary on Boulevard way, Application LP08-2034/MS08-0011. My husband and I love the Saranap area and chose to move here to raise our family. The design of the Sufi Reoriented Sanctuary would overtake seven residential lots, which would change the feel of this semi-rural, residential neighborhood. The design, as proposed, is not suitable for this residential neighborhood. We are not opposed to the church or its congregants, just the unsuitable architecture, and the projected future expansion in this older, quiet, residential neighborhood.

We are also concerned by the increase in traffic during the construction of the Sufi Reoriented Sanctuary, once it is occupied, and when the bookstore is opened and the sanctuary is opened to the public. We live on Warren Road and find turning onto Boulevard Way is already dangerous—The compound's driveway opening onto Boulevard Way would create an additional collision hazard for people entering or leaving. Many drivers using Boulevard Way are elderly, and despite assurance that the sight-line distances are adequate, we propose requiring a greater sight-line distance.

In addition to the sight-line distance not being adequate, a six-foot, brick wall or fence would also convey a sense of exclusion and isolation to our Saranap visitors, neighbors, and passers-by. If similar walls were added to the area it would become an uninviting enclave resembling a penal institution!

Please notify us of any actions or hearings on this application and any related projects to our home address mentioned at the top of this letter. Thank you in advance.

Sincerely,



Lisa & Jonathan Bredekamp
Saranap Homeowners

MARTHA H. BREED
1285 CLOVER LANE
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595
(925) 935-3634

CONTRA COSTA
08 DEC -9 PM 12:30
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

LaShun Cross
Contra Costa County Planner
Community Conservation and Development Dept.
651 Pine St., 4th floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Re: Application LP08-2034/MS08-0011
Sufism Reoriented proposed sanctuary

I am writing to you about SUFISM REORIENTED's expansion plan for their property on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek (unincorporated).

I am strongly opposed to the size and scale of their proposal. It is not appropriate for our residential neighborhood.

We like it suburban/semi-rural, with infrequent sidewalks and streetlights.

Their building would be monstrously out of proportion to its surroundings, and we live here!

I question the need for such a huge project for a congregation of 350 persons.

Their current presence in the neighborhood is quiet and welcome; their expansion plan is not welcome.

Please keep me informed of your role in the upcoming hearings and reviews of this expansion proposal.

Yours truly,

Martha H. Breed

0
✓

March 25, 2009

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

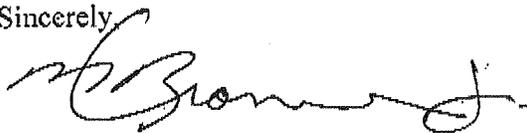
Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary

Dear Ms. Cross:

I object to the propose Sufism Reoriented project along Boulevard Way. The building is too large, the architectural style and color is obtrusive, there is not enough parking, and all the existing tree will be cut down.

I urge you to deny this project, and have the applicant re-design the building and site layout to better conform to the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,



Merrick Browne, Jr.
1136 Saranap Ave
Walnut Creek

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229.

Fax: (925) 335-1076

Dear Planner,



Ms. Carolyn Campbell
2481 Warren Rd
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

LC
X

I am very concerned regarding the development in the Sarawap area as planned by the "Sufism Reoriented Inc."

I have seen the rendering as noted in the C.C. Times - Tues. 7-29-08.

This design is totally out of place in our old historic Sarawap neighborhood.

Also our traffic is out of control, too many cars, too many speeders.

Please do not pass this development. It is totally wrong for our old-fashioned area.

8-4-08

Sincerely
C. Campbell



"Cary Carlson"
 <carycarl@gmail.com>
 07/31/2008 12:39 PM

To gayle@bos.co.contra-costa.ca.us
 cc
 bcc
 Subject Sufism Reoriented Expansion

3
 dup
 COPY

Dear Mam,

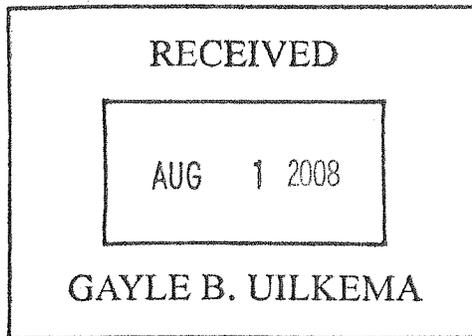
Please listen of the residents of Saranap opposed to the Sufism Reoriented project. The Sufis took over our Saranap Community Association by packing our annual meeting with people who do not even live here. They will claim to represent me and my fellow residents. They do not. As more actual residents find out about the group's intention to expand their center, they wonder "why so big and why so secretive?" I don't want to sound paranoid, but how large do they expect to become? Will this become a regional center? They already have their present center, the leader's compound (White Horse Ln), the White Pony School on Leland, and the large property at 1871 Geary Rd. No one wishes to deny them their right to worship, but does a 60,000 sq ft, and a 6 ft or taller wall around it really fit in sleepy Saranap? Does increased traffic come with safety concerns? I think so. Due illuminated domes with spires really work? I don't think so. Furthermore, there should be an environmental impact report done to examine the inherent consequences of such a large project.

This is being rushed and forced upon us. We the actual residents of Saranap are beginning to organize to slow things down, so that all the ramifications of this project can be examined. I look for your good leadership in this matter.

Respectfully,

Cary L. Carlson

541 Center St.
 Walnut Creek, Ca 94595



not a dupl.

541 Center Street
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

LaShun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

UNTRACOSIA
08 JUL 28 PM 1:43
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

July 24, 2008

Dear LaShun Cross,

I am writing to you in opposition to the proposed Sufi Reoriented project on Boulevard Way in unincorporated Walnut Creek. My wife and I have owned our home here in Saranap for 29 years. Nothing remotely this large has ever been put forth in our area. We enjoy the semi-rural charm of this community and do not think that the proposed building/compound is in keeping with our "laid back" way of life.

I was not always opposed to the expansion of the Sufi temple. My neighbors, who are Sufis, first approached me about it some months back. They showed me an artist's renderings which painted a nice picture. I very much like my neighbors so I was predisposed to go along with the project. However, I decided to do some research into Sufism Reoriented and found among other things, that they have a large presence in our area. I have heard varying accounts of their numbers—from 350 to 400 households within our community. They have their present temple on Boulevard Way, the leader's compound on White Horse, the White Pony School, (pre-school through 5th grade.) also in Saranap, and a large facility at 1871 Geary Road Walnut Creek. They seem to have adequate room for meetings, dining and performances now.

My point is that there is concern among myself and others that the Sufi group is expanding and will continue to grow and that their purchasing of the land for the project is just the beginning of a larger plan. Organizations grow or they perish. There is further concern that this will become a regional center and thus draw more visitors.

One of our larger concerns is the increased traffic on Boulevard Way and the safety issues commensurate with the increased flow. The intersection of Kinney and Boulevard Way is treacherous now. The high wall/fence proposed will further hamper vision and thus make it inherently more dangerous.

There is also the matter of removing homes from the tax roles as the Sufis enjoy a tax exempt status. In an ever shrinking tax base as property values decline and homes are re-accessed, this is no small matter. Seven homes and a business property were swallowed up for this project.

Please understand that I have no dislike of the Sufis as they seem like genuinely nice people, but the proposed large project as it now stands is not in keeping with our traditional Saranap values--that of a semi-rural, residential community.

Thank you for your consideration,

Cary Carlson



Sufism Reoriented
1300 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

September 16, 2009

0
Request to
be
removed from
list of
supporters
①

Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor- North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: Land Use Permit Application # LP0802034, Supplementary Documentation

Dear Ms. Cross:

② Add to Oppose

Please be advised that Ms. Joyce Dickson, 2461 Warren Road, Walnut Creek, CA, 94595, has contacted us and asked that her name be removed from the list of supporters of our project. We would appreciate it if you would follow through on her request.

Thank you for your support in keeping accurate records of our neighbor's views and concerns regarding the sanctuary project we are proposing for Boulevard Way.

Sincerely,



Robert Carpenter

Cc/ Joyce Dickson

December 1, 2008

LaShun Cross
Contra Costa County Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

CONTRA COSTA
08 DEC -4 PM 1:01
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Attn: LaShun Cross.

As homeowners on Juanita Drive for over 44 years, we are adamantly opposed to the proposed 66,000 square foot building complex to be constructed on Kenny and Boulevard Way.

This is and has always been a small residential community. The roads will not accommodate the additional traffic-there are no sidewalks to keep the children and walkers safe from the onslaught of all the traffic that this complex will bring in.

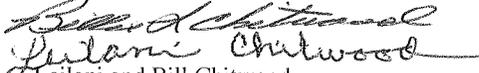
There would be more noise and congestion and the city would need to expand the fire, police and ambulance services which are already very costly to the city and its residents.

If this complex is being called a "house of worship", it should not be built in a small neighborhood. Houses of worship in small communities are not 66,000 square feet.

We urge the City of Walnut Creek to seriously consider all the consequences of how this proposed 66,000 square foot structure will affect our community.

Thank you for your consideration and we request that you take our opposition to the project very seriously.

Sincerely,


Leilani and Bill Chitwood

X

Sent Via FAX 925-335-1200

July 29, 2008

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am sending this letter to state my opinion that the proposed Sufism Reorientation Development Project is out of character with the Saranap area and not in the best interest of the neighborhood as a whole. The project furthers the wishes of few, for their benefit, at the expense of their surrounding neighbors and needs to be fully studied and discussed.

1. The Size of Development is Entirely Inappropriate for the Neighborhood

The proposed 60,000 square foot non residential structure (approximately two football fields of building space), sets precedent for huge development. We do not see any reason why a 375 member group needs that much space? There are no guarantees that their existing facility and other properties they currently own will not be retained and incorporated in to a much larger complex or campus even further out of step with the neighborhood.

2. The Design and Architectural Style and Incompatible with the Neighborhood

The Sufism Reoriented planned campus sets precedent for enormous growth inconsistent with the semi-rural character of the neighborhood. The design has a look and feel that is absolutely incompatible with the surrounding neighborhood. The very large and very tall domes, the extremely long high concrete walls, and the overall height of the project are not only out of character with nearby and neighborhood homes, but are also completely inconsistent with neighborhood business commercial properties in this area.

3. The Project Results in a Significant Net Reduction of Residences and is Detrimental to the prospect of Future Responsible Residential Infill

The project will result in the destruction of 7 existing residential structures. While this in itself is bad, the overall project and previous Sufi-related projects have and will utilize substantial additional land that would otherwise be available for additional homes if it were properly utilized for responsible residential infill that is compatible with the overall character of the neighborhood and the current zoning of the property. The impacts of the number of overall existing homes that

would be destroyed and the lost opportunity for additional residential infill should be studied.

4. Traffic Nuisance and Safety

The amount of traffic generated would clog the neighborhood streets. Warren Road traffic is likely to increase as motorists attempt to enter the planned facility near a blind curve. It is likely that Boulevard Way will have to be widened to accommodate non residential traffic patterns. How many stoplights and turning lanes might be needed? Anticipated traffic impacts should be analyzed in an Environmental Impact report.

5. The Project Will Have a Negative Fiscal Impact the Tax Revenues of the County The combination of the reduction of existing residential structures, the lost opportunity for responsible infill residential and commercial development, the unknown costs of mitigating other negative impacts of the proposed development such as traffic and drainage, and the fact that this huge development is being undertaken by an entity which operates on a tax exempt basis will together potentially have huge negative fiscal impacts on Contra Costa County.

6. The Project is Likely to Create Substantial Drainage Problems

Significant drainage issues exist at the corner of Warren Road and Boulevard Way. Drainage issues resulted in rejection of a previous incompatible development (Lion's Gate development). The subject project is a short distance from a wild creek with a history of unresolved erosion control issues, and is likely to cause problems with land stability (see the Ryan Shaw Appeal, April 5, 2005 findings). The project would require significant grading, in excess of 50 cubic yards, with a large area of new impervious surfaces with unknown impacts to nearby property owners and existing drainage systems overall.

7. The Project will Result in the Loss of Native and Compatible Trees

Saranap Area continues to lose heritage oaks and other mature trees, including the oaks and other native species which exist on the property to be developed. The impacts of these losses need to be quantified and part of an environmental study.

8. The Proposed Development Would Provide for Uneven Property Rights

Should this project proceed, as a nonprofit organization, Sufism Reoriented is being provided with access to significant development rights under R10 zoning which are denied to current local residential property owners located in areas of R-1 0 zoning. These plans allow a drastic change to the character of the neighborhood while the majority of Saranap Area complies with the R10 zoning restrictions in order to preserve the community.

9. Lack of Due Notice to Property Owners

The decision on requiring an Environmental Impact Report is being made in a vacuum because the neighbors and businesses in the surrounding area

(Saranap) have not been properly notified. Residents and businesses have not been provided notice of upcoming deadlines and actions. All residents within a reasonable radius of the property should receive information about this project, including notice of public actions, events, hearings, applications, etc.

The impacts of this huge development which is significantly incompatible with the overall character of the Saranap neighborhood and would have adverse environmental impacts on the neighborhood and County in so many ways needs to be fully studied and fully discussed in a publically noticed forum.

Sincerely,



Rebecca A. Christensen
3311 Freeman Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

March 20, 2009

To: Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229
Fax: (925) 335-1200

From: Carole Chuckovich
1115 Juanita Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94595

RE: Application LP 08-2034-MS-08-011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary

I grew up in Saranap and live in the family home. It has come to my attention that a coalition of residents in our community has purchased 7 residential lots with the objective of demolishing several of the existing single dwelling properties to build a mega-structure with square footage approximating 66,000 sq. ft.

This is a rural area, outside the city limits and has been primarily a quiet residential area with limited small business. The proposed 66,000 sq. ft. building would encompass approx. 10,000 more sq.ft. than the White House Complex in our nations capitol! That is a national landmark hosting over 5,000 visitors per day. **The size and scope of this project is excessive and not compatible with the character of the community.**

My recommendation is that the plans be modified to a more reasonable size, appropriate for a local sanctuary instead of the proposed mega-structure. The proposed site will be replace residences and extend the commercial segment into the residential properties.

The existing location of the sanctuary is not intruding on residential properties. Perhaps a project of a more suitable scale could be considered on that parcel of property and parking in one of the other lots within a short walk. I believe residents would be more amenable to the sanctuary in the long established commercial area.

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1076

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL 24 PM 1:25

Robert W. & Donna L. Clark
1470 Dewing Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

July 23, 2008

LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Re: Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary

Dear Mr. Cross:

This letter is to voice our strong opposition to the structure that the Sufism Reoriented group is proposing in our semi-rural neighborhood. The structure is massive and the illuminated domes are not in keeping with our neighborhood community. The fact that the structure is 60,000 square feet and will sit on over 3 acres makes us wonder about the future growth of this organization. Future growth means more traffic and congestion on an already heavily traveled road – Boulevard Way. The fact that most of the building will be underground will lead to massive excavating, noise and pollution of the air. The impact of this structure will forever change our neighborhood which we all love so much.

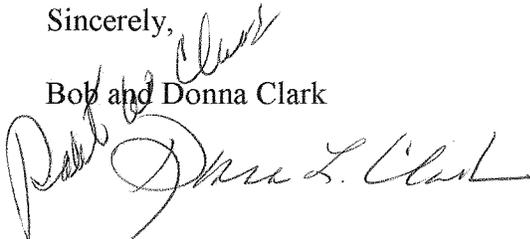
Another concern that we have is the landscaping. The “Artist’s true perspective rendering” shows dozens of mature trees, vines and flowering plants. What if the purposed on-site well can’t accommodate all of the watering needs? Do they rely on EBMUD or let all the vegetation die which would make the “domes” more unsightly.

Please take into consideration the fact that most of the folks in this neighborhood live in single family homes and we relish our rural privacy and sense of community that Sufism Reoriented has never been an active part of until recently with the aggressive mailings and the “sales pitch” that many of us have heard.

Please stand behind the majority of the Saranap residents and say NO to this structure.

Sincerely,

Bob and Donna Clark



X

CONTINUED

Wednesday, July 30, 2008
Aron Clymer
1260 Dewing Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

08 AUG - PM 12: 00

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Dept.
651 Pine St., 4th floor – N. wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229
FAX: 925-335-1255

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

CC: The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553
FAX: 925-335-1076

Dear Ms. Cross:

As a resident of the Saranap neighborhood of Walnut Creek, I am extremely concerned about a proposed new 60,000 sq. ft. facility to be built near my home (on Boulevard Way) by Sufism Reoriented, Inc. My immediate concern is the lack of communication about key dates in the county development approval process and exactly how I can be more involved in decision making. For instance, a neighbor informed me that this Friday, August 1st, the County will rule to determine if an environmental study is required for this project. I think this is a critical study and should be mandated due to the high impact of such a large development that will remove indigenous old-growth trees and impact a local stream.

I am also very concerned about the impact of this development on the character of the neighborhood. I'm very surprised such a large building is legal to construct under the current R10 zoning. I have seen an artist's drawings of the proposed buildings, and they are large, white domes that do not remotely match the existing building architectures in the neighborhood. The entire facility will be surrounded by a white, tall, concrete wall that is not inviting and stands out starkly against the rest of the houses and commercial buildings nearby.

I moved into this neighborhood because of the rural, quiet, residential character. The neighborhood is zoned as R10 to preserve this character. The proposed Sufism Reoriented facility is not consistent with the zoning and will make the neighborhood much less attractive to me and potential future residents. The fiscal impact of this situation, combined with the tax-exempt status of the Sufism Reoriented organization, is very detrimental to the neighborhood and the county.

Kindly ensure that an environmental impact study be made mandatory, and also consider scaling back or disallowing the project all together.

I much appreciate your time and attention.

Sincerely,



Aron K. Clymer

X

July 30, 2008

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation & Dev. Dept.
651 Pine St. 4th floor – North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

I am becoming increasingly uneasy with the proposed development for an organized church by Sufism Reoriented, Inc. to be located in my neighborhood. There are a number of reasons for this concern but foremost among them is not the fact that I am in any way opposed to organized religion.

What concerns me most is the size of the development – 60,000 square feet of a building in a neighborhood comprised of primarily 10,000 square foot lots and much smaller houses. It is considerably out of place. The other concern is the way the organization is going about the application process. While everything appears above board there seems to be an underlying atmosphere of deceit to the neighborhood association, namely the Saranap Community Association.

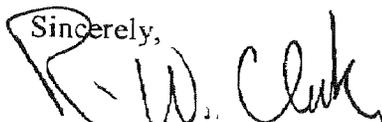
While this may not be a direct concern to the planning commission you should be aware of what happened at the last meeting of the SCA (although some of you were in attendance).

1. There was an election of directors of the board of the SCA held at the meeting
2. There were several nominations made for write in candidates all of whom were members of the group advocating the development of the church.
3. While there was a desire to question the write in nominees none was allowed
4. All of the write in nominees were elected to the board
5. The ballots were collected by one of the candidates (who was on the ballot and who was re-elected) who is also a member of the group proposing the development
- 6 As a consequence the board of directors of the SCA is now controlled by the developer of the church.

Item number 6 is most disconcerting since it is tantamount to having a developer or group of developers directing the planning commission or elected to the board of supervisors. Additionally, I am frustrated since I feel I have no voice to you or the board of supervisors via the SCA since their opinion will be one of support of the development, which I oppose.

I would urge you to look at the application process very carefully, see it for what it is, a large "commercial" development in a residential zoned area that would alter the complexion of the neighborhood inexorably, and potentially open the door for further expansion of similar development, be it religious, commercial, mixed use, industrial or any other category altering the semi-rural atmosphere of this area.

Sincerely,



Robert W. Clark
1470 Dewing Lane
Walnut Creek, 94595
925-938-3597

APPLIANCE AMERICA INC. dba
CONTRA COSTA APPLIANCE
AND KITCHEN CENTER

→ 1100 Boulevard Way, Walnut Creek, CA 94595
Phone: 925-946-1100 Fax: 925-946-0940

0 ✓
COPY

6/29/09

TO: Supervisor–Gayle Uilkema–651 Pine St.Rm.108 Martinez, Ca. 94553. 925-335-1046

FROM: Russ Clark – Owner of Contra Costa Appliance & Kitchen Center

RE: Concerns and complaints relative to the Sufism church being planned for a blvd way location in Walnut Creek / Contra Costa County

My name is Russ Clark and I have owned Contra Costa Appliance and Kitchen Center at 1100 Blvd Way. in Walnut Creek for the last 20 years, which I took over from the original owner and founder who established the business in 1949.

The new Sufism church would be located about 5 blocks from my store, going south from Mount Diablo Blvd. on Blvd. Way. The city / county cutoff is just south of my store.

Myself and many other business owners and residents have expressed many concerns about having a church located in the middle of a business and residential community.

The complaints range from the size and unusual architectural style of the building, traffic congestion, and the effect it may have on business volume and home values in the area. It's tough enough to run a successful business with the normal challenges we face, we don't need another issue to deal with.

I am speaking for myself and others I have talked with in the area that feel it would be a big mistake to approve a structure such as this in our business and residential community.

I can be reached at my store phone number of 925-946-1100, Monday through Thursday between the hours of 1 P.M. to 5 P.M. if you would like to discuss this issue further.

Sincerely,



Russ Clark

The following form was submitted via your website: Contact Us - Conservation & Development

Your Name:: Joyce A. S. Coleman

Your Email:: joycecoleman29@yahoo.com

Your Phone Number:: 925-408-4638

Please select one or more Divisions or Sections.: Administration (Director), Advance & Current Planning, Application & Permit Center, Community Development Division, Transportation Planning, Unknown - General Conservation & Development Info

Subject:: Proposed Sufism Reoriented Development Project in Saranap

Message:: Please immediately deliver this e-mail to the appropriate Planner, Ms. LaShun Cross, Community Conservation & Development Department, and any other County Employees/Boards reviewing this project by August 1st.

I have been hearing a lot of concern from neighbors regarding the proposed 60,000 sq. ft. facility proposed for Boulevard Way. I have been quiet to date because I have nothing against the members of Sufism Reoriented and personally feel that a church is an acceptable use of a residential neighborhood.

Howev er, that having been said, I do understand the concern about a 60,000 sq. ft. facility being approved without an Environmental Impact Report. This is an extremely large church facility. The facility is much larger than what one would expect for a 375 member group even in light of their intention to use it as a training facility. The impacts to the surrounding neighborhood should be studied based on the number of people that one would normally expect to use a 60,000 sq. ft. church facility instead of being based on a 375 member group.

An EIR should definitely be required before approval of this facility. Environmental Impact Reports are required for other developments of this size. Please consider that the size of this facility could create significant impacts in a number of areas and require an Environmental Impact Report be completed before the proposed project is approved.

The impact to the surrounding neighborhood should be studied including traffic and safety impacts, drainage and grading impacts, potential groundwater impacts to an underground facility, design compatability of a gated facility with high concrete walls, dome lighting impacts to the surrounding neighborhood's night sky, and any impacts to heritage oaks or other protected trees.

Please do not approve this facility without conducting a thorough study of the potential impacts of the proposed development. The surrounding neighborhood needs to know whether they will suffer a significant impact as a result of this development.

If an Environmental Impact Report determines that there will be no significant impact to the

surrounding neighborhood, the members of Sufism Reoriented deserve to have the surrounding neighborhood know that the issues were thoroughly studied and that they do not need to worry about potential impacts.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Joyce Ann Stieger Coleman

781 Hilton Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

How would you like for us to contact you?: Please respond to me by email

Additional Information:

Form submitted on: 7/31/2008 1:36:29 AM

Submitted from IP Address: 66.234.223.82

Form Address: <http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/forms.asp?FID=45>

2/7

, 2009

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0 /

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name Christine Conner

Print name Christine Conner

Address 61 Panoramic Way Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

August 1, 2008

Attn: Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

CONTRA COSTA

08 AUG --6 PM 1:17

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

CC: Gayle B. Uilkema

Dear Ms. LaShun,

I am writing to you to voice my concerns about the Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary project that has been proposed for the Saranap neighborhood in Walnut Creek. As a resident of Saranap, I am extremely worried about the effects this project would have on our neighborhood. I am also very concerned that the majority of home owners in the neighborhood are unaware of the full scope of this project, and in addition that many others are completely unaware of any plans for a Sufism Reoriented new sanctuary.

As a homeowner that purposefully purchased residential property in a semi-rural neighborhood, I am upset that it is possible for such a project to go through. When reviewing Sufism Reoriented's proposal I plead with you to consider the following:

1. This project includes tearing down seven residential lots. Residential land should remain for residential use only. Encroachment of businesses or otherwise (places of worship) jeopardize our residential neighborhood.
2. The size and design of Sufism Reoriented new sanctuary is completely out of character with the surrounding neighborhood and doesn't keep within the current codes set in place. It will drastically change the look and feel of our quaint Saranap neighborhood. Thirteen domes at a peak height of 35' will be an eye sore to the area and not blend in with the surrounding areas.
3. Traffic/congestion concerns: Sufism Reoriented has stated their membership will not increase with the new sanctuary. I am hoping that would be the case. However, I have been told they have plans to sell the property they currently occupy and use as their place of worship. By doing so a new group/business/whatever it may be, would occupy the old building hence traffic will increase on Boulevard way even if Sufi membership does not increase.

Considering the scale of this proposed project I think it's important that all residents of Saranap be notified and not just immediate neighboring homes. The scope is much larger than say simply adding a second story to someone's ranch style house. This project will affect the whole community. Whatever notice can be provided to the community would be much appreciated. And I am personally requesting to be notified of any/all hearings regarding this project.

Thank you,
Debbie Cosentino
161 Camino Posada
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
925-287-8065
debcosentino@yahoo.com

Debbie Cosentino

January 20, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JAN 22 P 12:17

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

Regarding the proposed Sufism Reoriented sanctuary, I only make a simple request: enforce the county laws and regulations that have been established to keep our community safe and livable. In other words, no variances on height or parking should be granted – both of these variances would lead to unreasonable pedestrian and motor traffic in the surrounding community. The Sufis claim to mostly walk to the sanctuary to limit traffic, but when/if this property is sold, the new occupants will certainly not live in such concentration around the site. This is a disaster waiting to happen and will drastically change our lovable neighborhood permanently.

I request that the County provide direction to the applicant to modify their design to accommodate the current county laws and regulations. I also request that the County require the applicant to install story poles, so that the neighbors and other interested parties can view the proposed layout and size of the building.

Sincerely,



Joe Cosentino
161 Camino Posada
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1076

Contra Costa County

I would ask the county to consider this in their review of this project.

The Sufies are good friend and neighbors and have the right to build an appropriate building/sanctuary/church.

But consider this:

- **66,000 SF+ (proposed structure size)** for a 350 membership. Our group did some church building research and 10,000 sf to 20,000 sf structure is the appropriate size to build or less if there membership is truly reducing
- Their plan to **dig down 36 ft** about the size of a football field to put most of there building below grade - that is a massive amount of soil, trucks and mess for months then the massive process to bring concrete in to fill it up. Totally unheard of for a residential neighbor hood. Just think if they had a 10yd dump truck leave the job site every 15 min 8hrs a day it would take over 9 months....this project is way way over the top. I don't care if it is a Boy Scout structure it is way too big. And inappropriate for our neighborhood.
- Did you know there are only 7 Sufies at White Pony! (the neighborhood Sufie school) Their numbers are getting smaller in the school and the children of the parent Sufies are for the most part not becoming members! So why the huge gigantic compound? Something that I feel would over power and dominate our rural Saranap community.
- Look at the design come on.....no matter how you sugar coat that look in does not fit with the surroundings. And all white, white, white roofs, walls solid wall fence. I would not do that to anyone much less try to sell it as "fitting in the neighborhood" it will look like a large spaceship has landed in a compound.

I think I am an open minded person that wants to keep any development in our neighbor hood reasonable.

Tim & Donna Crawford
3330 Freeman Rd
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
(925) 938-4117

MARCH 6, 2009

LASHUM CROSS,
Comm. Cons. & Development Dept.
651 Pine St. 4th Flr N. Wing,
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA

2009 MAR -9 P 12:57

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

RE: Application LPO8-2034/MS08-0011

To Whom it may concern:

I AM WRITING YOU THIS LETTER IN STRONG OPPOSITION
TO THIS PROJECT!

I HAVE LIVED IN THE SARANAP AREA SINCE 1956.
(EXCEPT FOR COLLEGE) THE AREA I LOVE SO MUCH AS A
CHILD MAY CHANGE FOR EVER IF THIS PROJECT IS
ALLOWED TO BE BUILT.

PLEASE CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:

- 66,000 SF STRUCTURE IS 3 TIMES THE SIZE NEEDED
FOR A 350 MEMBERSHIP "CHURCH".
- TO DIG DOWN 36' TO OBTAIN THE SQUARE FOOTAGE
THEY WANT IS ABSURD IN A RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBOR-
HOOD.
- JUST LOOK AT THE SIZE AND DESIGN AND LOOK
AT OUR NEIGHBORHOOD — IT DOES NOT COME CLOSE
TO FITTING IN OUR COMMUNITY.

PLEASE CONSIDER THE WHOLE COMMUNITY BEFORE APPROV-
ING THIS PROJECT.

Tom Crawford.

3330 Freeman Rd
Walnut Creek CA. 94595

X

July 29, 2008

CONTRA COSTA

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

08 JUL 30 PM 1:52

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Hello –

I have lived in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek/Lafayette for 52 years and it is a wonderful rural community. My parents are still in our family home. My brother and his family are in the neighborhood as well. My husband and I have raised 3 boys here. Four people that I grew up with have relocated to the same block as we lived on as children as well as their parents. That is how strong we feel about our neighborhood & the good feelings here.

I don't want a "holy war", as I believe the Sufi's (who are planning this gigantic compound) are preaching a positive message of "Love". However, the church that they are planning to put in our neighborhood is so out of character, size and design with our little homes and what is presently there AND it is planning to be built on residential land! This is the hardest part for me to understand, how it could possibly be OK to build a "business" on what is supposed to be residential property! I don't want to see Boulevard Way turn into a strip of commercial property that meets with Olympic Blvd. I want to see homes with people – babies in strollers, kids on bikes, families and older people out walking. The traffic that this will undoubtedly create will be a nightmare.

My husband, parents and neighbors are truly concerned about our property values taking a dive, as who would want to live near this monstrosity other than the people in the small Sufi community.

There are plenty of options out there other than this piece of land.

If the compound is built, it is very likely that my family will move out of the area. How sad that would be for us and for this lovely little community.

Thank you for your time in reading this letter.

We moved in our Ponderosa home

July 1957.

--Jeanette Crawford Baird
20 La Casita Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

*We are the parents and Grandparents
of the above and feel very strongly*

about keeping our neighborhood intact

We are in our eighties and hope when

cc. Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema

*we see one of our grandchildren
will want to live in this wonderful
area.*

*Betty J. Crawford.
Calvin K. Crawford*

FEB - 18, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

2009 FEB 20 P 1:11

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name Mural R. Dark

Print name Mural R. Dark

Address 924 Juanita Dr Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

December 1, 2008

LaShun Cross
Contra Costa County Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

CONTRA COSTA

08 DEC -4 PM 1:01

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Attn: LaShun Cross.

As homeowners on Juanita Drive for over 50 years, we are adamantly opposed to the proposed 66,000 square foot building complex to be constructed on Kenny and Boulevard Way.

This is and has always been a small residential community. The roads will not accommodate the additional traffic-there are no sidewalks to keep the children and walkers safe from the onslaught of all the traffic that this complex will bring in.

There would be more noise and congestion and the city would need to expand the fire, police and ambulance services which are already very costly to the city and its residents.

If this complex is being called a "house of worship", it should not be built in a small neighborhood. Houses of worship in small communities are not 66,000 square feet.

We urge the City of Walnut Creek to seriously consider all the consequences of how this proposed 66,000 square foot structure will affect our community.

Thank you for your consideration and we request that you take our opposition to the project very seriously.

Sincerely,

~~Mark~~
Mark

name?

DARK
see previous
HT.

July 30, 2008

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Dept.
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor – North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

We are very uneasy in regards to the proposed development for an organized church by Sufism Reoriented, Inc. to be located in our neighborhood. There are a number of reasons for this concern but foremost among them is NOT the fact that I am in any way opposed to organized religion.

The size of the development is ENTIRELY inappropriate for the neighborhood, 60,000 square feet for a 375 member group is obviously outlandish. In regards to the other properties owned, will they try to change them to be much larger?

The design is totally incompatible to the neighborhood semi-rural character and completely inconsistent with neighborhood business commercial properties. The impacts of the number of overall existing homes that would be destroyed and the lost opportunity for additional residential infill would be very detrimental.

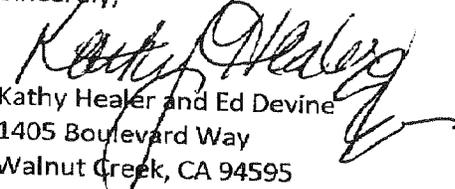
The amount of traffic generated could possibly require widening Boulevard Way. I don't think they would be able to buy properties from homeowners to suit THEIR needs.

Significant drainage issues exist at the corner of Warren Road and Boulevard Way, where we now live, would be detrimental. The property at the corner of Warren Road and Boulevard Way already has major issues of drainage into the property and back up from the creek. The drainage will create a pool of live setting water with "breeding mosquitoes".

Also, the construction of this project will create a "HUGE" infestation of "MICE" in properties adjacent (Iris Court, Warren Road and down Boulevard Way) to the jobsite.

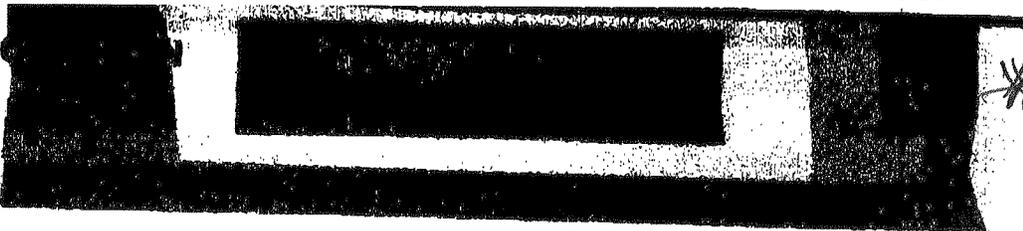
We urge you to look at the application process very carefully. It is very detrimental to the community, not only in looks but with issues of buying and selling property if property owners need to relocate to other areas.

Sincerely,


Kathy Healer and Ed Devine
1405 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

SYLVIA DEWARD INTERIO

SYLVIA DEWARD, ASID



53 Acorn Ct.,
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
United States of America
925-933-2340

deward8751@sbcglobal.net

FAX

Date: 7/30/08

Time:

To: Ms LaShun Cross

Phone: 925/335-1229

Fax: 925/335-1222

From: Sylvia Deward, ASID

Phone: 925-933-2340

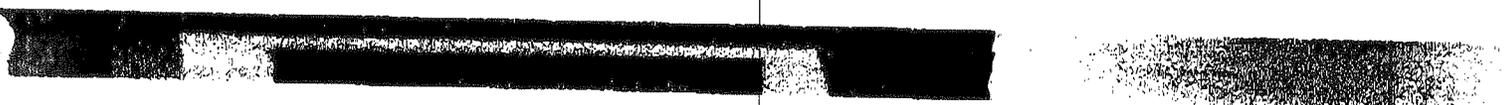
Fax:

Re:

Number of pages including cover sheet:- 3

MESSAGE:

Please remain ready
Super Remixed project



I live in Saranap and am now aware of the proposed project of the Sufism Reoriented.

1. Why do 375 people need 60,000 square feet . It sounds as though they are planning to make this a Convention Center. The mind boggles at the increase in traffic, parking etc. Obviously they are expecting bus loads of people if they are to justify the size of the project.
2. Exactly what are they planning?
3. The very expensive design fees have already been allocated to a New York firm, no funds for a Walnut Creek or even California Architect. The out of state firm will probably use an out of state construction firm, considerable loss of jobs for Contra Costa County..... In these economic times, not what I would consider a neighbourly thing to do, and they are trying to present an image of quiet neighbourly people . I have no doubt there is more to this than they wish to portray.
4. The Architectural firm is a famous one, Philip Johnson, people do tend to visit buildings built by famous firms. This will account for additional people and traffic.
5. White Domes and a lot of them in a neighbourhood of rural ranch homes, utterly ridiculous. No attempt to fit in. Call it a Mt. Diablo look alike and it will be fine, I think not. This is a flagrant disregard for the integrity of Saranap..
6. Traffic on Olympic at rush hour for the N- S. Freeway access is now chaos, What do you think Boulevard Way will become ? Warren Road is a quiet dog walking street. If Boulevard Way is allowed to become a traffic nightmare, Warren the center of this area will suffer greatly, endangering child and animal safety.
7. Sufi Oriented does not pay taxes, will we be expected to pick up the tab for additional road requirements? This should not be passed onto our budget.
8. Rossmoor has many elderly people, they need the services of ambulances and Boulevard Way if one of their routes. If Olympic is congested as it now is frequently, and Boulevard Way is also congested, this could mean the difference between life and death. Fire truck access is always needed. I have had need of 2 fire engines in the last 18 months, I want their route to also be free .
9. Lots of businesses on Boulevard Way have no idea of this project or it's size. ? Why is this?
Everyone should be aware of how this is going to affect their lives and businesses , to say nothing of property values.
No parking, consequent loss of business.
10. We have adobe soil in the area, drainage is a constant problem. We have had to put in French drains and a sump pump. What do you think the drainage problems will be if they excavate for the "Underground Temple"? All of the residential homes around could end up spending a lot of money to resolve problems caused by such a large project. Water does flow down hill, Acorn Court where we live had to resurface our road and we put in drains to divert the water, will we have to increase our drainage, as we are at a lower spot than the project? We will be affected, no question. No one is explaining this to the people of Saranap.
11. The wild life and the health of the creek has to be addressed, we have to consider this. We know from experience that bulldozers have very little regard for old trees that get in their way. All of this has to be protected.

12. I realise that only a certain radius from the project is notified, this will not be adequate for this project, we all wish to be informed of every detail of meetings etc. The entire neighbourhood, residences and businesses need to know. It will impact the way we live, transport ourselves and to say nothing of impacting our property values.

We comply with R-10 zoning to preserve our community, the project would provide for uneven property rights. They would be provided with significant development rights denied to residential parcels. We are in favour of preserving our quiet community. We are asking to have all of these issues addressed and a public forum for everyone to be kept informed and to be made aware of all the damages that it could cause. We are relying on you to address these issues which are so vital to our lives in Saranap.

SYLVIA DEWARD, ASID
53 Acorn Ct.,
Walnut Creek, Ca 94595

 ASID
7/30/08

To: Ms LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine St., 4th Floor -North Wing
Martinez, Ca94553-1229

CC: The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St Room 108A
Martinez, Ca.04553

CONTRA COSTA

08 AUG -1 PM 12:00

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

July 30, 2008

Ms. La Shun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation & Development Dept.

I am writing to you concerning the Sunion Reoriented, Inc.'s plan to build a 60,000 sq. ft. facility using 7 residential properties. These properties could then become R10 zoning as non profit organization. We would loose monies that should be paid to properties taxes.

I am also concerned about this large internationally renowned firm (Philip Johnson Alan Ritchie Architects, based in Manhattan) designing underground (2 stories) ~~and~~ to only one store at ground level - Then the landscape design 6 foot brick wall with plants to hide the building from public view.

I hope this issue will be further discussed. Please include notice of public action, events, hearings to the Saranap neighbors. We will all be affected by this large building in our residential neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Carole Dewing

Saranap homeowner Since 1973

copy - Gayle B U;Kema

LaShun Cross- *Community Conservation & Development Department*

July 23, 2008

I am writing this letter concerning the proposed building of the new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek.

My wife and I have been in Saranap for 35 years now. We have always been happy with the area the way it is. Unincorporated, rural and changing ever so slowly. That's what our Saranap neighbors like about our area.

This new proposed 60,000 square foot structure speaks for 354 people and not the general populous of Saranap. It is written that this membership has remained "consistent" for some 25 years. Then why is this large structure needed? Is this just the beginning of things to come?

I for one was unaware that Sufism Reoriented had bought up 7 parcels of residential land and the old Boulevard Market. It seems that there may be unlimited financial support. Once this proposed structure is built will other homes adjoining their surroundings be purchased?

I am told that at the Saranap Association meeting (in which there were to be new board members elected) that 75 new (Sufi) members came to the meeting and signed up and voted. That sounds like someone has an agenda.

Will this new structure be paying taxes just like myself and my neighbors?

How would the average person feel about having this structure in their neighborhood?

I would appreciate it if I could be notified of any actions or hearings concerning this project. Reference Application LP08-2034/MS08-0011.

Thank you for taking the time to read my thoughts on this issue.

Sincerely, Thomas K. Dewing

CONTRA COSTA

December 8, 2008

08 DEC 10 PM 1:50

Lyn Diana
1285 Clover Lane
Walnut Creek, California 94595

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

LaShun Cross, Contra Costa County Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine St, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 945553-1229

Regarding: Application LP08-2034/MS08-0011

I am writing to you regarding the application as listed above. This concerns the expansion of the Sufism Reoriented plans for expansion/building of a new sanctuary on Boulevard Way. This newly proposed building is totally out of scale for our residential neighborhood.

There are many problems with this proposed expansion. It will result in a structure that is massive and will result in the destruction of heritage trees and all trees on the property, an undersized parking area, an architectural design that is not in keeping with our area, a huge white wall surrounding, an extremely tall building we will all see from all angles. Please do not allow this to happen. This is our home and it is not fair to the neighborhood to allow this building. I do not like it that to gain my support I was personally lied to by church members regarding what they plan to do ...this is bad behavior.

Please keep me informed about this issue and let me know when there are public hearings as I want to attend. Thank you.

Lyn Diana
1285 Clover Ln.
Walnut Creek, Ca. 94595

2/08/, 2009

0
dup

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name Martha Diaz

Print name Martha Diaz

Address 150 Rose St. Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Ulkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

CONTRA COSTA

08 AUG --4 PM 1:55

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

August 1, 2008

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Dear Ms. Cross,

My husband and I are 28-year residents of the Saranap Neighborhood. We love the rural feel of this area which is why we chose to move here.

We would very much appreciate the County's reviewing the environmental impact of the development planned by Sufism Reoriented, Inc.

We are concerned that the project is out of scale with the neighborhood, and we support the concerns listed on the attached summary of concerns.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. We feel it is very important to have a study done by the County before approving such a large-scale development.

Sincerely,



Sally Draskovich

The Draskovich Family
2201 Whyte Park Ave.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
925-938-5181

Summary of Saranap Neighborhood Concerns Regarding the Proposed Sufism Reoriented Development Project

- 1. The Size of Development is Entirely Inappropriate for the Neighborhood**

The proposed 60,000 square foot non residential structure (approximately two football fields of building space), sets precedent for huge development. We do not see any reason why a 375 member group needs that much space? There are no guarantees that their existing facility and other properties they currently own will not be retained and incorporated in to a much larger complex or campus even further out of step with the neighborhood.
- 2. The Design and Architectural Style and Incompatible with the Neighborhood**

The Sufism Reoriented planned campus sets precedent for enormous growth inconsistent with the semi-rural character of the neighborhood. The design has a look and feel that is absolutely incompatible with the surrounding neighborhood. The very large and very tall domes, the extremely long high concrete walls, and the overall height of the project are not only out of character with nearby and neighborhood homes, but are also completely inconsistent with neighborhood business commercial properties in this area.
- 3. The Project Results in a Significant Net Reduction of Residences and is Detrimental to the prospect of Future Responsible Residential Infill**

The project will result in the destruction of 7 existing residential structures. While this in itself is bad, the overall project and previous Sufi-related projects have and will utilize substantial additional land that would otherwise be available for additional homes if it were properly utilized for responsible residential infill that is compatible with the overall character of the neighborhood and the current zoning of the property. The impacts of the number of overall existing homes that would be destroyed and the lost opportunity for additional residential infill should be studied.
- 4. Traffic Nuisance and Safety**

The amount of traffic generated would clog the neighborhood streets. Warren Road traffic is likely to increase as motorists attempt to enter the planned facility near a blind curve. It is likely that Boulevard Way will have to be widened to accommodate non residential traffic patterns. How many stoplights and turning lanes might be needed? Anticipated traffic impacts should be analyzed in an Environmental Impact report.
- 5. The Project Will Have a Negative Fiscal Impact the Tax Revenues of the County**

The combination of the reduction of existing residential structures, the lost opportunity for responsible infill residential and commercial development, the unknown costs of mitigating other negative impacts of the proposed development such as traffic and

drainage, and the fact that this huge development is being undertaken by an entity which operates on a tax exempt basis will together potentially have huge negative fiscal impacts on Contra Costa County.

6. The Project is Likely to Create Substantial Drainage Problems

Significant drainage issues exist at the corner of Warren Road and Boulevard Way. Drainage issues resulted in rejection of a previous incompatible development (Lion's Gate development). The subject project is a short distance from a wild creek with a history of unresolved erosion control issues, and is likely to cause problems with land stability (see the Ryan Shaw Appeal, April 5, 2005 findings). The project would require significant grading, in excess of 50 cubic yards, with a large area of new impervious surfaces with unknown impacts to nearby property owners and existing drainage systems overall.

7. The Project will Result in the Loss of Native and Compatible Trees

Saranap Area continues to lose heritage oaks and other mature trees, including the oaks and other native species which exist on the property to be developed. The impacts of these losses need to be quantified and part of an environmental study.

8. The Proposed Development Would Provide for Uneven Property Rights

Should this project proceed, as a non profit organization, Sufism Reoriented is being provided with access to significant development rights under R10 zoning which are denied to current local residential property owners located in areas of R-10 zoning. These plans allow a drastic change to the character of the neighborhood while the majority of Saranap Area complies with the R10 zoning restrictions in order to preserve the community.

9. Lack of Due Notice to Property Owners

The decision on requiring an Environmental Impact Report is being made in a vacuum because the neighbors and businesses in the surrounding area (Saranap) have not been properly notified. Residents and businesses have not been provided notice of upcoming deadlines and actions. All residents within a reasonable radius of the property should receive information about this project, including notice of public actions, events, hearings, applications, etc.

The impacts of this huge development which is significantly incompatible with the overall character of the Saranap neighborhood and would have adverse environmental impacts on the neighborhood and County in so many ways needs to be fully studied and fully discussed in a publically noticed forum.

Feb 8, 2009

dup

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name

CL Duarte

Print name

CL Duarte

Address

2241 Whytepark Ave Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

Feb 8, 2009

0
✓

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name David Duarte

Print name David Duarte

Address 224 Whytepark Ave Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

2-9-09, 2009

0 ✓

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name Terry S. Duff

Print name Terry Duff

Address 90 Panoramic Way Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

Feb 7, 2009

0 ✓

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name Joy Erven

Print name Joy Erven

Address 2617 Olympic Blvd. Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

Please Read Filing Errors

0 ✓

CONTRA COSTA

2009 FEB 10 10 14 25

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

February 15, 2009

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Dept.
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Reference Application LP08-2034/MS08-0011

Dear Ms. Cross,

I have written to you on two former occasions **opposing** the Sufi Sanctuary Plan as submitted. There has been a clerical error and my letters have been placed in the **support file**.

Although, I originally signed a petition supporting the Sufis, I discovered that my original contacts and discussions with Sufi representatives did not represent the plans as submitted to the county. I am **opposed** to the 66,000 sq. ft. sanctuary plans as submitted. The magnitude of this project does not belong in a semi-rural area.

Please remove my letters from the support pile and place them in the **opposed**.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Judy Fassler
2837 Kinney Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

2/19/09 PAH

✓ Deleted from Support
✓ Added to Oppose

Cc: Honorable Gayle B. Ulkama
Supervision, District 2, CCCBOS
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

July 23, 2008

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL 25 PM 1:14

Mr. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Dept.
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Reference Application LP08-2034/MS08-0011
Due August 1, 2008

Dear Mr. Cross,

We are writing you regarding the plans to build the Sufi Sanctuary on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek. We are in favor of the Sufis finding a permanent home for their sanctuary, but I have concerns for the surrounding neighborhoods.

1. We reside at 2837 Kinney Drive, Walnut Creek, Ca 94595. I have lived in this home for 25 plus years. I have friends who live on Boulevard Court and on Boulevard Way just southwest of the proposed sanctuary. Traffic on Boulevard Way has increased drastically over the years. The curves impede clear visions of sight when executing turns out of my friends homes on to Boulevard Way. I am witness to the fact that this is the case for their neighbors also. In addition automobiles travel at high rates of speed in the 25 mile zone continually. With the addition of the sanctuary we will see even more traffic on Boulevard Way and increased risks of fatal accidents. Traffic impact must be studied and mitigation measures must be in place before any sanctuary is approved for building.
2. Although the sketches rendered by the Archetect are truly beautiful, we are concerned that a structure , such as this, does not fit in with the semi-rural character of the neighborhood. It has been our experience that even when homes are remodeled in the area they for the most part keep their 40's/50/s charm. Glass domes do not blend with the nature of the surrounding areas.
3. I have sat down with a friend of mine and reviewed the preliminary artists sketches of the sanctuary. There are three domes and they eventually will be hidden from site with landscaping, I am, as well as my husband, still concerned with the ambient light they will project into the air space above that will encroach into surrounding neighbors air lots after dark. Saranap is semi-rural residential area. There are no street lights. On many nights the skies are void of artificial light. Any huge light source would be a blight on the neighborhood. The light source will be visible to neighbors well outside the 300 yard range, especially in the fall and winter when many of the trees in the neighborhood are bare.
4. We have been informed that there may be contamination in the ground soils due to the various land uses through out the years at the site location. 66% of the sanctuary is underground. The volume of dust (in the summer) and mud (in the winter) that will be caused by the construction of this Sanctuary is huge. The project should have an environmental clean-up plan in place and written procedures on how they plan to deal with containing contaminated dust and mud and for that matter all dust and mud.
5. What about the wear and tear on our streets during the construction phase of this project? Who is going to pay for the repairs? The track record of the county to

hold the construction/owners accountable for repairs has failed in our area. Please check out the Olympic Blvd below the upper King Drive project. The contractor is done, his equipment is gone, and the street remains in disrepair. In addition, I have noted that this same project has continually suffered from inadequate drainage systems. Boulevard Way is a major thorough fair and cannot suffer from these damages. In addition, the residents of the neighboring areas should not be held responsible for the repairs that benefit a select group of sanctuary users.

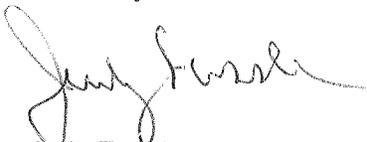
6. The Hidden Oaks project (Lafayette) was close to the Las Trampas Creek, during the excavation phase skeletal remains of Indians were dug up. Hidden Oaks was an Indian burial ground. This piece of property is also close to a creek – are there similar archeological concerns or has this been explored?
7. Lastly, I am concerned with the County approving a project that will remove 7 pieces of property from our tax roles as it is reclassified as exempt for a religious sanctuary. I had originally been told that it was only three lots. How can a county, that is in such dire straights, with the collapse of the housing industry afford to lose property taxes from parcels that currently blend into our rural area. The sanctuary will not contribute to the county tax revenue.

It is critical that the infrastructure (sewers, traffic mitigation, etc ...) to support the sanctuary be in place before any building is allowed. I would hope that an EIR would be required given the scope of the project and its environmental impact on the surrounding neighborhoods.

Any sanctuary plans should work with the character of the neighborhoods that surround it. A Reverend Schuller Crystal Cathedral certainly does not fit in with our semi-rural neighborhoods and runs the risk of encroaching on nearby neighbors properties.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Judy Fassler
2837 Kinney Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
94595



David Fassler
2837 Kinney Drive
Walnut Creek, CA

March 9, 2009

Lashun Cross
Contra Costa County Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

CONTRA COSTA
MAR 13 11:31
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Re: Application LP08-2034/MS08-0011
Sufism Oriented proposed sanctuary

Dear Miss Cross,

Please note that as a Saranap area resident, I feel the need to voice my concern and opposition to the major Sufism Reoriented project being proposed.

When neighbors came by and asked me to sign something for approval, I stated that I could not sign such approval as I have concerns about the project. Questions in regards to driveway access location, parking, actual height and size of the building(s), have not been adequately answered, to name a few.

There was a mailing that noted that most of the members would walk to this sanctuary. I find this hard to believe because I do not see most of these people walk to the current location. I see them parking across the street and on the street of the neighborhood. If they do not walk now, why would I believe they would walk to the sanctuary further down the street? Please keep in mind, the fact that demographics change. With a sanctuary having square footage bigger than our United States White House, I'm sure the idea is to attract more membership, which will come from outside the immediate neighborhood. These people will definitely not be walking to the sanctuary. In fact, I foresee that the parking will not be sufficient and parking will spill over into the residential neighborhood. This brings more traffic to a 3-way corner that already has limited view without the proposed huge wall that will surround the property.

I also have the concern that this project will take up a substantial area zoned for residential building. The Saranap area has the appeal of a residential neighborhood which enriches its value. This project should not be accepted especially because it is not for residential purposes.

I hope that you can understand and empathize with my concerns and I thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,


Linda Fealy

X

CONTRA COSTA

July 31, 2008

08 JUL 31 PM 1:12

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

RE: Sufism Reoriented, Inc. Proposed 60,000 sq. ft. Sanctuary located on Boulevard Way, Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Dear Ms. Cross:

We own our home @ 2439 Warren Road, Walnut Creek, CA 94595 in the Saranap area for the past 33 years. We oppose the proposed building of the Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary on Boulevard Way in the Saranap area. We feel the proposed building is unsuitable for the Saranap semi-rural neighborhood because:

- 1) The building is too big for the neighborhood,
- 2) The building will most likely generate more traffic in the area which could lead to safety issues for pedestrians as well as cars on residential roads,
- 3) The building will eliminate residential lots for future homes,
- 4) The building may add noise pollution to the area with large HVAC units running 24 hours a day, and noise from members
- 5) The building may make light pollution to the neighborhood with night lighting for meetings, and for landscape

The size of this development is entirely inappropriate for our neighborhood.

A study of the environmental impact of this proposed development is needed.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Kristin Ferguson
Kristin and Allan Ferguson
2439 Warren Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
925-935-8664



LaShan Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine St., 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

July 30, 2008

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema

Re: Application LP08-2034/MS08-0011

Dear Ms. Cross,

As a twenty-five year resident of the Saranap area in Walnut Creek I must register my strong opposition to the proposed Sufism Reoriented sanctuary in this neighborhood.

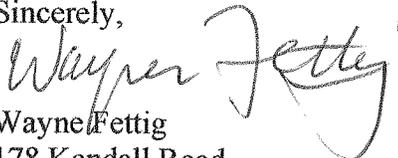
Some of my concerns are as follows:

- The parcels in question that would need a land use permit are zoned R-10 and have had single family homes occupying the lots since their subdivision in the 1950's. Most of us who live in this neighborhood cherish our semi-rural nature and usually resist attempts for wholesale change to that effect. This is certainly a monumental change to the original intended use. I am also concerned about a domino effect that any zoning changes, variances or land use permits would enable and thereby encourage inappropriate development to chip away at our residential neighborhood. Allowing a massive intrusion such as this would send a clear signal to other developers that the Saranap area is ripe for the picking. Indeed there is no indication that the Sufism Reoriented group would stop at this as they have amassed a tidy little portfolio of properties in the neighborhood. And I might add that they have plenty of options available to them with their current holdings without invading residential areas.
- From 1983 to 1988 I lived across the street from this proposed development. I lived at 3 Garden Court on the corner of Garden Court and Boulevard Way. The parcel now named White Horse Court, next to this project, was used for at least the entire time I lived there as a corporation yard or storage facility for PG&E. I believe there were also a number of other pieces of heavy machinery stored on this lot that may have belonged to the property owner at that time. It is my opinion that the soil on that lot may have easily been contaminated as practices were considerably more lax in those days and would not have been subject to any inspections. I state these observations because I understand some of the plan proposes to go underground. Certainly any contaminates next to it would be an issue.
- I am also concerned about the sensitive drainage issues on that end of Warren Road, which borders this project. This project is only one lot away from a sensitive, wild creek. The creek has had chronic instability problems in the time I've lived in the neighborhood and I know many residents who live next to it have seen serious erosion to some of their properties.

I think it would only be prudent to insist on an Environmental Impact Report before any considerations are made.

Also, I would like to be notified of any activity regarding this project, to be sent to the address below.

Sincerely,


Wayne Fettig
178 Kendall Road,
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPT
08 JUL 30 PM 2:24
CONTRA COSTA

January 20th, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JAN 22 P 12: 17

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Fax: (925) 335-1200

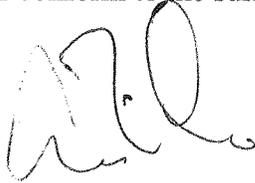
**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

I object to the propose Sufism Reoriented project along Boulevard Way. The building is too large, the architectural style and color is obtrusive, there is not enough parking, and all the existing tree will be cut down.

I urge you to deny this project, and have the applicant re-design the building and site layout to better conform to the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,



Loren Fink
722 Hilton Road Walnut Creek CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1076

February 17, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

2009 FEB 18 P 1:24

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
APPROVED

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

I object to the propose Sufism Reoriented project along Boulevard Way. The building is too large, the architectural style and color is obtrusive, there is not enough parking, and all the existing tree will be cut down.

I urge you to deny this project, and have the applicant re-design the building and site layout to better conform to the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,



Craig Fisherkeller

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1076

Ian V. Fry, Ph.D.
2346 Warren Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595-1247

LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Dept.
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL 30 PM 1:52

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

July 28, 2008

RE: Opposition to the Proposed Sufi Reoriented Project on Boulevard Way in unincorporated Walnut Creek: reference application LP08-2034/MS08-0011

Dear Ms. LaShun Cross,

I am writing to you to voice my opposition to the proposed plan to build a Sufi sanctuary on Boulevard Way. I am opposed to the building of this mosque type edifice for the following reasons:

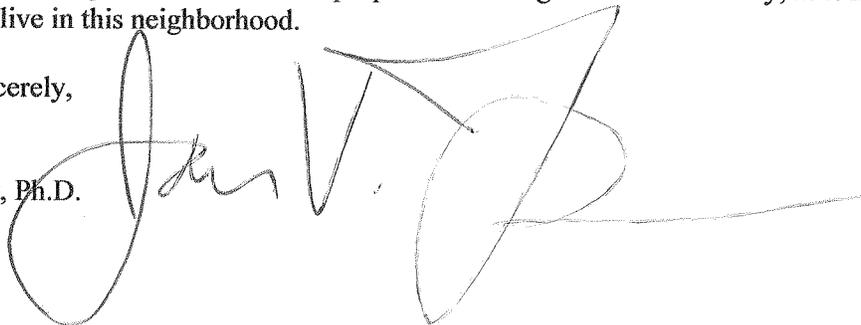
1. The change from residential to non-residential would have a negative impact on the neighborhood. I have lived in my home since 1988. I chose this neighborhood because of its charming, semi-rural atmosphere. The building of such a large and incongruous structure would not be in keeping with the existing architecture of the area.
2. The semi-rural residential nature of this neighborhood is desirable and is reflected in the property values. The value of my property will be compromised if this project is allowed.
3. The design of the proposed sanctuary, with high wall and mosque-type domes that would dominate the area is not suitable for this residential neighborhood.
4. The environmental impact due to increased traffic because of construction and then usage is a great concern.
5. In addition to greater traffic, the proposed driveway opening is such that visibility is poor, thus creating a driving hazard. There will be residents of Rossmoor and other elderly people who drive along Boulevard Way may be at risk from this potentially hazardous entry and exit.
6. The loss of property tax revenue from at least seven parcels of single-family homes is substantial. This much needed money for our community services like fire response, police service, road maintenance, public schools and so forth would be gone.

Again, I must emphasize my opposition to this proposed rezoning of our semi-rural residential neighborhood.

I will be following the outcome of the proposed rezoning of this area closely, as it is a detriment to all that live in this neighborhood.

Yours sincerely,

Ian V. Fry, Ph.D.



Sherilyn Fry
2346 Warren Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595-1247

LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Dept.
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

CONTRA COSTA
08 JUL 30 PM 1:52
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

July 27, 2008

RE: Opposition to the Proposed Sufi Reoriented Project on Boulevard Way in
unincorporated Walnut Creek: reference application LP08-2034/MS08-0011

Dear Ms. LaShun Cross,

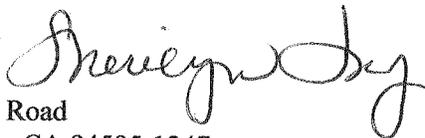
I am adamantly opposed to the proposed plan to build a sanctuary on Boulevard Way because of the following reasons:

1. The change from residential to non-residential would have a negative impact on the neighborhood. I have lived in my home since 1988. I chose this neighborhood because of its charming, semi-rural atmosphere. The change would not be in keeping with the existing beauty.
2. The semi-rural residential nature of this neighborhood is desirable. I feel the value of my property will be compromised.
3. The design of the proposed sanctuary is not suitable for this residential neighborhood.
4. The increased traffic because of construction and then traffic from usage of the facility is a grave concern.
5. In addition to greater traffic, the driveway opening is such that visibility is poor, thus creating a collision hazard. Everyone particularly residents of Rossmoor and other elderly people who drive along Boulevard Way may be at risk from this potentially hazardous entry and exit way.
6. The loss of property tax revenue from at least seven parcels of single-family homes is substantial. This much needed money for our community services like fire response, police service, road maintenance, public schools and so forth would be gone. Would that mean cut in services?

I will be following the outcome of the proposed rezoning of this area closely. Please notify me of any actions or hearings on this application and any projects related to this, at the address below.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sherilyn Fry



2346 Warren Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595-1247

COPY 0 ✓



"Doug"
<ddgary@comcast.net>
07/30/2008 10:23 AM

To <gayle@bos.cccounty.us>
cc
bcc
Subject Objection to Proposed Sufism Reoriented Development Project

Dear Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema,

I am writing today as a long-time resident of the Walnut Creek-Saranap area. Having only yesterday learned about the upcoming August 1st pending County ruling on the next step for the Walnut Creek-Saranap area Sufism Reoriented development, I wanted to provide you with my personal objections against this project.

First and foremost, the impacts of this huge development is significantly incompatible with the overall character of the Saranap neighborhood and will have adverse environmental impacts on the neighborhood and County in many ways that need to be fully studied and discussed in a publicly noticed forum. Furthermore, the decision on requiring and Environmental Impact Report is being made in a vacuum because the neighbors and businesses (Saranap) have not been properly notified. This is a significant issue and needs to be mitigated and resolved.

Other factors for the case to my Objections:

1. The size of the development is inappropriate for the neighborhood.
2. The Sufism Reoriented planned campus sets precedent for enormous growth inconsistent with the semi-rural character of the neighborhood.
3. The project results in a significant net reduction of residences and is detrimental to the prospect of future responsible residential infill.
4. Traffic & Safety: the amount of traffic generated would clog the neighborhood streets. Anticipated traffic impacts should be analyzed in an Environmental Impact report. The Public should be given reasonable notice for study and understanding following the report has concluded.
5. The project will have a negative fiscal impact on the tax revenues of the County.
6. The project would provide for uneven property rights under R10 Zoning.
7. The project will result in the loss of native and compatible trees.

In summary, I urge you to block the Sufism Reoriented development until residents and businesses have been provided appropriate notice of the upcoming deadlines and actions. All residents within the impact area of the development should receive information about this project, including notice of public actions, events, hearings, applications, etc.

This urgent issue is important to the Saranap area residents, and I urge you to consider our shared concerns as you take action pertinent to the Sufism Reoriented planned project. I also request you please pass these concerns to Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner (she has no known public email and the urgency and time constraints regarding this matter make writing a letter irrelevant at this time).

Respectfully,

→ Douglas Gary,
Member, Saranap Homeowner Association-resident

Mrs. LaShun Cross
County Planner.

X

CONTRA COSTA

Dear Ms. Cross, 08 JUL 31 PM 1:17

I am writing to express my concerns about the 60,000 square foot facility that the Sufism Reoriented, Inc. are planning to build in Saranap. I have lived here since 1947. When my husband and I moved here. We built our home here and raised our children here - now our grandchildren are here.

Why are we in need of such a large facility? Why do they need an underground place and a completely fenced in secured property? No one will ever know what is going on. Are you sure that it won't turn into a commune like the one in Texas.

I'm concerned about what
it will do to our neighborhood,
all the traffic, the large
building and every other
concern that goes with a
project like that.

please, put me down
as opposed to this large
development plan.

Lillian M. Gerth
625 Center St.
Walnut Creek, Ca
94595

CONTRA COSTA

08 DEC -2 PM 1:14

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dec. 1, 2008

Dear LaShun Cross,

May I ask you to consider the following while reviewing the plans for the Sufism Reoriented building on Boulevard Way.

Is this architectural style that looks like a space ship from Mars compatible with our older ranch style homes?

Does a lengthy wall surrounding a complex really add warmth to a neighborhood, walls remind one of Berlin, Dachau and San Quentin. They are not appropriate in neighborhoods.

Would residents really visit a garden/park if it meant going into a walled and gated complex when you were not a member of the group?

Consider the noise, dirt and disruption to traffic and bus service on Boulevard Way during construction. This main road is narrow and increasing in traffic all the time and imagine the condition of the road bed with chuck holes and no money for repair. Bus service is essential to many in our area... how do we cope with this inconvenience?

And how do the environmentalists feel about the loss of all trees on acres of land, it will take years before we will enjoy mature trees and plantings. These are a few of the items that concern residents of this charming little area.

Put yourselves in our shoes and answer honestly if this is really the area to build this complex that just might become the state or national headquarters and serve more than the 350 people they claim as members. Right now the answer is NO.

Thank You

*Janet & Bob Thierardelle
55 year residents at
41 Garden Ct.*

November 23, 2008

08 NOV 25 PM 2:38

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

LaShun Cross, Contra Costa County Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

RE: Re: Application LP08-2034/MS08-0011, Sufism Reoriented proposed
sanctuary

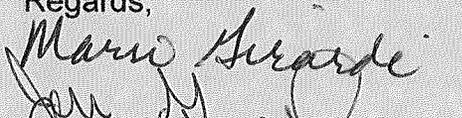
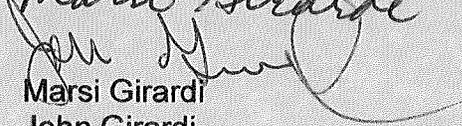
Dear LaShun Cross,

Our names are John and Marsi Girardi; we live at 1331 Juanita Drive, Walnut
Creek, CA 94595. We strongly oppose the current design, color and size of this
proposed sanctuary.

We have lived at this address since 1990 and enjoy the views of Mt. Diablo and
Walnut Creek from our home. We would not be happy to look out to see what
looks to be a space ship that has landed. The design, size and color do not, let
me repeat; do not fit in with our neighborhood.

We urge you to reject this application as it stands.

Regards,



Marsi Girardi
John Girardi

LAW OFFICES
GOFORTH & LUCAS

A LAW PARTNERSHIP

ONE CONCORD CENTRE
2300 CLAYTON ROAD, SUITE 1460
CONCORD, CALIFORNIA 94520-2143
TELEPHONE (925) 682-9500

Email: mdg@goforthlucas.com
crl@goforthlucas.com
FAX (925) 682-2353

REFER TO FILE NO.

MICHAEL D. GOFORTH
CHRISTOPHER R. LUCAS
www.GoforthLucas.com

March 16, 2009

VIA FACSIMILE (925) 335-1222
AND FIRST CLASS MAIL

Lashun Cross
Contra Costa County Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine St. , 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY
AND DEVELOPMENT

2009 MAR 18 PM 1:12

CONTRACOSTA

RE: Contra Costa County should deny Sufism Reoriented Saranap area plan

Dear Ms. Cross:

Sufism Reoriented's proposed development in Walnut Creek's Saranap area should be denied in its entirety.

The huge project is grossly out of step with the area neighborhood which is comprised of modest residential homes.

The destruction of existing trees and the imposition of supersized, outlandish architecture will adversely affect real estate values and will pose an unacceptable increased burden on the area's mounting traffic congestion.

The Sufis already have their compound, and their promotion of the bizarre, grandiose 66,000 sq. ft. building and parking lot is better suited to an area near the Las Vegas Strip.

This project obviously has no place in suburban Walnut Creek.

Sincerely,
LAW OFFICES OF GOFORTH & LUCAS


MICHAEL D. GOFORTH

MDG

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uikema
Supervisor, District 2
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

LAW OFFICES
GOFORTH & LUCAS

A LAW PARTNERSHIP

ONE CONCORD CENTRE
2300 CLAYTON ROAD, SUITE 1460
CONCORD, CALIFORNIA 94520-2143
TELEPHONE (925) 682-9500

MICHAEL D. GOFORTH
CHRISTOPHER R. LUCAS
www.GoforthLucas.com

Email: mdg@goforthlucas.com
crl@goforthlucas.com
FAX (925) 682-2353

REFER TO FILE NO.



Fax

To: Lashun Cross **From:** Michael D. Goforth, Esq.

Fax: (925) 335-12222 **Pages:** (2) Including Cover Page

Tel: **Date:**

Re: Contra Costa County should deny
Sufism Reoriented Saranap area plan **CC:**

- Urgent For Review Please Comment Please Reply Please Recycle

• **Comments:**

Please see attached letter.

MICHAEL D. GOFORTH.

LAW OFFICES
GOFORTH & LUCAS

A LAW PARTNERSHIP

ONE CONCORD CENTRE
2300 CLAYTON ROAD, SUITE 1460
CONCORD, CALIFORNIA 94520-2143
TELEPHONE (925) 682-9500Email: mdg@goforthlucas.com
crl@goforthlucas.com
FAX (925) 682-2353

REFER TO FILE NO.

MICHAEL D. GOFORTH
CHRISTOPHER R. LUCAS
www.GoforthLucas.com

March 16, 2009

VIA FACSIMILE (925) 335-1222
AND FIRST CLASS MAILLashun Cross
Contra Costa County Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine St. , 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229**RE: Contra Costa County should deny Sufism Reoriented Saranap area plan**

Dear Ms. Cross:

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The Sufis already have their compound, and their promotion of the bizarre, grandiose 66,000 sq. ft. building and parking lot is better suited to an area near the Las Vegas Strip.

This project obviously has no place in suburban Walnut Creek.

Sincerely,
LAW OFFICES OF GOFORTH & LUCAS
MICHAEL D. GOFORTH

MDG

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uikema
Supervisor, District 2
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

X

LAW OFFICES

GOFORTH & LUCAS

A LAW PARTNERSHIP

ONE CONCORD CENTRE
2300 CLAYTON ROAD, SUITE 1460
CONCORD, CALIFORNIA 94520-2143
TELEPHONE (925) 682-9500

CONTRA COSTA

Email:mdg@goforthlucas.com
crl@goforthlucas.com
FAX (925) 682-2353

MICHAEL D. GOFORTH
CHRISTOPHER R. LUCAS
www.GoforthLucas.com

July 30, 2008

08 AUG -4 PM 1:55

REFER TO FILE NO.

VIA FACSIMILE (925) 335-1255
AND FIRST CLASS MAIL

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation &
Development Department
651 Pine St, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

RE: SUFISM REORIENTED, INC. DEVELOPMENT PLANS

Dear Ms. Cross:

As a 25 year resident of the Saranap area, I am greatly concerned about Sufism Reoriented, Inc.'s (SRI) plans to construct a 60,000 square foot facility in our neighborhood.

Such a project is completely out of step with the quaint and quiet Saranap area which consists of relatively modest homes and families who have not even been apprised of the proposed development.

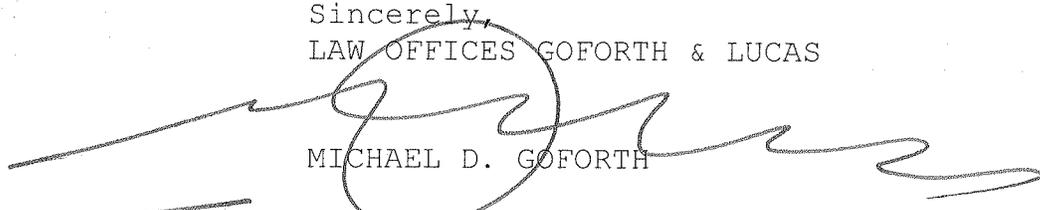
It is my understanding that SRI wants to redevelop contiguous land parcels and residential lots in a grandiose plan which will certainly negatively impact our community.

To protect property values and neighborhood safety, the County must mandate of a thorough examination and environmental review of SRI's ambitious development.

The proposed expansion of the existing SRI facility, would serve only a minuscule number of members (less than 400) yet would result in increased traffic, loss of protected indigenous vegetation, lost tax revenue and diminished property values.

The due process rights of Saranap area citizens must be protected by County and elected officials in this very important development.

Sincerely,
LAW OFFICES GOFORTH & LUCAS



MICHAEL D. GOFORTH

MDG:irg
cc: Hon. Gayle B. Uilkema

02/07/09, 2009

0

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name



Print name

Dan Goldstein

Address

121 Park Ave

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

0
✓

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development
651 Pine St., 4th Floor
Martinez, Ca 94553

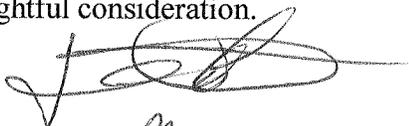
Feb., 22, 2009

Dear Ms. Cross:

We are vehemently opposed to the proposed Sufi project! I was born and raised in the Saranap, and my husband and I now live here. We came for the semi-rural, old-time neighborhood feel, and feel very threatened by what in essence is a huge domed and walled convention center, very exclusive and absolutely not in keeping with the prevailing ambience and architecture of this community. Many people, non-Sufi residents, are also opposed. The numbers grow as more details emerge about this proposed project.. We will be working to inform the neighborhood and generate a clearer picture of community feeling about this inappropriate compound. Clear-cutting trees at will, digging a massive hole in the ground, and introducing an exclusive convention center into a semi-rural residential area are audacious proposals! And the majority of the neighborhood is opposed.

Please keep us informed of any developments—our address is 30 Blvd. Ct. 94595. My parents, Kathy and Frank Rogers, also desire to be kept abreast of developments. Their address is 1496 Boulevard Way, 94595.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.


Shannon Gorman

Shannon and James Gorman

cc. Supervisor Gayle Uilkema

CONTRA COSTA

2009 FEB 24 P 2:21

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. LaShun Cross, planner
Community Conservation and Development
651 Pine St., 4th Floor
Martinez, Ca 94553

CONTRA COSTA X

08 JUL 30 PM 1:52

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Ms. Cross:

We are vehemently opposed to the proposed Sufi project! I was born and raised in the Saranap, and my husband and I have just bought a house in the neighborhood. We came for the semi-rural, old-time neighborhood feel, and feel very threatened by what in essence is a huge domed and walled convention center, very exclusive and absolutely not in keeping with the prevailing ambience and architecture of this community. Many people, non-Sufi residents, are also opposed, but they aren't well-informed about the project, and they also aren't as organized as the Sufi residents are. We know that the 7 land-use conditions have to be met before a permit is granted to begin work, and believe that there are grounds for opposition for each of the 7 conditions (see Curtis Trenor's letter to that effect). The Sufis have been less than transparent with the neighborhood about this project, and seem to believe that through sheer audacity and stealth that they can ram this project through the County virtually unopposed. We will be working to inform the neighborhood and generate a clearer picture of community feeling about this inappropriate compound.

Please keep us informed of any developments—our address is 30 Blvd. Ct. 94595. My parents, Kathy and Frank Rogers, also desire to be kept abreast of developments. Their address is 1496 Boulevard Way, 94595.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.



Shannon and James Gorman

cc. Supervisor Gayle Uilkema

to



The Gregorlys
664 Center Street, Walnut Creek, CA 94595

January 22, 2009

Via Facsimile: (925) 335-1200

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

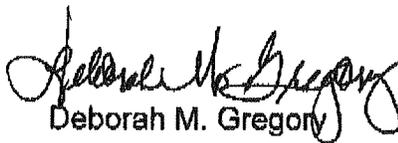
Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary

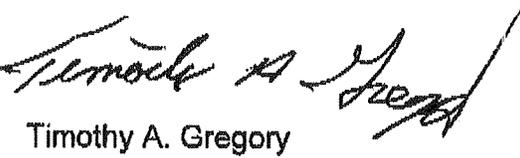
Dear Ms. Cross:

We are Saranap neighborhood residents who oppose the Sufism Reoriented proposed sanctuary development. We feel strongly that the 66,000 sf building is too large for the site and architecturally inappropriate for the area. We have deep concerns regarding parking and traffic issues associated with a structure this massive. Additionally, we believe there is not adequate screening to soften the building's appearance from the adjoining neighborhood. We are also vehemently opposed to cutting down all the existing mature trees on-site, including multiple Heritage Oak trees.

We request that the County provide direction to the applicant to modify their design to accommodate reasonable changes that address these concerns. We also request that the County require the applicant to install story poles so that the neighbors and other interested parties can view the proposed layout and massing of the building.

Sincerely,


Deborah M. Gregory


Timothy A. Gregory

cc: Via Facsimile: (925) 335-1076
Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Michelle Griffiths
191 Mesquite Ct.
Brentwood, Ca. 94513

CONTRA COSTA

February 25, 2009

2009 FEB 26 A 11:45

DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
FEB 25 2009

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, Ca.94553-1229

Dear Ms Cross:

I am strongly apposed to the Sufism Reoriented Inc. proposed project on Blvd Way in Walnut Creek.

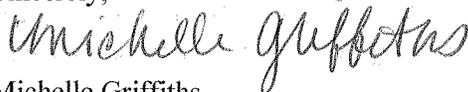
I was raised in Saranap and have lived there for over twenty years. Presently I do not live in Saranap but I feel that I have a vested interest in keeping the area semi-rural. My parents Marvin and Carol Rasmussen own a home at 2434 Warren Rd. Walnut Creek and have lived there for 38 years. I will one day along with my sister inherit their home.

The new sanctuary that, Sufism Reoriented Inc. has planned in the mist of the modest homes that line the streets along Boulevard Way and Warren will be an obtrusive eyesore with its white domes looming up in the air. The inappropriate architecture and size will surly overwhelm the ranch style homes in the small neighborhood.

The complete disregard for the neighbors along Warren Rd that abut the planned project and have lived there for many more years than the Sufis have is simply incomprehensible. They refuse to change the size, the design and the color of the building. They won't consider saving the heritage trees or putting story poles in place. Parking spaces are inadequate with two few spaces for the size of the sanctuary. I do not see where they are willing to work with the neighbors for a reasonable resolution. Why can't they change their plans to be considerate and courteous of their neighbors who have lived in the neighborhood for many years!

I am requesting that the county deny the project as proposed and have the applicant redesign the building so that it is compatible with the existing homes in the neighborhood. I also request that the county require the applicant to install story poles so the neighbors can view the size and height of the building.

Sincerely,



Michelle Griffiths

Cc: The Honorable Gayle Uilkema
Contra Costa County Supervisor
District 2

2-8, 2009

0
✓

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name



Print name

JAKE R. GULL

Address

418 BRIDGE ROAD

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

February 9, 2009

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dup

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name



Print name

Staci Gull

Address

418 Bridge Rd. Walnut Creek

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

February 7, 2009

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✓

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

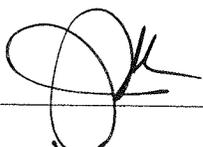
**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name _____



Print name _____

James Hawkins

Address _____

81 Park Ave,

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

01
CONTRA COSTA
2001 FEB 10 P 4:25
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
2001 FEB 10

**Irvin H. Housley
1370 Dewing Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94595**

**Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229**

Re: Proposed Development by Sufism Reoriented

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema:

It is my understanding that Sufism Reoriented is processing a proposal for a development in the Saranap neighborhood. Based upon my understanding of the project, I feel it is in complete disharmony with the character of our neighborhood. It looks more like a proposal by aliens from outer space. The project needs a new architectural concept to better blend into our residential neighborhood

I look forward to receiving more information about the project if an application is being processed.

Sincerely,


Irvin Harold Housley

**c LaShun Cross, Planner
Contra Costa County
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229**

X

CARL HUTCHINS, JR.
Ellen R. Hutchins
172 KENDALLROAD
WLNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA
94595
925 933 9854
carl.hutchins1@sbcglobal.net

July 29, 2008

FAXED TO 925 335 1229

Ms LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street
4th Floor-Northwest Wing
Martinez, Ca 94553

Re: Suffi Reoriented Project at the confluence of Boulevard Way and Warren Road
Land Use Permit LP 08-2034
Subdivision parcel adjustment MS 08 00011

Ms LaShun Cross:

I enjoyed talking with you this morning. You clarified the importance of August 1, as the date you expected input from various interested agencies of the county government, rather than a hearing date. Yes, the impact of the infrastructure will be a major one, if approved and as such I strongly urge a complete study be required

We have lived in the Saranap Neighborhood for thirty Three years. We were not young when we moved here. I served on the original Saranap Community Association, then using slightly different name.

We have no personal quarrel with the Suffi Reoriented beliefs. However, now, we do Have objections. Prior to deciding to vastly enlarge their compound, they did little in the community and took no part in the association. That was their choice and that was fine. But, when their interests grew, suddenly a campaign in the neighborhood grew. We received a brief visit and to received copies of their newsletters.

All of a sudden, a large group attended the Association meeting and joined the Association. Thence by the force of sheer numbers in the election, took over the majority of seats on the board of directors. Shades of hostile take over in the corporate or political world ! Now, an organized group within an organized group with an agenda of it's own. So, the neighbors voices are effectively stayed, or so they thought!!

Suffi Reoriented July 29, 2008

Page two
July 29, 2008
Suffism Reoriented.

Not so, we are taking this opportunity to express again the desire of the neighbors to retain the residential and small business environment of this historical community. This massive project is not within our concepts expressed to previous planners and the Board of Supervisors.

The Saranap Community Association may no longer effectively represent the views of the vast majority of persons or business, because of their abject self interest.

And as such, we have the following comments to offer:

1. Fiscal Impact. Suffism Reoriented probably enjoys tax exemption at all levels, including Contra Costa county. Thusly, if this project is approved, seven parcels will be removed from the tax rolls and the burden for the support of the infrastructure shifts to the other parcel owners. The support required by this massive development will increase dramatically.

As I mentioned in our conversation, think of the effect of a small pebble tossed into a swimming pool when compared to the effect of an automobile falling into a pool.

2. Planning. This historical community grew in preplanning days. Educated planners did not exist and your predecessors did the best they could for a rural community that grew into a combination rural/bedroom/retirement community. The infrastructure as to road lay out, water supply, drainage, police & fire protection lagged. Now, with the benefit of education and experience, we can see that involving a huge development like this would put us even further behind.

3. Compatibility. Although, the design was by a noted architecture, the long high white walls are just out of step and reminiscent of a compound that just doesn't flow with the rest of the community. It appears that one loss would be the cleverly remodeled craftsman home at the corner of Boulevard way and Kinney drive. Then consider the homes on the north side of Boulevard way, ranging from cottage style to the new single family development. The latter being a compromise with a cooperative developer and the neighborhood with the assistance of the county planning staff.

4. Land use. Residential land is in high demand. This development would remove seven residences and exacerbate the housing problem. Occupied residences would be destroyed, where do those folks go. As some of those residences arguably are approaching the end of their useful life, they do offer the opportunity for responsible replacement, such as occurred in the past under careful planning. Lucy Lane is an excellent example.

Page Three
July 29, 2008
Sufism Reoriented

5. Roads and Ways: Boulevard way has been widened in years past. I believe studies have been made to extend that widened thoroughfare down to it's intersection with Olympic. Available funding has probably stalled that amongst other reasons.

That portion of Boulevard way and certainly Warren Road, a Southern boundary of the propose compound is not capable of increased traffic. The intersection of Warren Road and boulevard Way is a problem now and is just a place waiting for accidents to happen.

6. Fair Play. Why should a relatively small group of 375 persons grab seven additional parcels to add to parcels already garnered for uses that would have little if any positive benefits to the community at such great cost to the remainder of the community. Suffism Has found it is entitled to development not in compliance with R10 zoning if their application is granted. Suppose a developer or individual chose to buy seven neighboring parcels, destroy the single family ranch homes and create a personal compound/estate bounded by tall white walls? Then choose to have large events on the property for personal enjoyment?

7. Quality of Life. Some of us are paying greater attention to the air that we breathe. Mature natural and compatible trees will be removed. Even if a substantial number are replaced, the specie may or may not be compatible and it will take years before they assume the function other lost trees in air purification.

8. Utilities. A large compound will require enhanced Electric, gas, water, sewerage, telephone and garbage. In some fashion, those increased costs will find their way into our neighbors pockets. Installation of those larger facilities will disturb the surroundings.

9. Surface and subsurface water. The present drainage facilities are inadequate for conditions as they are. This compound will add to the burden. What will the effect be? No trouble in answering that, negative. Drainage issues are remarkably important along Warren road and the creek behind the residences along the southern border of that road.. Erosion is a major issue for those residences and an added burden would likely be disastrous, with major loss of property and perhaps, even human life.

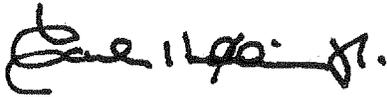
10. Notice. It would seem reasonable that a development application of this scale would e provided to individual property owners or residents. Indeed, I thought that had been worked out years ago. We have received notices of comparatively small issues in the past. Please revive that process.

Page Four
July 29, 2008
Sufism Reoriented

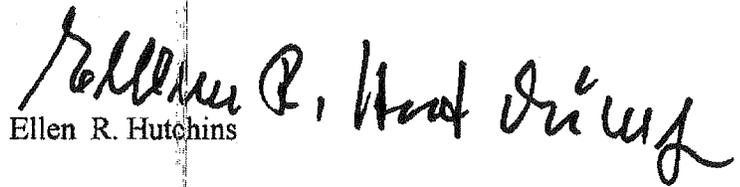
No one knows this community better than it's residents and no one is affected by change. We should have notice and a say in what happens. We can help you in your task. That is the democratic way.

Thank you for your attention and consideration in the planned development of this wonderful place to live.

Sincerely,



Carl Hutchins, Jr.



Ellen R. Hutchins

Cc Supervisor Gayle B, Uilkema
651 Pine Street Room 108 A
Martinez, California
94553

By email and/or Fax 925 335 1076

X

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL 31 PM 1:17 July 30, 2008

Ms La Shun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and
Development Dept.
651 Pine St. 4th Floor - North Wing
Martinez, Ca 94553 - 1229

Concerning the proposed development near
1336 Blvd. way in the unincorporated
Area of Saranap Ave. by the Sufism
Reoriented Church.

We think this could turn into a
huge headache for both the residents in
the Area and the County also. Tax-
wise, the County will be losing taxes
on 7 homes which would be removed,
plus unknown amounts that could be
realized.

This development will be tax free
plus unknown problems such as traffic,
parking, drainage, road construction,
slippage, etc.

Further studies should be conducted
before this project is approved.

cc: The Honorable Gayle B. Wifhemq

cc Co. Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St - Rm 108A

Martinez, Ca. 94553

Sincerely
Richard and Audrey Jackson
15 Center Court
Walnut Creek, Ca 94595

(925) 939-8377

Feb 8, 2009

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/

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name Joan L Johnson

Print name Joan L. Johnson

Address 110 El Dorado Rd. Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

2-7, 2009

0 /

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,



Sign name _____

Print name _____

LARRY F JOHNSON

Address _____

110 E Dorado Rd

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL 28 PM 1:43

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

July 25, 2008

La Shun Cross
Contra Costa County Planning
651 Pine Street
Martinez, California 94553

Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufi Sanctuary

Page One of Two

Ms. Cross:

It is my understanding that preliminary plans for the proposed Sufi Sanctuary on Boulevard Way have been submitted to the County for review.

If not already scheduled, I would like to request a public hearing to be able to review the plans and voice my concerns about the project.

At this time, without benefit of seeing any drawings, I have only been told about the extent of the proposed building. My initial concern is the size and massing of the project. As this part of Boulevard Way is still residential, it seems out of character to allow a very large non-residential project to essentially change the entire streetscape along Boulevard Way. The aggregation of many residential parcels to create one massive complex is more appropriate for a zoned business park, not a semi-rural residential neighborhood.

My second concern is the use, and potential conflict with the existing neighborhood. It seems with a project this large, it will need to have support from more than just the local neighborhood. This means added traffic, overflow parking, noise pollution, and extended hours of operations that do not bode well for the neighbors. Visitors, students, and the congregation for this large of a project will definitely have an impact on the surrounding neighborhood.

I also have a concern with the aesthetics of the project. I have been told that there is a proposed 6 ft. high solid soundwall that will run almost the entire length of the project. Behind this wall, there is proposed a series of white dome structures that will extend up 34 ft. in height. From this description, it sounds like a scientific lunar project being proposed! I am against walling off an entire frontage, with no site lines or physical breaks to soften the streetscape. The round dome structures do not have any connection with ranch style homes, nor do they convey an image of the surrounding hillside. Collectively, it appears this project is trampling over the semi-rural nature of the neighborhood, and beginning to create it own image of a modernistic compound.

July 25, 2008
La Shun Cross
Rufi Sanctuary
Page Two of Two

Lastly, it is my understanding that a full floor is proposed to be underground, to house classrooms and other multi-activities. I have a concern with ADA requirements for use and access, among other related issues. If these multi-use rooms are not allowed underground because of ADA requirements, it will stretch the building envelope even further, creating more massing and visual intrusions on an already oversized project.

I would appreciate being added to your mailing list, and would like my concerns to be addressed during a public hearing process.

Thank you for your consideration.



Brian Kilian
21 Blade Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

(925) 639-7696

Donna and Carl Kimmel
148 Camino Posada
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA

08 DEC -9 PM 12:30

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

December 6, 2008

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Regarding: The necessity of requiring 'story poles' for analysis of the application for a conditional use permit for a new worship center for Sufism Reoriented, Inc.

Dear Ms. Cross:

I had heard today that the County Planning Office is considering not requiring story poles as part of the evaluation process in the above referenced application. Frankly, that is very hard to believe.

As you know, story poles are used to show the elevations and silhouettes of a proposed building or an addition to an existing building. According to numerous land use planning sources, story poles are a very helpful tool in helping both the community and the local decision makers visualize the actual size, height and overall scope of a project (source: [www.google.com/search?hl=en&q=%22story+poles%22&btnG=Google+Search&aq=f&oq="](http://www.google.com/search?hl=en&q=%22story+poles%22&btnG=Google+Search&aq=f&oq=)).

Story poles are a common land use planning tool that results in better decisions being rendered. Residents of Saranap are used to seeing them as they are used quite commonly in the neighboring communities of Walnut Creek and Lafayette, often even for residences, but certainly for large commercial or institutional projects. I would hope that the residents of Saranap will not be getting a less complete or thorough level of project analysis and review, just because they most of Saranap is in the County.

From the over 100 letters received by the County protesting the inappropriate size and the out of character nature of the proposed Sufi Reoriented, Inc. project, how could it be anything other than crystal clear to our land use professionals and local decision makers that this project is controversial to a substantial portion of our neighborhood?

Given that the project is controversial, a lack of the requirement of story poles for a project of this size and type would give the distinct impression that the County Planning Department was not doing all that it can and should do to thoroughly evaluate project. It also may be a violation of the County's own due process for major projects of this type.

I strenuously object to the lack of the requirement of story poles for this project. They represent the best way for the community, the decision makers and even for the current proponents and developers of the project to get a sense of the actual scope of the project and its potential encroachment on the Saranap neighborhood.

This development, which is huge is size and has issues of compatibility with the overall character of the Saranap neighborhood needs to be fully studied and go through a fully transparent and as professional an evaluation process as possible so that the community and the County decision makers will have the most complete information on the nature of the project in order to make the decisions in the best interests of the community. The use of story poles is one critical tool that is needed for a complete analysis of this project.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,



Carl E. Kimmel

Cc: The Honorable Gayle Uilkema,
Contra Costa County Supervisor
District 2

X

July 31, 2008

CONTRA COSTA

08 AUG -4 PM 1:55

LaShun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Dept.
651 Pine Street
Martinez, Ca. 94553-1229

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Ms. Cross,

As a long time property owner and resident of the Saranap neighborhood, I am opposed to the proposed construction of the Sufi sanctuary. (Application#LP08-2034/MS08-0011) It would be absolutely out of place in our semi-rural residential area.

It will add nothing to the quality of life for the majority of the property owners. In fact it will negatively affect our lifestyle by impacting the look and feel of our neighborhood. More walls and dome structures, lit or not lit are not conducive to the aesthetic appeal of the area and certainly would not add value to our homes. In fact, it would be a negative to most prospective buyers in the future. (Unless of course they are members of Sufism Reoriented) The majority of the single family homeowners near me are not Sufis and do not see any benefit from this construction.

Incidentally, I would oppose any organization or religious group buying homes and lots in order to build and further encroach into our residential area. I would suggest building in an area that is better suited. (As are the locations of St. Mary's Church or St. John Vianney, for example)

I am also concerned about traffic issues. As a runner and bicyclist in the area for the past twenty two years, I am very well aware of the dangers on that part of Boulevard Way. If you add in automobile accidents (auto to auto) because of entering and exiting and just the added congestion in general, then the concerns are even greater.

The loss of property tax revenues to the County is another important matter. We are in tough economic times and this does not help the community as a whole.

Sufism Reoriented has already built a home with expansive grounds where they hold events. (White Horse Court) Now they need a sanctuary. What is stopping them from building on other properties they currently own, or buy in the future, which would further damage the semi-rural family flavor of our community if this project is approved?

Also, please keep me and all the homeowners beyond 300 feet informed of any future hearings or meetings regarding this issue.

In closing, I ask that the County not let the charm of our residential neighborhood to be ruined forever. Please do not approve this project.

Thank you,



Michael B. Krivosh
115 Baja Lane
Walnut Creek, Ca. 94595
925-705-1811

218, 2009

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✓

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name



Print name

JOHN F KNOLUE

Address

2501 Olympic Blvd.

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

Lalo and Sharon Kwiat
236 Sequoia Avenue
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

November 25, 2008

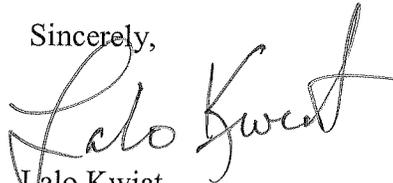
La Shon Cross, Contra Costa County Planner
Community Conservation and
Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Re: Sufism Reoriented

Dear Ms. Cross:

As a member of the Saranap Community Association and resident of this area since 1974, I am very troubled by the proposed construction and development of Sufism's sanctuary. This neighborhood has a very rural atmosphere about it. The proposed structure, and especially its size, do not conform in any way to our neighborhood. Please do not allow this project to proceed as planned. A scaled down neighborhood-friendly sanctuary would be possibly acceptable.

Sincerely,


Lalo Kwiat

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uikema
Supervisor, District 2
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

NOV 26 AM 11:46

MIRACOSTA

Lashun

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CONTRA COSTA

2009 MAR 12 P 1:33

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

3/10/09

Re: Application: LP 08-2034-MS-0011

I am writing regarding the application by Sufism Reoriented. I hope it is not too late to voice my opinion. I live on the other side of Saranap against the hills (Willow Avenue off of Olympic Boulevard). A new house was permitted on our street (corner of Sequoia and Willow) which is not in keeping with the neighborhood at all. It takes up the entire lot, the architecture is like nothing on our streets, and it is always present because the owner-builder cut down most of the trees from his wooded lot when he did his construction. It is an eyesore to a quiet residential neighborhood.

I have absolutely nothing against faith of any kind and think that Sufism Reoriented is a perfectly fine organization as I know of it. However, it was wrong of the group to take over the Saranap Association in order to pursue their goals. I believe their sanctuary will be an eyesore like the house near me. They will be cutting down trees and filling their lot as they are permitted. The sanctuary will be very present in the landscape. I won't be seeing it from my home. Others will. Those people moved to upper Saranap in order to live in a semi-rural atmosphere. They probably would have bought elsewhere if the new sanctuary was already built.

I have lived at my address for forty years and have seen a lot of changes in the area. Nothing can be done about the horrible house on Willow now (a relative recently asked me if it was a church or an apartment house), but there is still time to consider the ramifications of this application.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Leite

Elizabeth Leite
77 Willow Avenue
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL 28 PM 1:42

July 24, 2008

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Mr. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Dept.
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

RE: Sufi Reoriented Building Proposal

Dear Mr. Cross:

My husband and I have lived in our house on Warren Road for the past 36 years. We are not sure how many years the Sufi group has been in this neighborhood but we have never had any troubles or problems with this group of people and find them very friendly.

We had watched them turn a respectable restaurant into their meeting rooms with a large parking lot with flowers. This area has now grown into a structure mainly hidden by a white fence which takes up quite a bit of street length on Boulevard Way.

Our main concern is the size and shape of the building they propose. This very large dome-shaped building definitely does not belong in this older and historical residential area. We understand also that it is to be lighted at night. There is definitely no need for a big white lit-up big dome looking across residential backyards.

This would also cause more traffic and there is too much traffic now with cars coming and going from Olympic Boulevard to Mt. Diablo Boulevard constantly. We also wonder if there is any possibility that they intend to make this domed building their main Sufi headquarters throughout the Western United States. This could certainly be possible.

Thank you for your consideration on these matters.

Sincerely,



Jim and Ann Leoanrd
2318 Warren Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
925-933-3688

X

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL 31 PM 1:17

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

7/28/08

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

RE: SUFISM REORIENTED DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Dear Ms. LaShun Cross:

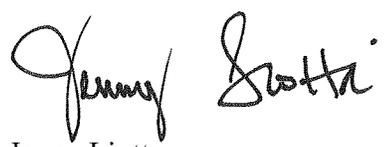
Our neighborhood is concerned about several issues related to this project.

I am especially interested in the Traffic/Safety and Neighborhood Compatibility issues. I would also like to see an AERIAL drawing of the proposed project including its exit(s)/entrance(s).

It's critical to our neighborhood that the county mandate a THOROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW OF THIS PROPOSAL.

Please notify me of any upcoming hearings related to this project.

Respectfully,



Jenny Liotta
1412 Sunset Loop
Lafayette, CA 94549-6045

January 25, 2011

Mr. LaShun Cross,
Planner
Commercial Const. Dev. Dept.
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553

License #LP082034/MS080011
Sufism Reoriented Application to Build Large Sanctuary

Dear Mr. Cross,

We still **DO NOT** want this large complex constructed in our "quaint and small" home residence neighborhood due to its enormity, its underground secretive meetings, and its impact on traffic which could involve fatalities.

My children and I drive in this neighborhood and there are ALREADY MANY ACCIDENTS AT THIS BOULEVARD WAY/KINNEY DRIVE intersection. Please check the traffic accident records! We know the traffic situation and dangers of it now. To add onto traffic and dangerous situations isn't an invitation we'd accept.

Please read (attached) January 7, 2009, July 21, 2008, and July 14, 2008 letters previously sent of the other reasons not wanting this in our neighborhood.

- NOT ZONED FOR COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT
- A SECRETIVE GATHERING PLACE. WACO? BOMBS? TIES WITH TERRORISTS? HOW CAN ONE KNOW IF THIS LARGE ESTABLISHMENT IS HIDING?

Do not allow this secretive overtaking of our family occupied residential neighborhood. We have neighborhood watch signs but how do we watch something that is built underground and doesn't allow viewing of this space?


Sincerely, Robin and Ron Longchamps

02/04/11
H

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

2011 JAN 26 P 1:48

CONTRA COSTA

January 7, 2009

Mr. LaShun Cross, Planner
Commercial Construction Development Department
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553

Re: License # LP 082034/MS080011
Sufism Reoriented Application to Build Large Sanctuary

Hi. We received a letter from Steve Sardella replying to the below letter. We still **DO NOT** want this large complex constructed in our "quaint and small" home residence neighborhood due to its enormity, its underground secretive meetings, and its impact on traffic which could involve fatalities. My children and I drive in this neighborhood. We know the traffic situation and dangers of it now. To add onto traffic and dangerous situations isn't an invitation we'd accept.

Previous letter mailed June 21, 2008...

As a neighbor located at 2755 Kinney Drive in Walnut Creek and just blocks away from the proposed Sufism Reoriented large development project, I'd like to request that the project not be approved.

Reasons:

- The large complex they are wanting to build is to be put in a neighborhood that is not zoned for commercial development. This is a neighborhood and we do not want extra traffic to the already heavy traffic areas on our neighborhood streets. We do not have sidewalks and our children use the streets for walking. It's not safe for our children. This complex is too big and should be put in a commercial development and not in our neighborhood.
- Furthermore, the complex is not like most churches. The underground facility is not open to others. It raises questions about our neighborhood's safety. It is secretive and raises questions such as what they are trying to hide, how safe are my children, and how safe is our home only a couple of blocks away.
- There's been many accidents on Boulevard Way and Kinney Drive. Having larger buildings built in this exact spot would further add to this already dangerous intersection. We don't put traffic lights in neighborhood intersections.

Thanks, Robin and Ron Longchamps

July 21, 2008

Mr. LaShun Cross, Planner
Commercial Construction Development Department
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553

License # LP 082034/MS080011

Re: Sufism Reoriented Application to Build Large Sanctuary

As a neighbor located at 2755 Kinney Drive in Walnut Creek and just blocks away from the proposed Sufism Reoriented large development project, I'd like to request that the project not be approved.

Reasons:

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- There's been many accidents on Boulevard Way and Kinney Drive. Having larger buildings built in this exact spot would further add to this already dangerous intersection. We don't put traffic lights in neighborhood intersections.

Thanks, Robin and Ron Longchamps

July 14, 2008

Mr. Dennis Collins, President
SARANAP COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
Post Office Box 2506
Walnut Creek, Ca 94595

Re: Sufism Reoriented Application to Build Large Sanctuary

As a neighbor located at 2755 Kinney Drive in Walnut Creek and just blocks away from the proposed Sufism Reoriented large development project, I'd like to request that the project not be approved.

Reasons:

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- There's been many accidents on Boulevard Way and Kinney Drive. Having larger buildings built in this exact spot would further add to this already dangerous intersection. We don't put traffic lights in neighborhood intersections.

Thanks, Robin and Ron Longchamps

X

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL 22 PM 1:19

July 21, 2008

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Mr. LaShun Cross, Planner
Commercial Construction Development Department
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553

License # LP 082034/MS080011

Re: Sufism Reoriented Application to Build Large Sanctuary

As a neighbor located at 2755 Kinney Drive in Walnut Creek and just blocks away from the proposed Sufism Reoriented large development project, I'd like to request that the project not be approved.

Reasons:

- The large complex they are wanting to build is to be put in a neighborhood that is not zoned for commercial development. This is a neighborhood and we do not want extra traffic to the already heavy traffic areas on our neighborhood streets. We do not have sidewalks and our children use the streets for walking. It's not safe for our children. This complex is too big and should be put in a commercial development and not in our neighborhood.
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- There's been many accidents on Boulevard Way and Kinney Drive. Having larger buildings built in this exact spot would further add to this already dangerous intersection. We don't put traffic lights in neighborhood intersections.

Thanks, Robin and Ron Longchamps

✓ 10

CONTRA COSTA

January 7, 2009

2009 JAN -8 P 2: 10

Mr. LaShun Cross, Planner
Commercial Construction Development Department
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Re: License # LP 082034/MS080011
Sufism Reoriented Application to Build Large Sanctuary

Hi. We received a letter from Steve Sardella replying to the below letter. We still **DO NOT** want this large complex constructed in our "quaint and small" home residence neighborhood due to its enormity, its underground secretive meetings, and its impact on traffic which could involve fatalities. My children and I drive in this neighborhood. We know the traffic situation and dangers of it now. To add onto traffic and dangerous situations isn't an invitation we'd accept.

Previous letter mailed June 21, 2008...

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Reasons:

- The large complex they are wanting to build is to be put in a neighborhood that is not zoned for commercial development. This is a neighborhood and we do not want extra traffic to the already heavy traffic areas on our neighborhood streets. We do not have sidewalks and our children use the streets for walking. It's not safe for our children. This complex is too big and should be put in a commercial development and not in our neighborhood.
- Furthermore, the complex is not like most churches. The underground facility is not open to others. It raises questions about our neighborhood's safety. It is secretive and raises questions such as what they are trying to hide, how safe are my children, and how safe is our home only a couple of blocks away.
- There's been many accidents on Boulevard Way and Kinney Drive. Having larger buildings built in this exact spot would further add to this already dangerous intersection. We don't put traffic lights in neighborhood intersections.

Thanks, Robin and Ron Longchamps

x

July 30, 2008

Lashun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Dept.
651 Pine Street
Martinez, Ca 94553-1229

Dear Mr. Cross,

We live in the Saranap Community at 2499 Warren Road, Walnut Creek. We have been here for 22 years and have seen many changes in our neighborhood. We are most concerned with the magnitude of the planned Sufism Reoriented Worship Center on Boulevard Way.

Our community is residential and the Worship Center according to stated plans is overwhelming and won't blend it with the current country feel of our area.

Our major concerns are the size, design and water run off. Las Trampas Creek runs in back of our yard. Our neighbors across the street will see an end to their quiet back yard.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Ron and Jan Looney

Jan Looney
2499 Warren Road
Walnut Creek, Ca 94595
925-934-3364

Ron Looney

0+

CONTRA COSTA

January 26, 2009

2009 JAN 27 P 12:37

LaShun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA. 94553

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Re: Application LP08-2034-MS08-0011

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am writing with regard to the proposed development of the Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary. From everything I have read on both sides of the issue, I feel that the project is too large for the site, not in keeping with the character of the neighborhood, lacks adequate parking for the size of the structure, and destroys too many trees. Traffic will be impacted both during construction as well as into the future.

Story poles should be required so both neighborhood residents and businesses can see the true scope of the planned structures. While much of what is envisioned will be behind solid walls, the proposed height of the structures would make the domes stand out like a sore thumb in the area.

The project as currently proposed does not blend well in the area and will greatly impact the adjoining neighborhoods for years to come. Please request a modification of all designs to conform more in keeping with the character of the area, retain the heritage trees currently existing and soften the appearance of the proposed structures.

Very truly yours,



Kathryn Mardiros
2882 Acacia Road
Walnut Creek, CA. 94595

2/7, 2009

0 ✓

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name

Suzanne Martinez

Print name

Suzanne Martinez

Address

71 Panoramic way Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

CONTRA COSTA

Scott & Lisa Marshall

08 DEC 11 PM 1:45
Bonita Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

925-979-0660

LaShun Cross, Contra Costa Counter Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

RE: Application LP08-2034/MS08-0011, Sufism Reoriented Proposed Sanctuary

Ms. Cross,

We are concerned about the proposed Sufism Reoriented sanctuary to be put into our neighborhood. Our issues have nothing to do with the building of a church or the practicing of religion in our area. In fact, we welcome it. Our concerns involve the immense size of the project and the destruction of the trees in the area.

From our understanding, the church is to seat over 1200 people, yet there are only 250 Sufists in the area. We cannot fathom the justification to make something so large for such a small set of people. It would be more in the interests of the area to make the church much more modest and leave alone the remaining land.

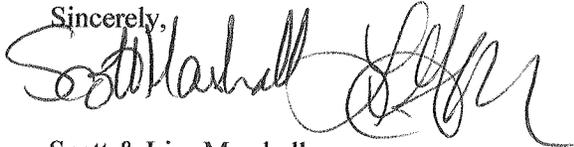
Regarding the current proposed architecture of the project, we do not believe it looks like the rest of the area. The domes, the stark white look, and the concrete design is no where to be found anywhere in saranap. We are not sure how one could justify saying it looks like the hills of the San Ramon Valley.

As for the trees, we do not see it is as environmentally sound that 42 trees will be removed to allow for this project. We moved to the Saranap area because of its natural wooded environment. We will agree that the area does have apartment complexes that may contradict that view, but I do not see the value in removing two homes, trees and all, to allow for another industrial structure.

If this project were to go forward at a smaller, meeker level, we would hope that the members of the Sufist Reoriented church would understand that we would like to keep our section of the county as beautiful as possible and in a way that contributes to the area. Along with a redesign, using local help and building in the most green and sustainable methods known, this project could become something the Saranap area would be proud to have.

Please save our area's personality and save our trees.

Sincerely,



Scott & Lisa Marshall

January 26, 2009

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After reviewing the proposed Sufism Reoriented development, I would like to register my opposition to the project. I currently reside in the Saranap neighborhood, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding homes.

Please confirm my opposition to this project, and notify me when the public hearing will be scheduled.

Sincerely,

Sheila McCauley
1141 Studebaker Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595



cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JAN 27 P 12:37

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

February 5, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

2009 FEB 10 P 12:49

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am a Saranap neighborhood resident who opposes the Sufism Reoriented proposed sanctuary development. The 66,000 sq. ft. building is too large for the site, the project is under-parked, and there is not adequate screening to soften the appearance from the adjoining neighborhood. I am also opposed to cutting down all of the existing mature trees on-site, including multiple Heritage Oak trees.

I request that the County provide direction to the applicant to modify their design to accommodate reasonable changes that address our concerns. I also request that the County require the applicant to install story poles, so that the neighbors and other interested parties can view the proposed layout and massing of the building.

Sincerely,



Dave McNamar
21 Iris Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1076

*Sally E. Mehaffey
1025 Windsor Drive
Lafayette, CA 94549*

VIA FACSIMILE: 925-335-1200

Ms. La Shun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

July 29, 2008

Re: Sufism Reoriented, Inc. Development on Boulevard Way, Walnut Creek

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am writing to express my concern regarding the above project. As a "Saranap Neighbor", I am concerned about the scope of this non-residential project in a primarily residential neighborhood. The design does not appear to be compatible with the semi-rural nature of our greater neighborhood.

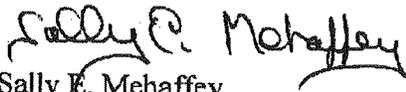
There is no doubt in my mind that the increase in traffic would present a major problem. There are many children, as well as adults, who bike in this area. Boulevard Way is a narrow, winding road and the increased traffic due to this new project would be a hazard for our neighborhood bike riders. Has anyone studied the impact of this?

What about the loss of trees? Our neighborhood continues to lose heritage oaks and other mature trees. Has there been any study to determine how many of these important trees would be lost to this development?

I would respectfully ask that the County address these and other important issues via an Environmental Impact Review. There is no question that the surrounding neighborhood would feel that their concerns about this project would have been addressed by the completion of such a review.

Thank you.

Sincerely,


Sally E. Mehaffey

cc: The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema

To: Ms LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation & Development Dept.
FAX: 925.335.1255

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL 31 PM 1:17

Copy to: Gayle Uilkema, Supervisor
FAX: 925.335.1076

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Fr: Maureen Michael
Lafayette, CA
Tel: 925.935.8050

7/29/08

Re: Sufism Reoriented Facility Construction

This note comes in regards to potential construction of a 60,000 sq foot facility on Boulevard Way. There is a County hearing scheduled for August 1. Some concerns include:

The large size of this development in a neighborhood;

Incompatible design for a neighborhood setting;

Use of potential residential sites;

Traffic generation, drainage problems, potential loss of native vegetation/trees;

Tax Revenue impact of tax exempt entity;

Environmental impact needs complete review.

In sum, there needs to be fuller study and public discussion.

Thank you for your consideration.



COLLEEN MIHELITCH
20 BOULEVARD CT
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595
925 876-2361

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JAN -9 P 12:41

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

January 8, 2009

La Shun Cross, Contra Costa County Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street 4t Floor North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

RE:Sufi Center to be built on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek Neighborhood know as Saranap Area

Dear LaShun Cross

I live in this neighborhood. My address is referenced above. I have lived in this neighborhood for the past 20 years. I have seen many changes occur during these past 20 years to include the large white Sufi center that was erected a few years ago. I never received any notice that this church was going to be built. It just appeared one day.

I am writing to you to let you know that my family does NOT support the 66,000 sq ft \$ 18 million dollar building proposed for the existing land at Kinney and Boulevard Way and running east along Boulevard Way. The building is absolutely huge and will definitely impact this small neighborhood area. Many Sufi's seem to believe that we as a neighborhood should be happy to have their new church. I do not believe they have the right to read the neighbors' minds and to say things that are untrue.

The Sufis' have spent time and money sending letters to neighbors to tell us all how great this will be for the overall area. The only thing I see is increased traffic and bright lights in the sky at night which my family will have to deal with due to the fact that my rear yard faces toward the church.

I have a real problem with them trying to push their agenda on us and not understanding that we say no. Many Sufi's joined the older original Saranap HOA and forced their way onto the board in order to get this project approved. This behavior is pathetic and unethical in my mind. The new Saranap HOA which I have changed over to seeks to block this project in order to protect our property values and to ensure that this lovely Saranap area stay small and quiet. As it is right now, Boulevard Way is a freeway and I have to contend with this every day when I leave my home. I cannot even walk my dog on this street without the fear that I or my dog may be hit by speeding cars.

I am a real estate broker by trade and this makes me even more intent on fighting this proposed disaster. If this project is allowed it will absolutely affect the home values in this neighborhood. I have worked this area for 15 years and I know the market very well. Buyers will not want to pay the high prices this neighborhood commands and then have to deal with this unsightly and bodacious building that will cause excess traffic and neighborhood problems

I beg of you to please listen to me and the others who are adamantly opposed to this project. I would also like to see this church lose its non profit status and start to pay property taxes. If this project goes forward the county will loose a lot of potential tax money owing to the Sufi's non profit status.

Please allow our side to expose our grievances and please do not let this ridiculous project go forward

Sincerely



Colleen Mihelitch and Mark Mihelitch
Terra Firma Real Estate
925 876-2361

LaShaun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and
Development Dept
651 Pine Street
Martinez, Ca 94553

June 15, 2009

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
2009 JUN 19 P 3:44
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

D

Dear Miss Cross,

I am a 45 year resident home owner at 2435 Warren Road, and, by this letter, I am expressing my opinions and concerns about the Sufi Organization's proposed building project on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek. I feel the size, depth and design of this building would distract from the integrity of the neighborhood.

The building plans appear to be too extensive for the size of the properties, perhaps challenging the set-back lines on the bordering homes.

I have great concerns about the huge excavation planned, to house offices, study and activity rooms, as well as parking underground. Even though an engineer may have indicated otherwise, there is a strong possibility that hidden troubles could arise that might harm existing homes, the fragility of Warren Road and the steep 100ft bank that drops to Las Trampas creek. The land narrows between the top of the bank and Warren Road - not far across from the building site.

The design of the Temple above ground is quite unique. However, it does look out of place with the natural and semi-rural setting of this neighborhood, which is the reason many of us chose to live here.

Also, at a time when we all are striving to conserve the use of energy and water, it seems unfair that one

group is allowed an extravagant use of energy and water, under Welfare taxation, to maintain their gardens and underground activities, without considering implementing solar panels or use of recycled materials, etc.

Many of us had established our homes in the area long before we knew of the Sufi building plans. It's now a heartbreak to think our property values will diminish because there is a Sufi Temple looming nearby.

Sincerely,
Judith Mona

This person is already
in Excel

X

July 24, 2008

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL 28 PM 1:41

Mr. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Dept.
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

RE: Sufi Reoriented Building Proposal in Walnut Creek

Dear Mr. Cross:

The Saranap community has had many changes over the years but essentially remains a residential area. Too many more changes would challenge the integrity of the neighborhood. The Sufi Reoriented building project planned for Boulevard Way would be an intrusion on the nature of this community. I feel the following concerns need to be addressed in reviewing of plans for a land use permit by Contra Costa County Planning Department:

1. The design and size of the proposed building. It does not fit in the neighborhood as it is too unique and too large.
2. The loss of valuable residential real estate for potential homeowners in a very special location.
3. Drainage, distruption of environment by digging for subterrean floor for the building, the possibility of using ground water; night lighting, and noise.
4. Traffic. There should not be through traffic from the building area to Warren Road, at any point.

Thank you for your consideration on these matters.

Sincerely,

Judith Mona

Judith Mona
2435 Warren Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

January 20, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JAN 22 P 12: 17

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

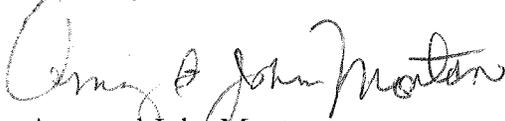
**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After reviewing the proposed Sufism Reoriented development, I would like to register my opposition to the project. I currently reside in the Saranap neighborhood, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding homes.

Please confirm my opposition to this project, and notify me when the public hearing will be scheduled.

Sincerely,



Amy and John Montano
2690 Kinney Drive
Walnut Creek

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

08 FEB, 2009

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name



Print name

DOMINIC MORENO

Address

140 EL DORADO RD.

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

February 7, 2009

0
✓

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name

Joe Moreno

Print name

Joe Moreno

Address

140 El Dorado Rd,

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

2/8/09, 2009

0 ✓

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name Melinda Moreno

Print name Melinda Moreno

Address 140 El Dorado Rd Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

COPY

December 1, 2008

Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2, Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street - Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Attn: The Honorable Gale B. Uilkema,

As homeowners on Juanita Drive for over 44 years, we are adamantly opposed to the proposed 66,000 square foot building complex to be constructed on Kenny and Boulevard Way.

This is and has always been a small residential community. The roads will not accommodate the additional traffic-there are no sidewalks to keep the children and walkers safe from the onslaught of all the traffic that this complex will bring in.

There would be more noise and congestion and the city would need to expand the fire, police and ambulance services which are already very costly to the city and its residents.

If this complex is being called a "house of worship", it should not be built in a small neighborhood. Houses of worship in small communities are not 66,000 square feet.

We urge the City of Walnut Creek to seriously consider all the consequences of how this proposed 66,000 square foot structure will affect our community.

Thank you for your consideration and we request that you take our opposition to the project very seriously.

Sincerely,



Robert and Barbara Morris



Community Conservation and Development

to: LaShun Cross, Planner

re: Application LPO-2034/MS08-0011 Sufism Reoriented Proposal on Blvd Way

This large Underground building is not suitable for an older, quiet semi-rural neighborhood of residential homes. The design, as proposed, will replace ~~will replace~~ seven residential lots. Based on the property holdings of the applicant, I expect to see more architectural growth as the organization grows, which seems to be planned because the holdings of the group and proposed building are so large.

I have lived in the Saranap area since 1967. In 1973, we needed ^a larger home and stayed in the area because this is a wonderful family orientated neighborhood. We have a 41 year vested interest.

Boulevard Way is one of two entries to the part I live in. This narrow, winding road is especially dangerous at the 90 degree turn where the entry into the compound is proposed and this curve is confusing already. There will have to be a lot more traffic on this one-lane road, based on the size of the Building.

I also object to the wall or fence wanted on this corner. The existing concrete wall already makes the place look like a fortress. This is surely not your friendly neighborhood church.

Please notify me of any actions or hearings on this application and any projects relating to it, at the address below.

Barbara Nawata & Al Nawata

Al and Barbara Nawata
761 Hilton Road
Walnut Creek, Ca 94595

X

July 31, 2008

CONTRA COSTA

08 AUG -1 PM 12:00

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross, Planner
651 Pine St.
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Reference Application: LPO8 - 2034/MS08-0011

as a member of the Saranap Homeowners Association in Walnut Creek, I am very concerned about the plans for the Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary on Boulevard Way.

We moved here in 1967 because of its quiet, country-like atmosphere - a good neighborhood to raise our children. We would like to keep it this way for other young families to raise their children but also for ourselves as retirees. The increased traffic would be another concern. Please consider this when a decision is made about our lovely area. Thank you.

Sincerely
Margaret Nelson

2834 Kinross Drive Walnut Creek CA 94596

April 21, 2009

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

CONTRA COSTA

2009 APR 23 P 12:46

RE: Sufism Reoriented Planned Development in the Saranap Residential Community

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Ms. LaShun:

I am writing to express my concern over the Sufism Development project. I was in the Saranap neighborhood last Saturday celebrating my mom's 60th birthday party with my parents, brother and his family and their neighbors. The group of us have lived and positively contributed to this neighborhood over the last several decades. The topic of the Sufism Development came up in conversation and I mentioned I had written the following anonymous note on the crazyinsuburbia website,

"Anonymous said...

I lived in the Saranap Community for over 20 years. One of my close friends from high school is a sufi as well as a dear member of my family. I am one who has no issues with cultural and religious diversity. However, what I do not understand is how the sufi's can think that building such a monstro"city" in a quaint neighborhood is anything but offensive to others in that community. Is there an I in we? Didn't think so.

In my opinion, this issue has nothing to do with beliefs or religion, rather a group of individuals (some very wealthy individuals) combining incomes to build something that does not belong in or to the larger community, but to themselves. Talk about self serving in the name of religion. Their disregard for that community disgusts me and makes me question their core values, or lack thereof. It just goes to show money can get you everywhere. I wouldn't be surprised if Donald Trump will be at their grand opening. I hope someone warns him not to drink the coolade.

March 20, 2009 10:00 AM"¹

What I wrote above, I explained to those at the party, was my gut reaction to the proposed project. They suggested I take my opposition to the next level, and therefore, I am writing you this letter.

As you know from what you have read thus far, I strongly oppose this project being developed in the Saranap neighborhood. Let's take a moment and look at a piece of Merriam Webster's online definition of neighborhood, and see if the proposed project will be a fit,

"a: the people living near one another b: a section lived in by neighbors and usually having distinguishing characteristics".²

Question 1. Will this large development have "people living near one another"?

¹ <http://crazyinsuburbia.blogspot.com/2009/03/big-ugly-spaceship-looking-building-or.html>

² <http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/neighborhood>

Mrs. LaShun
April 21, 2009
Page 2

No, it will be a large plot of land, instead of housing up to 7 residences, will provide space for a religious sanctuary. The sanctuary will not be subject to pay taxes as if it were occupied by several residences, as they are an exempt religious establishment. The majority of visitors to this location will be of one religion, uncharacteristic of the majority of the Saranap population.

Question 2a. Will this large development be "a section lived in by neighbors"?

No.

2b. Is the adjacent apartment complex Le Boulevard "a section lived in by neighbors"?

Yes.

2c. Are the surrounding residences "a section lived in by neighbors"?

Yes.

Question 3. What are the "distinguishing characteristics" of the Saranap neighborhood?

I would answer nice homes and individuals/families that pay their share in taxes to live in a very nice neighborhood. Not nice homes and families and,

"a sanctuary for Sufism Reorient with a circle of twelve gently sloping domes surrounding a central dome over the prayer hall. These shallow saucer domes may remind some of the tasteful glass-domed galleries of Philip Johnson's elegant Dumbarton Oaks museum in Washington, D.C."³

Did someone say a museum in Washington D.C.?

You might have already guessed what I think the next step should be. I think the Sufi's need to find a different location for this project. If they have the money to solicit the architect that designed the Trump Tower, they obviously have the money to take the project elsewhere. To me it sounds like the reason they are not looking elsewhere is because it might inconvenience them. So sorry, but they should have honestly considered and honestly consulted thy neighbor's before spearheading such a project.

I sincerely hope you make the decision that is right for the community at large and suggest that Sufism Reorient relocate their projects destination.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Kendra Nemanic
Burton Valley Elementary School Graduate
Stanley Intermediate School Graduate
Acalanes High School Graduate
Diablo Valley Junior College Graduate
Saint Mary's College Graduate
Resident of the Saranap Community for over 20 years

*300 Maureen Lane, Pleasant Hill
94523
(envelope)*

cc. Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

³ http://www.sufismreoriented.org/new_sanctuary/press/index.htm

3506 Freeman Road
Walnut Creek, California 94595

CONTRA COSTA

February 28, 2009

2009 MAR -3 P 1:15

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Fax: (925) 335-1200

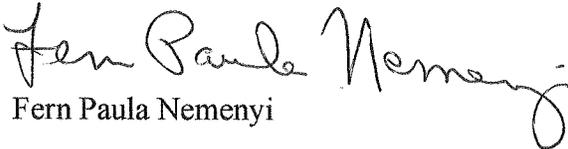
**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

I object to the proposed Sufism Reoriented project along Boulevard Way. The building is too large, the architectural style and color is obtrusive, there is not enough parking, and all the existing trees will be cut down.

I urge you to deny this project, and have the applicant re-design the building and site layout to better conform to the surrounding neighborhood. As it now stands, this is a very unwelcome addition to our neighborhood.

Sincerely,


Fern Paula Nemenyi

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1076

2-8-, 2009

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

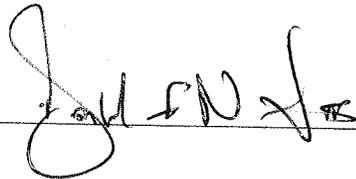
**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name



Print name

Donald L Nicol

Address

151 Rose St.

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

2-8-09, 2009

✓

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name

Rozelena Nica

Print name

Rozelena Nica

Address

151 Rose st

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

X

CONTRA COSTA

November 17, 2008

08 NOV 18 PM 12:15

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Ref: Sufism Reoriented Planned Development in the Saranap Residential Community

Dear Ms. LaShun:

I write to indicate our complete opposition to the suggested change in land use from residential homes (currently) to a huge expansion of the Sufism Reoriented facilities. Since July we have been visited several times by members of the church and shown a number of flyers and drawings about what is being proposed. Each time the storyline has changed and the visual impacts of the planned expansion facilities have grown.

In addition, the Saranap Homeowners Association that we have been members of for decades was taken over (railroaded is being used by the majority of Saranap residents to describe this change) in one evening by members of Sufism Reoriented. They now tell us what they did was not illegal but by all accounts from those that were present their action was an unethical use of the bylaws of our Association to give members of Sufism Reoriented the majority of seats on the Association Board. This has pitted neighbor against neighbor and it will not be forgotten how deviously this was done. This has now resulted in the formation of another Saranap Homeowners Association who will better represent the historical desires of the residential community in which we live.

Last Thursday evening (November 13) my wife and I attended a meeting sponsored by the re-named Saranap Community Association where they described how they were going to provide additional services to enhance the quality of life here. They showed us renditions of what the new church and grounds would look like but they had to agree that these pictures did not accurately portray the size and height of their structures. They then paraded many people up to the microphone who were members of the church and can't wait to have it built. Their comments and demeanor show a complete lack of appreciation for what makes this community so unique. It is the residential community that we have lived in for over forty years and we do not want to see residential houses taken out and ALL of the oak trees taken out so Sufism Reoriented can expand their church facilities.

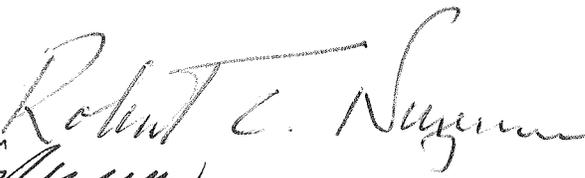
We heard from the developers why we should love what they have designed and how it the prize winning architect will make sure it will fit in and beautify this community. That is not true. It will not fit in. It is far too large and architecturally it does not fit into this semi-rural residential community. Simply take a look at the large walls to screen out the buildings and the structures proposed with high domes (far higher than what was stated by church representatives).

Questions: How does a non-profit group like this buy up small grocery stores and other businesses and homes on both sides of Boulevard Way and then combine many of them into one parcel for a church without the County notifying the Saranap neighbors that this is happening? Isn't the formation of a large parcel out of small residential parcels a separate action from considering the development itself?

Where is the Environmental Impact Report for this church expansion Project? They talked about an environmental exemption at the meeting? I hope they were simply misinformed. This Project cannot be justified by checking off the boxes that the impacts will be less than significant. The old Saranap Homeowners Association has fought several developments like this to a standstill or to great compromises to avoid impacting the character of our neighborhood. We are not going to sit by idly and have this Project move forward without a full EIR.

I would appreciate your thoughtful comments in response to the questions posed.

Sincerely,




Robert C. and Judith M. Nuzum
1072 Juanita Drive
Walnut Creek, California 94595
robert.nuzum@yahoo.com

cc. Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

X

CONTRACOSTIA

July 22, 2008

08 JUL 24 PM 1:25

Dear Ms. Cross,

My home is very close to the Sufism Reoriented proposed temple building site. I have several questions and concerns about the project. Please include these concerns as the county is determining whether this compound is a suitable fit for our quiet, residential neighborhood.

My first question is why does the building need to be so massive? The membership is only 350 people. The proposed building is over 66,000 sq. ft. That is bigger than our new public library which serves the community. Please do not put this compound in the middle of our quiet neighborhood of older, modest homes. Is this new campus the designated west coast or national center? This new temple will surely bring more members, more traffic, and a huge presence in the area. I am not at all opposed to the Sufism Reoriented church in its present location. I have lived in this house for over 40 years, the Sufi church has been in the neighborhood 25+ year, maybe longer. Although I do object to the present 6- foot stucco compound wall, I have had no problem with their being located here in Saranap. But I do question the unsuitable architecture and the huge nature of the building with its six-foot fence around the compound. It has the feeling of an embassy.

My second question is about the soil and the storm drainage. When Mr. McGeehon had his corporation yard there, each heavy storm would bring flooding with diesel fuel, gasoline, and other oils in the runoff into my backyard. Will you look carefully at the impact of the proposed building which is to be 2/3 underground?

I do have other issues such as the long, disruptive, noisy construction of a building of this size, the plan to illuminate the domes, the height of the middle dome, and the effect on my property value if this sanctuary is allowed to go forward. Please consider my questions and objection carefully. Also please notify me of any actions or hearings concerning the Sufism Reoriented project.

Thank you,

Barbara Odell
2438 Warren Rd.
Walnut Creek, Ca. 94595

February 9, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

Dear Ms. Cross,

2009 FEB 17 P 2:15

Carol Conner, the spiritual leader of Sufism Reoriented, Inc., is my neighbor. I live at 2438 Warren Rd. in Walnut Creek. She lives at 11 White Horse Ct. which is off of Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek. At the present time she has a very safe and wide fire lane off of Boulevard Way to her residence.

With the building of the proposed massive Sufism Reoriented sanctuary, that fire lane will no longer exist and her residence will be landlocked. The leadership of Sufism Reoriented Inc., could have made accommodations for an adequate fire lane off of Boulevard Way for the Conner residence in their proposed plans, but they did not. I am asking that the organization scale down the size of the sanctuary to provide fire access off of Boulevard Way.

If the proposed 66,000 sq. ft. sanctuary is allowed without a safe fire access from Boulevard Way to the Conner residence, then the fire access would have to come down my narrow driveway. If my driveway is used there is a very real likelihood that the drive would be widened. The widening would mean cutting down my heritage trees and also taking 3' of my very narrow front yard. This would have a very negative impact on my property value and quality of life. I would step out my front door onto the road way. I am requesting that Sufism Reoriented, Inc., keep the very safe and adequate fire lane off of Boulevard Way. I want them to find a fire access that does not involve my driveway. I request that Contra Costa County require that Sufism Reoriented, Inc., keep the very safe and adequate fire lane off of Boulevard Way.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,



Barbara Odell

January 31, 2009

Dear Mr. Martin, Project Manager of Sufism Reoriented proposed sanctuary,

Enclosed please find the copy of the letter I have recently written to Carol Conner about the proposed sanctuary and the impact it will have on my driveway. I'll send copies to the county.

Thank you for taking the time out of your very busy schedule to update me in November. As you said, my driveway problems are far down on your list of concerns as the project manager of such a massive project but to me, of course, these concerns take "top billing".

I would like to share some thoughts, questions, and concerns about your proposed sanctuary. The plans that Sufism Reoriented submitted to the county do not make any accommodations for fire access for Carol Conner's residence and that puts my driveway back at a high risk of being widened. Your organization has known about this situation for over a year. Why has your leadership done nothing to try to solve the problem and to ensure that the Fire Marshall would be satisfied? I have tried to communicate with your organization in a open and respectful way, but I do not feel that my dire situation is being given enough consideration.

As it stands now, Carol Conner has a very wide, safe fire lane off of Boulevard Way on White Horse Ct. Why can't you work around this lane? I am asking that your organization amend your architectural plans to include a fire lane off of Boulevard Way to her home. Why can't you down-size the sanctuary to allow for the fire lane that is needed? I do not object to the sanctuary being built on your property, but I am asking that you rethink its size.

The development of your property is having a very negative impact on my life. Your plans are very distressing and stressful for me. I need to do tree and fence maintenance but can not because the future of my property is in such limbo. I have many personal challenges in 2009 and certainly your project has added to my burden.

You might forgive some unsolicited and candid advice. Your organization would not be receiving such strong opposition if your sanctuary were of a more reasonable size. Did your leadership really believe that there would be support for such a massive structure built amongst our little, modest homes? You need to rethink your position and begin to be more flexible.

Thank you for the e-mail concerning the Meher school and its connection to the proposed sanctuary. It still did not answer why the size of the sanctuary is tied to the continuation of the school. I would appreciate a written response to my letter that address the above concerns.

I wish you health in 2009. I appreciate your being open to the issues I have brought up. My sincere wish is that we can resolve this dilemma with a "win", "win" solution.

Sincerely,


Barbara Odell

January 31, 2009

Dear Ms. Conner,

First, I would like to wish you and your husband health for 2009.

The last time we corresponded was in January of 2008. At that time you had "welcome news" for me. My driveway would most likely not be needed for fire access to your residence and your architect, Mr. Clem Soga, had found another solution to satisfy the Fire Marshall's requirements. In November, I met with Chris Martin to try to find out Sufism Reoriented's current plans for my driveway and to check on the progress of your less disruptive plan.

It now appears that the "welcome news" has all but evaporated. The Sufiism Reoriented plans as submitted to the County do not make any accommodation for fire access for your residence as you promised and now there is again the very real likelihood that my driveway will be widened. That will require removal of my trees along the drive and the loss of 3' of my already narrow front yard and my picket fence. This is of course extremely distressing to me.

I understand your need for a new sanctuary, but I want it to be of a more reasonable size. Your residence has such a wide, safe fire lane right now, why not work around it?

I am asking that your organization amend your architectural plans to include a fire lane off of Boulevard Way to your residence. Why can't you down-size the sanctuary to allow for the fire lane that is needed? I am asking that Sufism Reoriented find another way other than my driveway to satisfy the Fire Marshall's requirement for your fire lane.

The development of your property is having such a negative impact on my life. I need to do tree and fence maintenance but can not because the future of my property is in such limbo. Your sanctuary project is very stressful for me.

I would appreciate a response to my letter.

One last comment that I would like to share. At the recent Saranap Community Association meeting, it was said that non-support for your sanctuary project is based on religious intolerance. I want you to know that for my part and many, many others that I know, nothing could be farther from the truth. I value the richness of diversity. My objection is based on my need to protect my property.

Sincerely,
Barbara Odell

✓ 0

CONTRA COSTA

December 30, 2008

2009 JAN -6 P 1:13

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Ms. Cross,

I have a very personal and serious objection to the massive Sufism Reoriented's proposed sanctuary on Blvd. Way in Walnut Creek. I live at 2438 Warren Rd. My drive way services the residence of Carol Conner, the spiritual leader of Sufism Reoriented. It appears that the sanctuary plans that Sufism Reoriented submitted to the county have not allowed for any fire access to the residence of Carol Conner off of Blvd. Way. So now there is the great likelihood that the Fire Marshall will require the fire access to be routed down my drive way. The drive way could be required to be widened to 20', taking all of my 100' tall heritage trees and 3' of my very small front yard. This would put my door very close to the road way.

I am requesting that Sufism Reoriented redraw their plans for the sanctuary to include adequate fire access for Carol Conner's home. I am requesting that the county require adequate fire access off of Blvd Way for Carol Conner's home. Her home address is 11 White Horse Ct. There is now a huge drive way that services her home with a very adequate fire lane. Please consider my serious situation as you are deciding how to proceed with the processing of their permits.

Also I am requesting that Sufism Reorients install story poles so that I can get a visual on how high the proposed building will actually be. Since I live so close to the proposed sanctuary, the height of the building will have a direct impact on me. Please require Sufism Reoriented to install this inexpensive means to give all the neighbors the opportunity to observe the visual impact of their proposed building.

Thank you for considering my requests. Please inform me of any hearing that is planned by the county concerning the Sufism Reoriented's project.

Sincerely,



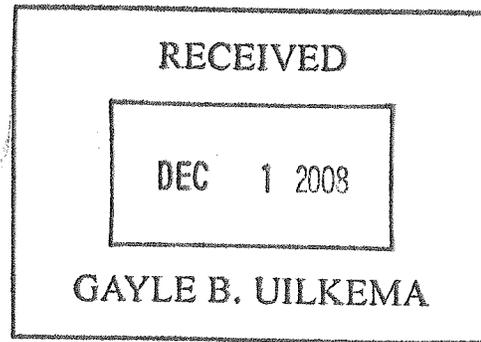
Barbara Odell

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema

November 27, 2008

COPY

Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Supervisor, District 2
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553



Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am writing this letter on Thanksgiving Day. I hope you had a nice Thanksgiving with your family.

As I reflected on what I was thankful for, other than my family, I was very thankful for my neighbors in the Saranap area. My neighbors' kindness and the way they care about each other and the community have provided me and my family a strong sense of security and community. We are proud to call Saranap our home of more than twenty years for my husband and fifteen years for me.

Recently, there has been a local development that has been making me very uncomfortable. The Sufism Reoriented group has proposed a 66,000 sq. ft. sanctuary in our immediate neighborhood. This massive project requires substantial excavation into the ground on seven adjacent residential lots the group acquired over time. All mature trees, including majestic oaks, will be removed. All of these for 350 members, according to the information the group provided. And, this is not like a church that will welcome the public. You will have to be a member in order to enter the "sanctuary."

I believe a serious soil study must be required on the massive excavation as Saranap is on medium to low liquefaction ground. There are also homes on Warren Road that are right on the cliff. Any slightest soil movement will compromise the safety of the homes there. I also believe that mature trees must be kept in order to maintain the natural wildlife habitats that have been disappearing everywhere.

As much as I respect all religions and cultures and I have been an advocate on diversity for many years, I feel fearful about the way this organization approaches the situation. It appears to me that this project has been planned quietly and for a long time. Acquiring seven adjacent residential lots with existing residential structures does not happen overnight. According to the information provided by the Sufism Reoriented group, all of the properties they own have been paid off. It appears that the Sufism Reoriented group did not take into consideration the integrity of the Saranap neighborhood - quiet, semi-rural, a natural wildlife sanctuary, but are just about what they want and their own sanctuary.

I am fearful that if this project passes, it will set precedence for similar future projects in different neighborhoods. As long as an organization has money and a plan, they can ignore the integrity of an established neighborhood and impose a take-over provided they go within the zoning requirements.

This is not the America I understand. Please help me understand it better if I am wrong. Please help save my Saranap neighborhood.

Sincerely,
Ellen Osmundson
185 Camino Posada
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Phone : 925 - 939 - 7460

Ronald Ogg
1294 Laurel Oak Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94595-1170
January 19, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JAN 20 P 1:48

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Regarding Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011, Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary

Dear Ms. Cross:

I live in the Saranap neighborhood and I am very concerned about the proposed Sufism Reoriented sanctuary project. The building is 66,000 square feet in size, which is much too large for the property. The design includes a series of white domes, the tallest of which is approximately 34 feet above grade level. The project plans include the clear-cutting of all existing mature trees on the site, including a number of large heritage oak trees, many of which will be removed to provide 72 parking spaces which is many fewer than will be needed for the sanctuary. The replacement for these trees will not provide adequate screening for many years until they grow to sufficient height to soften the appearance from the adjoining neighborhood. Thus the bright white domes will reflect the hot summer sun to neighboring homes for many years.

I have learned that Sufism Reoriented has refused to install story poles to identify the size and scope of this project. I strongly request that the County require the use of story poles so the real size of the proposed sanctuary can be displayed to both the County Planners and those of us who live in the Saranap neighborhood. I believe that when the actual scope and bulk of the project on-site is displayed, our concerns will be validated and the applicant will be required to modify their design to accommodate reasonable changes.

Sincerely,



Ronald Ogg

cc: Gayle Uilkema, County Supervisor
3338 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, CA 94549-4072

6/14/2009

O/

To whom it may concern,

I have lived in this
neighborhood for along

time. I don't feel

comfortable with a

religious cult taking

over the neighborhood,

your asking for changes

to be made but don't

feel this will benefit

property value

This name is already in excel

Ann Penra
2440 Warren rd
Walnut Creek
Ca. 94595

X

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL 28 PM 1:43

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

This is in

regards to the

Sufism Temple

I do not want it
in my neighborhood,
which is a very
nice quiet area.

It will cause to
much traffic, cars,
people.

There is enough now.

This is supposed to
be country living.
Ann Penna

x

CONTRA COSTA

DATE: July 25, 2008

08 JUL 28 PM 1:41

TO: LaShun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street
Martinez, Calif. 94553-1229

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

FROM: James and Joanne Petrice
2304 Warren Road
Walnut Creek, Calif. 95495

RE: Objection to design of Sufi Reoriented Sanctuary on Boulevard Way in the Saranap area of the county.

Dear Mr. Cross

We are writing you to express our disapproval of the proposed construction of the SUFI REORIENTED SANCTUARY in our residential neighborhood.

I, James Petrice, am the third generation of my family to reside in the Saranap area.

My grandmother, Lenore Ramsing, moved into her residence at 2310 Warren Road, back in 1932.

My parents, Robert and Dorothy Petrice built their residence on a portion of that subdivided lot, and had resided at 2306 Warren Road since 1957. I subsequently grew up in that residence.

I constructed my own residence on the finale portion of that subdivided lot, moving into my residence at 2304 Warren Road in 1985. I have since married and have two children. My family calls this neighborhood their home.

In the many years of residing in the Saranap area of unincorporated Walnut Creek, I have seen many changes. From the Portuguese Holly Ghost Festival and parade on Boulevard Way in the early 1960's, the construction and renovation of Highways 24 and 680, to the redevelopment of the commercial property along the 1200 Block of Boulevard Way.

What I have never seen before was the proposed rezoning and removal of residences in the Saranap area to make way for commercial "mixed use" structures. This we object to and feel very strongly that the construction of this "walled compound" will greatly effect the "small town" flavor of this old neighborhood in a very negative way.

Based upon the description of the proposed structure, I am having a difficult time envisioning the positive aspects of having a 33.5 foot three-story tall dome structure, surrounded by a six foot tall concrete wall that encloses several acres, in the middle of a

07.28.08

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residential neighborhood. I compare it to having the Century 21 Movie Theater complex in the middle of my neighborhood, but without access to any feature films.

Why in the middle of residential neighborhood? Why not at a commercially zoned site?

Could they change the proposed structure and compound to allow it to more easily "blend in" with the surrounding structures (example: multiple single story structures with Spanish or Ranch style architecture).

I sincerely hope that the County Planners takes this complaint, and others pending from the surrounding neighbors, into consideration before allowing the SUFI REORIENTED SANCTUARY to construct such a architectural "eye sore" in the middle of our residential neighborhood.

Sincerely



James and Joanne Petrice

Feb 7, 2009

0
✓

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name

Ken Pootinen

Print name

Ken POOTINEN

Address

70 PANORAMIC WAY

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

2/8, 2009

0
✓

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name

Dorothy Protap

Print name

Dorothy Protap

Address

640 Penew St

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

Carol Rasmussen
2434 Warren Rd.
Walnut Creek, Ca. 94595

CONTRA COSTA

2009 FEB 18 P 1:25

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

February 16, 2009

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, Ca. 94553-1229

Re: the proposed Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary
Application: LP 08-2034-MS-0011

Dear Ms Cross:

I am a neighbor of Barbara Odell. Barbara lives at 2438 Warren Rd. Walnut Creek. I live at 2434 Warren Rd. our neighbor Carol Connor Sufism Reoriented spiritual leader lives at 11 White Horse Court. Bernard Swartz lives at 2430 Warren Rd. and is the fourth resident to share the common deeded driveway that is owned by Barbara Odell.

Presently the residence of Carol Connor has a safe and wide fire access off of Boulevard Way. If the sanctuary is built her fire access will no longer exist to her residence. The Sufis have not made plans for a fire lane off of Boulevard Way, consequently if the project moves forward without plans for a fire lane off of Boulevard Way a fire lane will have to come down Barbara Odell's driveway. If the prospect of using her driveway becomes a reality her heritage trees would have to be removed to widen her driveway and 3ft. of her front yard will be taken.

I feel that the leadership of Sufism Reoriented has failed to take into consideration the well- being and quality of life of their immediate neighbors. The Sufis claim to have tried to work with the neighbors with regard to making the project workable but I have seen little evidence of that or any real consideration for Barbara Odell's plight with this matter. Barbara Odell stands to lose the most with regard to lost property values and lost quality of life if this project is allowed as it is proposed.

I am requesting that Sufism Reoriented scale down the size of the sanctuary and use the safe fire access that already exists on Boulevard Way and not involve Barbara Odell's driveway.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely

Carol Rasmussen

Carol Rasmussen

Cc: The Honorable Gayle Uilkema
Contra Costa County Supervisor
District 2

X

CONTRA COSTA

July 22, 2008

08 JUL 31 PM 1:17

LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Dept.
651 Pine St.
Martinez, Ca.

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Re: Sufism Reoriented Project
Reference Application # LP08-2034/MS08-0011

Dear Ms. Cross:

This letter is in regards to the Sufism Reoriented project in Walnut Creek and to our opposition to it.

My husband and I own our home on Warren Rd. We have resided in the Saranap area for 37 years. We feel that the design size and location of the planned building is totally unsuitable for this semi-rural neighborhood.

Increased traffic would be a concern while construction is in progress as well as after. The Sufis maintain that they are committed to walking to their meetings but that is very unlikely during the winter months when the weather turns rainy; it also can be dangerous for any one walking.

We live at 2434 Warren Rd. just adjacent to the sufi parsonage, and we feel that we would be greatly effected by the construction noise and dust etc. The possibility of having to see such an imposing building in our backyard is very distressing.

We are very concerned about the wall/fence that they will build to enclose their compound. The reason for this concern is from past experiences when dealing with the Sufis. When Sufism Reoriented constructed the existing block stucco wall along our two properties, they first built a 5ft. retaining wall and then filled dirt against it on their side of the wall, they then built a 6ft. wall on top of the retaining wall, In short, the wall bordering our property in one 60ft. long area is 11ft. tall. On the west property line the wall is 9ft. high for 70ft. Needless to say this is very unpleasant for us in this particular area of our yard, all that we can see is the sky above us. We notified the county of the situation but received little satisfaction, we are very concerned about what they might be able to get away with the next time around.

We feel that the value of our home and the value of other homes in the neighborhood will be greatly reduced due to the fact that the Sufis are an exclusive organization and would serve no benefit to the greater community. The integrity of the area will be compromised if such a building is allowed in. High block walls give off an illusion of not being friendly. It has an unpleasant and uninviting feeling that is sure to have lasting negative impressions on anyone entering into our area.

Sincerely,

Carol Rasmussen

Carol Rasmussen
2434 WARREN RD.
WALNUT CREEK, CA
94595

January 21, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JAN 23 P 12:53

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA. 94553-1229

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Re: Application LP 08-2034 MS08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary

Dear Ms. Cross:

I object to the proposed Sufism Reoriented project along Boulevard Way. The building does not fit into the neighborhood. It is too large for our established rustic semi-rural area. The stark white color is not in harmony with the existing structures. The trees that will have to be removed is not in keeping with following through with a green environmental plan. Parking spaces are too few for such a massive building. The Sufis commit to walking or carpooling to all functions but I have witnessed on one occasion where they have overflowed their parking lot into the street on Boulevard Way.

At the Saranap Community Association meeting on January 15 2009 Chris Martin informed the community that story poles would not be implemented. His reasoning was too impractical, too expensive and too confusing. My question is why? The sheer size alone is reason enough for the use of story poles. The neighborhood has a right to see how large and how tall the building will be.

I urge you to deny this project, and have the applicant re-design the building and site layout to better conform to the surrounding neighborhood. I also request that the county require the applicant to install story poles.

Sincerely,



Carol Rasmussen
2434 Warren Rd.
Walnut Creek, CA. 94595

Cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St. Room 108A
Martinez, CA. 94553-1229

K

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL 28 PM 1:41

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

LaShun Cross, Planner.
Community Conservation and Development Dept.
651 Pine St.
Martinez, Ca.

Re: Sufism Reoriented Project.
Reference application # LP08-2034/MS08-0011

Dear Ms. Cross:

July 23, 2008

I would like to convey to you my strong opposition to the Sufism Reoriented project proposed on Boulevard Way in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek. My concerns are mostly for health and safety reasons.

We have lived here (2434 Warren Rd.) for the past 37 years. Our property abuts the Sufi property. Before it was the Sufi property it was a construction yard for an asphalt construction co. Some of the property was paved but most of it was dirt. I know that the people who rented the property regularly dumped or spread their used motor oil and other petroleum/oil products on the dirt portion of the property. Also I believe an awful lot of asphalt was covered up or buried when the Sufi org. built their last construction project.(The house at 150 White Horse Ct.)

Our property is a lower elevation than the proposed Sufi project. I am concerned that after they dig this really big hole, and it rains, what is going to be flowing across our property and into Las Trampus creek? I think this could be a grave health and safety issue.

I am also concerned about the size and depth of the hole they are going to have to dig for the underground portion of this project. Being in such a close proximity to Las Trampus creek (About 250 ft. +/-), Las Trampus creek is approximately 90 ft. below the elevation of the project. My concern is that it may cause soil movement under the houses between the project and Las Trampus creek, or possibly even a slide into Las Trampus creek if the area were to receive enough rainfall to cause such an event to happen.

The very size and architecture of the Sufi building/center is unnecessary and completely out of place for the Saranap area. It should remain a semi-rural area of Walnut Creek. The size, approx. 60,000 sq. ft. divided by the number of members, (approx. 350-400), comes to about 175-180 sq.ft. per member. That is a lot, and to me, is unnecessary especially when they already own a large piece of property with a large building on it that has served the same amount of members for the past 32 years. The planners for Sufism and the architect they hired who drew the plans must have

only been concerned with the 3.2 +/- acres where the proposed center is to be built because they made no effort to make sure it fit in with any building (residential or commercial) in this area.

Some of my other concerns are as follows:

Traffic (vehicle and foot) on our street and up our shared driveway:

Parking, in regard to the size of the structure compared to the small amount of parking they are applying for, especially in the future when the Sufism Reoriented membership could number a thousand or more.

Tax revenue losses for the county:

I already know that they are exempt on most of their properties. As they acquire more property and they probably will, it will be a tax loss for the county as well. The loss of my property value is a concern too. I think that what Sufism Reoriented wants to build in this neighborhood will be very detrimental to property value especially if the project abuts to other homeowners property as ours does. I do not know how this proposed building, if built by the Sufi org. will be of any benefit to the people of the Saranap area, Walnut Creek, or Contra Costa County as a whole. It will only serve the members and people that they will allow inside the compound.

I strongly oppose the approval of this project.

I am enclosing an article from the Washington City Paper. I thought it was very interesting reading. It probably reflects a little different view than what Sufism Reoriented is presenting to the people in the Contra Costa County offices. Thank you for reading my letter.

Sincerely,



Marvin Rasmussen
2434 Warren Rd.
Walnut Creek, Ca.
94595

CONTRA COSTA
Marvin and Carol Rasmussen
2434 Warren Rd.
Walnut Creek, Ca. 94595

08 DEC -5 PM 12:36

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

December 3, 2008

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez Ca 94553-1229

Regarding: The necessity of requiring 'story poles' for analysis of the application for a conditional use permit for a new worship center for Sufism Reoriented, Inc.

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am requesting that you require story poles be used in the Sufism Reoriented, Inc application. As a resident of the Saranap area and a neighbor that is approximately 70ft. away from the proposed project I feel that it is absolutely necessary that I have a clear and accurate picture of the actual height of the proposed building.

From what I understand you have received over 100 letters opposing the inappropriate size and completely out of character nature of the Sufism Reoriented Inc. project. I feel that this needs to be carefully and fully studied. The residents of Saranap need to be heard in our opposition to this project.

This whole experience of dealing with the Sufism Reoriented Inc. proposed project has been most distressing given that my husband and I will be greatly effected by this enormous building being constructed so closely near our home. With story poles in place we will have a much clearer idea of what to expect.

This is a very controversial project. I would hope that the County Planning Department will take a closer look at this project and fully evaluate the need for requiring that story poles be put in place.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Marvin and Carol Rasmussen

Marvin and Carol Rasmussen

Cc: The Honorable Gayle Uilkema,
Contra Costa County Supervisor
District 2

July 19, 2008

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL 25 PM 1:14

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Regarding: Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary on Boulevard Way, Walnut Creek
LP08-2034/MSS08-0011

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am writing this letter to *strongly oppose* the subject project location for the following reasons:

1. The proposed project does not provide sufficient parking. As a member of the Saranap Community Association, I attended a meeting a few months ago where the project was first presented. In this meeting the proponents of the project admitted that the parking was less than required by code but "promised" that most of their members will walk as they live within walking distance of the facility. This argument for non compliance with the parking requirements has no merit as there is no way to enforce the "promises" once the building is constructed. The disingenuous nature of this "promise" was exposed in an April 2008 letter from Mike Meleyco, (attached) representing Sufism Reoriented, in which he said, "We also draw many people from out of town who stay in local lodgings and dine and shop in our area." These "many people" will obviously be driving and need parking. Another example of the insincerity of this promise was the last meeting of the Saranap Community Association in which new board members were to be elected. The Sufis ambushed the meeting with a flood of new Sufi members the night voting was to take place, July 10, 2008. Some of the new Sufi members registered that night live as far away as Pleasant Hill and Orinda, hardly walking distance.
2. Boulevard Way, the narrow, sidewalk-less, two lane road that serves as the main corridor for traffic to and from this building is inadequate for the current volume of traffic it handles let alone the increased traffic needs of a 500 person assembly building. As a pedestrian it is dangerous to walk on this narrow road with its current traffic load. It is dangerous to drive this road! I cannot imagine how much worse it will be with the increased traffic of a major assembly building.
3. A 60,000 sf assembly building is too large and completely out of place in this rural, residential area. The area chosen is a residential area where that average house is in the 2,000 sf + range. A 60,000 sf assembly building is completely out of place in a residential neighborhood. I have been a home owner in the neighborhood for more than 20 years. I chose this area because of its rural,

country nature. I never dreamed anyone would consider such an out of place building in my neighborhood.

4. The architecture is completely out of character for the neighborhood. There are no sterile, white, domed buildings anywhere in or around Saranap. The Saranap architectural vocabulary is rural country, not domed buildings reminiscent of a scene from Star Wars or a mausoleum. The white, masonry wall surrounding the proposed building communicates a cold exclusivity, not an open country atmosphere many of us who have lived in Saranap for years have come to enjoy.
5. At least five homes will be lost to the proposed Sufi assembly building. The loss of homes takes away from the rural nature of the neighborhood that the Saranap has been known for.

There are many other commercial sites in the area with better transportation access that would better suit a building of this type.

An entire neighborhood should not be penalized to satisfy the personal preferences of a special interest group that is attempting to bully a project through approvals.

I strongly urge you not to allow this well funded organization to pressure the County into approving an inappropriate building that violates code requirements.

Sincerely,



Mark Redmond
1222 Sunset Loop
Lafayette, CA 94549

CONTRA COSTA

0✓

2009 FEB -2 P 1:32

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

January 29, 2009

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

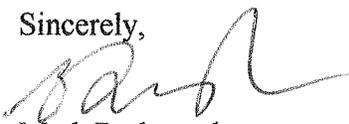
RE: Application: LP 08-2034-MS-0011
Story Poles

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am writing this letter to strongly recommend the county require the installation of story poles in order for the neighborhood to get a real sense of the proposed building. Sufism Reoriented has been going door to door in my neighborhood and has told me as well as some neighbors that the building will not be visible behind the imposing 6 foot wall that is planned. I later saw an elevation indicating the building height above grade is 33'6"! Its like an elephant trying to hide behind a cat! Many of my neighbors are going along with the project because they are not familiar with reading construction documents. If they were able to see the actual scale I believe it would be another story.

Please require Sufism Reoriented to represent the impact of the building honestly by installing the story poles. The cost is trivial compared to the total project cost. The neighborhood deserves to know the truth about the scale of the project and story poles are the only way.

Sincerely,



Mark Redmond
1222 Sunset Loop
Lafayette, CA 94549

CC: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2, Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

MARCH 1, 2009

0 ✓

CASHUN CROSS

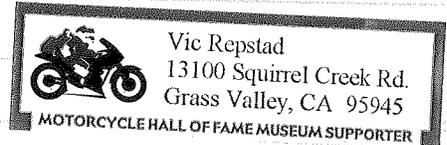
PLEASE DON'T APPROVE THE CONSTRUCTION
OF THIS SANCTUARY IN THE SARA MAP
NEIGHBORHOOD

Vic & Mimi Repstad

OWNERS

25431 ISLAND CT

WALNUT CREEK CA



CONTRACOSTA

2009 MAR - 5 P 1:30

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Feb 7, 2009

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Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

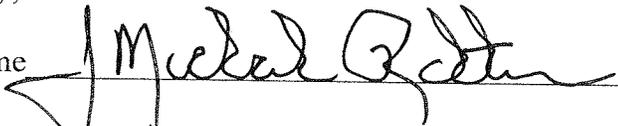
**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name



Print name

MICHAEL ROBERTSON

Address

111 PARK AVE

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076



Michael Robertson
<jmichaelrobertson@earthlink.net>

11/24/2008 09:38 PM

To gayle@bos.co.contra-costa.ca.us

cc

bcc

Subject Vote No to Sufism Reoriented

Sufism
COPY

Dear Ms. Uilkema,

As a resident of the Saranap area, I am writing to ask that you vote against any proposed building plans initiated by Sufism Reoriented. In a cult like maneuver, they elected their own members to the Saranap Community Association and are trying to build a large structure off of Boulevard Way.

While I am sure you are aware of their intentions, I wanted to make sure you were aware of my thoughts and request to defeat this proposal.

Sincerely,

Michael Robertson
111 Park Avenue
Walnut Creek, Ca

CONTRA COSTA
July 28, 2008

08 JUL 29 PM 1:18

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Mr. LaShun Cross, Planner
Commercial Construction Development Dept
651 Pine Street
Martinez, Ca 94553

Re: Sufism Reoriented Application to Build Large Sanctuary

As a resident living at 2749 Kinney Drive in Walnut Creek and a few blocks away from the proposed Sufism development project, I would like to request that the project not be approved for the following reasons.

The LARGE complex they are asking to build is to be erected in the neighborhood that is not zoned for commercial use. This neighborhood already has excess traffic, the cars which are often traveling at excessive speeds. There are no sidewalks on already narrow streets and dangerous for the residents. For example, children, residents walking with strollers or dogs. Exiting a driveway (such as mine) in some areas can be tricky due to limited visibility. This proposed development is excessive in size and should be in a real commercial area.

Over the years there have been many near fatal accidents at the intersection of Boulevard Way and Kinney Drive. I remember at least 3 fatal accidents occurring since 1976.

Thanks



Sharon Robinson

Wed-7-30-08

TIRA COSTA

AUG - 1 PM 12:12

to

I just received a paper today re: the building for Ingram Reoriented, Inc.

I totally object! I have lived at this address for over 55 years.

If other info was presented to me, I guess I missed same.

Dolores Rogers
33 Acorn Ct.
Walnut Creek, CA
94595

ids



USA - First-Class - 10c

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development
651 Pine St., 4th Floor
Martinez, Ca 94553

Feb., 22, 2009

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✓

Dear Ms. Cross:

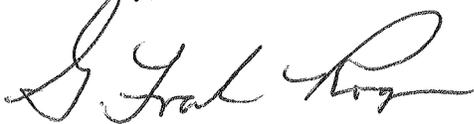
Since the last time I wrote to you, I have become more distressed at the plans of Sufi Reoriented, Inc. for their sanctuary on Boulevard Way.

It is very disturbing that the County would allow such a huge project in this semi-rural residential neighborhood. I now understand that the excavation will be at least 36 feet deep. Now the estimate of time to dig and remove the dirt will take up to 11 months or more. This will be a very drastic impact on the neighborhood. Not to mention the wear and tear on the roads which the County will have to repair with what funds available?

Also, I understand that the Sufi's have resisted the use of story poles. Many projects much smaller than this one have been required to have story poles. Why not this one? They complain of the cost—about \$20,000. Well, this is an \$18,000,000 project! They can spend money on 35 stall bathrooms but not story poles. I believe that the people should be shown how tall and large this project actually is. Did you know that it is almost as large as the Mormon Tabernacle which seats over 8,000 people. What is being build here? It is way out of the scope of the neighborhood, how can the County allow such a travesty?

Thank you for your time and patience.

Sincerely,



G. Frank Rogers
1496 Boulevard Way

cc. Supervisor Gayle Uilkema

2009 FEB 24 AM 11:12
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

CONTRACOSTA
YISOU VILLINO

X

CONTRA COSTA

July 17, 2008

08 JUL 21 PM 1:27

LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Dept.
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Re: Sufism Reoriented Project

Dear Mr. Cross:

This letter is to convey my very strong opposition to the Sufism Reoriented project on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek.

I am opposed to the design as not being suitable for a residential neighborhood since it will overtake seven residential lots, which total approximately 3.2 acres. Also, traffic will certainly be a problem during construction as well as after. Sufism Reoriented has maintained that traffic once the project is completed will not be a problem because they have only 400 members who would primarily visit the site on Sundays. What I want to know is why does a relatively small congregation of 400 need a 60,000 square foot building? Several churches in the area have much larger congregations, over 1,000, which do not have near the 60,000 square feet that Sufism Reoriented says they need to serve their members. This leads me to believe that their plans are for great expansion, maybe into a regional or national center (as some of their promotional materials propose). This would then cause much more burdensome traffic to the community. Then the county in response to this traffic will want to widen the roads around the problem, which would take land from other residential properties. In other words, a never-ending erosion of the semi-rural, residential neighborhoods we all enjoy now.

It also seems to me that the county would not benefit from this project either by removing seven residential property tax-paying properties from the rolls and replacing them with tax-exempt property.

Therefore, please include me in the growing number of residents who are vehemently opposed to this particular project.

Sincerely,



G. Frank Rogers
1496 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

November 11, 2008

Lashun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Re: Application LP08-2034/MS08-001

Dear Ms. Cross,

As a long-time Saranap resident and ex- member of the Saranap Community Association, I am very much opposed to the proposed development application that was recently submitted by Sufism Reoriented.

The development is contrary to the Saranap Community Association's Mission Statement which states: The purpose of the Saranap Community Association is to preserve and foster the established character and quality of the Saranap Area as a semi-rural, low density, residential neighborhood. As you perhaps are aware, the SCA is no longer a "mission statement" organization. At a July 2008 General Meeting, Sufi members flooded in and elected for its Board Members all Sufi members or sympathizers. And their primary mission statement is to advance the Sufi building project.

I have recently seen the architectural rendering of the Sufi sanctuary, and I am amazed. I have enclosed this picture, which the Sufis have submitted with their application. This project is so obviously unsuited to a residential neighborhood! I took the "martian landing" rendering to my objective faculty (I'm a public schoolteacher) and friends, and they didn't know whether to laugh or cry. But they all believed that I should have a passionate interest in objecting to the presence of this architectural monstrosity in my neighborhood. Beyond the horrific proportions (66,000 square feet!) of the white exclusive compound, I have other objections. The Sufis will clear-cut all the heritage trees on their properties in order to build this monolith. These are protected trees. In addition, the parking is insufficient for the members, who have vowed to walk to the site. I know, because I have the voting record of the Sufis who were present at the infamous July 2008 General Meeting of the SCA, that Sufi people who live in Blackhawk and Countrywood and Rossmoor are not going to walk to this "sanctuary"! This place is to be the national center of Sufism Reoriented, Inc., and their intent is to have many members. There is no parking on the premises for these people. Should they have more members, there is certainly no provision for them to park there. I have been a member of the Saranap Community Association for a decade, and one of the ongoing problems in the Saranap is drainage. How in the world are they going to take a mountain of soil out of that ground, and move it without affecting the drainage problem already there? In addition, the construction of a 66,000 foot edifice, much of it underground, presents difficulties for this community. Earthmoving all of the soil for this superstructure presents tremendous problems on our country road. We (and the roads) are ill-prepared for this intrusion. For heaven's sake, look at the picture that the Sufis submitted to the planning board, and you must see that this is a terrible intrusion into anybody's

08 NOV 12 PM 1:24

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

*Sorry for the
weird formatting
my computer
won!*

neighborhood! And please know that this is an exclusionist religious group. Any church I have been involved with has always opened its door to Boy Scouts, community endeavors, etc. The Sufis are absolute exclusionists. Their 6-foot white wall surrounding the vast compound sends a stark and forbidding message to the majority of non-Sufis who make up the

Saranap neighborhood. This white, illuminated wall excludes anyone who is not a Sufi—which must not be the reason that churches are allowed to be tax-free. This proposed sanctuary is **not** a community asset—it is tearing our community apart. A greater presence only increases mistrust and resentment. Never before have the Sufis flooded this neighborhood with any outreach materials until it became self-serving for them to do so. Please, please consider that the majority of the Saranap residents bought their houses for the rural, residential ambience. Please do not allow this monstrosity to change the character of Saranap.

I would like to receive a copy of all the public documents that relate to this proposed development.

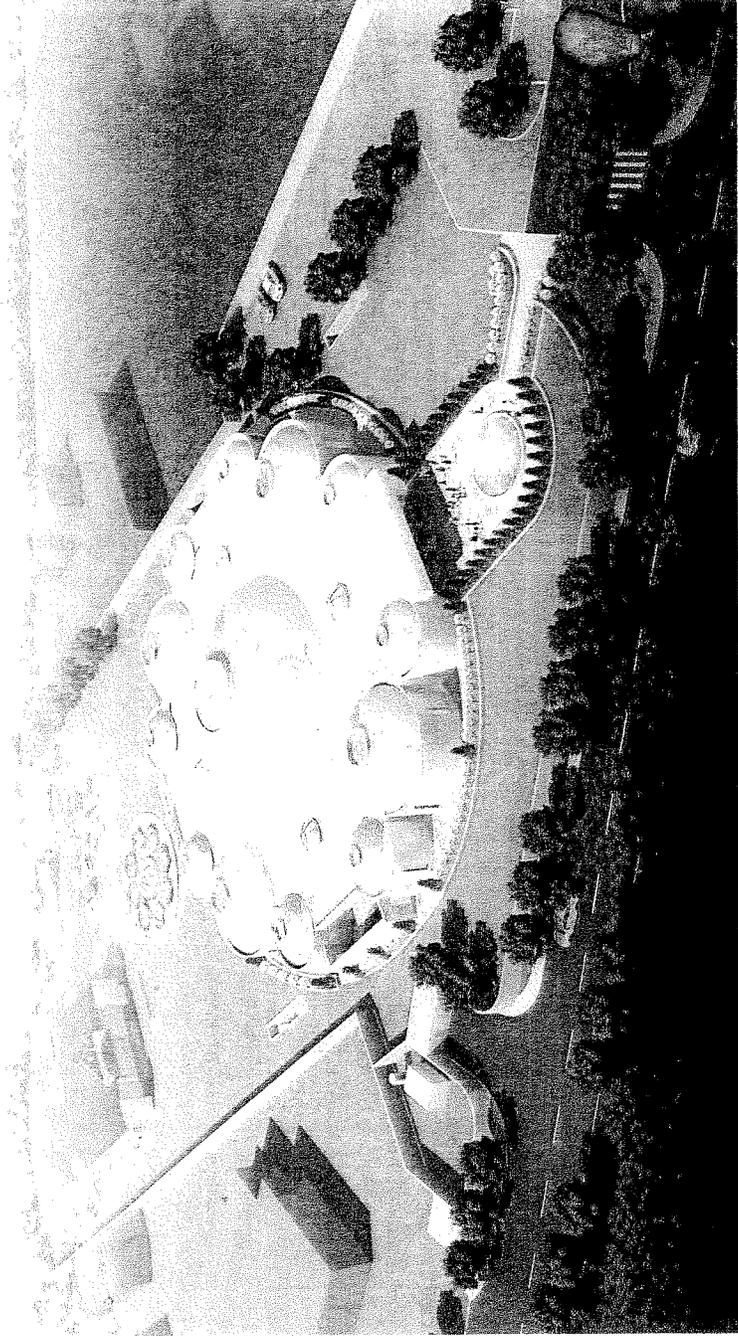
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathy Rogers". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Kathy Rogers
1496 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek CA, 94595

cc. Supervisor Uilkema

X



Kathy Rogers
1496 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA

2009 FEB 24 A 11:42

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Feb. 20, 2009

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Regarding: Opposition to the Sufism Reoriented project

Dear Ms. Cross:

More and more Saranap people are horrified about the space ship landing in our neighborhood! I believe that this inappropriate structure must be dramatically changed in size and appearance. The dirt removal for a 36-foot underground space as envisioned is almost inconceivable in scope, and the damage to roads, and well as the general noise and upheaval to the neighborhood, is horrific. I am not opposed to a church per se-- but am vehemently opposed to this monstrosity. 35 bathrooms!! And how many parking spaces are planned to service the amount of people flooding in to use 35 bathrooms?? Thousands of people are going to walk to this thing?? And I also am outraged at the planned demolition of the historic Tycer house. A Tycer granddaughter wrote to tell you her very personal feelings. As a long-time resident of Saranap who also loves the history of our sleepy little sanctuary, destroying this house and the lovely old trees is wrong.. The more I learn about this proposed project, the more offended I am that self-serving people can presume to ram a structure down a neighborhood's throat because it is "church-sanctioned."

Please consider the majority of people who are joining in opposition to this thing as they learn more about the details. We plan meetings and outreach of our own in the weeks to come.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,


Kathy Rogers

Cc: The Honorable Gayle Uilkema,
Contra Costa County Supervisor
District 2

Kathy Rogers
1496 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

✓
CONTRA COSTA

2009 JAN -6 P 1:13

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

January 3, 2009

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Regarding: The necessity of requiring 'story poles' for analysis of the application for a conditional use permit for a new worship center for Sufism Reoriented, Inc.

Dear Ms. Cross:

I believe that the best interests of our community would be served by requiring "story poles" to truly show the scope of this project. So many people are opposed to this project as inappropriate in size and scope, and the Sufi population is just as adamant about the necessity for its construction, that I believe it's only fair and reasonable to require that the story poles be installed so that impacted people will objectively "see" what the impact of this proposed building will truly look like. "A picture is worth a thousand words", and many thousands of words have already been spilled in opposition and support. I believe the county planners would also benefit from seeing exactly what is being proposed. This community will have to live with the consequences, and they are profound.

Story poles are relatively inexpensive to install, and I know that the Saranap Community Association, which has been taken over by the Sufis, has \$12,000 readily available. Since this is truly in the entire community's interest, it would be politic of them to actually use funds given to SCA by the Saranap community as a whole to benefit the whole community, rather than employ that money as they are currently using it, in Sufi outreach efforts. Even without use of the SCA funds, surely approximately \$400 for story poles is a reasonably tiny amount for the Sufis to invest in a project which will cost them millions of dollars to complete, and makes this unfolding process appear less disingenuous as it has up to the present time.

Over 300 community members have signed a petition opposing this project as inappropriate in size and scope. It would only be sensible to make everyone aware of what IS exactly being proposed. Please remember that the Sufi group is well-organized and financed, and very motivated to have this national center in our sleepy little neighborhood. People are not opposed to the religion per se—but the structure as presented is ridiculously unsuited to the neighborhood. Some community members are still unaware of this proposed project, and they deserve to know exactly what the design entails, because they are going to have to live with it. The story poles are a necessary way to show objectively exactly what is being envisioned.

Given that the project is controversial, a lack of the requirement of story poles for a project of this size and type would give the distinct impression that the County Planning Department was not doing all that it can and should do to thoroughly evaluate project. It also may be a violation of the County's own due process for major projects of this type.

I strenuously object to the lack of the requirement of story poles for this project. They represent the best way for the community, the decision makers and even for the current proponents and developers of the project to get a sense of the actual scope of the project and its potential encroachment on the Saranap neighborhood.

This development, which is huge is size and has issues of compatibility with the overall character of the Saranap neighborhood needs to be fully studied and go through a fully transparent and as professional an evaluation process as possible so that the community and the County decision makers will have the most complete information on the nature of the project in order to make the decisions in the best interests of the community. The use of story poles is one critical tool that is needed for a complete analysis of this project.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,



Kathy Rogers

Cc: The Honorable Gayle Uilkema,



"Lucille Rowley"
 <ceilrowley@astound.net>
 08/01/2008 05:16 PM

To <gayle@bos.cccounty.us>
 cc
 bcc

³
 COPY ✓

Subject Sufism Reoriented, Inc. Building in Saranap Neighborhood

To:
 The Honorable Gayle B. Uikema
 Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

From:
 Lucille Rowley and family
 37 Acorn Court
 Walnut Creek, CA 94595 (Saranap resident since 1947)

I am greatly shaken by the prospect of the 60,000 square foot building being planned for the Saranap area by the Sufism Reoriented, Inc.

Saranap is one of the oldest neighborhoods in Walnut Creek. It is a safe, quiet, intimate area where private family's have lived since the earliest land owners settle this area decades ago.

The size and scope of this Sufi campus is completely incompatible with the nature of the surrounding homes and few commercial entities that currently populate the small community. It raises tremendous issues with the safety of the environment, traffic and visual impact of this special area in Walnut Creek.

Who will pay for the maintenance of roads and infrastructure necessary to build and service a building of this magnitude? Sufism Reoriented, Inc. is a tax exempt entity.

I hope you will think long and hard about how a building of this magnitude will destroy the joy of living in Saranap for hundreds of long-time Walnut Creek residents.

Sincerely,
 Lucille Rowley and daughters: Kim Rowley and Blythe Lynd

*added
 names
 total 3 for this
 household*

COPY

To honorable Gayle B Uilkema ::

I am Lucille Rowley, I live at 37 Acorn Ct Walnut Creek Calif.
I have lived in this area since 1947. We built our first house on Del Hambre Circle.
The free way came and took half of our front yard, so we sold and bought a new lot on
acorn Court end of Dewing Lane. There we built our new house , where I live now.
I have lived in Saranap for 62 years.

It has been a quiet peaceful area, with very little traffic, just the people who live
here, and mail trucks and delivery trucks the only traffic.

People walk their dogs, without fear of cars, children play and walk to school
without fear of traffic. It is first and foremost a residential area.

I have seen pictures of the planned church it does not fit the area at all. It is taking
out houses that do belong in the area. It will bring unwanted traffic to our streets.

Please do not let this Church be built where it does not belong, It should be built
in the business area.

Sincerely, Lucille Rowley

Lucille Rowley
925-934-3230

b.s:

RE APPLICATION LP 08

203411508-0011

SUFISM REORIENTED

PROPOSED SANCTUARY

TO LASHUN CROSS
CONTRA COSTA PLANNER
COMMUNITY CONSERVATION PLANNER

0/

I am Lucille Rowley, I live at 37 Acorn Ct Walnut Creek Calif.
I have lived in this area since 1947. We built our first house on Del Hambre Circle.
The free way came and took half of our front yard, so we sold and bought a new lot on
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Please do not let this Church be built where it does not belong, It should be built
in the business area.

Sincerely, Lucille Rowley

Lucille Rowley
925-934-3230

RE APPLICATION LPO8
203417508-0011
SUFISM REORIENTED
PROPOSED SANCTUARY

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

2009 APR 27 P 1:56

CONTRA COSTA

X

July 30, 2008

CONTRA COSTA
08 JUL 30 PM 2:24
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPT

Ms. Lashun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor – North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Re: Application LP08-2034/MS08-0011

Dear Ms. Lashun,

As a Saranap resident and member of the Saranap Community Association, I am very much opposed to the proposed development application that was recently submitted by Sufism Reoriented.

The development is contrary to the Saranap Community Association's Mission Statement which states: The purpose of the Saranap Community Association is to preserve and foster the established character and quality of the Saranap Area as a semi-rural, low density, residential neighborhood.

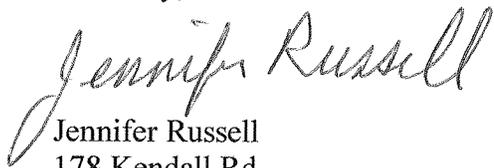
Earlier this month, I attended the annual Saranap Community Association meeting which included the election of officers. The meeting room was packed with Sufi church members, many of which do not live in Saranap. Taking advantage of an Association bylaw that allowed non Saranap residents to become members, the stacked house nominated members of the Sufie church thus booting off non Sufi members and gaining a majority of board positions. Unfortunately the Saranap Community Association is not governed by the Brown Act, otherwise this would have been an obvious conflict of interest. The reason I'm bringing this up is to give the County a sense of how politically organized and self-serving the Sufi organization is. Witnessing the unfair tactics of that evening made me question the validity of the information that is being presented to the County as part of this proposed sanctuary, book store, parking lot, offices and meeting rooms. I do not believe for a second that this development brings any benefit to our residential neighborhood. This huge construction project will displace single family homes, change the character of Saranap and pit neighbor against neighbor.

Allowing such a huge development to occur along a very long stretch of Boulevard Way and which eats into a significant portion of the residential area would show poor community planning.

I respectfully recommend that the County look at all the property holdings that Sufism Reoriented owns and work out an alternate scheme within the non residentially zoned area of Saranap.

I would like to receive a copy of all the public documents that relate to this proposed development.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Russell
178 Kendall Rd.
Walnut Creek CA, 94595

X

CONTRA COSTA

George Sanford
2310 Warren Road
Walnut Creek, CA
94595-1217

July 19, 2008

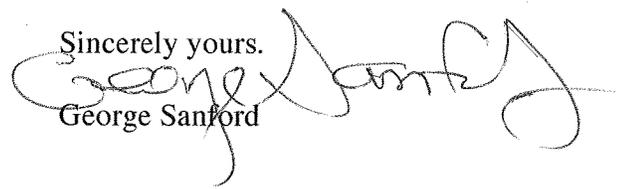
LaShun Cross
Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Dear Mr. Cross:

At a recent Saranap Community Association meeting I learned of a proposed project of the Sufism Reoriented, Inc., non-profit religious corporation to build a 60,000 square foot facility in near proximity to their current Sufism Reoriented west coast center located at 1300 Boulevard Way, Walnut Creek. (Reference Application LP08-2034/MS08-0011). Very little information has been provided to the community regarding this proposed project. Although outside the 300' neighborhood notification boundary, I would still like to be placed on the county's notification list regarding this project. Please ensure project notification mailings are sent to me at the above address.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours.



George Sanford

[Faint, illegible text at the bottom of the page, possibly bleed-through or a stamp]

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL 25 PM 1:14

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

George Sanford
2310 Warren Road
Walnut Creek, CA
94595-1217

July 22, 2008

LaShun Cross
Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Mr. Cross:

The intent of this letter is to express concern regarding the Sufism Reoriented, Inc., proposal to build a 60,000sf Sufism Reoriented Center on land located on Boulevard Way, near Kinney Avenue, in the Saranap area of Contra Costa County. (Reference land use permit application LP08-2034/MS08-0011).

Although this project has apparently been in the development stages since the 1990s, detailed information about the project has not been shared with neighborhood residents until very recently. As a result, the residents are at a disadvantage because they do not know the actual scope and size of the project. Rumor-based specifics are ardently being discussed, and perceived consequences of such a project are being cited as fact. The truth is though, other than a description of a 60,000sf facility with two-thirds of it being below grade, and being topped by domes reaching up to thirty-three feet above grade, I believe few have actually seen the details, or understand the scope of this project.

However, on the basis of what Sufism Reoriented, Inc., has just recently made available to neighborhood residents, I do offer these concerns:

1. Property Tax Exemption: Welfare.

Changing land use from Single-Family Residential to Institution: Church, and the potential resulting Welfare exemption for property taxes could negatively impact the county's budget and its ability to render services.

- Seven residential parcels are reportedly going to be combined to site the new facility. According to the county mapping information center, the total assessed value of these properties is currently about 3.5 million dollars. In addition, one commercial property at 1326 Boulevard Way was also recently acquired by the requesting organization. It is not known whether this parcel is also intended to be a part of the project, nor is it known if a land use change will be requested for it, but, if requested, the assessed value of this property that could be also exempt from property taxes is over 1.7 million dollars. Combined with the other parcels,

the total assessed value potentially being exempted from property taxes could be well over 5 million dollars.

- I would ask the county to consider the effect the loss of property tax revenues from 5 million dollars of assessed property values would have on the county budget and services in an already state of depressed budgets and declining revenues.

2. Construction traffic mitigation and management.

Construction of a 60,000sf building requiring excavation of 40,000sf to the depth of one story results in the need to remove approximately 30,000 cubic yards of dirt by heavy truck and trailer. Combining the over 500 anticipated removal haul loads with other construction-related heavy duty traffic and equipment movements over Boulevard Way could negatively affect local residents and businesses. Of additional concern is the route that this construction traffic would use. Practical ingress and egress is limited to the two ends of Boulevard Way. Access to Highway 680 would also offer complications for the traffic management plan.

- I would ask the county to examine the transportation issue and ensure the development of a suitable traffic management plan to mitigate the anticipated construction traffic issues.

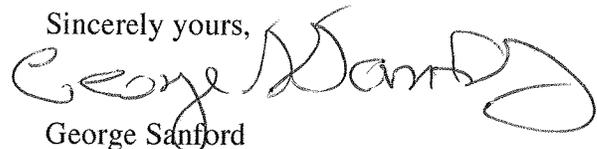
3. Size and scale of building not in keeping with historic Saranap area.

Establishment of a church in a residential neighborhood is an acceptable and desired event. However, I believe it important to ensure the presence of the church structures should not unduly alter the residential environment, nor be an imposition because of size, appearance, or use. Placing a facility the size of a Longs Drug Store among established houses, on a residential street, will negatively alter the look of the residential neighborhood.

- I would ask the county to carefully assess the appropriateness of the placement of a 60,000sf building, topped with multiple domes to heights over thirty feet in the historic Saranap residential area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George Sanford". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

George Sanford

July 30, 2008

CONTRA COSTA

08 AUG -1 PM 12: 00

LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Dept.
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Mr. Cross,

I am writing to express my strong objection to the Sufi Reoriented project proposed for Boulevard Way in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek.

While I have no objection to the Sufi's current structure also on Boulevard Way, I feel the proposed new 60,000+ square foot sanctuary is not suitable for this residential neighborhood for the following reasons:

This area is zoned R-10 for residential use. The Sufi organization has purchased 7 lots in order to create a much larger facility than their current structure. Converting and exempting the seven parcels from the existing residential tax base to Welfare, Church, Institution would mean the loss of residential property tax to support county services. The loss of revenue would mean cuts in police service, fire response, road maintenance, public schools and other vital areas. Or, the lost revenue would be recouped through a tax increase or through shifting monies from intended use to cover disadvantaged services.

The size, scope and design of the project are not suited for this residential neighborhood. Although two thirds of the 60,000 sq. ft. sanctuary will be underground the portion above ground will be an imposing structure including multiple levels of domes visible from many homes. The sanctuary site cuts deeply into the residential neighborhood. The enclosed map clearly shows the number of homes on Warren Road and Island Court which will very directly be affected and which will share a common perimeter wall with the compound. The style of the structure is not in keeping with the older ranch style residences of the area and the 6' high wall surrounding the compound will create an uninviting enclave to neighbors and others coming to the Saranap area.

I am concerned that this large expansion is intended to accommodate an increasing membership and/or to become the Sufi national headquarters. The Sufis have indicated they do not expect their local membership of approximately 375 persons to grow. However, if the intention is only to maintain the current local membership, it raises the question of why such a large new structure is necessary. With a bus stop in front of the proposed sanctuary site (and a proposed widening of the street at the bus stop), location within walking distance from BART, and two airports nearby, I am very concerned that the size of the Sufi sanctuary and associated group facilities will draw additional traffic from other parts of the Bay Area and perhaps from around the country.

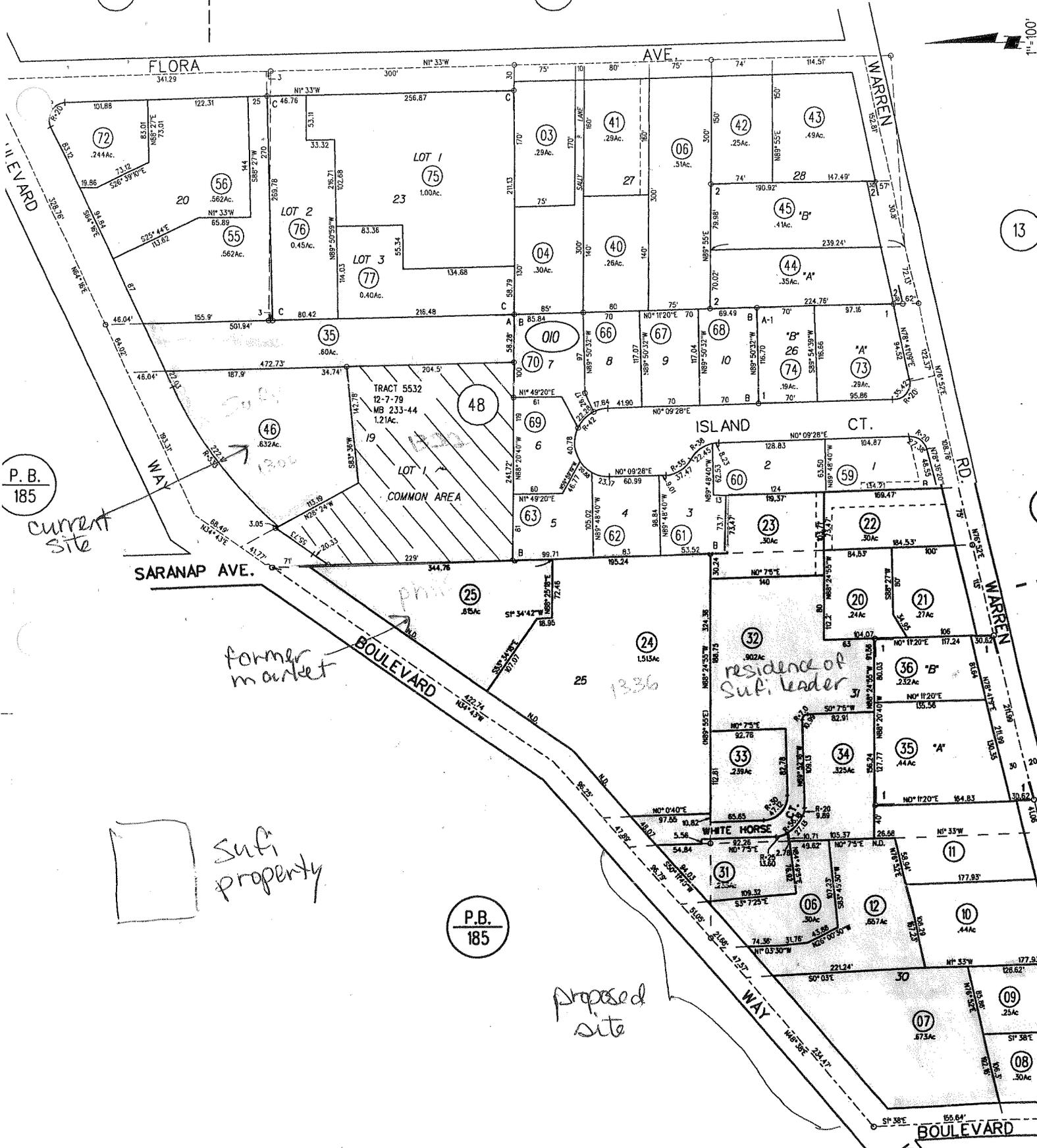
I am concerned, as are our many of our Saranap neighbors, that if the proposed Sufi compound encroaches further into the quiet, semi-rural residential area, our home values will be negatively impacted.

Please notify me, at the address below, of any actions or hearings on this application and any projects related to this.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Toni Sanford". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Toni" being more prominent than the last name "Sanford".

Toni Sanford
2310 Warren Rd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595



NOTE: THIS MAP WAS PREPARED FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES ONLY. NO LIABILITY IS ASSUMED FOR THE ACCURACY OF THE INFORMATION DELINEATED HEREON. ASSESSOR'S PARCELS MAY NOT COMPLY WITH LOCAL LOT SPLIT OR BUILDING SITE ORDINANCES.

November 14th, 2008

Attn: Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

08 NOV 17 PM 1:39

CC: Gayle B. Uilkema

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Ms. LaShun,

I am writing to you to voice my concerns about the Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary project that has been proposed for the Saranap neighborhood in Walnut Creek. As a homeowner in Saranap, I am extremely worried about the effects this project would have on our neighborhood. I am also very concerned that the majority of homeowners in the neighborhood are unaware of the full scope of this project, and in addition that many others are completely unaware of any plans for a Sufism Reoriented new sanctuary.

As a homeowner that purposefully purchased residential property in a semi-rural neighborhood, I am upset that it is possible for such a project to go through. When reviewing Sufism Reoriented's proposal I plead with you to consider the following:

1. This project includes tearing down seven residential lots. Residential land should remain for residential use only. Encroachment of businesses or otherwise (places of worship) jeopardize our residential neighborhood.
2. The size and design of Sufism Reoriented new sanctuary is completely out of character with the surrounding neighborhood and doesn't keep within the current codes set in place. It will drastically change the look and feel of our quaint Saranap neighborhood. Thirteen domes at a peak height of 35' will be an eye sore to the area and not blend in with the surrounding areas.
3. Traffic/congestion concerns: Sufism Reoriented has stated their membership will not increase with the new sanctuary. I am hoping that would be the case. However, I have been told they have plans to sell the property they currently occupy and use as their place of worship. By doing so a new group/business/whatever it may be, would occupy the old building hence traffic will increase on Boulevard way even if Sufi membership does not increase.

Considering the scale of this proposed project I think it's important that all residents of Saranap be notified and not just immediate neighboring homes. The scope is much larger than say simply adding a second story to someone's ranch style house. This project will affect the whole community. Whatever notice can be provided to the community would be much appreciated. And I am personally requesting to be notified of any/all hearings regarding this project.

Thank you,
Jenny Schneider
1241 Dewing Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
925-932-8390
jen@mamamuffin.com

Date July 21st, 2008

Attendees

Meeting Objectives Proposed Development of Sufi Compound

(A 60,000 sq ft Religious Structure
in the SATTAP Neighborhood / Community)

Community Conservation & Development Dept.

Dear Ms. LShun Cross,

As a homeowner of many years in this wonderful SATTAP Neighborhood, I am Appalled to learn of this proposed attempt to destroy a large portion of our Country like setting Neighborhood filled with so many quaint & charming Bennett styled homes — and to replace it with a very BIZARRE looking, stark white concrete walled off and gated 60,000 sq ft Religious Compound.

The size alone of this proposed structure is excessive and inappropriate for the scale of our Neighborhood and it is without question that the Architectural style needs considerable revision & refining to avoid the obvious outcome of 'standing out like a sore thumb' in the community. The style of this proposed structure is NOT that of a typical church so often seen tucked in amongst other neighborhoods, NO NOT AT ALL! I would hope that you've had the opportunity to stop by and examine their current structure located

on Boulevard Way — that is if you can get past their IREN GATES and excessively high scaled white concrete walls.

This proposed Development has NOT fully and Adequately been brought to the Attention of All SATTAP Residents. Please give this matter the Careful and appropriate attention it deserves! Thank you kindly,
The STEA Family.

June 5, 2009

0
Previously
Entered

La Shun Cross
Contra Costa County Planner
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553

Gayle Uilkema, Supervisor, Contra Costa County
651 Pine Street, Room 108 A
Martinez, CA 94553

Re: the proposed Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary
Application: LP 08-2034-MS-0011

Dear Ms La Shun Cross and Supervisor Gayle Uilkema:

DEPARTMENT OF REGISTRATION
2009 JUN -8 P 1:27
CONTRA COSTA

In February of this year, I wrote to the Saranap Community Association and to Sufism Reoriented, Inc. (with CC to both of you) describing my thoughts and concerns about the Sanctuary proposed to be built in our residential neighborhood. My objections were due to the enormous size of the project, the destruction of the large old oak trees and residential homes on the site where they wish to place the Sanctuary. It would also have, I feel, an enormous negative impact on the neighbors immediately abutting the Sanctuary. An underground excavation the size of a football field for their facility seems entirely out of place for our Saranap neighborhood with modest ranch homes.

In my letter, I acknowledged the many worthy activities of the members of Sufism Reoriented, cited how I value my friendship with these members, and made it clear that my objections to the proposed Sanctuary had nothing to do with religion, but had everything to do with what, I feel, is the inappropriateness of this massive structure in the midst of a residential neighborhood. The February 25, 2009 letter written to me by Robert Carpenter as the official representative of Sufism Reoriented was extremely upsetting to me. My positive statements were completely ignored. I wrote, **not as a representative or affiliate** of any organization or group....I wrote as an individual who has resided in Saranap for 41 years and raised a family here. Mr. Carpenter's letter answered me as though I represented a group and attributed many things to me personally which were blanketed within a group. His letter denoted that the "door to door campaign and flyers....try to create fear and hatred of Sufism Reoriented". Fear and hatred are **very** inflammatory words and it was extremely upsetting to me to be told that when I discuss the proposed Sanctuary with my neighbors and friends, I am "spreading fear and hatred". Surely every person is entitled to a difference of opinion; I should not be scolded because I feel the 66,000 square foot Sanctuary would be better placed where it would not destroy homes and old growth oak trees.

Sufism Reoriented claims they must have this 66,000 sq ft of space available for their 350 member organization, and if they cannot build this structure...they will have to sell their houses and move out of the area. But those of us who are not members cannot understand why this small group of 350 persons needs a space larger than the White House and the Walnut Creek library to worship and why there is such a need for 47 bathroom stalls. Surely, there must be another more appropriate site for this large structure, a place where residential homes would not be demolished. Mr. Carpenter's response in his letter on page 3 notes that it is not true that all structures will be demolished... "Our lovely parsonage will not be destroyed". Of course not, it is newly built by Sufism Reoriented and is part of their overall complex.

They claim they do not proselytize, and therefore their congregation would not increase in size, but the 66,000 sq footage is needed for "all their activities" – publishing, meetings, recording, archiving items, choir practice etc., but many of us feel if such a large structure is built, it will be a magnet and gathering place for many public events. It is certainly their prerogative to aspire to this size of structure, but it is also my right and the right of others in our neighborhood to ask that the structure not be placed in the area they chose as it interferes with our vision of trying to maintain our rural type neighborhood.

The letter ends by implying that opposing the "lovely" Sanctuary design is denigration and therefore this is "attacking the core of their lives". So, no matter how clearly I stated my reasons for personally not wanting such a huge structure where they propose to place it, their official response is that any person who expresses any sort of opposition to the Sanctuary is therefore expressing "fear and hatred" of their religion. Sufism Reoriented has had their place of worship here in our neighborhood for over 30 years, as far as I know, there has never been opposition to them.

I chose not to enter into any further response with Mr. Carpenter as the representative of Sufism Reoriented, however, I feel it is important to have his letter placed into the public files to show the official response of Sufism Reoriented to an opinion which differs from their goals. It seems that no matter what or how it is expressed; any opposition to the Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary is officially interpreted by them as religious persecution. Hopefully other organizations will understand and realize that opposition to size and placement of a structure should be differentiated from "fear and hatred" of a religion!!

Sincerely,



Patricia Smayda
19 Blade Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

enclosures

0✓

La Shun Cross
Contra Costa County Planner
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553

February 10, 2009
CONTRA COSTA

2009 FEB 11 P 1:41

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND RECREATION

Re: Sufism Reoriented Inc proposal\
Application: LP 08-2034-MS-0011

Dear La Shun Cross;

Enclosed please find a copy of my letter to Sufism Reoriented, Inc. and to the Saranap Community Association. As I think you are aware, the leadership of the Saranap Community Association has been taken over by Sufism Reoriented. They have sponsored several meetings with presentations given by the Sufis. I attended both of these meetings and subsequently felt compelled to write this letter to both their organizations. At the meetings, Sufism Reoriented has made it abundantly clear that they are not willing or open to changing their proposed plans in any way. It is understandable that they have their dream of building this Sanctuary, however, it seems that they fail to recognize that in doing so, they permanently change the character of Saranap, in destroying many residences, clear-cutting the properties of all vegetation, and greatly affecting all of us in Saranap, especially those immediately adjacent to the proposed Sanctuary.

They seem to have unlimited funds and have hired an attorney, geologists, architects, landscape architects etc., contrary to the rest of us who are scrambling the best we can to gather our troops. We are spending our personal monies to support opposition to where they propose to build as the Sufis now have control of all the funds which Saranap residents have paid to SCA for dues. They have expressed their view that they are unwilling to put up "story poles" to show the configuration of the Sanctuary because this "would be confusing". We are asking that the County require Sufism Reoriented, Inc. to install the story poles so that all neighbors and surrounding areas will see the exact expanse of their project.

We have concerns also about the underground structure which requires a massive amount of excavation and many, many truckload trips to haul away the dirt, and I feel, might create ground slippage. As noted in my letter, the easement issue mentioned in #5 is of major concern to the homeowner at 2438 Warren Road as it could seriously affect her property.

It was brought up at the January 15 meeting that the Sufis are claiming to be persecuted because of their religion...and this couldn't be further from the truth. In all the meetings I have attended...at the Sufi Center, at the SCA meetings and at the large neighborhood meetings sponsored by the SCA, there has never been a word said about their religion...it is a land use issue and will remain so. They seem to be unwilling to consider demolishing their present structure and building on that site, but where they propose to build adversely affects many people.

Sincerely,
Patricia Smayda
Patricia Smayda
19 Blade Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

February 10, 2009

Saranap Community Association
P.O. Box 2506
Walnut Creek, CA 94595-0506

Sufism Reoriented, Inc.
1300 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Re: the proposed Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary
Application: LP 08-2034-MS-0011

To whom it may concern:

We have lived in our home in Saranap since 1968, both our sons were raised here and we feel attached to the rural, wooded area in which we chose to buy our home. Yes, the City of Walnut Creek has changed greatly since 1968, no more Woolworth's or J.C. Penney downtown. That area has become what some call the "Rodeo Drive of the North" with upscale retail businesses. And the proliferation of new office buildings in the 1980's quite definitely changed the landscape of Walnut Creek with the increased traffic making a walk downtown a little more perilous.

But Saranap itself has managed more or less, to remain an enclave of ruralness, partially due to the efforts of the Saranap Community Association which has actively opposed the march of large commercial development and has been successful in downsizing proposed oversize housing tracts. Due to the activism of those of us who live around Dewing Lane, we repelled the proposed retail development at the corner of Boulevard Way and Nicholson by attending City of Walnut Creek meeting, stating the concern for encroaching retail development and the overriding concern for that dangerous left hand turn onto Nicholson which all of us in the Dewing Lane area must use.

However, the new sanctuary which Sufism Reoriented Inc. has proposed building in the midst of residential homes in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek has created controversy, and sadly I feel, it has created a divisiveness which has not existed previously. Sufism Reoriented has maintained a presence and meeting place in Saranap for over 30 years. In all those years, to my knowledge, there has never been opposition to them either as individuals nor as a religion, they have simply been one more religion in our area along with the Catholics, Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians, Buddhists, Unitarians and others. and I have never been aware of any negative feelings about their Sanctuary on Boulevard Way, the Sufis have been valued members of the community.

Some of us have questioned the fact there has been no signage at their Sanctuary, their answer has been that they "do not proselytize", therefore they do not need identification on their building. If, as was claimed, at the January 23rd meeting of the SCA, they were being persecuted because of their religion....their present meeting place on Boulevards Way could have been picketed, articles could have been written to the newspaper, personal "attacks" could have been made against their presence....etc. Where is there any indication at all that religious persecution has taken place, either in the past or presently?!

Sufi members have been valued neighbors and have been involved in many worthy and commendable activities. I myself, find it difficult to openly oppose the massive Sanctuary which they have proposed

to build in the midst of residential homes, but I do feel strongly that the placement of this massive building is inappropriate for our residential Saranap.

It is with appreciation that Sufism Reoriented Inc. has sponsored public meetings for the Saranap neighborhood and others who might be interested, to voice opinions and I have made a point of trying to attend all the meetings concerning this proposed new sanctuary, at the present Sufi meeting place, at the SCA meetings, and at the two open meetings held at Grace Presbyterian Church in order to gain perspective from both "sides". At **NONE** of these meetings has anyone spoken out against the religion of Sufism Reoriented. Those of us who are opposed to the proposed new sanctuary are opposed for the following reasons – **NOT** for religious reasons:

1. The size of the structure (60,000 or 66,000 square feet). Yes, there is commercial development on Boulevard Way, however Saranap residents have strongly campaigned against **further** commercialization and large development in our area. The vision of the Saranap Community Association has been, in the past, to "oppose the incursion of "big box" homes, condominium complexes and **other construction not in keeping with the character of the neighborhood**". We wish to keep our area as rural and residential as possible. Any large non-residential structure opens the way for the next large complex to be built in our area. It is difficult for me to understand why a 66,000 square foot structure which demolishes all residences in the proposed building area does not fall into the category of a large structure...why should this proposal be treated any differently from any other 66,000 square foot proposed structure for Saranap?

2. This structure demands the complete destruction of **all** residences in the proposed building site including completely denuding the parcel(s) of **all** vegetation, including heritage oak trees, which have been growing there for many years. Proposed landscaping, albeit pretty, will take many years to mature and take the place of the large old oak trees. The proposed plans show a structure which, although interesting, is vastly different from the modest ranch homes in the neighborhood. It will be used for the 350 Sufi members, a small percentage of Saranap homeowners. They claim that the grounds will be open to non-members, but remember that this is private not public property....permission to pass revocable at any time.

3. The two story underground construction will inconvenience and permanently affect those residences immediately adjacent to the proposed structure. It is questionable that this enormous excavation will not permanently change the water table and stability of the immediate area. The innumerable truckloads of dirt being hauled away during the many months of construction/digging will not only create an avalanche of noise and dust, it will create hazardous conditions in our narrow County roads which are used by bicyclists, walkers, Rossmoor traffic, and local traffic going to schools and places of business. It will permanently destroy the County roads in the area...given the present economy, who will pay to have these roads re-surfaced. Recently, one home on our street was completely demolished and new construction started. The process was very messy and many safeguards were ignored, and despite calls to the County, they seemed to be very ineffective in making the contractors adhere to County regulations. With the Sufi sanctuary being massively larger than this one demolition, it is scary to think of the problems which could occur. Many of these homes were here in the 1950's, long before the Sufis began moving into and meeting in our neighborhood. Surely it must be taken into consideration that their comfort and well being should be honored, as compared to them, the Sufis are newcomers.

4. The parking spaces for the proposed structure are seriously smaller in number than the County requires for this size structure. Yes, the Sufis say they are committed to walking and not driving, but will this apply to those who live miles away. Will the members adhere to their commitment during inclement weather and will people visiting the Sanctuary adhere to the "no parking" commitment. The enormous square footage belies the usage of just 350 persons, especially with the proposed 37 bathroom stalls and the large underground space which, they say is for a book store, publishing and recording uses...is this allowable in a residentially zoned structure? And when and if the building might be sold, the new tenants would have to adhere to the County regulations, thus changing the proposed grounds in a major way.

5. A major red light, to me, is the disregard for the owners of the homes on Warren Road, whose properties immediately abut the proposed Sanctuary. Many of these homes were built in the 1950's, long before Sufism Reoriented, Inc came into Saranap. Specifically, Barbara Odell's home at 2438 Warren Road is the property most in jeopardy. The Rasmussen home has already been affected by the tall walls installed. Because the proposed Sanctuary would "landlock" the newly constructed residence for Carol Connor, the Murshida, Barbara's easement is threatened to be widened in order for fire trucks to gain access. The Murshida property is now comfortably accessed by White Horse Court off Boulevard Way, however the proposed plans for the sanctuary have made no allowance for fire trucks to enter on Boulevard Way to access this residence and it was made clear at the January 15 meeting, that the plans are not open to change. I question also, the legality of the Murshida residence using this easement. According to Barbara's deed, it may be used for four parcels, Barbara's, the Rasmussens, Bernie Schwarz, and the then, one vacant parcel where the Murshida residence was built. But the Murshida residence combined two parcels, and in my limited knowledge, it seems that this would legally negate access by the Murshida residence in any way. At least three owners of homes on Warren Road have been told that, if the easement is required to be widened (meaning that Barbara's home would lose half the small front yard and 50 year old trees would be destroyed) or that they feel the Sufi Sanctuary would diminish their property values, that the Sufi organization would be willing to buy their homes! This is small consolation for homeowners who have lived there for over 40 years, who have invested life savings into their homes and planned a comfortable and quiet retirement in their homes. Why can't Sufism Reoriented alter their plans a little to be courteous to neighbors who have lived there so long!

6. Sufism Reoriented members claimed at the January 15 meeting that the proposed plans for their Sanctuary are, in reality, immutable. They cannot change the color, the design, the size, consider saving the heritage oak trees, consider using the existing structures, they cannot put up story poles, nor consider downsizing the structure to accommodate Saranap inhabitants' concerns.

The Sufis claim, that if the Sanctuary is not allowed to be built, they will have to close the White Pony School, sell their houses, and move away, because they would not be able to walk to the school for their many hours of volunteer work, and walk to the sanctuary for worship. I fail to comprehend the logic of this statement. Many of us here in Saranap would be thrilled if we could walk to our children's school for our hundreds of hours of volunteering and involvement. We too, spend (or have spent) many, many hours involved in our children's education, volunteering and helping to fund raise for our schools, participating in the classroom, providing assistance to the teachers, attending PTA meetings, etc. . How wonderful if those schools were next door!! But...I do not know of a single household or even congregation which could afford to buy enough property just to build a school next door to them so they could have quick access to the school in order to volunteer. And yes, it would also be wonderful to have our place of worship next door (again, who could afford to purchase enough

property for such a project), and we would also love to have Grandma next door. The reality of our society is that most of us must move to where jobs are located and try our best to find excellent schools in the neighborhood. It seems as though Sufism Reoriented has seemingly unlimited funds to not only purchase property designated for the sanctuary, but also to purchase many other properties to be held in reserve. We all wish we had these unlimited funds to put to use in this way!!! All three of our children's schools were closed in the 1970's, Tice Valley Elementary, Parkmead Intermediate and Del Valle High School. This did not mean that we chose to sell our home and move away, we adapted.

My personal objection is that this large structure will displace residential properties, strip the site of all vegetation, and may pave the way for even more large structures. It will permanently change the rural ambiance of Saranap and will vastly affect not only those adjacent to the proposed structure, but also all of us in Saranap. From what little I know of Sufism, it seems it is a very inward, meditative religion, one which requires relative isolation from the immediate surroundings. And it seems that with the Sufi claim that they will be forced to move if the sanctuary is not built because they will not be close enough to their school and sanctuary, that they would find their needs serviced more in a separate entity with property enough to hold their homes, school, and sanctuary in one small "city". To place this new large structure in existing residential properties does not seem to service either the Sufis, or the neighborhood well.

Surely, there must be either open space, or other areas where they would not demolish residences and heritage trees – I can think of one ideal place – the old Co-op market on Geary Road which has been empty and deteriorating for years, building there would enhance that neighborhood, and demolish an unsightly structure which has been empty for many years. There is no vegetation on the property, thus nothing would be destroyed. It backs up to an existing church, there would be no homes demolished.

The Sufis claim that they could not demolish their present structure and re-build there, because "they would have no place to worship". Again, I fail to see the logic, surely there must be a place in Contra Costa County which could be rented in the interim. Yes, there would be major inconvenience for several years for the members as the Walnut Creek Library and the Bancroft Library on the UC Berkeley campus have faced...but this inconvenience would bring eventual rewards with a new structure. Wouldn't this in the long run better serve both the Saranap community and the Sufi community....a temporary inconvenience for Sufi members as opposed to permanent destruction of properties in Saranap. Because of the surprised response of several Sufi members to the fact that Barbara Odell's easement is seriously threatened, I am wondering if the general membership of Sufism Reoriented is kept apprised of the negative aspects of this proposed structure.

Might I add that it is very difficult for me to publicly oppose this structure as I value the friendship of the Sufi members whom I have known for many years, and I wish to make it clear that this is NOT a personal issue nor a religious issue, but merely an issue of land use....and what I feel is inappropriate usage of rural, residential space.

Respectfully,

Patricia Smayda
19 Blade Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: LaShun Cross; Gayle Uilkema

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CONTRA COSTA

July 25, 2008

La Shun Cross, Planner
Contra Costa Planning Department
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

08 JUL 28 PM 1:42

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

RE: Application: LP 08-2034-MS-0011

Dear La Shun Cross;

This letter is concerning the proposed Sufi sanctuary project proposed for Boulevard Way and Kinney in the unincorporated Saranap area of Walnut Creek. As a 40 year resident of Saranap I am concerned about the scope of this project. We are a rural, residential community and this 60,000 square foot project seems to belie the goals of the residents of this area, which is to maintain the rural, residential quality and to curb commercial development. The Sufi community already owns the Meher/White Pony School on Leland Drive; a meeting place at 1300 Boulevard Way and also a very large "residential" place which is two houses joined as one facility on White Horse Court. This last place, we are told, is the headquarters for their spiritual leader. The organization has also been buying additional properties in the immediate area, including residences, an apartment building, and the now closed La Rosa's grocery store, the reason being, we are told, that they weren't sure where the sanctuary would be built. Many of us see the many Sufi owned places as proof of their goal to expand even more in Saranap.

In the past, developers have had their eye on our area. One person purchased all the residences at Nicholson and Dewing Lane and proposed to tear down the residences and build a retail center. We residents attended City of Walnut Creek meetings to voice concerns and objections to this project, mostly because of the dangerous turn at Boulevard Way/Nicholson and this project was scuttled because of our concerns. Another project which had been proposed around 1970 on Warren Road (at what is now Island Court, I believe) was the Jewish Community Center. This also was objected to by neighbors and was abandoned, thankfully, because the present Jewish Center on Tice Valley Road generates a huge amount of traffic with all their classes, meetings, Alzheimer's Day Care and other very worthy gatherings.

This is not an objection to the religious community per se, but this project is proposing to demolish many residences and this is my primary objection, other than the large size of the sanctuary and the fact that this large project would be a precedent for our area...either for future Sufi buildings or for other commercial buildings. Many of us feel that this project, if built, would open the door to either more Sufi structures, or to other large commercial developments. A sanctuary size of 60,000 square feet seems overly generous for their reported membership of 354. With this size sanctuary, it seems inevitable that the sanctuary will be a regional center and would encourage many new members. The new Walnut Creek library is only 40 - 42,000 square feet to service the entire city. Wouldn't it be possible for the group to demolish the meeting place which they own and rebuild their modern, large sanctuary in that same location, as the Walnut Creek Library is doing.

One more concern is the architecture. Although the brochures which the Sufi community is sending out proclaim that the project harmonizes with the Saranap area, I have seen no homes in Saranap which have multiple white domes. Granted, the plan looks pretty, but I feel it really does not coordinate with

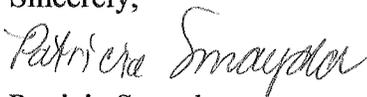
our ranch style homes. The present meeting place and spiritual leader's residence have large concrete walls surrounding them, effectively secreting and separating themselves from the neighborhood.

Perhaps the County might consider the tax implications as well. Since Sufism Reoriented is listed as a church, they are exempt from many property taxes, this would be a very large loss of revenue to the County.

Please add my name to your list of persons to notify for future public meetings so that we may express concerns about this project. If possible, I would also like to receive information about the exact plans....how many homes they are proposing to demolish, how they propose to do the extensive underground digging without inconveniencing the neighbors, whatever plans are made available to the public.

Thanking you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Patricia Smayda
19 Blade Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
925-933-9871

09/28

Letter responding to

Robert W Carpenter
Sufism Reoriented
1300 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

February 25, 2009

Ms. Patricia Smayda
19 Blade Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Dear Ms. Smayda,

Your letter dated February 10 was forwarded to me for response. You have much in common with your neighbors who are members of Sufism Reoriented. Most of them, too, have lived in this area for over 30 years. They, too, have raised their children here. They, too, look forward to spending the rest of their lives here.

The members of Sufism Reoriented have shown their commitment to the local community throughout this entire period: foremost by creating and maintaining the Meher Schools (including the White Pony Pre-School) the same year that they opened their center on Boulevard Way. This school has served thousands of children over its 34-year history. It welcomes close to 400 children each year to its preschool and elementary school. It has been committed to keeping tuition costs low, as low as local, subsidized parochial schools, while maintaining the highest academic standing, as measured by standardized tests and an outstanding arts program. By keeping the cost low, we have made our school available to families of modest means who normally could not afford a private school. We have mainstreamed children with significant learning and developmental disabilities that many private schools will not enroll, and we welcome children of all faiths and ethnicities. All of this is done without even a hint of proselytizing. Our teachers and staff simply try to live our principles every day—to live a life of love. By educating about 200 children each year in grades K-5, we save the State of California about \$1,540,000 annually (\$7,700 (State per pupil amount) x 200). The school has been possible because the teachers who are members of Sufism Reoriented work at about half the pay of similarly qualified teachers. They do so from their love of God and the opportunity to provide loving service to His children. The school is maintained at a level of unmatched cleanliness, through the thousands of hours of volunteer time offered by members of Sufism Reoriented every year.

In addition to the Meher Schools, members of Sufism Reoriented founded the Hospice of Contra Costa (now the East Bay Hospice), the Contra Costa County Rape Crisis Center and co-founded the Saranap Community Association. Members have served on the Board of the SCA since its inception. For years, we have held a neighborhood Easter Party, and when we learned that more of our neighbors wished to get to know us, we expanded these parties into festive events attended by several hundred neighbors the past two years. We hope you and your family will be able to join us this year.

This orientation toward community building by sharing has recently been expanded in response to our neighbors' expressed desire to know us. This fall, members of Sufism Reoriented sponsored a neighborhood Halloween Party, emphasizing happiness and cheer, rather than fear. Scores of children and their parents from the neighborhood had a wonderful, creative time at the cookie-decorating and mask-making tables and unicorn rides. For the holidays, Sufism Reoriented opened its doors and invited neighbors to enjoy a Holiday Bazaar, Café, and a choral concert by one of the performance choirs of Sufism Reoriented. A week later we hosted about 400-500 neighbors at our children's' Holiday Party, where the Meher Schools chorus performed, the children enjoyed tables full of crafts and finished by dancing around a living Wishing Tree that was decorated with their hand-written wish ornaments. This beautiful tree was donated by a Meher Schools parent (who is not a member of Sufism Reoriented). The relaxed atmosphere of spontaneity and joy infected everyone.

We are always so surprised that those who oppose the sanctuary never credit this remarkable record of community service. By so pointedly never crediting members of Sufism Reoriented with all of the community building they have done, the leaders of the opposition denigrate this work. On the SOS website some of these activities have even been mocked.

You say that you have nothing against members of Sufism Reoriented and even like them and that no one has spoken against Sufism Reoriented at the public meetings. I will take you at your word as for yourself. And no doubt that is true of many people who oppose the sanctuary. However, the leaders of the opposition have used their website, door-to-door campaign and flyers to try to create fear and even hatred of Sufism Reoriented. They have used the most non-representative view of the new sanctuary, an aerial view, to try to belittle it, have called it monstrous and "far from sacred"—with the sole idea of frightening neighbors and creating hatred through derision. In truth, by any normal aesthetic the building (which will be nestled in a glade of trees) is beautiful. It is inspiring. The beautiful views of the building that people will actually see when they enter the property to go to our bookstore or spend a moment of quiet in our gardens are not shown. Stimulating fear destroys the fabric of community.

The opposition leaders say in public that they have nothing against Sufism Reoriented. But their website belies their statements. As I mentioned before, the website mocks our community outreach programs, including our neighborhood parties and the SCA Toy and Clothing Exchange that many of our members support. It mocks our beautiful design. Some of the articles on the website are scurrilous and even libelous. They clearly imply that our spiritual leader or leadership is a liar and a manipulator. These statements are designed to make people hate our organization. The SOS website is full of countless distortions and many falsehoods. While members of Sufism Reoriented have worked steadily for decades to build the sense of community here, the leaders of the opposition to our project seek to gain their goals through fomenting fear and division; this is not community building.

You say you treasure the way things are and do not want change. But life is change. Where there is no change, there is only decay. If the people who built your house had felt the way you do, your house would not have been built. This area would still be open fields, orchards and small glades of trees. It would actually be rural. But the people who built your home wanted change. They knew that bringing something new would better life for themselves and their children. So they denuded the fields and chopped down the orchards. But they didn't leave them barren. They built their homes and brought new life into the world.

It is also a mystery to me that the opposition refers to this area as rural or semi-rural. Other than a very small area near the creek and about two blocks of southern Boulevard Way (areas that will have no view at all of the new sanctuary), all of the Saranap is suburban or urban. In the County General Plan, the whole of the Saranap is designated "Urban." The entire area is virtually nothing but block after block of medium size houses on medium size lots, business parks, office buildings, commercial establishments, apartment buildings and multi-story condominiums. The number of apartments and condominiums probably equal or outnumber the number of single-family homes. It is bordered by freeways on two sides. There are no open areas. No fields. No orchards. I do not see a rural area at all, but an area in transition adjacent to one of the most vibrant small cities in America. In these circumstances and setting, nothing could support the area more than a beautiful, modest building, nestled in a two-acre park, dedicated to the worship of God and service to humanity.

You refer to our new sanctuary as massive. Yet the visible portion of the building will be no larger in square footage than our current center just one block away. And it is much less massive than the apartment building immediately adjacent to our property, or the Atrium Villas condominium across the street or the newer Molly Way residential development. And instead of being right out on the street, it is set back so as not to be obtrusive. From the outset, Sufism Reoriented, out of consideration for its neighbors and at great expense to itself, had the architect place more than two-thirds of the building underground just so the sanctuary wouldn't appear massive and stand out in the neighborhood.

You complain that "all residences in the proposed building site" will be completely destroyed. Of course, that is not true. Our lovely parsonage will not be destroyed. In truth, only two habitable residences will be removed. A third former residence that is boarded up and not habitable will also be torn down. So, two "add-on" houses will be sacrificed for a building dedicated to worship and service, and arguably the most beautiful building in Contra Costa County. From my perspective, that does not seem like an awful thing to happen.

You complain that the property will be denuded of all vegetation. Although that is an exaggeration, it is true that all of the trees that are there now must come down in order to build the sanctuary with its energy efficient ground source heating system, the parking lot and provide for new landscaping. The trees and plantings that will replace those taken away will be much more numerous and beautiful than what exists now. The variety, color and texture of trees will be much richer and planted in an artful manner to bring out their beauty by one of the nation's best landscape firms. For the first time, our neighborhood will have an open view of Mt. Diablo—a view that is now blocked by the tangle of trees. Destruction is part of the renewal process. Whenever new landscaping is done, much of what was there must be sacrificed. There is nothing unusual about what is occurring. The people who built the Saranap destroyed most of the trees that were here then. But now there are more trees than there were before they destroyed the open fields and orchards in order to make homes for themselves. I have seen the before and after photos.

You refer to a two-story underground construction that will permanently affect adjacent residences. That is not true. There is no two-story underground construction. There is just one large basement level below the sanctuary. I do not know what you mean by "permanently affect" adjacent residences. Certainly, the construction period will be inconvenient for our adjacent neighbors, but that is true of all construction. We will certainly do everything we can to

minimize the disruption. But the construction period is relatively brief in the life of a building designed to last. Following the construction, we do not expect there to be any inconvenience to our neighbors.

You complain that we have fewer parking spaces than the County requires. That is not true. The County General Plan actually calls for Traffic Demand Management Plans for new development to encourage non-vehicular traffic, for the benefit of all. Our parking plan is entirely in keeping with County goals and requirements and does not even require a variance. Our members have been observing this carefully monitored TDMP for two years now with no problem. Those who live within walking distance (roughly a half mile of the center) walk in all weather. Last Friday night they walked in the winter rain. Those who live farther away carpool. We do not need more than the 70+ parking spaces that we provide. I would think the neighbors would be grateful for our attempts to lighten the vehicular traffic, even though we will generally use the new sanctuary for general meetings only on weekend evenings when there is a very low traffic volume anyway. It certainly makes the neighborhood feel friendlier to have people out walking, rather than isolated and rushing about in their cars.

You also imply that we will actually use the building for more than 350 people because of its size and the number of bathroom stalls. That is not true, and there is no basis in fact for the supposition. Our Land Use Application fully explains our need for all of the space. We are providing more than the normal amount of bathroom stalls primarily to make life more comfortable for our women members. It is well-known that at large public events, the queue outside the ladies room is three to four times longer than that for men, who often have no queue at all. Too, during a longer program, it is often necessary for many people to use the facilities in a short time, during an intermission. More stalls make this possible, without constraining the activities. We have only about 350 members and have had that number for decades. We do not expect to grow larger. This expectation is validated by the occupancy size of the prayer hall, which will only hold about 400 people at its maximum configuration.

You speak of your concern for Barbara Odell, because you believe her property is most in jeopardy. Actually, her property is in no jeopardy at all. You refer to her easement being widened for fire trucks. In the first place, the easement is not hers alone. It also serves the Rasmussens, Mr. Schwartz and our parsonage, and it was created for that purpose several decades ago. One of its primary purposes, in addition to being a private lane, has always been fire access. There is no question of widening the easement. The easement is already 20 feet wide because that was the width required by the Fire Marshal when the easement was created. The problem arises because trees have grown up within the easement that Ms. Odell has become attached to, and Ms. Odell's front fence was built partially within the easement. This easement was used for fire access to this residence for several years before we constructed the lane called White Horse Court. When the residence was built the Fire Marshal did not require the removal of the trees or the resetting of Ms. Odell's fence. We are hopeful that since the residence is not a new use (as is the sanctuary, which now will have its fire access from Boulevard Way), the Fire Marshall will continue its policy from the past. We will certainly not suggest any change to the current condition. But this is the Fire Marshal's decision. Unfortunately, there is no way to retain the integrity of the sanctuary design, provide sufficient space for our activities and build a separate fire access for the residence from Boulevard Way.

You say you don't understand why we would have to close the school if we cannot build the sanctuary here. You compare what our members do to what others have done during their children's education. The point is very different. Very few (only seven out of more than 350) of the children at The Meher Schools are children of members of Sufism Reoriented. We are not doing this for our children or for a temporary period of time. It is an expression of our dedication to God and loving service to His world. Many who serve the families of the neighborhood in this way have done so for twenty to over thirty years. In order to provide the hundreds of hours every month of volunteer time needed at the school, while maintaining normal lives with families and in the work-a-day world, most members find it essential that the school and sanctuary be near each other and that their homes be near them both. Our life becomes impractical without this proximity. Only a small percentage of our members live more than a mile or so from the center. If Sufism Reoriented were unable to build its house of worship here, we would have to build elsewhere. If we build elsewhere our members will move to live in close proximity to the new sanctuary, to center their spiritual lives there. It will then no longer be possible to support the school. There is not enough time in a day for family life, work, shared activities with our organization and an extra two-way commute—for some of our Meher School volunteers being up to five or more days a week. Our orientation to life and commitment to serving our neighbors is unusual and, for many, difficult at first to understand.

You say the existence of the new sanctuary will affect everyone in the Saranap. And the implication is that the effect would be negative. I do not understand what you mean by that. In the first place, I am not aware that any beautiful structure ever built in the history of mankind has denigrated the area in which it was built. In the second place, the only people who will really see the building are those who come onto the property. For passersby, the building will be veiled. Even in the earliest years, most of the building will be obscured from view, as it is set back far from the street, and the fence and initial landscaping will veil most of it. Within six years it will be completely veiled, except for a small portion at the wide-open entrance. Only three residences on Warren Road will see any of the new sanctuary when the landscaping is mature, and they can completely veil their view if they so choose by planting trees on their own property to cover the areas where we cannot plant. We would be glad to help them with this. Ms. Odell will not be able to see the new sanctuary from her property.

You refer several times in your letter to the inappropriateness of building the sanctuary among these older single-family homes. The basic premise is untrue. There are older single-family homes on only one side of the property. The other three sides have no such homes or only have for a small portion. If you will drive up Boulevard Way from your house, from the city limit to our property you will see only two such single-family homes (about a 1/4 mile from the site). What you will see after the first block is an unbroken line of business parks, office buildings, commercial establishments, apartment buildings, condominium complexes and one high density residential development, where there are 10 houses on about a one acre lot. That is all there is all the way to our site. The building adjacent to our site is a three-story, 36-unit apartment building, built right on the street. Many side streets are filled with apartment buildings.

I believe you when you say you value your friendship with members of Sufism Reoriented. But by allying yourself with those who denigrate the leadership of Sufism Reoriented, its principles and activities, and its lovely sanctuary design you must know that you

are attacking the core of their lives. The Sufis will not be unkind to you because of these things, because that is not their nature. However, you should know that this new sanctuary is precious to members of Sufism Reoriented. It is a physical manifestation of their deepest knowing and reverence. It will free them to worship in ways that, for many years now, has been restricted because of the lack of space and the lack of a proper structure to reflect their worship.

I have responded to your letter in a very personal way and hope I have not thereby offended you. I hoped to catch hold of an opportunity to shed light on some persistent misunderstandings and misconception that you have expressed in other communications, by letter or at the meetings of the SCA. I hope you will reflect on the perspective that I have shared with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bob Carpenter".

Robert W Carpenter

Linda Smith
1249 Dewing Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

08 NOV 26 AM 11:45

MIKA COLLIER

Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2, Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Dear Ms. Uilkema.

I am a 29 year resident of the Saranap neighborhood. I am writing to urge you to reject the proposal for the construction of a Sufi Church near Boulevard Way. I believe the design and scope of this project is out of proportion with our neighborhood.

One of the reasons we were attracted to this area is the quiet country charm yet convenience to downtown. Years ago another developer wanted to put in a strip mall near Boulevard Way and Del Hombre. My neighbors and I opposed that for the same reason we oppose the Sufi Church. It was out of touch with the environment of our neighborhood.

There are many reasons that could be cited against this project: traffic impact, construction chaos, size of the development in proportion to the users, and not least of all the "spaceship" design of the church would be an eyesore.

This kind of development does not fit into the overall charm and style of our neighborhood. I urge you to reject it. We need to protect neighborhoods like ours from this kind of mega-developments.

Sincerely,



Linda Smith

✓ Cc: LaShun Cross, Contra Costa County Planner ✓



INTRA COSTA 1249 Dewing Ln.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
510-947-0540
State Licensed #455910

08 DEC -1 PM 2:16

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

November 27, 2008

Lashun Cross, CC County Planner
Community Conservation & Development
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Dear Ms. Cross:

Please help us to conserve our community. I urge you to oppose construction of the giant Sufism Reoriented church in our Saranap neighborhood. In fact, I urge you to oppose any change to our current R-10 zoning. We have a quite neighborhood with a semi-rural flavor; that's why most of us moved here, not to live in a high-density neighborhood filled with PUDs and mega-churches. Those types of projects just don't belong here. Please help us retain the type of neighborhood we love and the reason we moved here. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

JC Smith

November 23, 2008

TO: LaShun Cross, Contra Costa County Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine St., 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

FROM: Terry and Ginger South
974 Juanita Dr.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
(925) 256-9216 terrysouth@sbcglobal.net

Re: Application LP08-2034/MS08-0011
Sufism Reoriented proposed sanctuary

My wife and I have lived in Saranap (974 Juanita Dr.) for almost 6 years, after living in Moraga for 13 years. We were drawn to this charming neighborhood for its quiet, country-like character and the many old trees, especially old oaks, in the neighborhood.

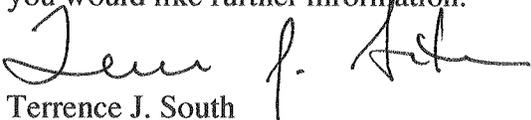
We live a couple of blocks from both the existing Sufi church and the White Pony school and neither pose any problems or project a dissonant picture of the quiet Saranap neighborhood. However, after being alerted to some of the details of this proposed development, we are writing to express our strong opposition to the project.

The rendering given to the county in the developers' application makes it clear that the size of this project and its visual aesthetic are in a jarring contrast to the surroundings. Whether this design is the product of a renowned architect or not, some more organic architecture and color palette would be much more appropriate, and the size of the project alone makes it very difficult to imagine how it could be integrated in the scale and the feel of this historic neighborhood.

Probably our biggest concern is the removal of the heritage oaks. To me, these trees are the signature of this neighborhood, and removing them and replacing them with landscape shrubbery and trees is absolutely out of character of the area.

We walk throughout the neighborhood several times a week and we are aware of the fast traffic on Boulevard Way. It doesn't appear that this development recognizes or would improve the dangerous blind curve at Kinney/Boulevard Way; on the contrary, it appears that the stark wall and entrance planned for that dangerous curve would exacerbate the traffic hazard.

Thanks for your consideration of this point of view. Please feel free to contact either of us if you would like further information.


Terrence J. South
Ginger South



CONTRA COSTA

08 NOV 25 PM 2:38

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

X

LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

July 27, 2008

Re: Saranap Area Development
Sufism Reoriented, Inc.'s Proposed Development, Boulevard Way, Walnut Creek

Dear Ms. Cross:

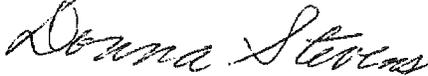
I am opposed to the above proposed development. Most of the community is unaware that this conditional land use permit had been submitted, and does not know of the extended plans to change the community.

I am concerned that the application will be approved without adequate informed review by the majority of the community. I have spoken with my neighbors, and they have expressed concern about this failure to be informed of the changes planned for our home environments.

I have lived in this area for forty-six years, and wish the semi rural character to be maintained. I am concerned about a traffic increase in the area.

An August 1 deadline for input is unreasonable, considering that most of the affected residents have not been informed about it. I request that disposition of the application be delayed so that the neighborhood can be fully informed.

Sincerely,



Donna Stevens
125 Kendall Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
Supervisor, District 2

X

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
351 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

July 28, 2008

925-335-1250 fax
925-335-1229 tel

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema

Re: Sufism Reoriented Inc.'s Proposed Development of Saranap Area

Dear Ms. Cross:

I have a track record of supporting compatible development in Saranap Area, endeavoring to balance the rights and interests of stakeholders including: Contra Costa County, compatible development interests, and surrounding area homeowners.

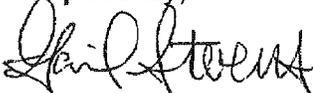
I was surprised to hear of a private group's pursuit to transform the Saranap Area residential neighborhood into some sort of non residential center of activity incongruent with the historical orderly residential development of single family homes in this area. I was deeply dismayed to learn about the lack of transparency to all parties impacted, and to see what appears to be a rush through the approval process without due notice to nearby property owners. It appears that development interests may be attempting an end run around Saranap Area property owners, our family homes, and our property rights.

Given the plan to excavate a big plot of land large enough to partially submerge a 60,000 SF building underground and above a creek famous for unresolved erosion problems, I request an analysis in the form of an Environmental Impact Report.

Counter to what you may have read in the Contra Costa County Times opinion piece, the majority of Saranap Area homeowners have not expressed support for this project. Unless you hear directly from the long term residents in the area who have worked successfully with Contra Costa County for years and have supported successful completion of development projects compatible with Saranap Area, please disregard the opinions of those who suddenly claim to represent the Saranap Area community. Please include me on all correspondence related to this application.

The homeowners of Saranap Area expect to be early participants in irrevocable, precedent-setting decisions of significant impact to our homes and neighborhood. We request full disclosure of plans for the future of Saranap area, and reasonable time to review this information. An August 1, 2008 deadline is unreasonable.

Respectfully,



Gail Stevens
137 Kendall Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

01

CONTRA COSTA

2009 FEB 18 1:25

DEPUTY CLERK

February 16, 2009

To: LaShun Cross
Fr: Russell Stewart
Re: Saranap Development

The Sufism Reoriented plans on Boulevard Way proposed for our community are inconsistent with the existing environment. There is nothing in our area that has this kind of look, or total area, or future impact on our community. Please use your wisdom to stop this kind of development in our community.

Thank you,



James R. Stewart, Jr.

08

January 27, 2009

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

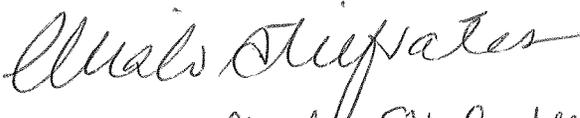
**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

I object to the propose Sufism Reoriented project along Boulevard Way. The building is too large, the architectural style and color is obtrusive, there is not enough parking, and all the existing tree will be cut down.

I urge you to deny this project, and have the applicant re-design the building and site layout to better conform to the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,



Your Name Chialo Stefrater
Your Address 220 Alamo View Pl., Walnut creek CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1076

January 27, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JAN 29 P 1:44

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

I object to the propose Sufism Reoriented project along Boulevard Way. The building is too large, the architectural style and color is obtrusive, there is not enough parking, and all the existing tree will be cut down.

I urge you to deny this project, and have the applicant re-design the building and site layout to better conform to the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,



Your Name

Scott Stiefvater

Your Address

220 Alamo View Place, Walnut Creek CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1076

Feb. 8, 2009

0
✓

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

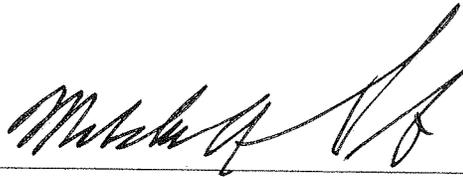
**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name



Print name

Marshall Stine

Address

1251 Kendall Ct.,

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

125 Baja Ln. X
Walnut Creek, CA. 94595
August 3, 2008

INTRA-COSTA

08 AUG -6 PM 1:17
La Shun Cross, Planner
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT
Community Conservation +
Development Dept.

651 Pine Street

Martinez, CA. 94553-1229

Ref. App. LPO8-2034/MS08-0011

Dear Mr. Cross,

This is in regard to the above
reference application in our neighborhood.
Previously we were to be notified
of hearings, notices, or meetings
regarding our area, but somehow
have not ~~had~~ been informed.

Please do keep us advised
as needed so we may have
forthcoming necessary
information on our area.

Ralph J. Storbeck
Daryl Storbeck

Duplicate 0
COPY

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Dear Gayle,

12-Feb-2009

I'm writing to you to urge you to support story poles for the proposed Sufism Reoriented sanctuary, application number LP08-2034/MS08-0011.

There is significant opposition to the sanctuary in the local area, and a significant numbers of undecided or unaware people. The story poles will serve to show everyone the size, scale and height of the proposed structure and its surroundings.

I just moved to the neighborhood from elsewhere in Walnut Creek in April and I did so primarily because I liked the character of the neighborhood.

I don't think allowing this to proceed without full disclosure will be in the best interests of the County. There will undoubtedly be well-orchestrated opposition, including legal measures and media coverage, and it is likely to affect future elections for county positions.

A last comment: the Sufis are an organized group that wants the sanctuary very much. Those opposed generally don't have as much to lose as the Sufi group has to gain, and thus you may not hear as much from them. I am not against religious structures, by the way, just against the scale relative to the number of practitioners, the underhanded methods being used to promote it, and the lack of respect for others' point of view – there isn't a lot of willingness to compromise: smaller structures, not needing to remove people's houses, etc.

I would oppose any structures of this scale, being promoted in this fashion, regardless of who the proponents were.

Regards,



Christine Swihart
248 Sequoia Ave.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

LaShun Cross, Contra Costa County Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine St., 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

CONTRA COSTA

2009 FEB 10 P 12:49

OV ✓

Dear LaShun,

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT 8-Feb-2009

I'm writing to you to urge you to support story poles for the proposed Sufism Reoriented sanctuary, application number LP08-2034/MS08-0011.

There is significant opposition to the sanctuary in the local area, and a significant numbers of undecided or unaware people. The story poles will serve to show everyone the size, scale and height of the proposed structure and its surroundings.

I just moved to the neighborhood from elsewhere in Walnut Creek in April and I did so primarily because I liked the character of the neighborhood.

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I would oppose any structures of this scale, being promoted in this fashion, regardless of who the proponents were.

Regards,



Steve Swihart
248 Sequoia Ave.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

LaShun Cross, Contra Costa County Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine St., 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

CONTRA COSTA

08 DEC -2 PM 1:14

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT
23 NOV 2008

Dear LaShun,

I'm writing to you to express my objections to the proposed Sufism Reoriented sanctuary, application number LP08-2034/MS08-0011.

While I don't like the underhanded methods the group took to take over the Saranap Community Association, my primary objections concern:

- The size and scale of the proposed project
- The relatively small number of people living in the surrounding neighborhoods who will use the facility
- The disregard for the mature trees in the area
- Potential risk of accidents from the parking lot entrance/exit being on a curve
- The removal of 3 homes to make way for the project
- Increased traffic to/from the sanctuary

I just moved to the neighborhood from elsewhere in Walnut Creek in April and I did so primarily because I liked the character of the neighborhood.

I don't think allowing this to proceed will be in the best interests of the County. There will undoubtedly be well-orchestrated opposition, including legal measures and media coverage, and it is likely to affect future elections for county positions.

Please make sure that open meetings, including the entire community, are conducted at each stage so that the County is able to assess what the majority of residents want. At such meetings, check that attendees live in the neighborhood by verifying identification – voter registration, drivers' license, etc. Note who actually does live in the neighborhood and who doesn't so that the tactic used to take control of the SCA can't be used again to misrepresent the amount of support present. Possibly this could be done by seating residents in one area, and non-residents in another.

Regards,


Steve Swihart

248 Sequoia Ave.

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA

08 AUG -1 PM 12: 00

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. LaShun Cross
Planner
Community Conservation and Development
651 Pine Street
4th Floor – North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am writing to express my extreme concern for the new Sufi Reoriented building that is currently being planned. First and foremost, the motto of Saranap is to "keep it semi-rural and residential". This will directly impact that feel and the traffic will increase significantly on Boulevard Way. I am not asking to have the building knocked down but I do believe a few houses would be better. I believe that the vast majority of the residents in our neighborhood are against approval of this project as we would like to keep this area the way it is and has been for the past 50 years. I am not against this particular group as I would be opposed if my Catholic church decided to build a 60,000 square foot building down the street as well.

Any wall or fence of that size is unwelcoming, even if it is well kept. I also question why the 375 member group need a 60,000 square foot structure? This also would give them access to significant development rights under R10 zoning. These zoning restrictions are denied to local residential property owners.

The bottom line is that this huge development is incompatible with our neighborhood character of "semi- rural and residential" and I and my family are strongly opposed to it.

Please do notify me of any upcoming hearing on this development.

Sincerely,

Karmen Kwarta Taft
79 Del Hambre Circle
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
aastew99@yahoo.com

The Thurstons
1561 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, California 94595

Via Facsimile

July 30, 2008

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Dear Ms. Cross:

We are residents of the Saranap District located in Walnut Creek in Contra Costa County. We have recently been informed about a proposed development in our area that we believe needs to be addressed in more detail to the neighbors in this community. We are referring to the proposed Sufism Reoriented, Inc. project.

As we understand this project, it is to be more than 60,000 square feet of temple. located on Boulevard Way. When we initially signed a petition on behalf of this development it was our understanding that we were signing to be more informed about the process and to better informed as they BEGIN the process.

As long term residents in this area, we want to be sure that all the concerns of residents impacted by this major development be explored. Some of those concerns are as follows:

Taffic mitigation. Our concern for this size of development would obviously impact the already busy residential street of Boulevard Way. We are not aware of any proposed traffic solutions or research that has been done to address this major concern. This street has HEAVY utilization by students who use this street as a means to gain access to the bus stops for the areas school districts.

Construction Traffic. We do not know how the impact of heavy construction traffic will be addressed during the various construction phases of this project and how it will impact the current flow of traffic.

Soil Issues. We know that there are certain areas within the Saranap District that have issues with soil erosion that can ultimately impact the neighbors and we do not know if this issue has been addressed.

The Thurstons
1561 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, California 94595

Design of Proposed Project. We do not know what the actual design of this 60,000 square foot project will ultimately look like. We are hopeful that this would enhance our neighborhood.

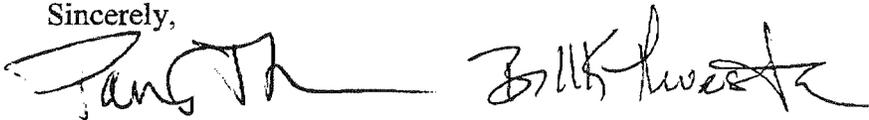
Ecological Impact. We, as well as our neighbors, are eco conscientious and we do not know if this project has been designed with this thought in made for a project of this size.

We are hopeful that there will be an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and that these as well as other issues will be addressed. As a former commercial/residential developer (Pamela), I am aware of the process and am currently disappointed that with a project of this size we were not better informed of this project.

The County and the Saranap Association have done a great job of trying to maintain a balance within our community and we believe that the neighbors that have been long term residents in this fine neighborhood have contributed to that as well. We hope you will keep with that theme and continue to hear what the neighbors have to say about such a large project that will ultimately impact everyone in this community prior to any final decision.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signatures of Pamela and Bill Thurston. The signature on the left is 'Pamela' and the signature on the right is 'Bill Thurston'.

Pamela and Bill Thurston
Residents of Saranap

Cc: The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema (via email)

~~A~~

CURTIS TRENOR

2450 Warren Road
Walnut Creek, California 94595

CONTRA COSTA
08 AUG -1 PM 12:52
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

July 27, 2008

LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Re: Sufism Reoriented Inc.'s Proposed 60,000 SF Sanctuary located on Boulevard Way, Walnut Creek, CA

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am writing to express my concerns for the proposed development of a 60,000 square foot Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary located on Boulevard Way in unincorporated Walnut Creek, CA (the "proposed Project").

My wife and I live on Warren Road. Our home is contiguous to the residential parcels upon which Sufism Reoriented (the "applicant") plans to build to the proposed Project. As do most neighbors who are not members of Sufism Reoriented, we oppose the proposed Project based on the proposed Project's development impacts on the community. In fact, concerned neighbors have all signed a petition of opposition months ago. The only reason we've not previously released it to the County is because we were unaware that Sufism Reoriented Inc. actually filed its application. We have yet to be duly noticed. A copy of the petition is enclosed herewith.

While we have heard that there are letters of support for this project, we believe those are predominantly from members of Sufism Reoriented Inc. and do not necessarily reflect the position of the larger community as a whole.

We respectfully request that you notify us in the future upon any scheduling of a hearing or other public meeting pertaining to the proposed Project. Such notice would provide us with enough time to more adequately prepare our comments on the proposed Project and to obtain the advice of legal counsel if needed.

While we are not opposed to the applicant's Church, we are concerned about the land use impacts of an extremely large, non-residential structure in a primarily semi-rural, residential neighborhood. The following issues are of serious concern to us in the context of the necessary findings for approval of a conditional land use permit.

1. A conditional land use permit for this project would be detrimental to the health and general welfare of the County [Residents] in the following ways:
 - a. The amount of traffic generated from the 60,000 square foot non-residential structure will likely overburden the existing thoroughfares. While I imagine Boulevard Way would have to be widened to accommodate all of this traffic along with sidewalks, and which destroys the semi-rural ambiance of the neighborhood, it would make sense that anyone destined to that building would come down Warren Road, turn right onto Boulevard Way and then turn right into the proposed entry to avoid a head-on collision. If making a left hand turn when coming from the other direction with northbound cars coming around a blind curve just prior to the proposed entry way, it creates an unnecessary traffic hazard and exposes the general public to potential harm. While Sufism Reoriented Inc. claims it will deal with the blind curve, any further development of Boulevard Way into the residential area has the effect of destroying the semi-rural ambiance of residential Saranap. Additionally, while Sufism Reoriented Inc. says their members will walk from its condo compound a block away, it is beyond reason that this could be true during periods of extreme weather. And as time lingers, such promises are forgotten. To walk in periods of extreme weather would jeopardize the health of its members and create a hazard from oncoming traffic.
 - b. Another factor is soils stability with the proposed underground construction and drainage. There is danger of foundation damage to surrounding structures due to the size and depth of the excavation required and the length of time it would take before the two underground stories were complete. Additionally, there is potential of surface water contamination from the toxics required to construct at that depth. During the course of construction, which must extend into at least one winter season due to the size of the non-residential structure, there will be substantial runoff onto adjacent properties and the creek.
 - c. Sufism Reoriented Inc. indicated there will be only 70-80 parking places. This is inadequate for a non-residential structure of that size, and granting a conditional use permit would only condone the construction of a functionally obsolete non-residential structure. However unlikely it may be, should Sufism Reoriented Inc. ever dispose of the property, it would be difficult to find a user who would require such a unique non-residential structure in a semi-rural neighborhood complete with substandard parking. This would have a severe impact on surrounding property values.
2. A conditional land use permit for this project would adversely affect the orderly development of property within the county.

- a. The proposed project would have the net effect of extending commercial Boulevard Way, destroying the semi-rural characteristics of residential Saranap. Sufism Reoriented Inc. has been well served by its existing location a block down the road at 1300 Boulevard Way in commercial Saranap for the last 32 years and claims its membership fluctuates up and down only 10 or so members from its average 375. I wonder how the County could issue a conditional use permit when the existing Sanctuary of Sufism Inc. could simply be demolished and/or rebuilt in the commercial portion of Boulevard Way to accommodate the gargantuan size its 375 or so members believe they need. Additionally, there is already street parking there, and the organization uses the adjacent parking lot located at 1280 Boulevard Way during off hours and weekends. When they are meeting, the streets are lined with cars, their own parking lot is full, and a good portion of the office parking lot located at 1280 Boulevard Way is filled. The amount of parking required well exceeds the proposed 70-80 spaces proposed at its new site.
 - b. While little land is left for development in Saranap, a County approval for a conditional land use permit to construct a functionally obsolete non-residential structure in residential Saranap would have the net effect of deterring future residential development in the area. The developers, builders and homeowners I know would not want to invest in teardown/reconstruction opportunities so close to such a structure. Thus, the orderly development of the property within the County would be impeded.
3. A conditional use permit for this project would adversely impact the preservation of property values within the County.
- a. The extension of commercial Boulevard Way into residential Saranap would have an adverse impact on property values. While studies have been provided to some neighbors by the applicant's representatives that articulate opinions of increased values after constructing churches in Desert and Midwestern developing areas during the late 80's and 90's, none has been provided to date concerning property values in *Saranap some 20 years later* if the project was approved as submitted.
 - b. While Sufism Reoriented Inc. has represented to certain owners that their property values will increase if the new Sanctuary is built, it has yet to provide any independent third-party verification of this. In discussions with a local appraiser, he has indicated that Sufism Reoriented Inc.'s claim is true only when a new area is developing. In this case in a fully-developed established neighborhood such as Saranap, it does not.
 - c. In particular, our homes in immediate proximity to the site have become less marketable as we are required by law to disclose the potential of this sanctuary being built with two stories

- d. underground, illuminated domes protruding 33.5' or so into the air and all of the potential problems it could create during and after construction.
4. A conditional use permit for this project would adversely affect the policy and goals as set by the general plan.
 - a. The subject assemblage of parcels consists of R6/R10 zoning as I recall. The development of this non-residential structure would require demolition of three existing homes. Additionally, it is unclear how many mature trees will have to be removed.
 - b. The structure's design has been characterized by the incumbents of the Saranap Community Association as "offensively intrusive."
 - c. The use and access by non-members is unclear.
 - d. Within the context of a Church, further uses beyond a sanctuary could be substantiated, including use by its school's students during and after class and increasing its membership size way beyond its stated 375 +/-.
5. A conditional use permit for this project would create nuisance and enforcement problem within the neighborhood or community.
 - a. Contrary to Sufism's claims that their Project will have a positive impact on crime, the burglary rate in the neighborhood has increased.
 - b. Sufism Reoriented Inc. has attempted to leverage this fact in its June 2008 edition of its new neighborhood newsletter with a subtle inference that its new sanctuary would alleviate the crime problem. It fails to point out that one of its existing compounds is already part of the seven parcel assemblage for the proposed new sanctuary and its existing Sanctuary is only one block away.
6. A conditional use permit for this project would encourage marginal development within the neighborhood.
 - a. The architectural design is incongruent with surrounding structures, thereby diminishing the effect the County's design review has strived to enforce.
 - b. The Saranap Community Association has taken a strong stance against this project.
 - c. In response, Sufism Reoriented Inc. had members join on election night specifically to vote a majority of new Sufism Reoriented Inc. members to the Association's Board in an effort turn the Association to its position.
 - d. The Saranap Homeowners Association therefore no longer represents the views of the majority of Saranap homeowners, but rather the interests of one of the single largest corporate owners of numerous Saranap properties.
 - e. The non-residential structure is inconsistent with the design and character of the semi-rural residential neighborhood in the County.

LaShun Cross
July 27, 2008
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- f. While the architecture is superb, it is an inappropriate design for this area. It is also substandard because of its functional obsolescence due to lack of onsite parking. In the event of property liquidation, it would be difficult to find a buyer for such a unique building with deficient parking.
7. A conditional use permit is not established by any special conditions or unique characteristics of the subject property and its location or surroundings.
 - a. Sufism Reoriented Inc.'s existing sanctuary is only one block away and has been sufficient for its small static membership of 375 +/- for the last 32 years. A superior option would be to demolish their current structure and build a larger in the same place.
 - b. The development of this structure would require substantial construction on public property which would be unnecessary or lessened if the property was used for residential purposes (single family homes).
 - c. There is no pressing need to construct such a large building with inadequate parking in a semi-rural residential neighborhood.

I reserve the right to submit further comments on the application as it proceeds. Please keep me informed of all upcoming procedures and hearings related to this project.

Respectfully,



Curtis Trenor

February 17, 2009

Ira Dietrick
Sufism Reoriented, Inc.
1300 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA

2009 FEB 24 A 11:42

DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS

Dear Ira,

This is in response to your two recent letters.

I am offended and disappointed, yet not surprised, that your organization has once again deflected answering my questions by instead maliciously attacking those who oppose the size, design, inadequate parking and clear cutting of 42 trees, many Heritage Oaks and fully matured, if the plans for your organization's massively sized building were approved.

Your statement that follows attacks my husband, the Reverend Curtis Trenor, and is so blatantly false that you leave me no choice but to address it, particularly since you chose to submit it as public record. When I'm finished, I will provide you a list of questions that Sufism Reoriented has failed to address since first announcing its building plans in December 2007 and after holding several meetings and events with the neighborhood in 2008 and 2009. I hope that this time you will refrain from further attacks against us and simply answer the questions.

First regarding your letter where you write, *"In your letter, you express opposition to several dimensions of our sanctuary project . . . This was not surprising to us inasmuch as from the outset when we first visited your home to tell you about the project over a year ago, you let us know very quickly that you opposed our building. At that time, your husband shared with us his distressing understanding that we were a "legal cult". Of course, holding that view, it seems natural to us that you would not like to see our house of worship erected near your home and would oppose it."*

I was at the meeting where you claim my husband said this, and no such statement was made. Reverend Trenor clearly stated to you and a neighbor who raised the issue of "cult" that "cult or no cult" it is perfectly legal for anyone to organize a church at any time and immediately exploit the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000 (RLUIPA) to build a non-residential structure on a residentially zoned lot. He stated this publicly as well. In fact, Reverend Trenor even went to the trouble to satisfy this neighbor by conducting a search of public records to validate your organization's church exempt income tax filing status with the IRS, which was granted from its application in 2001 (see attached). He was perfectly clear at this meeting that his reasons for opposing your sanctuary development application as submitted was because the building was too large for the lot, the architectural design was incongruent with the surrounding structures, the parking was sub-standard, and the concrete block barricade wall was inappropriate for the area.

Ira Dietrick
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Did you even take the time to read my last letter? If you did, you would have noted that I asked the County to approve the sanctuary application with modifications and conditions including:

- ◆ The development be self-parked,
- ◆ That it preserve all trees and existing homes,
- ◆ Is of a design compatible with the neighborhood,
- ◆ Its use be restricted to sanctuary purposes only (as opposed to allowing the many other commercial enterprises Sufism Reoriented operates that likely comprise much of its 2001 reported \$8.9 million annual revenue stream),
- ◆ Is of a size commensurate with the static 350 +/- membership Sufism Reoriented claims. By experts in construction, I am told this would be a size of approximately 5,000 to 7,000 square feet with approximately 200 onsite parking spaces.

I also suggested the County require Sufism Reoriented to explore use of its existing residential and commercial properties in its substantial real estate portfolio as an alternative to new construction since the 6,000 square foot parsonage could be remodeled and easily serve as a house of worship for such a small, static congregation of 350. Additionally, there is likely sufficient ground area behind the concrete block barricade walls surrounding the parsonage such that it could meet county parking requirements. Ms. Conner could relocate to one of the other three existing homes on the proposed assemblage, the most magnificent of which is the prominent Ticer Estate that has been a Saranap icon for years. Alternatively, she could relocate to one of the condos located in the compound at 1300 Boulevard Way. The remainder of the 60,000 square feet submitted in the application could easily be accommodated by appropriately zoned property owned by Sufism Reoriented near its existing Sanctuary a block away in commercial Saranap.

I am puzzled, however, by the IRS application your organization submitted to request exemption from filing income tax returns as it's inconsistent with Pascal Kaplan's statement at one of the Sufi building informational meetings. In that meeting he said that the 350 or so Sufism Reoriented members do not deduct personal church contributions they make to Sufism Reoriented on their individual income tax returns. He said the reason was their "love for our Country." Additionally, he said that Sufism Reoriented tried to pay property taxes on its enormous residential and commercial real estate portfolio, but the County refused to accept those payments. If the intent and conduct of your organization and its members is to pay taxes, why apply for an exemption from filing income taxes with the IRS granted to churches?

It was also surprising to some neighbors to learn of your organization's church status because over the years, some of your members have told those curious about Sufism Reoriented that the organization is not a church. After announcing to the neighborhood its intent to build a church sanctuary, one neighbor asked if he could join. He was told no.

Ira Dietrick
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Despite some of your members' confusion over the true legal status of Sufism Reoriented as a church (probably because it operates only from October to May each year according to its previous website), we do not dispute this fact. Our issues, along with the over 600 neighbors now in opposition (and growing daily) have never been, nor will ever be an issue of having a "house of worship" in our neighborhood. *Again* it's the size, incongruent design, parking, safety hazards and intrusive impacts upon the residential portion of the neighborhood your organization's very tall planetarium-looking building will have that are of concern to us all.

What's become increasingly frustrating and quite frankly deceptive are the many misrepresentations made by your organization when concerned neighbors ask questions of your design.

One such misrepresentation came up in one of your early newsletters and the Interfaith Council's newsletter where you both stated that "some" objected to the project because they didn't want *any* church in the neighborhood. Reverend Trenor wrote to Ms. Conner wanting to know which opposing individuals were being targeted with this absurd statement given that your small 350 +/- member organization has operated unopposed in the neighborhood a block away for over 33 years, has acquired millions in real estate holdings to the point of becoming one of the single largest corporate owners of multiple Saranap properties, and has operated the Meher Schools and other business enterprises in the neighborhood without opposition. In her response, Ms. Conner hinted that it was some former member(s) on the SCA (prior to its takeover by Sufism Reoriented, Inc.) that were the target and then deflected from any sort of desire to validate the truth of such statements.

When Reverend Trenor queried those members and several neighbors he knew who were in attendance regarding the truthfulness of this statement, they were appalled and said no such statement was ever made. He again wrote Ms. Conner apprising her of that fact and appealed to her to simply conduct some basic journalistic investigation by interviewing others beyond her own who were in attendance at that meeting. In her response, she never addressed nor indicated any desire to take these basic steps and validate the truthfulness of those statements but rather deflected from that issue and, with the skill of a seasoned real estate developer, began addressing issues pertaining to the proposed project as it relates to our home.

Reverend Trenor wrote her a third time, explaining that the project was not the issue, nor its situation to our home, but rather the potentially libelous statement published given all of those attending that meeting who know it to be untrue. He once again appealed to her to validate the truthfulness of that statement given her position as a prominent spiritual leader and recent decision to participate in the Interfaith Council after 33 years. No response was ever received. I must assume that that non-response is what you were alluding to in your letter as pointless and agreeing not to agree.

Another misrepresentation was Pascal Kaplan's condescending comments directed at those in opposition at the January SCA Community meeting. His comments were troubling as they once again deflected off-point the issues raised by neighborhood homeowners. And lastly, the misrepresentation in your most

Ira Dietrick
February 17, 2009
Page 4

recent letter . . . your cult comment, which I've already addressed and is yet another feeble and hurtful attempt to evade answering questions we have.

These types of false and misleading statements are one reason there are so many in opposition to your project and are exacerbated by Sufism Reoriented's deliberate takeover of the Saranap Community Association which, while not illegal, is behavior unprecedented and unbecoming of a church. No one I know is opposed to your church being in the neighborhood and many of us are growing tired of Sufism Reoriented leaders claiming otherwise. Your organization's steadfast and unyielding stance, coupled with manipulative acts and personal and false attacks against opposing homeowners, is creating a public relations nightmare for Sufism Reoriented that will surely result in multiple appeals of its application, if not litigation.

If the Reverend Trenor and I were worried about a "cult" developing a church in our backyard as you have suggested in your letter, we wouldn't have honored Mrs. McGeehon's request for us to build a home on this property. This should be apparent to anyone given that your church has been in our neighborhood for the last 33 years and its "parsonage" was immediately behind us at the time we acquired the McGeehon property. It should be crystal clear by now that our issue and the issue for all opposing neighbors is the massive size, architecturally incongruent design of the proposed sanctuary, the functional obsolescence and safety compromises inherent in an under-parked non-residential structure in a residential neighborhood. It simply does not fit the semi-rural residential nature of Saranap and is too large for the proposed lot.

On another subject, regarding the statement in your letter that no one trespassed on adjacent properties except Barbara Odell's – you are mistaken. A neighbor shared with me that early on in your project, surveyors trespassed on their property and told them they were hired by your organization. The tags from our project have long weathered and fallen, and the shiny new tags do not match those tag references in our Arborist report. I've attempted to get a copy of the Arborist report associated with your organization's project, but apparently it has yet to be submitted to the County. In all likelihood it is being withheld by those in your organization managing the project because the proposed clear cutting of all trees would likely cause the project's rejection as submitted.

As is typical of Sufism Reoriented leaders, every one of you consistently skirt the issues and refuse to answer our questions by deflecting off-point. We have yet to hear from Sufism Reoriented regarding the following from previous conversations, correspondence, or requests made at informational meetings. As mentioned earlier I will once again ask. Hopefully this time you will refrain from making personal and untrue attacks on us and simply address them in a professional church-like manner.

1. Why is Sufism Reoriented opposed to installing story poles so the neighborhood can better understand the size and scope of the structure? Misleading and impractical isn't a satisfactory answer and the idea, as Chris Martin has stated, that an artist's rendering provides *many times more* information for the viewer than do story poles in my opinion lacks logic and perspective.

Ira Dietrick
February 17, 2009
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2. When does the lease on the Meher School expire?
3. Is the new sanctuary/building going to be used for school activities?
4. Is there truly risk to the Meher School "ceasing to operate" (or relocating) if your proposed sanctuary was designed in a way to better fit the neighborhood and/or was built at a square footage more closely aligned with congregations the same size as yours? (What do the size and design have to do with Meher School's ability to operate?)
5. Would Sufism Reoriented be willing to modify the design and size of the sanctuary in an effort to work with the Saranap Community in opposition (and align with the SCA's original mission/charter) to mitigate the risk of Meher School closing/relocating, given the serious issue the Meher School principal has stated this is?
- ↘ 6. Do the landscape plans submitted to the County match the renderings you display at meetings, in newsletters, etc.
7. Why did Sufism Reoriented not obtain permission to use the Reverend Trenor's copyrighted materials as Chris Martin stated was one resource used to create our artist's rendering?

Finally, I will not take the same stance as Ms. Conner and view these interactions as pointless. We and our neighbors deserve honest, good-faith answers to our questions and serious consideration of our issues as, at a minimum, even the potential of this project going forward negatively impacts property values and salability which could rule out approval of your Conditional Land Use Permit according to its ordinance. As a large scale project developer requesting height, setback, parking and other variances to the point of making the development marginal and functionally obsolete for any other church but yours (and thus disqualifying it for a land use application as per County ordinance), I do not understand the reluctance of Sufism Reoriented to accurately communicate on these matters in an honest, straight-forward manner commensurate with its church status.

Sincerely,

Deborah Trenor

Deborah Trenor
2450 Warren Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Gayle Ulkiema
LaShun Cross ✓

Attachments

Category	Value
OrganizationName	SUFISM REORIENTED
SecondaryName	n/r
EmployerIdentificationNumber	EIN - 946078431
InCareOfName	n/r
ReportedAssetAmount	\$17,052,068
ReportedAssetAmountRange	\$10,000,000 to \$49,999,999
ReportedIncomeAmount	\$8,857,621
ReportedIncomeAmountRange	\$5,000,000 to \$9,999,999
ReportedForm990RevenueAmount	\$6,287,463
Address	1615 MANCHESTER LN NW
City	WASHINGTON
State	DC
ZipCode	20011-2809
County	District of Columbia
Classification	Charitable Organization
Affiliation	This organization is an independent organization or an independent auxiliary (i.e., not affiliated with a National, Regional, or Geographic grouping of organizations).
RulingDate	09/2003
Deductibility	Contributions are deductible
FoundationCategory	Church
PrincipalActivity1	Other religious activities
PrincipalActivity2	n/r
PrincipalActivity3	n/r
OrganizationType	Corporation
ExemptStatus	Unconditional Exemption
AdvancedRulingExpirationDate	n/r
TaxPeriod	12/2001
FilingRequirement	Form 990 - Not required to file (church)
AccountingEndMonth	12
TaxonomyCategory	Islamic

NOTE: For a copy of the tax exempt status and/or financial filings submitted to the IRS for this organization, download the form by clicking on this link - <http://www.taxexemptworld.com/download.asp?file=4506.pdf>

On line 2 of the form enter the organization's Employer Identification Number (from row 4 of this spreadsheet) and then on line 6 check the box for requesting a copy of the organization's form 1023 or 1024 (the form filed by the org to gain tax exempt status). On line 6, check the box for a copy of the latest form 990. The form 990 would have more detailed financial specifics; however, not all tax exempt organizations are required to file an annual form 990. Enter all other info and send it in.

Thank You for the Data Download Order!
TaxExemptWorld.com
tel# - 310-383-7994

Data Definitions

OrganizationName	the name of the organization
SecondaryName	another name under which the organization does business. Also used for trade names, chapter names, or local numbers for subordinate organizations of group rulings
EmployerIdentificationNumber	a nine digit number assigned by the IRS to identify an account and is also known as a Tax ID
InCareOfName	the party (officer, director, etc.) to whose attention any correspondence should be directed
ReportedAssetAmount	amount from the most recent Form 990 series return filed by the organization. Asset Amount is the Total Assets End of Year PART IV Balance Sheet Line 59 Col. (B) shown on the Form 990. This field is also from PART II, Line 25, Col. (B) EOY on Form 990EZ and PART II, Line 16, Col. (b) on Form 990PF. This field is dollars only.
ReportedAssetAmountRange	the asset range shown on the most recent Form 990 series return filed by the organization
ReportedIncomeAmount	amount from the most recent Form 990 series return filed by the organization. Income Amount is computer generated using PART I, Total Revenue Line 12 and adding "back in" the expense items, i.e. Line 6b (Rental Expenses) shown on the Form 990 return. On Form 990EZ it is generated using PART I, Line 9 and adding "back in" the expense items, i.e. Line 5b (Cost or Other Basis Expenses). Income Amount for Form 990 is generated using Part I, Line 10b (Cost of Goods) and adding Part I, Line 12, Col. (A) (Total Revenue Col. A) and Part IV, Line 1, Col. (G) (Cost or Other Basis). This field is dollars only.
ReportedIncomeAmountRange	the income range shown on the most recent Form 990 series return filed by the organization
ReportedForm990RevenueAmount	Amount from Form 990, part 1, line 12, or part 1, line 9, of Form 990EZ
Address	the street address where the organization is located
City	the city where the organization is located
State	the state where the organization is located
ZipCode	the zip code where the organization is located
Classification	defines the category under which an organization may be exempt
Affiliation	defines the organizational grouping
RulingDate	the month and year of a ruling or determination letter recognizing the organization's exempt status
Deductibility	signifies whether contributions made to an organization are deductible
FoundationCategory	describes the nonprofit classification of the organization
PrincipalActivity1	An organization may list up to three activity codes on Forms 1023 and 1024. These are codes which reflect an organization's purposes, activities, operations, or type.
PrincipalActivity2	see definition for PrincipalActivity1
PrincipalActivity3	see definition for PrincipalActivity1
OrganizationType	the type of organization according to IRS records
ExemptStatus	Type of exemption held by the organization
AdvancedRulingExpirationDate	A charitable organization exempt under IRC 501(c)(3) whose status as a public charity (rather than a private foundation) has not been determined generally will be allowed to operate as a public charity for a specified period of time. At the end of this time frame (expiration date), a final determination will be made as to the proper classification of the organization. This shows the month and year when an advance ruling is to expire.
TaxPeriod	the tax period of the latest return filed
FilingRequirement	indicates the primary return(s) the organization is required to file
AccountingEndMonth	designates the accounting period ending date (month) of the organization
TaxonomyCategory	used to classify an exempt Internal Revenue Code 501 (c)(3) organization according to the National Taxonomy of Exempt Entities (NTEE)

**Deborah Trenor
2450 Warren Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595**

December 10, 2008

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Subject: Request for 'story poles' as part of the analysis of the application for a conditional use permit for a new worship center for Sufism Reoriented, Inc.

Dear Ms. Cross:

I have become aware that the County Planning Office is considering not requiring story poles as part of the evaluation process in the above referenced application. I would like to share my thoughts regarding this issue.

While this may not be a "requirement" it would certainly go a long way in helping the neighborhood, as well as the County, understand the full scope and impact this project will have on Saranap residents and how this huge structure will visibly impact the neighborhood.

It bothers me immensely that Sufism Reoriented continually works to minimize the impacts by providing information to neighbors that is misleading. For example, sharing illustrations of mature vegetation surrounding the structure that will take years to come to fruition and drawings of select portions of the structure so only partial "views" are shared. This is deceptive and I have heard that some neighbors who initially indicated their support of this project based on these types of "renderings" feel misled and are changing their support as the true scope of how this structure will impact the neighborhood is better understood.

It also bothers me that Sufism Reoriented continually purports that they are working with neighbors to come to agreement on a structure that would be amenable to all. I see very little effort being made and have seen minimal modifications to their plans – and the way in which they communicate these potential changes is non-committal at best. In my opinion, it is their intent to get what they want at the expense of the neighborhood and with total disregard for their non-Sufi neighbors.

In addition, at the November Saranap Community Association meeting, Saranap residents made a number of requests from the now Sufi-majority board and to the best of my knowledge have yet to receive any response or minutes from that meeting regarding follow-up on the action items the SCA board promised

to address – one of which was a request for story poles. This same request for story poles, in addition to others, was made at the Sufi's "informational meetings" at their 1300 Boulevard Way location and have yet to be responded to as promised. This type of disingenuous behavior from a supposedly "spiritual organization" to me is even more troubling.

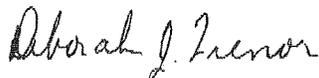
As you know, story poles are a common land use planning tool that results in better decisions being rendered. Residents of Saranap are accustomed to seeing story poles as they are used quite commonly in Walnut Creek and Lafayette, often for residences, and certainly for large commercial or institutional projects. Given that this project is controversial, a lack of the requirement of story poles for a project of this size and type would give the distinct impression that the County Planning Department is not doing all that it can and should do to thoroughly evaluate this project.

I strongly object to the lack of the requirement of story poles for this project. They represent the best way for the community, the decision makers and even for the current proponents and developers of the project to get a sense of the actual scope of the project and its potential encroachment on the Saranap neighborhood.

This development, which is huge in size and has issues of compatibility with the overall character of the Saranap neighborhood needs to be fully studied and go through a fully transparent and as professional an evaluation process as possible so that the community and the County decision makers will have the most complete information on the nature of the project in order to make the decisions in the best interests of the community. The use of story poles is one critical tool that is needed for a complete analysis of this project.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,



Deborah Trenor

Cc: The Honorable Gayle Uilkema,
Contra Costa County Supervisor
District 2

February 12, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am writing you to voice my opposition to the proposed Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary in Walnut Creek. I grew up at 1384 Boulevard Way, in one of the houses that the Sufis plan to bulldoze in order to build their sanctuary. My great grandparents Alice and Lester built the house and raised their six children there (pictured). The corner home, with its surrounding acre of property became a landmark in the Saranap neighborhood. The Sufis are now describing the home as "worn and aging" which I believe is a misrepresentation of the home. The house's subsequent owner built onto the residence and renovated it beautifully. I am also opposed to cutting down all of the existing mature trees on-site, including multiple Heritage Oak trees. I believe the house and surrounding trees contribute to the community's history and residential feel.

Sincerely,

Alicia Tycer

Alicia Tycer
949-433-1722, aliciatycer@yahoo.com
8133 Camelback Place, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523



6/3/10

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JUN -3 P 2:31
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Department of Conservation & Development
651 Pine St-4th Floor-North Wind
Martinez, CA 94553
Attention: Catherine Kutsuris, Director

RE: General Plan Amendment Study

~~We are in support~~ **NOT** We Do NOT WANT This !!
of a General Plan Amendment Study to review a change in zoning as
requested in the above letter.

Date: 6/1/10

Your address: 415 Bridge Rd, W.C., CA 94595

Signature(s): Krissi Venanzi E.C. Venanzi

Printed name(s): Krissi Venanzi Eric C. VENANZI

Contact information (if desired): 925-938-6671

May 28, 2010

Dear Neighbor,

The purpose of this letter is to introduce ourselves and keep you informed with what is going on in the neighborhood. We recently purchased the properties located at 2055 and 2063 Olympic Boulevard. For those of you not familiar with the property, it is located directly on Olympic Boulevard between the Apostolic Church on the west, the newly remodeled, attached housing on the east, and the community pool directly across Olympic Boulevard. There are numerous commercial uses to the west along Olympic Boulevard toward Tice Valley Boulevard. The property is almost 1 acre in size and currently has 1 attached building and three detached buildings for a total of 5 residences, none of which have been maintained very well.

Our interest in purchasing the property is to develop it into a very nice, small single family development of not more than 8 homes. The design of these homes will fit in nicely with the neighborhood and the improvements to our property will improve the property values of the surrounding area. We have gathered neighborhood information and have spoken to a few of you already about our intentions. We would like to keep everyone informed of our progress as we move forward with the development process.

A second purpose is to inform you of our request to the county for a General Plan Amendment Study. We are requesting an opportunity to present to the county a plan that makes sense to the neighborhood, the county, and us as new property owners. To be clear, this is simply requesting a study to determine the feasibility of adopting an amendment to the General Plan. We are asking you to support our efforts to conduct the study and welcome your input and comments.

The study would determine the feasibility of improving and developing the property to create a transition from the lower density single family residences behind Olympic Boulevard to the existing multi-family high density to the east. There are currently numerous units on this block that are already non-conforming and the subject properties, in particular, are in below average standards for the designated zoning.

We have already met with the Contra Costa County planning department and they have been very helpful in directing us in putting a plan together to transition the residential use along Olympic Boulevard between Willow and Newell. We feel that the study will show that our proposal is beneficial to the neighborhood and the county.

If you need any additional information, or if you have any questions, please call the number below. If you would be willing to support the request for the study, we would ask you to sign the attached letter and fax it to (925) 935-4992.

Thank you for allowing us to introduce ourselves and I look forward to further communications.

Regards,



Don Gieseke
Ph: 925-935-6030
Fax: 925-935-6030

Adam and Claire Vesely
10 Allendale Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
(925) 947-2523

Ms. LaShun Cross
Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street
4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Wednesday, July 30, 2008

Dear Ms. Cross,

Re: Proposed Sufism Reoriented Development Project

We are writing to voice our significant concern regarding Sufism Reoriented's proposed development project located on Boulevard Way in Saranap. As homeowners and parents of young children in the Saranap area, we are significantly concerned with the manner in which the proposed development review process appears to be being managed by Contra Costa County. Our concerns include but are not limited to the following:

- 1) The proposed development of any 60,000 square foot is clearly inappropriate and not in keeping with the general neighborhood. If approved it will significantly impact the character of the surrounding homes and commercial properties in a negative manner.
- 2) The approval of such a large building is completely out of character with the immediate neighborhood. In addition it will set a negative precedent for future development and dramatically limit the opportunity for responsible development projects that are consistent with current zoning.
- 3) The development proposal appears to be being reviewed and considered in a very secretive manner with no consideration, notification or opportunity for comment and input from neighboring home owners and businesses. As impacted homeowners we have received absolutely no notification from the

County of any upcoming deadlines, actions, hearings, or applications pertaining to the proposed development.

- 4) Based on information provided by Sufism Reoriented, we are led to understand that their group comprises less than 400 members. This facility would appear to be dramatically larger than any group of that size may require by any reasonable standard. It therefore leads us to have grave concerns regarding the true intended number of people who will utilize the facility. Naturally, therefore, it also leads us to be concerned about the potential impact on local traffic volumes and related safety concerns. Have these impacts been studied? What modifications to the streets, rights of way, traffic lights, movement of bus stops, etc will be required?

Based on our recent conversations with other residents, families and business owners in the immediate area, it would appear that we are by no means alone in our concerns. Therefore we kindly request that a more comprehensive and inclusive study be conducted prior to any further approvals being issued. In addition, we would specifically request that any such study specifically include opportunities for affected homeowners, residents and business owners to provide input for and be included in the review and approval process. Clearly by adopting a more open and inclusive process the County will ensure that a fair outcome will be reached. This can only be beneficial for and in the best interest of all the affected parties, including Sufism Reoriented.

Respectfully,



Adam Vesely



Claire Vesely

Cc: The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

Feb 8, 2009

0 ✓

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name

Kenneth Wainola

Print name

Kenneth Wainola

Address

211 King Drive

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

Feb. 8, 2009

0
✓

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name

Martha L. Wainola

Print name

Martha L. Wainola

Address

211 King Dr

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

Feb. 13, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

2009 FEB 17 P 2:15

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name Shirley J. Wainola

Print name Shirley J. Wainola

Address 211 King Dr., Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

Feb. 07, 2009

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

Re: **Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011**
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name

Print name

Address


Eric J. Walling
51 Panoramic Way Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

Washington City Paper

Cover Story

The D.C. Tax-Free Zone

Why should you have to pay taxes when the District's multimillion-dollar nonprofits don't?

Posted: October 29, 2007

The exodus of middle-income residents from the District may go down as the last great migration of the 20th century. Citing deplorable municipal services, rising crime, and an ineffectual educational system, these former D.C. stalwarts have become D.C. haters.

Almost to a one, the departing hordes complain about the District's confiscatory taxes—income, property, and sales—which make Washingtonians' tax bills among the highest in the land.

But while the polis-sustaining taxpayers escape to Northern Virginia and the Maryland suburbs, a parasite burrows deeper into the District's flesh: the multitude of nonprofit, tax-exempt organizations.

Nonprofit churches, institutions, and charities have flocked to the city and are growing like kudzu. Drawn by the District's liberal policies, the nonprofits have taken millions of dollars of taxable property off the Department of Finance and Revenue's (DFR) rolls. And while residents and businesses have endured the sting of the hike in the sales tax from 6 to 7 percent, the nonprofits have remained immune. They are exempt from sales tax on nearly everything they purchase—pencils, carpets, trucks, and more.

Taxpaying citizens must jump through fiery hoops to secure building permits for backyard decks, but churches are given building permits and zoning waivers for their expansion almost as a matter of right.

All the while, the burgeoning nonprofits are consuming basic services that cost billions to maintain: police and fire protection, the courts, the transportation infrastructure, just to mention the big-ticket items.

In less lean financial times, the preferential treatment accorded the demanding nonprofits wouldn't turn a head. But the District faces a nearly \$500-million budget deficit and a \$100-million cash shortfall, an eroding tax base, and an ornery Republican Congress, which already signaled its willingness to reduce the \$660-million payment the feds give the city each year.

Some civic activists say the plague of nonprofits is so deadly that it's time to drag the sacred cows from the barn by their hooves and line them up for the slaughter.

“It's come to the point where every entity should be taxed!” says Gail Barnes, an Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner in the 16th Street Heights community of upper Northwest.

Barnes' ordinarily calm discourse on nonprofits and taxes reaches a quick boil.

“I'm looking for money to make this city come alive again!” she adds.

Barnes and others are quietly mounting a tax revolution, seizing on the city's fiscal crisis to push for changes in the District tax laws. They note that even under optimum conditions, there is a paucity of taxable land in the District. Obviously, the city can't tax its own numerous schools, parks, office buildings, and other facilities. The federal government has a lock on huge tax-exempt tracts of land, including expansive holdings along the Mall and on the Hill, as well as the National Park Service's properties and the National Arboretum. The federal government also extends tax-exempt status to various foreign embassies, consulates, and residences, as well as other international organizations. But at least the fools on the Hill acknowledge the federal debt to the city, making an annual payment—which most residents consider insufficient—in lieu of lost property taxes.

But the nonprofits—gigantic organizations like the National Geographic Society, think tanks like the Brookings Institution, mega-universities like George Washington (GW), Howard, and Georgetown, do-gooders like Bread for the City, and the city's hundreds of churches, synagogues, temples, and mosques—pay zero for the D.C. cop on the beat, the exhausted fireman, or the street cleaner. That bill goes to the taxpayers.

And those taxpayers are angry. Earlier this year, anti-tax activists sought to place on the ballot an initiative that would bar the city from increasing any taxes in the city without the direct consent of the voters (the measure failed to qualify). Meanwhile, another group calling itself Taxpayers' Right to Know attempted to win ballot status for an initiative that would allow citizens to review and challenge the tax assessment placed on commercial property by the city. A court test knocked it off the November ballot, but both movements portend the fed-up-with-taxes mood in the city.

The neighborhood impact of the nonprofits first came to Barnes' attention in 1989, as she took a leisurely stroll through her community. She counted more than 20 churches in a 1.4-mile stretch of 16th Street alone.

“That didn't include the side streets,” she adds.

Some neighborhood activists are chastened by accusations that they are shortsighted, parochial, not-in-my-back-yard (NIMBY) types. Not Barnes: “I'll own that title. I don't want anybody in my neighborhood who isn't paying taxes.”

There are plenty of inhabitants of Barnes' neighborhood who aren't paying taxes, from churches to social service organizations. She cites the social service group Renewal in

Education and its group homes on Colorado Avenue and Blagden Street NW, and the soon-to-arrive Samaritan Inns, Inc.'s Tabitha House, which will provide low-cost housing for recovering substance abusers on Colorado Avenue NW. Both organizations have purchased large, extravagant homes in the area, and because they qualify as nonprofits, their expensive properties have been deleted from the tax base.

Barnes' favorite example of how a rapacious nonprofit takes advantage of the District's liberal attitude toward nonprofits, establishes a niche, and grows at the expense of the rest of the city is demonstrated by Sufism Reoriented Inc.

Located at 1615 Manchester Lane NW and 5916 16th St. NW, Sufism Reoriented Inc. is devoted to the "spiritual, metaphysical, and philosophical principles" of the Sufism Reoriented religious order. The group first nested in the District in 1953, and it boasted only 46 local members in 1980 when Ira Deitrick, its president, applied for a property and sales tax exemption.

By 1992, the order, headquartered in California, touted nationwide assets of \$6.7 million and expenses of \$2.4 million. About \$1.3 million of its income was generated from tuition at the order's private schools, one of which is located in the District, according to documents filed with the DFR.

Despite its growing assets, the order pays no property taxes on the Manchester Lane and 16th Street "mansions," the combined value of which was pegged at more than \$1.6 million by DFR in tax year 1994. Property taxes for the two houses and land would be more than \$31,000 if owned by individuals.

While District taxpayers subsidize Sufism Reoriented, the group appears to violate city law. The Certificate of Occupancy permit granted to Sufism Reoriented by the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) carries the stipulation that no more than 15 people live at the Manchester Lane address. But a recent review of Board of Election voter rolls reveals that as many as 31 claim the Manchester Lane facility as their voting residence. Barnes has filed a formal complaint with DCRA officials demanding that they investigate the group for possible violations. Gilda Warnick, a DCRA spokesperson, confirmed that the agency has received the complaint and is currently "looking into" the violation.

Organization President Deitrick declines to discuss Sufism Reoriented activities at Manchester Lane and also declines to comment about the human rights complaint filed by Barnes, who says she and her husband were denied entry to the religious center.

Most nonprofits shelter their assets and their financial activities under one of a series of tax-exempt categories established by the Internal Revenue Service, the more popular of which is the 501(c)(3) category. To qualify as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, an organization must prove to the IRS that its mission is, among other things, charitable, educational, or religious, and is for the express benefit of the public, although the group may be privately

owned. Universities, churches, social service organizations, and museums, for example, all fall under the general category of 501(c)(3) nonprofits.

.....

All tax-exemptions come with a caveat: Twenty-five percent of all activities of local groups must benefit District residents. (National organizations are only required to set aside 5 percent of their activities for the benefit of the city.) But who is checking to make sure the District is getting its 25 percent "share"? DFR officials say they rarely monitor the benefits, nor can anyone recall such an inventory of the nonprofits over the history of the District's 20 years of self-governance. Gail Barnes offers her prohibition from entry to the Sufism Reoriented religious center as tangible evidence that the law is unenforced.

This is the website of this article:

http://www.google.com/search?hl=en&as_q=&as_epq=1615+Manchester+Lane&as_oq=&as_eq=&num=10&lr=&as_filetype=&ft=i&as_sitesearch=&as_qdr=all&as_rights=&as_occt=any&cr=&as_nlo=&as_nhi=&safe=images

Feb 10, _____, 2009

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CONTRA COSTA

2009 FEB 11 P 41

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, Fourth Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553-1229

Fax: (925) 335-1200

**Re: Application LP 08-2034-MS 08-0011
Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary**

Dear Ms. Cross:

After considering the proposed Sufism Reoriented development. I would like to register my opposition to the project as it is currently proposed. I reside in the Saranap area, and I do not believe that this project is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Sign name Elizabeth H. Williams

Print name ELIZABETH H. WILLIAMS

Address 210 King Dr. Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor, District 2,
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Fax: 925-335-1076

ROBERT E. WILLIAMS 210 KING DRIVE WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595-1505
Phone (925) 935-7377 E-mail = rtbywilliams@comcast.net

2 O ✓

Supervisor Gayle B. Ulkema,
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors,
651 Pine Street, Room 108-A,
Martinez, CA 94553.

June 25, 2009

COPY

Ms. Lashun Cross, Planner,
Community Conservation & Development,
651 Pine Street, 4th floor north wing,
Martinez, CA 94553.

Dear County Officials:

As one who 51 years ago came and helped establish Grace Presbyterian Church at 2100 Tice Valley Boulevard in the county portion of Walnut Creek when it was a total residential neighborhood, I write to affirm the right of Suffism Reoriented to build a sanctuary on the proposed site on Boulevard Way. The right to build religious assembly buildings in residential neighborhoods is well established by tradition and zoning practices in these United States. That right should be granted in this case.

I do raise a concern for the proposal to widen the driveway from Warren Road to the already existing Mershida's home listed as "parsonage." If my information is correct, that the Suffism proposal calls for widening that driveway which would include removing bordering row of shade trees and portions of the front yard of the residence at 2438 Warren Road, I raise a serious objection.

Approval of such widening would work cause financial and emotional harm to the owner, Mrs. John (Barbara) Odell. If the main access to the parsonage has always been from Boulevard Way, should not that present access be continued for personal and fire engine use? If for these many years the three or four homes now served by that lane did not need the drive to be widened for emergency vehicle access, why now? I urge that this concern be addressed by change in plans or mitigation to the satisfaction of Mrs. Odell and neighbors before final permission to build is approved.

My wife, Elizabeth H. Williams, joins me in raising this concern.

Cordially Yours,

Robert E. Williams
Robert E. Williams

(X1)
added to
same parcel
(see 6/1/2009)

RECEIVED
JUN 29 2009
GAYLE B. ULKEMA

Objects to plan as it exists, but believes in the right of religious groups to build churches.

x

7/30/08

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL 31 PM 1:17

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
LAND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Ms. La Shen Cross,

I learned late yesterday about a large development planned by Rufion Reoriented, Inc. on Boulevard Way. No notices have been sent to the neighborhood until now. Please reconsider allowing such a huge undertaking to occur without proper discussion and impacts on the area environmentally and physically being seriously studied.

Yours respectfully,

Bodie Wolf

44 year resident
of the area.

SYLVIA WONG
BRIAN GRAY
30 Garden Court
Walnut Creek CA 94595

March 15, 2009

LASHUN CROSS
Comm. Cons. & Dev. Dept.
651 Pine St., 4th Floor, N. Wing
Martinez CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA

2009 MAR 19 P 1:09

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Re: PROJECT PROPOSED BY SUFISM REORIENTED

Dear Lashun Cross,

My family and I moved to the Saranap community in December 2006. We have 2 young children and were attracted to this community for it's quiet, peaceful, residential character. We have enjoyed living here very much and often comment on what a gem of a find this was. Thus being said, we are quite concerned about the project being proposed by the Sufism Reoriented and feel compelled to voice our opposition to the scale of the project, the short and long term impact on the surrounding neighborhood, and the precedence that this sets up for any future land use. This project would be right at the mouth of our quiet court.

Sufism Reoriented representatives have argued that the proposed plan would be an asset and improve home values for the Saranap community, but I find it difficult to believe that the increased vehicular traffic (particularly along Boulevard Way and Kinney Drive, which is already a somewhat dangerous intersection), the permanent removal of Saranap's established heritage trees, and the development of such an enormous and enclosed sanctuary, would provide much advantage to the surrounding community who are not followers of Sufism Reoriented. In addition, the destruction of existing trees and beautiful homes to be replaced by a solid masonry 6ft fence and widening of Boulevard Way would undoubtedly alter the semi-rural landscape that attracts many to this neighborhood.

It is our opinion that the proposed building design certainly does not fit into the semi-rural character of the Saranap community. It appears overwhelming in scale, plus begs the question of intended future use since it is so disproportionately large compared to the current congregation. It is our fear that such an enormous structure, intended to accommodate such an exponential growth in their congregation would certainly lead to future parking issues (given only 72 parking spots are requested), vehicular traffic throughout the community, and associated strain on sewer and utility structures serving the rest of the community.

For starters, we would encourage the architects of this structure to agree to the installation of story poles so that we may all have a visual reference of the intended dimensions. It is our hope that these concerns will be given serious consideration, and that a mutually agreeable solution can be achieved so that we can all continue to enjoy Saranap as our home.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our opinions.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Wong & Brian Gray
30 Garden Court Walnut Creek CA 94595

July 23, 2008
Re: Appl. LPO8-2034/MS08-001

Sandy Woods, Jesse and
Steve Woods, Jake
28 Alta Hill Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
Public 1:18

Dear LaShun Cross,

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Please! Please! Please! Our family is against the plan for the Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek. This is our beloved neighborhood where I walk and bike with our friends and family every day. It is bad enough to have to see the huge wall surrounding the Sufi complex. Then came the White Horse building surrounded by locked gates and more walls. Now they have bought up all the other homes along the rest of the street to tear down and build huge domed buildings with more walls and more traffic.

Please hear our voices! It is so hard to watch our neighborhood being taken apart. This is not just a church, it is an expanding complex of buildings that will change our rural neighborhood forever!

Please understand our concern and despair. Do not allow this mega church, sanctuary, temple to be built. Help us preserve the neighborhood we love!
Sincerely,
Sandy Woods

A

Peter Woolley
1045 Juanita Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Ms. LaShun Cross
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine St. 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am writing to strongly oppose the Sufism Reoriented Inc. project in my neighborhood. This project is completely out of place in the Saranap area, and is being sold by the members of this church in a deceptive manner.

The 60,000 square foot project is way out of line for our neighborhood and will only create traffic and congestion problems on already crowded streets.

I would oppose this project regardless which religious group wanted to build it. We do not need more churches in the County, but rather adequate housing and tax revenue.

A 60,000 square foot complex for a church with fewer than 400 members is absurd. These people have some future plans that have not been presented in their propaganda to the residents of Saranap.

Please do not let this project go forward without serious scrutiny and at the very least an environmental impact report.

Sincerely,



Peter Woolley

Better Care Choices

2150 Whyte Park Avenue
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

July 29, 2008

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine St., 4th floor-North wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Ms. Cross,

Please be advised that as a small-business owner in the Saranap area, I have serious concerns about the Sufism Reoriented proposed development on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek.

I have not been given proper notice of public actions, events, hearings or applications regarding this large development which is incompatible with the commercial and residential Saranap neighborhood.

I certainly want an environmental impact report, as I believe there are more negative consequences from this proposed large development than the public realizes. The Sufism Reoriented group has spent thousands of dollars massaging the community and the media, lolling them into a false perspective of their development. My observation is that they have given some mis-information to the community and the media.

I want to let you know Sufism Reoriented does NOT have the support of this small-business owner and homeowner in the Saranap. Out of one side of their mouth they tell the small business owners it will bring in more traffic therefore more business. Out of the other side of their mouth they tell homeowners there will not be increased traffic. Now who will believe a center this size will not increase traffic?

Sufism Reoriented literally bought the votes at the July 10th Saranap Community Association meeting by packing the room with a couple hundred of their members, paying the annual dues, then voting their members onto the association board. All this so they can take over the association and say they have the blessing of the Saranap community. They may have bought the association, but they have not bought the business or homeowners in the Saranap.

As a small-business owner in the Saranap this proposed large development of a national Sufism Reoriented, Inc center is entirely INAPPROPRIATE in size, design, and style for the Saranap neighborhood. I'm also concerned about the negative fiscal impact of tax revenues to the county in which I work and live.

Isn't the county responsible to notify residents of the Saranap area regarding a large development that is not compatible with existing residential or commercial property? Doesn't an environmental impact report have to be made?

Please advise as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Linda Wurth, Senior Care Advisor
BETTER CARE CHOICES
2150 Whyte Park Avenue
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
Phone: 925.932.1400 or 330.8181
Fax: 925.932.1400
Email: Lwurth@comcast.net

Linda Wurth
2150 Whyte Park Avenue
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
08 AUG -1 PM 12:00

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

July 31, 2008

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine St., 4th floor-North wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Ms. Cross,

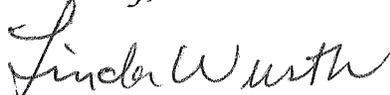
I bought my home in the Saranap area in 1975. As a home-owner of 38 years in the Saranap, I am against the Sufism Reoriented proposed development on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek.

I would like to request an environmental impact report. I have concerns about the consequences of this proposed large development in our sleepy Saranap community where I have lived and raised my family.

As a home-owner in the Saranap this proposed large development of a national Sufism Reoriented, Inc center/compound is inappropriate in size, design, and style for the Saranap neighborhood.

I'm also concerned about the negative fiscal impact of tax revenues to the county in which I have lived and worked for almost 40 years. I believe there is greater value in the homes and small businesses that will be demolished for his large non-profit development.

Sincerely,


Linda Wurth
925-934-0717
Lwurth@comcast.net

Linda Jean Wurth
2150 Whyte Park Ave. - Walnut Creek, CA 94595

NIRA COSTA

08 DEC -8 PM 1:21

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

December 5, 2008

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Subject: Requirement for Sufism Reoriented, Inc. proposed project to have Story Poles

Ms. Cross,

I would like to request that Sufism Reoriented, Inc. be required to put the story poles on the property for their proposed building. I think it's important that the rural family style community have an opportunity to try and understand the magnitude of the proposed institutional project.

As you may know, there is considerable controversy in the Saranap community around the compatibility of this proposed institutional project. I don't know if you are aware of the great amount of sugar-coated glossy color self-promotional material that the Sufism Reoriented, Inc. people are putting out in the Saranap neighborhoods now that their project is publicly proposed. I have lived in the Saranap since 1975 and have never before this time received a mailing, or heard of the public ever being invited into their existing Sufi facility. Now all of the sudden they tell us they are the best neighbors and seem to have endless community projects for us to join in. It's time to wash the sugar off and let the community see as best they can what the story poles say.

Story poles are the best way for the community and decision makers to get a sense of the actual size of this project and its potential encroachment on the Saranap neighborhood. As a member of the Saranap community, I request that story poles be required for the proposed Sufism Reoriented, Inc. project.

Sincerely,



Linda Wurth

cc: the Honorable Gayle Uilkema, CCC Supervisor District 2

0 ✓

CONTRA COSTA

2009 APR -2 P 1: 26

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

Regarding: The Application for a Conditional Use Permit for a new Worship Center for Sufism Reoriented, Inc. and its Potential Impact on the Environment

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am writing in because of my concern about the real and potential adverse environmental impacts that would occur if the conditional use permit for the above referenced project is granted. Because of these substantial environmental impacts, and because there is significant controversy in the Saranap neighborhood over the impacts to our neighborhood, the potential impact of this project must be studied in an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), in order to allow fully informed decisions during the County's further consideration of the project.

As a resident of Saranap, I have developed a love and appreciation for this special community. Saranap is the special place where so many of us have raised our families and truly appreciated the character of the neighborhood.

The proposed development is not even remotely compatible with our neighborhood. The development has potential tremendous negative environmental impacts which need to be analyzed by professionals so that the County authorities can make the optimal decisions about the proposal with the best information available. That is why an Environmental Impact Report is so critical to this process. It is absolutely critical to good decision making in this case because of the major environmental impacts described as follows.

1. The Size of Development is Entirely Inappropriate for the Neighborhood

The proposed 60,000 square foot non residential structure (approximately two football fields of building space), sets precedent for huge development. We do not see any reason why a 375 member group needs that much space? There are no guarantees that their existing facility and other properties they currently own will not be retained and incorporated in to a much larger campus or compound which would be even further out of step with the neighborhood, and would also have additional and larger environmental impacts.

2. The Design and Architectural Style and Incompatible with the Neighborhood

The proposed Sufism Reoriented campus sets precedent for enormous growth inconsistent with the semi-rural character of the neighborhood. The design has a look and feel that is absolutely incompatible with the surrounding neighborhood. The very large and very tall domes, the extremely long high concrete walls, and the overall height of the project are not only out of character with nearby and neighborhood homes, but are also completely inconsistent with neighborhood business commercial properties in this area.

3. The Project Results in a Significant Net Reduction of Residences and is Detrimental to the prospect of Future Responsible Residential Infill

The project will result in the destruction of 7 existing residential structures. While this in itself is bad, the overall project and previous Sufi-related projects have and will utilize substantial additional land that would otherwise be available for additional homes if it were properly utilized for responsible residential infill that is compatible with the overall character of the neighborhood and is the intent of the current zoning of the property. The impacts of the number of overall existing homes that would be destroyed and the lost opportunity for additional responsible residential infill needs to be studied in order to properly access the full impact of this huge project. .

4. Traffic Nuisance and Safety

The amount of traffic generated would clog the neighborhood streets. Warren Road traffic is likely to increase as motorists attempt to enter the planned facility near a blind curve. It is likely that Boulevard Way will have to be widened to accommodate non residential traffic patterns. How many stoplights and turning lanes might be needed? Anticipated traffic impacts need to be fully analyzed in an Environmental Impact Report.

5. The Project Will Have a Negative Fiscal Impact the Tax Revenues of the County

The combination of the reduction of existing residential structures, the lost opportunity for responsible infill residential and commercial development, the unknown costs of mitigating many negative impacts of the proposed development such as traffic and drainage, and the fact that this huge development is being undertaken by an entity

which operates on a tax exempt basis will together potentially have huge negative fiscal impacts on Contra Costa County. Currently there is no data on this, which is again another reason why the EIR is needed.

6. The Project is Likely to Create Substantial Drainage Problems

Significant drainage issues exist at the corner of Warren Road and Boulevard Way. Drainage issues resulted in rejection of a previous incompatible development (Lion's Gate development). The subject project is a short distance from a wild creek with a history of unresolved erosion control issues, and a project of this size is likely to cause problems with land stability. The project would require significant grading, in excess of 50 cubic yards, with a large area of new impervious surfaces with unknown impacts to nearby property owners and existing drainage systems overall.

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8. The Proposed Development Would Provide for Uneven Property Rights

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9. Lack of Due Notice to Property Owners

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controversy this project has generated provide a legal basis that argues significantly for the requirement of a thorough Environmental Impact Report. To do any less would run over the rights of a majority of the neighbors who deserve to make sure the decision makers have all the facts prior to making decisions on a project of this type and scope.

11. The Possible Lack of Requiring Story Poles for this Major Development

I have also heard that the County Planning Office is considering not requiring story poles as part of the evaluation process in the above referenced application. Frankly, that is very hard to believe.

As you know, story poles are used to show the elevations and silhouettes of a proposed building or an addition to an existing building. According to numerous land use planning sources, story poles are a very helpful tool in helping both the community and the local decision makers visualize the actual size, height and overall scope of a project (source: [www.google.com/search?hl=en&q=%22story+poles%22&btnG=Google+Search&aq=f&og="](http://www.google.com/search?hl=en&q=%22story+poles%22&btnG=Google+Search&aq=f&og=)).

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From the over 100 letters received by the County protesting the inappropriate size and the out of character nature of the proposed Sufi Reoriented, Inc. project, how could it be anything other than crystal clear to our land use professionals and local decision makers that this project is controversial to a substantial portion of our neighborhood?

Given that the project is controversial, a lack of the requirement of story poles for a project of this size and type would give the distinct impression that the County Planning Department was not doing all that it can and should do to thoroughly evaluate project. It also may be a violation of the County's own due process for major projects of this type.

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transparent and as professional an evaluation process as possible so that the community and the County decision makers will have the most complete information on the nature of the project in order to make the decisions in the best interests of the community. The use of story poles is one critical tool that is needed for a complete analysis of this project.

Summary

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I truly hope that, as it has done with controversial developments in our community before, the County, in its wisdom, will give this very large development with its very large potential impacts on the Saranap neighborhood the full appropriate consideration it deserves, which should begin with an Environmental Impact Report to fully assess the potential impacts of this development.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Gortnik

Anne Gortnik

Cc: The Honorable Gayle Uilkema,
Contra Costa County Supervisor, District 2

CC: SaveOurSaranap.org

OJ LC

SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

I, the undersigned Saranap resident, am opposed to the design and development of the proposed 66,000 sq. ft. Sufism sanctuary building, which includes a 6 ft. high solid perimeter wall, reduced on-site parking, and clear-cutting of all existing trees on the property.

I am against the County granting a height variance to allow the 54 ft. high building, with its 34 ft. high dome to be constructed as proposed, and I am against the County granting a reduced parking variance that will allowed limited parking on-site of this development.

Name (Printed)

Signature

Address

Darlene Chapman

Darlene M. Chapman

162 Ponderosa Ln
Walnut Creek, CA
94595

SARANAP NEIGHBORS CHANGE SUPPORT TO OPPOSITION

I, the undersigned Saranap resident, previously signed a petition in support of the proposed development by Sufism Reoriented, based on their representation. I have since learned more about the design and development, which was not disclosed to me earlier, and I hereby withdraw my support of the Sufism development. I am opposed to the design, and request my name be deleted from the County's record of support for this project.

Name (Printed)

Signature

Address

Please have all the adult members of your household sign this petition in the upper section (and the lower section if applicable). Please send copies to Lashun Cross, Galyle Uilkema with a copy to SOS. Thank you.

BILL & LEILANI CHITWOOD

964 N. VANITA DR.

WALNUT CREEK, CA. 94595

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

2009 MAR 12 P 1:33

CONTRA COSTA

Regarding: The Application for a Conditional Use Permit for a new Worship Center for Sufism Reoriented, Inc. and its Potential Impact on the Environment

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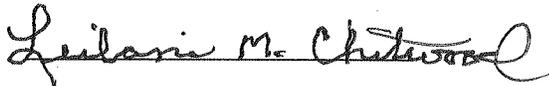
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Name (Printed)

Signature

Address

Billie L. Chitwood Billie L. Chitwood 964 JUANITA DR.

Lelani M. Chitwood Lelani M. Chitwood 964 JUANITA DR.

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Billie L. Chitwood Billie L. Chitwood 964 JUANITA DR.

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Tim, Michelle & Cody Wilbur
136 Ponderosa Lane
Walnut Creek CA 94595

3

March 2, 2009

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

CONTRA COSTA
2009 MAR 10 P 12:18
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

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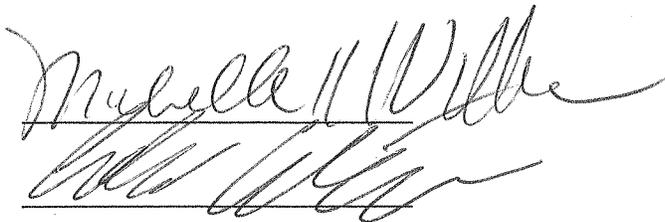
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Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michelle H. Wilke". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Cc: The Honorable Gayle Uilkema,
Contra Costa County Supervisor, District 2

CC: SaveOurSaranap.org

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Name (Printed)

Signature

Address

W.C.

Michelle Wilbur Michelle Wilbur 136 Ponderosa Ln.

Cody Wilbur Cody Wilbur 136 Ponderosa Ln. W.C.

Timothy L. Wilbur Timothy L. Wilbur 136 Ponderosa Ln. W.C.

SARANAP NEIGHBORS CHANGE SUPPORT TO OPPOSITION

I, the undersigned Saranap resident, previously signed a petition in support of the proposed development by Sufism Reoriented, based on their representation. I have since learned more about the design and development, which was not disclosed to me earlier, and I hereby withdraw my support of the Sufism development. I am opposed to the design, and request my name be deleted from the County's record of support for this project.

Name (Printed)

Signature

Address

W.C.

Michelle Wilbur Michelle Wilbur 136 Ponderosa Ln W.C.

Cody Wilbur Cody Wilbur 136 Ponderosa Lane, W.C.

Timothy L. Wilbur Timothy L. Wilbur 136 Ponderosa Ln

Please have all the adult members of your household sign this petition in the upper section (and the lower section if applicable). Please send copies to Lashun Cross, Galyle Uilkema with a copy to SOS. Thank you.

X

PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A TWO STORY 66,000 SF NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING ON RESIDENTIAL PARCELS LOCATED ON BOULEVARD WAY

We the undersigned homeowners of Saranap oppose development of the existing residential parcels on Boulevard Way, owned by Sufism Reoriented, as is currently proposed with a 66,000 +/- square foot non-residential structure and continuance of existing compound concrete block barricade walls around those parcels. While we do not oppose the development of a church per se on the parcel, we believe the development, as proposed, would destroy the ambiance and character of the neighborhood in the following ways:

- Overdevelopment of the neighborhood would result by placing an over-sized, non-residential building on a parcel that is not big enough to support it;
- Creation of unnecessary and possibly uncorrectable traffic congestion/hazards;
- Decrease in the desirability/marketability of the existing single family dwellings located in its proximity; and
- Extension of the Boulevard Way commercial area into a clearly demarked residential neighborhood with the addition of a non-residential structure on residentially zoned property.

Additionally, the Sufism Reoriented existing building at 1300 Boulevard Way (approximately one block away) has served its membership for nearly 30 years and is located in a commercial area with ample parking. It could be remodeled, expanded or demolished and rebuilt as an alternative to creating such extreme impacts on our existing residential neighborhood.

Accordingly, the undersigned oppose the development as proposed.

#	NAME (Printed)	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
1	Sherilyn Fry	<i>Sherilyn Fry</i>	2346 Warren Rd.
2	JAMES LORNEY	<i>James Lorney</i>	2318 WARREN RD. W.C.
3	Dolly Phillippen	<i>Dolly Phillippen</i>	2325 W. DEWING RD.
4	JUDY FRAY	<i>Judy Fray</i>	2328 Warren Rd
5	Katie Pintado	<i>Katie Pintado</i>	2318 Warren Rd
6	Tom Dewing	<i>Thomas K. Dewing</i>	1405 DEWING LANE, W.C.
7	Carole Dewing	<i>Carole A. Dewing</i>	1405 DEWING LN. W.C.
8	Christina Angell	<i>Christina Angell</i>	2441 Warren Dr. W.C.
9	Matthew Angell	<i>Matthew Angell</i>	2441 Warren Dr. W.C.
10	Jennifer Laredo	<i>Jennifer Laredo</i>	2492 Warren Rd
11	Jan Loney	<i>Jan Loney</i>	2499 Warren Rd
12	RON LOONEY	<i>Ron Looney</i>	2499 WARREN RD.
13	BARBARA CLARKE	<i>Barbara Clarke</i>	2419 Warren Rd
14	MARK GUNBY	<i>Mark Gunby</i>	2401 WARREN RD
15	Jennifer Ostrandev	<i>Jennifer Ostrandev</i>	2310 Warren Road, W.C.
16	Angela Fry	<i>Angela Fry</i>	2346 Warren Rd. W.C.
17	BA JAVORSKI	<i>BA Javorski</i>	1600 Dandel Rd W.C.

PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A TWO STORY 66,000 SF NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING ON RESIDENTIAL PARCELS LOCATED ON BOULEVARD WAY

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#	NAME (Printed)	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
1	UNTERWOOD	<i>[Signature]</i>	540 Dale St. P.O.
2	Bredenkamp	<i>[Signature]</i>	2359 Warren Rd., W.C.
3	BREDENKAMP J.C.	<i>[Signature]</i>	2359 WARREN RD, WC 94595
4	TOM CLANCY	<i>[Signature]</i>	101 Camino Posada WC 94595
5	Rennin	<i>[Signature]</i>	137 Camino Posada WC 94595
6	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	" "
7	Ellen Oshinson	<i>[Signature]</i>	185 Camino Posada, WC 94595
8	Lucy Peterson	<i>[Signature]</i>	2362 Warren Rd WC 94595
9	Michael A. Peterson	<i>[Signature]</i>	2362 WARREN RD WC 94595
10	Michael B. Krivush	<i>[Signature]</i>	115 Baja Lane W.C. 94595
11	Diane Giffel	<i>[Signature]</i>	105 Baja Lane
12	Den Colton	<i>[Signature]</i>	105 Baja Lane Walnut Cal 94595
13	Cathy Merhoff	<i>[Signature]</i>	100 Camino Posada WC 94595
14	Eric Merhoff	<i>[Signature]</i>	" "
15	JALILA HANAFI	<i>[Signature]</i>	1110 DEWICK W.C.
16	Steve Woods	<i>[Signature]</i>	28 Alta Hill Way
17	Sandra Woods	<i>[Signature]</i>	28 Alta Hill Way WC 94595
18	KENNON, JAMES	<i>[Signature]</i>	24 Alta Hill Way, W.C. 94595
19	ELAINE KROO	<i>[Signature]</i>	15 Peterson Pl. W.C. 94595
20	Terri Shaw-Krivush	<i>[Signature]</i>	115 Baja Lane W.C. 94595
21	Kristina Shaw-Krivush	<i>[Signature]</i>	116 Baja Lane W.C. 94595

PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A TWO STORY 66,000 SF NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDING ON RESIDENTIAL PARCELS LOCATED ON BOULEVARD WAY

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Accordingly, the undersigned oppose the development as proposed.

#	NAME (Printed)	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
1	ALLAN FERGUSON	<i>Allan Ferguson</i>	2439 WARREN RD
2	KRISTIN FERGUSON	<i>Kristin Ferguson</i>	" " "
3	Carol Rasmussen	<i>Carol Rasmussen</i>	2434 Warren Rd.
4	Judith Mona	<i>Judith Mona</i>	2435 Warren Rd
5	Devon Caplan	<i>Devon M. Caplan</i>	2419 Warren Rd.
6	Zach Readel	<i>Zach Readel</i>	2410 Warren Rd.
7	Marte Readel	<i>Marte Readel</i>	2410 Warren Rd.
8	STEVE KRAMER	<i>Steve Kramer</i>	2416 Warren Rd
9	ERICA KRAMER	<i>Erica Kramer</i>	2416 Warren Rd
10	STAN KORICH	<i>Stan Korich</i>	2414 WARREN ROAD
11	Nancy Korich	<i>Nancy Korich</i>	2414 Warren Road
12	Elva Crabtree	Elva Crabtree	180 Flora Ave
13	Elva Crabtree	<i>Elva Crabtree</i>	180 Flora Ave
14	Robert Crabtree	<i>Robert Crabtree</i>	180 Flora Ave
15	TRACER BORDEN	<i>Tracer Borden</i>	151 FLORA AVE
16	MANUELA BORDEN	<i>M. Borden</i>	151 FLORA AVE
17	MARVIN B Rasmussen	<i>Marvin B Rasmussen</i>	2434 Warren Rd



SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

I, the undersigned ^{CC}~~Saranap~~ resident, am opposed to the design and development of the proposed 66,000 sq. ft. Sufism sanctuary building, which includes a 6 ft. high solid perimeter wall, reduced on-site parking, and clear-cutting of all existing trees on the property.

I am against the County granting a height variance to allow the 54 ft. high building, with its 34 ft. high dome to be constructed as proposed, and I am against the County granting a reduced parking variance that will allowed limited parking on-site of this development.

- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|-------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Richard Edmondson | <i>Richard Edmondson</i> | 1268 Redwood Lane, Lafayette 70549 |
| ARTHUR DIGAZIA | <i>Arthur Digazia</i> | 2870 JUDITH LN, LA FAYETTE 70549 |
| RUTH BARLEON | <i>Ruth Barleon</i> | 1268 Redwood LN, LA FAYETTE 70549 |
| SOLO EDMONSON | <i>Sarah Edmondson</i> | 1268 Redwood Ln, Lafayette 70549 |
| Clint Edmondson | <i>Clint Edmondson</i> | 1268 Redwood Ln Lafayette 70549 |

SARANAP NEIGHBORS CHANGE SUPPORT TO OPPOSITION

I, the undersigned Saranap resident, previously signed a petition in support of the proposed development by Sufism Reoriented, based on their representation. I have since learned more about the design and development, which was not disclosed to me earlier, and I hereby withdraw my support of the Sufism development. I am opposed to the design, and request my name be deleted from the County's record of support for this project.

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
2019 FEB 12 10:48 AM
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|----------------|-----------|---------|
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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address
Genda Bouler		31 Grandview Pl, Walnut Creek 94595
Bert Bauer		31 Grandview Pl, Walnut Creek 94595
Kase Zuberh		75 Grandview Pl W. Ger 94599

SARANAP NEIGHBORS CHANGE SUPPORT TO OPPOSITION

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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address
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CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
2009 FEB 12 P 4: 49
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Sherry Gary | <i>Sherry Gary</i> | 100 Rose St |
| Donald F. Nield III | <i>Donald F. Nield III</i> | 151 Rose St. |
| Martha & Tony Diaz | <i>Martha & Tony Diaz</i> | 150 Rose St. W.C |
| Tommy Diaz | <i>Tommy Diaz</i> | 150 Rose St W.C |
| Antonia Quarstrom | <i>Antonia Quarstrom</i> | 580 Center St. W.C |
| LARRY SKILLING | <i>Larry Skilling</i> | 600 CENTER. W.C |
| KAREN CARLSON | <i>Karen Carlson</i> | 571 Center St. W.C |
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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
 2009 FEB 12 10:49
 DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address
Linda Wirth	<i>Linda Wirth</i>	2150 Whyte Park Ave WC 9459
CAROL K. CARLSON	<i>Carol K. Carlson</i>	54 CENTER ST WICK 9459
ALAN ANTHONY	<i>Alan Anthony</i>	570 CENTER ST.
Jean Ryssin - Anthony	<i>Jean Ryssin - Anthony</i>	540 Center St WC 9459
Kathleen M. Miles	<i>Kathleen M. Miles</i>	581 CENTER ST WC 9459
Jennifer Lee	<i>Jennifer Lee</i>	521 Center St. WC 9459
David Fisher	<i>David Fisher</i>	521 Center St WC 9459
Lynne Carlson	<i>Lynne Carlson</i>	574 Center St WC 9459
Sue Ann Shumway	<i>Sue Ann Shumway</i>	2144 Whyte Park Ave 9459
Robynne Olson	<i>Robynne Olson</i>	2113 Whyte Park Ave
Neal Beesley	<i>Neal Beesley</i>	430 Bridge Rd 9459
CAROL ANN BEESLEY	<i>Carol Ann Beesley</i>	430 Bridge Rd 9459
PHIL KREZ	<i>Phil Krez</i>	426 BRIDGE RD. 9459

SARANAP NEIGHBORS CHANGE SUPPORT TO OPPOSITION

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SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT
COUNTY

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DEPARTMENT OF
CONSERVATION

- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| • CHANDLER | Marie Chaddock | 458 Budge Rd. WC |
| • CLEMENT | FREY Clement Frey | 435 BRIDGE WC |
| • BRIAN HILLER | Bill Hiller | 2214 WAYTE PARK AVE WC |
| • SALLY DRASKONCH | Sally Draskonch | 2201 WHITE PARK AVE WC |
| • TODD DRASKONICH | Todd Draskonich | 2201 WHITE PARK AVE WC |
| • ROBERT WESIDO | Robert Wesido | 541 LILY ST WC |
| • LORENA DELACRUZA | Lorena Delacruz | 101 ROSE ST WC |
| • Wendy Lucido | Wendy Lucido | 541 Lily St WC |
| • Michael Goforth | Michael Goforth | 19 CENTER CT WC LA 94595 |
| • Janine Orr | Janine Orr | 2159 Whyte Park Ave WC 94595 |
| • William Orr | William Orr | 2159 Whyte Park Ave WC 94595 |
| • Diane Walton | Diane Walton | 2157 Whyte Park Ave WC 94595 |
| • SIM WALTON | Sim Walton | 2157 Whyte Park Ave WC 94595 |

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| • Janine Orr | Janine Orr | 2159 Whyte Park Ave WC 94595 |
| • William Orr | William Orr | 2159 Whyte Park Ave WC 94595 |
| • Diane Walton | Diane Walton | 2157 Whyte Park Ave WC 94595 |
| • Erica Dickinson | Erica Dickinson | 2135 Whyte Park Ave WC 94595 |

SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT
COUNTY

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Vicky Vibano | Vicky Vibano | 477 Bridge Rd |
| Susan Blair | Susan Blair | 461 Bridge Rd. |
| Kelly Morgan | Kelly Morgan | 434 Bridge Rd. |
| Marissa Usahn | Marissa Usahn | 440 Bridge Rd. |
| Deborah Usahn | Deborah Usahn | 440 Bridge Rd. |
| Nicel Carter | Nicel Carter | 2051 White Pike |
| Staci Gull | Staci Gull | 418 Bridge Rd. |
| AET HOWARD | AET HOWARD | 417 BRIDGE RD. |
| GAIL HOWARD | GAIL HOWARD | 412 BRIDGE RD. |
| Arlene Verdugo | Arlene Verdugo | 2122 Whyte Park. |
| GILBERT VERDUGO | GILBERT VERDUGO | 2122 Whyte Park |
| Roxie Wolf | Roxie Wolf | 41 Lily Ct. |

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Name (Printed)

Signature

Address

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Name (Printed)

Signature

Address

✓ Clotria Honeywell Clotria Honeywell 1331 Juanita Dr WC
94595

✓ Marsi Girardi Marsi Girardi 1331 Juanita Dr W.C 94595

✓ John G. Savard John G. Savard 1331 Juanita Dr. WC

✓ Sally Roche Sally J. Roche 3162 Condit Rd, LA
94504

✓ Robert Roche Robert Roche 3162 Condit Rd, LA
94504

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Name (Printed)

Signature

Address

CONTRA COSTA
 COUNTY
 2009 FEB 12 P 4:49
 DEPARTMENT OF
 CONSERVATION
 AND DEVELOPMENT

SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|-------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Colleen McCarty | <i>Colleen McCarty</i> | 2825 Kinney Dr. W.C. |
| JUDY FASSLER | <i>Judy Fessler</i> | 2837 KINNEY DR W.C. |
| Shakela Maher | <i>Shakela Maher</i> | 2818 Kinney Dr W.C. |
| Thomas Morner | <i>Thomas Morner</i> | 2818 Kinney Dr. W.C. |
| BARBARA CORMAN | <i>Barbara Corman</i> | 2809 Kinney Dr. W.C. |
| KERRY BLESSING | <i>Kerry Blessing</i> | 2809 KINNEY DR. W.C. |
| DENNIS G. COLLINS | <i>Dennis G. Collins</i> | 2841 KINNEY DR W.C. |

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|----------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| JUDY FASSLER | <i>Judy Fessler</i> | 2837 KINNEY DR. W.C. 94595 |

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT
2009 FEB 14 4:44 PM
CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

0

SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| • RICHARD GALTON | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2808 KINNEY DR. W.C. |
| • JOY SARVER | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2838 Kinney Drive, W.C. |
| • Lynn Holligan | <i>[Signature]</i> | 805 Juanita Dr W.C |
| • Eric Holligan | <i>[Signature]</i> | 805 Juanita Dr W.C. |
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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| • KEO WILLIAMS | <i>[Signature]</i> | 1142 EL Corton Blvd W.C. |
| • DIANE BARTON-BROWN | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2815 ACACIA Rd. |

CONTRACT # 0577
 COUNTY OF SARANAP
 2001 FEB 12 PM 4:44
 DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

I, the undersigned Saranap resident, am opposed to the design and development of the proposed 66,000 sq. ft. Sufism sanctuary building, which includes a 6 ft. high solid perimeter wall, reduced on-site parking, and clear-cutting of all existing trees on the property.

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Name (Printed)

Signature

Address

172

ELLEN R. HUSTONS

[Handwritten Signature]

CARL HUTCHINS, JR. ~~172~~ 172 YENDAN RD

SARANAP NEIGHBORS CHANGE SUPPORT TO OPPOSITION

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CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
2009 FEB 12 P 4:49
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address
STEPHEN D. BARKLEY	<i>Stephen D. Barkley</i>	2580 LUCY LANE WALNUT CREEK, CA. 94598
JAMES R. BAIRD	<i>[Signature]</i>	20 La Casita Ln. Walnut Creek, CA 94595
DON M. HENDRICKS	<i>Don M. Hendricks</i>	2547 LUCY LANE WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595
ROSABELLA PILBOTE	<i>[Signature]</i>	2547 Lucy Lane Walnut Creek 94598
DAVID M. McNamee	<i>David M. McNamee</i>	21 Iris Lane Walnut Creek 94595
SHEILA McEWLEY	<i>Sheila McEwley</i>	1141 Studebaker Rd Walnut Creek, CA 94598
LISA EVANSTO	<i>Lisa Evansto</i>	1135 Studebaker Rd W.C. 94595
RITA EVANSTO	<i>[Signature]</i>	1135 STUDEBAKER RD WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595
JAC SPARANO	<i>Jac Sparano</i>	1121 STUDEBAKER RD
LINDSEY HIGGINS	<i>Lindsay Higgins</i>	1115 Studebaker Rd.
CARY HOLDER	<i>Cary Holder</i>	1132 Studebaker Rd
CAROLYN MARTIN	<i>Carolyn Martin</i>	1132 Studebaker Rd

SARANAP NEIGHBORS CHANGE SUPPORT TO OPPOSITION

I, the undersigned Saranap resident, previously signed a petition in support of the proposed development by Sufism Reoriented, based on their representation. I have since learned more about the design and development, which was not disclosed to me earlier, and I hereby withdraw my support of the Sufism development. I am opposed to the design, and request my name be deleted from the County's record of support for this project.

Name (Printed)	Signature	Address
STEPHEN D. BARKLEY	<i>Stephen D. Barkley</i>	2580 LUCY LANE WALNUT CREEK, CA.

CONTRACTS
COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF
CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT
2009 FEB 12 10 48 AM '09

SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

I, the undersigned Saranap resident, am opposed to the design and development of the proposed 66,000 sq. ft. Sufism sanctuary building, which includes a 6 ft. high solid perimeter wall, reduced on-site parking, and clear-cutting of all existing trees on the property.

I am against the County granting a height variance to allow the 54 ft. high building, with its 34 ft. high dome to be constructed as proposed, and I am against the County granting a reduced parking variance that will allowed limited parking on-site of this development.

- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| • Andrea Russi | | 36 Park Ave. Walnut Creek, CA 94595 |
| • Patrick Hurley | | same as above |
| • Jeffrey Kay | | 44 Park Ave Walnut Creek CA 94595 |
| • ALAN SWERDLOW | | 64 Park Ave. WC 94595 |
| • MARIA SWERDLOW | | same as above |
| • Heidi Benenson | | 70 Park Blvd W.C. 94595 |
| • Brady Barber | | 74 Park Ave WC 94595 |
| • Beth Barber | | " |
| • Heidi Benenson | | 70 Park Ave WC 94595 |
| • Timothy Keller | | 61 Park Ave WC 94595 |
| • BRYAN HILL | | 41 PARK AVE. 94595 |
| • Kristy Hill | | 41 Park Ave., WC 94595 |

SARANAP NEIGHBORS CHANGE SUPPORT TO OPPOSITION

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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address

COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA
FEB 12 11:44 AM
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

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- Jennifer Russell *Jennifer Russell* 178 Kendall Rd. Walnut Creek 94595
- Lisa MacPherson *Lisa MacPherson* 2500 Weyburn #107 Walnut Creek 94595
- Jeff Loving *Jeff Loving* 1282 Laurel oak Ln. WC. CA, 94595
- Brenda Loving *Brenda Loving* 1282 Laurel Oak Ln. WC, CA 94595
- Jana Barkley *Jana Barkley* 2580 Lucy Ln. Walnut Creek, CA 94595
- Pamela Ferbert *Pamela Ferbert* 2596 Lucy Ln. Walnut Creek CA 94595
- Ed Osterholm *Ed Osterholm* 1210 Kendall Ct Walnut Creek CA 94595
- Aissa Markey *Aissa Markey* 1201 Kendall Ct 94595
- Lauren Desino *Lauren Desino* 123 Laurel Oak Lane
- KATHLEEN HITEWAY *Kathleen Hiteway* 1231 KENDALL CT W. CA 94595
- James Bridges *James Bridges* 31 Garden Court
- SYLVIA WONG *Sylvia Wong* 30 Garden Court WC 94595
- BRIAN GRAY *Brian Gray* 30 Garden Court WC 94595

SARANAP NEIGHBORS CHANGE SUPPORT TO OPPOSITION

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- Aissa Markey *Aissa Markey* 1201 Kendall Ct 94595
- KATHLEEN HITEWAY *Kathleen Hiteway* 1231 KENDALL CT. 94595

Name (Printed)

Signature

Address

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF
CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT
2001 FEB 12 PM 4:11

D. GALTON
KINNEY DR.

SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Fred Ellinger | <i>Fred Ellinger</i> | 2834 Kinney Dr.
Walnut Creek, CA |
| Mary J. Reeves | <i>Mary J. Reeves</i> | 2846 Kinney Dr. Walnut Creek, CA |
| Kansing H. Lidgerd | <i>Kansing Lidgerd</i> | 2850 Kinney Dr. Walnut Creek, CA |
| Janice A. Lidgerd | <i>Janice A. Lidgerd</i> | 2850 Kinney Dr. Walnut Creek, CA |
| ROBERT A. POUND | <i>Robert A. Pound</i> | 2854 Kinney Dr. Walnut Creek, CA |
| Joyce A. Coleman | <i>Joyce A. Coleman</i> | 781 Hibon Road, Walnut Creek, CA |
| Eric W. Anders | <i>Eric W. Anders</i> | 781 H. Hon Road, W.C., CA 94595 |
| ERIC W. ANDERS | <i>Eric W. Anders</i> | 2880 Kinney Dr. W.C. 94595 |
| Lori J. Anders | <i>Lori J. Anders</i> | 2880 Kinney Dr. W.C. 94595 |
| CHRIS MAHER | <i>Chris Maher</i> | 2818 KINNEY DR. D.C. 94595 |
| Patrick McCarty | <i>Patrick McCarty</i> | 2805 Kinney Dr. W.C. 94595 |
| FRANK J. SHERMAN | <i>Frank J. Sherman</i> | 2826 Kinney Dr. W.C. 94595 |
| Hazel Sherman | <i>Hazel Sherman</i> | 2826 Kinney Dr. W.C. 94595 |

SARANAP NEIGHBORS CHANGE SUPPORT TO OPPOSITION

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|-----------------|------------------------|--|
| Sandy Jordan | <i>Sandy Jordan</i> | 2817 Kinney Drive
Walnut Creek CA 94595 |
| Patrick McCarty | <i>Patrick McCarty</i> | 2825 Kinney Dr
Walnut Creek CA 94595 |

CONTRACTS
COUNTY OF
2009 FEB 12
DEPARTMENT OF
CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

2

SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| TRACIA SWAYDA | Patricia Swayda | 7 Blade Way W.C. |
| * Marilyn Arno | Arno | 40 Blade way w.c. |
| ROY N. BUCHANAN | Roy N. Buchanan | 24 Blade Way, W.C. |
| Joan M. Buchanan | Joan Buchanan | 27 Blade Way W.C. |
| Jenny Knupp | Jenny Knupp | 16 Blade Way W.C. |
| JAVI ARNO | JAVI ARNO | 40 BLADE WAY W. C. - 2 |
| Tina Whittington | Tina Whittington | 17 Blade Ct. 94595.w.c. |
| Brian Kilian | Brian Kilian | 21 Blade Way |
| * SUMMER SOLT | Summer Solt | 1 Blade Court WC 94595 |
| * Kenn Solt | Kenn Solt | 7 Blade Ct. W.C. 94595 |
| John Kindle | John Kindle | 61 Blade Way W.C. 94595 |
| KATHLEEN MITCHELL | Kathleen Mitchell | 61 Blade Way |

SARANAP NEIGHBORS CHANGE SUPPORT TO OPPOSITION

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|--|-----------|---------|
| CONTRA COSTA COUNTY | | |
| 2009 FEB 12 P 4: 48 | | |
| DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT | | |
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SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

I, the undersigned Saranap resident, am opposed to the design and development of the proposed 66,000 sq. ft. Sufism sanctuary building, which includes a 6 ft. high solid perimeter wall, reduced on-site parking, and clear-cutting of all existing trees on the property.

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|---------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| MICHAEL MANAPEG | <i>Michael Manapeg</i> | 40 GARDEN CT. WARDEN CT. W.C. 94595 |
| ROSELTO MAY MANAPEG | <i>Roselto May Manapeg</i> | 40 GARDEN CT. WARDEN CT. W.C. 94595 |
| CRIL FISHER KELLER | <i>Cril Fisher Keller</i> | 31 IRIS LANE W.C. 94595 |
| JOE POTERAY | <i>Joe Poteray</i> | 30 IRIS LANE W.C. 94595 |
| MIKE DICKSON | <i>Mike Dickson</i> | 24 IRIS LANE W.C. 94595 |
| DEREK & JILL YARB | <i>Derek & Jill Yarb</i> | 41 IRIS LANE W.C. 94595 |
| Debra Louarde | <i>Debra Louarde</i> | Garden Ct W.C. 94595 |
| Nancy Strickland | <i>Nancy Strickland</i> | 1 Garden Ct W.C. 94595 |
| Jim Strickland | <i>Jim Strickland</i> | 1 Garden Ct, W.C. 94595 |
| Dion Duran | <i>Dion Duran</i> | 21 Garden Ct, W.C. 94595 |
| Ron Rowe | <i>Ron Rowe</i> | 21 Garden Ct W.C. 94595 |
| JANET GHIRARDELLI | <i>Janet Ghirardelli</i> | 41 Garden Ct W.C. 94595 |
| ROBERT GHIRARDELLI | <i>Robert Ghirardelli</i> | 41 Garden Ct W.C. 94595 |

SARANAP NEIGHBORS CHANGE SUPPORT TO OPPOSITION

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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY		
2009 FEB 12 P 4 48		
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT		

SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

COUNTY

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Mark Mihelich | <i>Mark Mihelich</i> | 20 Blvd Ct, WC, 94595 |
| Shannon Rogers | <i>Shannon Rogers</i> | 30 Boulevard Ct. WC 94595 |
| NATHAN GRONLUND | <i>Nathan Gronlund</i> | 1431 BOULEVARD WAY WC 94595 |
| GUS LARSEN | <i>Gus Larsen</i> | 2492 WOOD RD, WC 94595 |
| Barbara Claunch | <i>Barbara Claunch</i> | 249 WOOD RD Wc 94595 |
| Devon Claunch | <i>Devon Claunch</i> | 2419 Warren Rd Wc 94595 |
| SANT THOME | <i>Sant Thome</i> | 2400 WOOD RD 94596 |
| CYNTHIA TRENOR | <i>Cynthia Trenor</i> | 2450 WOOD RD 94595 |
| Kathy Rogers | <i>Kathy Rogers</i> | 1496 Boulevard Way 94599 |
| Blackford Rogers | <i>Blackford Rogers</i> | 1496 Boulevard Way 94599 |
| Gregory Turbans | <i>Gregory Turbans</i> | 135 Richard Lane WC 94595 |

SARANAP NEIGHBORS CHANGE SUPPORT TO OPPOSITION

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|----------------|-----------|---------|
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| | | |

Marvin & Carol

SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|----------------------|----------------------------|--|
| JANET E. LOONEY | <i>Janet E. Looney</i> | 2499 WARREN RD W.C. |
| RONNIE E. LOONEY | <i>Ronnie E. Looney</i> | 2499 WARREN RD, W.C. |
| GUSTAV S. KEAMER III | <i>G. S. Keamer</i> | 2416 WARREN RD. W.C. |
| ERICA R. KEAMER | <i>Erica R. Keamer</i> | 2416 WARREN RD. W.C. |
| MARK GUNAPPY | <i>Mark Gunappy</i> | 2401 WARREN RD W.C. |
| GRACE MCGEEHAN | <i>Grace McGeehan</i> | 2400 WARREN WARREN CO. |
| STEVEN J. O. LEWENZ | <i>Steven J. O. Lewenz</i> | 2470 WARREN RD. W.C. |
| APOLYN CAMPBELL | <i>Apolyn Campbell</i> | 2488 WARREN W.C. |
| AULINE M. ANGELL | <i>Auline M. Angell</i> | 1411 BLAIR WAY, W.C. |
| CLINT SHAW | <i>Clint Shaw</i> | 1430 BARKERWAY W.C. 94595 |
| MISA RYAN | <i>Misa Ryan</i> | 1430 BARKERWAY W.C. 94595 |
| COLLEEN MIHELITZ | <i>Colleen Mihelitz</i> | 20 BARKERWAY W.C.
Walnut Creek CA 94595 |

SARANAP NEIGHBORS CHANGE SUPPORT TO OPPOSITION

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|--|-----------|---------|
| CONTRA COSTA COUNTY | | |
| DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT | | |
| 2009 FEB 12 10:48 AM | | |
| | | |
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| | | |

Rec'd 2-12-09

Marv & Carol

SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|---------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Carol Basmaasen | <i>Carol Basmaasen</i> | 2434 WARREN Rd. WALTON CREEK 94595 |
| MARVIN B. RASMUSSEN | <i>MARVIN B. RASMUSSEN</i> | 2434 WARREN Rd WALTON 94595 |
| Marv & Carol | <i>Marv & Carol</i> | 2434 WARREN Rd WALTON 94595 |
| Judith Mena | <i>Judith Mena</i> | 2435 Warren Rd 94595 |
| Kristin Ferguson | <i>Kristin Ferguson</i> | 2439 Warren Rd. U 94595 |
| ALLAN FERGUSON | <i>ALLAN FERGUSON</i> | 2439 WARREN RD 94595 |
| Barbara Odell | <i>Barbara A. Odell</i> | 2438 Warren Rd W. 94595 |
| SEVE REIMERS | <i>Sturheim</i> | 2429 WARREN RD W 94595 |
| Anneke Reimers | <i>Anneke Reimers</i> | 2429 Warren Rd. 94595 |
| Laura Penna | <i>Laura Penna</i> | 2440 Warren Rd W.C 94595 |
| Ann Penna | <i>Ann Penna</i> | 2440 Warren Rd. W.C. |
| Christina Angell | <i>Christina Angell</i> | 2441 Warren Rd. W.C. |
| Matthew Angell | <i>Matthew Angell</i> | 2441 Warren Rd. W.C. |

SARANAP NEIGHBORS CHANGE SUPPORT TO OPPOSITION

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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY		
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT		
2009 FEB 12		

SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

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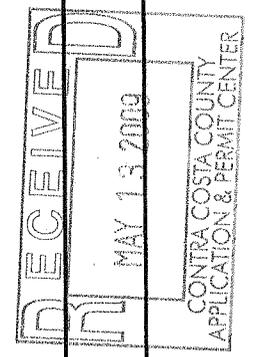
- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ✓ Marie Estorge | <i>[Signature]</i> | 3335 Freeman Rd Walnut creek CA 94595 |
| ✓ JOHN TRAVERSO | <i>[Signature]</i> | 3354 FREEMAN RD W.C. 94595 |
| ✓ ALYCE TRAVERSO | <i>[Signature]</i> | 3354 FREEMAN RD. 94595 |
| ✓ SARANAP KAMAL | <i>[Signature]</i> | 3302 FREEMAN RD 94695 |
| ✓ Gene S Bozorth | <i>[Signature]</i> | 3380 Freeman Rd |
| ✓ Don Bozorth | <i>[Signature]</i> | 3380 Freeman Rd |
| ✓ WICELAM GREIF | <i>[Signature]</i> | 3386 FREEMAN RD |
| ✓ Kimberly Fowler | <i>[Signature]</i> | 3351 Freeman Rd. 94595 |
| ✓ Stephen Fowler | <i>[Signature]</i> | 3351 Freeman Rd. 94595 |
| ✓ Kim Henderson | <i>[Signature]</i> | 3338 Freeman Rd 94595 |
| ✓ Adam Henderson | <i>[Signature]</i> | 3338 Freeman Rd 94595 |

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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address

94595-0388
3388-5



James Harris on Website

SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|-------------------|--------------------|--|
| DEBORAH M. SLEEPY | <i>[Signature]</i> | 614 Coffee St. Walnut Creek |
| TIMOTHY A. SLEEPY | <i>[Signature]</i> | 11 |
| MARYANNE BYARS | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2493 Warren Rd W.C. 94595 |
| Robin Rankonen | <i>[Signature]</i> | 43 Panoramic Way W.C. 94595 |
| Kevin/Christopher | <i>[Signature]</i> | 43 Panoramic Way W.C. 945 |
| Sange Bowling | <i>[Signature]</i> | 43 Panoramic Way W.C. 9459 |
| Tanis Radtke | <i>[Signature]</i> | 43 Panoramic Way W.C. 94595 |
| Dana Crawford | <i>[Signature]</i> | 3330 Freeman Rd. W.C. 94595 |
| Tim Crawford | <i>[Signature]</i> | 3330 Freeman Rd W.C. 94595 |
| Carol Harris | <i>[Signature]</i> | 1360 El Ceatola Caf. 94549 |
| RANDALL HARRIS | <i>[Signature]</i> | 1360 EL CORTOLA BLDG 94549 |
| Robert Ford | <i>[Signature]</i> | 3322 Freeman Rd 94595 |

SARANAP NEIGHBORS CHANGE SUPPORT TO OPPOSITION

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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address

SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| ✓ JEFF HANSEN | J. Hansen | 40 PARK AVE. W.C. |
| ✓ Melissa Hansen | Melissa Hansen | 40 Park Ave. W.C. |
| ✓ Lutiena DeKuyper | Lutiena DeKuyper | 2733 Pineknoll Dr WC |
| ✓ Brian Piller | [Signature] | 632 Cedar St. WC |
| ✓ Heather L. Cox | [Signature] | 624 Center St WC |
| ✓ Monica Cox | Monica Cox | 624 Center St WC |
| ✓ Elizabeth Schmidt | Elizabeth Schmidt | 2218 Wight Park Ave WC |
| ✓ Stacy Adam | Stacy Adam | 2248 White Park Ave WC |

SARANAP NEIGHBORS CHANGE SUPPORT TO OPPOSITION

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|----------------|------------|-------------------|
| ✓ MONICA COX | MONICA COX | 624 Center St. WC |

2

SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

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Name (Printed)

Signature

Address

✓ * Kurec/Bush (handwritten signature) 41 Superlost Alamo

SARANAP NEIGHBORS CHANGE SUPPORT TO OPPOSITION

I, the undersigned Saranap resident, previously signed a petition in support of the proposed development by Sufism Reoriented, based on their representation. I have since learned more about the design and development, which was not disclosed to me earlier, and I hereby withdraw my support of the Sufism development. I am opposed to the design, and request my name be deleted from the County's record of support for this project.

Name (Printed)

Signature

Address

SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ✓ RONALD OGG | <i>Ronald Ogg</i> | 1294 LAMUEL OAK LN, WC 94595 |
| ✓ WAYNE FETTLER | <i>Wayne Fetler</i> | 178 KENDALL RD, WANTCREEK CA 94595 |
| ✓ SUSAN BELL | <i>Susan Bell</i> | 91 BLADE WAY, WANTCREEK CA 94595 |
| ✓ TONY BARR | <i>Tony Barr</i> | 9 BEAUFORT WAY, WC 94595 |
| ✓ John Whitlinton | <i>John Whitlinton</i> | 17 Blade Court, Want Creek, CA 94595 |
| ✓ Elizabeth Lee | <i>Elizabeth Lee</i> | 3303 Freeman Rd. WC 94595 |
| ✓ RICHARD LEE | <i>Richard Lee</i> | 3303 FREEMAN ROAD WC 94595 |
| ✓ KYLIE CHRISTENSEN | <i>Kylie Christensen</i> | 3311 FREEMAN RD WC 94595 |
| ✓ JON CHRISTENSEN | <i>Jon Christensen</i> | 3311 FREEMAN ROAD WC 94595 |
| ✓ Rebecca Christensen | <i>Rebecca Christensen</i> | 3311 Freeman Rd WC 94595 |
| ✓ Michael Johnson | <i>Michael Johnson</i> | 3314 Freeman Rd WC 94595 |
| ✓ Sarah Johnson | <i>Sarah Johnson</i> | 3319 Freeman Rd. WC 94595 |
| ✓ Gail Ford | <i>Gail Ford</i> | 3322 Freeman Rd. WC 94595 |

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|----------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| ✓ RONALD OGG | <i>Ronald Ogg</i> | 1294 LAMUEL OAK LN, WC 94595 |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ✓ Mrs. Wendie | <i>[Signature]</i> | 211 King Drive W.C. Saranap NC 27585 |
| ✓ Marshall Stine | <i>[Signature]</i> | 1251 Kendall Ct. NC 94595 |
| ✓ Noel Rodes | <i>[Signature]</i> | 1211 Kendall Ct W.C. 94595 |
| ✓ Michelle Baker | <i>[Signature]</i> | 1241 Kendall Ct. 94595 |
| ✓ Dawn Hill | <i>[Signature]</i> | 10 Newell Ct 94595 |
| ✓ Sharon Hill | <i>[Signature]</i> | 10 Newell Ct. 94595 |
| ✓ G.H. Borsari | <i>[Signature]</i> | 91 Newell Ct 94595 |
| ✓ Bernard Guarente | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2655 W. NEWELL AVE 94595 |
| ✓ Todd Cope | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2873 W. Newell Ave W.C. 94595 |
| ✓ Heidi Skarna | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2717 W. Newell Ave W.C. 94595 |
| ✓ David A Miscovich | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2749 W. Newell Ave W.C. 94595 |
| ✓ Richard Patrice Richards | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2772 W. Newell Av 94595 |

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- | | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|---|----------------|----------------|--|
| ✓ | Frances Gabie | Frances Gabie | 2772 W. Newell Ave.
W.C. 94595 |
| ✓ | Doug Crosby | Doug Crosby | 2708 W. Newell Ave.
W.C. 94595 |
| ✓ | B. J. Gordy | B. J. Gordy | 2708 W. Newell Ave. W.C. |
| ✓ | Oscar Timms | Oscar Timms | 2700 W. Newell Ave, W.C. |
| ✓ | Sadie Cury | Sadie Cury | 2700 W. Newell Ave W.C. |
| ✓ | Ann Griffin | Ann Griffin | 2690 W. Newell Ave W.C. |
| ✓ | Steve Pappas | Steve Pappas | 16 Corte del Contorno, W.C. |
| ✓ | Conrad Pecorin | Conrad Pecorin | 17 CORTE DEL CONTORNO
WARWICK CREEK, CA 94579 |
| ✓ | Steve Pappas | Steve Pappas | 221 King Dr W.C. |
| ✓ | Dan Crosby | Dan Crosby | 255 King Dr W.C. |
| ✓ | Sue Crosby | Sue Crosby | 255 King Dr W.C. |

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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address

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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address
✓ John Rete	<i>John Rete</i>	124 Camino Posada

SARANAP NEIGHBORS CHANGE SUPPORT TO OPPOSITION

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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address
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- ✓ FRANK LOESTLER [Signature] 1248 CLOVER LN
WALNUT CREEK CA. 94596
- ✓ Paula Koefler [Signature] 1248 Clover Ln WC 94598
- ✓ Ryan Walker [Signature] 1281 Clover Lane W.C.
- ✓ Lyn Diana [Signature] 1285 Clover Lane W.C.
- ✓ Martha Foreed [Signature] 1285 Clover Ln W.C.
- ✓ QUEER SAMAUNETH [Signature] 48 BONITA CT. W.C.
- ✓ Randy Strain [Signature] 42 BONITA CT W.C.
- ✓ Robert Subbier [Signature] 1275 Bonk Ln W.C.
- ✓ Laura Subbier [Signature] 1275 Bonk Ln W.C.
- ✓ Janet Wilford [Signature] 1267 CLOVER RD

*by or may
Not have been
turned in to
County ??*

SARANAP NEIGHBORS CHANGE SUPPORT TO

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- ✓ Karen Frestrail [Signature] 1200 Clover Ln W.C.
- ✓ Erla Hannell [Signature] 1281 Clover Ln.
- ✓ Lyn Diana [Signature] 1285 Clover Lane W.C.
- ✓ Scott + Lisa Marsfeldt [Signature] 41 Bonita Ct
- ✓ Randy Stratton [Signature] 42 BONITA CT W.C.

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SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ✓ Tracy Buck | <i>Tracy Re</i> | 5 CALVIN CT |
| ✓ Gerry Buck | <i>Gerry Buck</i> | 5 Calvin Ct W.C. |
| ✓ Tom Potter | <i>Tom Potter</i> | 1557 Blvd Way W.C. |
| ✓ Tom Thurston | <i>Tom Thurston</i> | 1561 Blvd Way W.C. |
| ✓ Bill Gabe | <i>Bill Gabe</i> | 1561 Blvd Way W.C. need more info |
| ✓ John Coffey | <i>John Coffey</i> | 10 WENROSE CT |
| ✓ Linda Johnston | <i>Linda Johnston</i> | 90 Mackin Dr Mtz |
| ✓ Margaret BALL | <i>Margaret Ball</i> | 2272 White Pt. Rd. |
| ✓ JEFFREY McFARLAND | <i>Jeffrey McFarland</i> | 31 BLVD. CT. W. CRK 94598 |
| ✓ Ed Devine | <i>Ed Devine</i> | 1405 BLVD. WAY W.C. 94595 |
| ✓ Allyn Dickson | <i>Allyn Dickson</i> | 2461 Warren Rd 944 |
| ✓ KEELAN STOKES | <i>Keelan Stokes</i> | 2441 WARREN RD |
| ✓ LINDSAY CARDIFF | <i>Lindsay Cardiff</i> | 2941 WARREN RD |

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| ✓ Cindee LoJoule | <i>Cindee LoJoule</i> | 1530 Boulevard Way W.C. |

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- ✓ * Lynn Lopez [Signature] 130 El Dorado Rd. W.C. Address
- ✓ * Melaine Lopez [Signature] 130 El Dorado Rd W.C. Address
- ✓ * Lois Ruff [Signature] 201 King Dr W.C. Address
- ✓ * Steve Newton* [Signature] 143 Kendall Rd. Address
- ✓ * Diane L Newton [Signature] 143 Kendall Rd. Address
- ✓ * Lynne Noone [Signature] 3559 Melody Dr. Address
- ✓ * Mark Glashy [Signature] 356T Melody Dr. Address
- ~~_____~~
- ✓ Bm Hattersley [Signature] 3463 FREEMAN RD. Address
- ✓ ~~_____~~ [Signature] 3463 FREEMAN RD. Address
- ✓ * William H. TURNQUEST [Signature] 24 Stanley Ct. W.C. Address
- ✓ * ~~_____~~ [Signature] 762 Altam Rd W.C. Address

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- ✓ * STEVE NEWTON [Signature] 143 Kendall Rd. Address
- ✓ * WILLIAM H TURNQUEST [Signature] 24 Stanley Ct. W.C. Address

0 ✓

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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address
✓ JEFF VAN TASSEL	<i>[Signature]</i>	90 Grandview Pl Walnut Creek
✓ ANAN WAI	<i>[Signature]</i>	681 Ant # 24 WC
✓ JAKE GULL	<i>[Signature]</i>	418 BRIDGE ROAD WC 94599
✓ Staci Gull	<i>[Signature]</i>	418 Bridge Rd 94595
✓ Rowena Baginski	<i>[Signature]</i>	1236 Juanita Dr. 94595

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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

12

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|----------------|-----------------|--|
| ✓ | Richard Fertell | Richard Fertell 81 Panoramic Way, W.C. |
| ✓ | Geraldine Field | 81 Panoramic Way, W.C. |
| ✓ | Dorothy L. ... | 610 Center St |
| ✓ | Carrinda Allen | 632 Center St W.C. |
| ✓ | David J. Duarte | 2241 Whyte Parkway W.C. |
| ✓ | Joseph R. ... | W. about Creek W.R. |
| ✓ | Janet Howard | 1218 Juncos Rd. |
| ✓ | Sophie Lay | 346 ... PI U.C. |
| ✓ | Mark ... | 19 Grandview Place, Westmont Creek |
| ✓ | Robert ... | 18 ... W.C. |

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|----------------|-----------|---------|
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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address
Mr. Ted Ford	<i>Ted Ford</i>	125 Camino Posada WC 94595
Robert Peters	<i>Robert Peters</i>	111 Camino Posada 94595
Ms. Debbie Casentino	<i>Debbie Casentino</i>	1401 Camino Posada W.C. 94595
Ms. Donna J. Kimmel	<i>Donna J. Kimmel</i>	148 Camino Posada, W.C. 94595
Ms. CARL E. KIMMEL	<i>Carl E. Kimmel</i>	148 Camino Posada, W.C. 94595
Ms. Cathy Mernoff	<i>Cathy Mernoff</i>	100 Camino Posada, W.C. 94595
Ms. Madeline Brandy	<i>Madeline Brandy</i>	173 Camino Posada W.C.
Ms. Judith Moore	<i>Judith Moore</i>	935 Richey Station Rd. Lat 94594
Ms. Kieran Moore	<i>Kieran Moore</i>	935 Richey Station Rd. Lat 94594

BT

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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address
Robert Becker	<i>Robert Becker</i>	142 Park Ave 94595
Dan Goldstein	<i>Dan Goldstein</i>	121 Park Ave 94595
Michael Robertson	<i>Michael Robertson</i>	111 Park Ave 94595
Karen Abu-Hamdeh	<i>KAREN ABU-HAMDEH</i>	101 Park Ave 94595
Gavin Hawkins	<i>Gavin Hawkins</i>	81 Park Ave WC 94595
Eric J. Walling	<i>Eric J. Walling</i>	51 Panoramic Way 94595
Ken Pootinen	<i>Ken Pootinen</i>	70 Panoramic Way 94595
Christine Conner	<i>Christine Conner</i>	61 Panoramic Way 94595
Suzanne Martinez	<i>Suzanne Martinez</i>	71 Panoramic 94595
Matthew Martinez	<i>Matthew Martinez</i>	71 Panoramic 94595
John Flynn	<i>John Flynn</i>	136 Panoramic 94595
Terry S. Duff	<i>Terry S. Duff</i>	90 Panoramic Way 94595

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| ✓ BEN AUGUST | <i>[Signature]</i> | 11 ALLENDALE CT. |
| • ADAM VESELY | <i>[Signature]</i> | 10 ALLENDALE COURT |
| • Kathy August | <i>[Signature]</i> | 11 Alendale Ct |
| ✓ Tom Dewing | Thomas R. Dewing | 1405 DEWING LANE |
| ✓ Carole Dewing | <i>[Signature]</i> | 1405 Dewing Ln. |
| ✓ James Dewing | <i>[Signature]</i> | 1405 Dewing Lane. |
| ✓ Toni Sanford | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2310 Warren Rd |
| ✓ George Sanford | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2310 WARREN RD |
| ✓ CLARE VESELY | <i>[Signature]</i> | 10 ALLENDALE COURT. |
| ? GARY FEWIS | <i>[Signature]</i> | 112 CAMINO POSADA |
| ✓ TOM CLANCY | <i>[Signature]</i> | 101 CAMINO POSADA WC |
| ✓ Harry C. Johnston | <i>[Signature]</i> | 17 Alendale Ct WC |
| ✓ Virginia Johnston | <i>[Signature]</i> | Virginia Johnston |

CT

9

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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address
✓ Holly Shea		137 Camino Posada, W.C. 94595
✓ Stephen Shea		137 Camino Posada, W.C. 94595
✓ Teo Fono		125 Camino Posada WC 94595
✓ Khamphet FORD		125 Camino Posada, W.C. 94595
✓ Canye Peters		111 Camino Posada 94595
✓ Ella Osmundson		185 Camino Posada, W.C. 94595
✓ Roger Osmundson		185 Camino Posada W.C. 94595
✓ Debbie Cosentino		161 Camino Posada W.C. 94595
✓ Joseph Cosentino		161 Camino Posada W.C. 94595
✓ Cathy Merhoff		100 Camino Posada WC 94595
✓ Eric Merhoff		100 Camino Posada WC 94595
✓ ROBERT ANDREWS		173 Camino Posada, W.C. 94595
✓ MAQUUELINE ANDREWS		173 CAMINO POSADA WC 94595
✓ Jeannette More		935 Ruliez Station Rd. Cal. 94549
✓ Karen More		935 Ruliez Station Cal 94549

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| PAUL BOGGS-WARD | | 2656 W. WARELL AVE W.C. 94595 |
| Jan Adair | JAN ADAIR | 51 IRIS LANE WC 94595 |
| ANNETTE FISHER KELLER | Annette Fisher Keller | 31 Iris Ln WC 94595 |
| Sheila McNamar | Sheila McNamar | 21 Iris Ln Wp 94595 |
| Tom McAllister | | 88 Bloem Ave 94595 |
| Patricia McCarty | Patricia McCarty | 26 Alder Ave. |
| John McCarty | John McCarty | 26 Alder Ave |
| John Stewart | John Stewart | 95 Willow Ave, W.C. |
| JANA | ANN DASEN | 88 Willow AV WC |
| GARY MINTZ | GARY MINTZ | 88 Willow Ave W.C. |
| DOUGLAS WALKER | Douglas Walker | 26 Willow Ave W.C. |
| Beth Wise | Beth Wise | 26 Willow Ave |
| Margie Spidle | MARGIE FREDERICK | 16 Park Ave. |

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|----------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| Jan Adair | JAN ADAIR | 51 IRIS LANE WC 94595 |
| Tom McAllister | | |

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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address
James R. Stewart	<i>[Signature]</i>	Hewitt 40 Panoramie
Joy Erven	<i>[Signature]</i>	2617 Olympic Blvd
John Koelle	<i>[Signature]</i>	2501 Olympic Blvd, W.C. 24595
Joan Johnson	<i>[Signature]</i>	110 El Dorado Rd, W.C. 94595
LARRY JOHNSON	<i>[Signature]</i>	110 El Dorado Rd W.C. 94595
Stephen Phillips	<i>[Signature]</i>	120 W Dorado Rd W.C. 94595
Karen Phillips	<i>[Signature]</i>	120 El Dorado Rd, W.C. 94595
Melinda Moreno	<i>[Signature]</i>	140 El Dorado Rd W.C. 94595
Joe Moreno	<i>[Signature]</i>	140 El Dorado Rd. 94595
Dominic Moreno	<i>[Signature]</i>	140 El Dorado Rd. 94595
Elizabeth Hill	<i>[Signature]</i>	210 Williams & 10 King Dr. 94595-1525
Martha Laine	<i>[Signature]</i>	211 King Dr. 94595

SARANAP NEIGHBORS CHANGE SUPPORT TO OPPOSITION

I, the undersigned Saranap resident, previously signed a petition in support of the proposed development by Sufism Reoriented, based on their representation. I have since learned more about the design and development, which was not disclosed to me earlier, and I hereby withdraw my support of the Sufism development. I am opposed to the design, and request my name be deleted from the County's record of support for this project.

Name (Printed)	Signature	Address

SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Laune Peterson | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2362 Warren Rd W.C. 94595 |
| Kathleen Peterson | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2364 Warren Rd W.C. CA 94595 |
| Michael B. Kinosh | <i>[Signature]</i> | 115 Bija Lane W.C. 94595 |
| DEWIL O. STREBECK | <i>[Signature]</i> | 125 Bija Lane W.C. 94595 |
| Elva Crabtree | <i>[Signature]</i> | 190 Flora Avenue W.C. 94595 |
| RALPHAS J. STORBECK | <i>[Signature]</i> | 125 BATA LN, W.C. 94595 |
| SHERILYN FAY | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2346 Warren Rd. W.C. 94595 |
| Lisa Bredenkamp | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2359 Warren Rd, W.C. 94595 |
| TERRI SHAW KINOSH | <i>[Signature]</i> | 115 Bija Ln. W.C. 94595 |
| ANTHONY BREGENAUB | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2359 WARREN W.C. 94595 |
| KERITH REUBERT | <i>[Signature]</i> | 140 Flora Ave #150 W.C. 94595 |
| Joyce Wilie-Reubert | <i>[Signature]</i> | 140 Flora Ave #150 W.C. 94595 |
| Ann Powell | <i>[Signature]</i> | 161 Flora Ave W.C. 94595 |

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
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| <i>[Signature]</i> | | |
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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address
Christopher Fry	<i>[Signature]</i>	2346 Warren Rd.
Diane Appel	<i>[Signature]</i>	105 Baya Lane
Ann Donald	<i>[Signature]</i>	2318 Warren Rd.
Clark FRENZON STANTON	<i>[Signature]</i>	381 Dewing Ln.
Kim Soren	<i>[Signature]</i>	2322 Warren Road.
Jennifer Ostrander	<i>[Signature]</i>	2370 Warren Road
IAN V. FRY	<i>[Signature]</i>	2346 Warren Rd WC
Jeanne Marchi-Petrice	<i>[Signature]</i>	2304 Warren Rd WC
JAMES R Petrice	<i>[Signature]</i>	2304 Warren Rd WC
MARLENE L. HALL	<i>[Signature]</i>	54 Lichner St. P.H.

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Name (Printed)

Signature

Address

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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address
George Glass	<i>[Signature]</i>	1015 Juanita Dr WC
Pete wooney	<i>[Signature]</i>	1045 Juanita Dr WC
ROBERT NUZUM	<i>[Signature]</i>	1072 JUANITA DR. W.C.
Judith M Nuzum	<i>[Signature]</i>	1078 Juanita Dr. W.C.
See Link	<i>[Signature]</i>	1230 Juanita Dr. W.C.
Theresa Link	<i>[Signature]</i>	
Greg Markes	<i>[Signature]</i>	1242 Juanita Dr
Bonnie Merrill	<i>[Signature]</i>	1266 Juanita Dr
Jen Nicosia	<i>[Signature]</i>	1205 Juanita Dr.
Chris Frye	<i>[Signature]</i>	1311 Juanita Dr.
Jamie Frye	<i>[Signature]</i>	1311 Juanita Dr
Kathy Somner	<i>[Signature]</i>	1491 Sunset Loop

SARANAP NEIGHBORS CHANGE SUPPORT TO OPPOSITION

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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address
Kerry Wolf	<i>[Signature]</i>	1102 Juanita Dr WC 94595
Carolyn McConnell	<i>[Signature]</i>	2702 Kinney Dr. W.C. 94191
Timothy	<i>[Signature]</i>	2702 Kinney Dr W.C. 94595
Shelagh McCormack	<i>[Signature]</i>	1278 Juanita Dr. W.C. 94191

WERE NEVER ON SUPPORT LIST

SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address
• Mira Adams	<i>[Signature]</i>	113 Kendall Rd WC
• Mike Adams	<i>[Signature]</i>	113 Kendall Rd WC
• Dessira Tish	<i>[Signature]</i>	107 Kendall Rd, WC
• Thomas Tish	<i>[Signature]</i>	107 Kendall Rd, WC
• Sheri Walker	<i>[Signature]</i>	106 Kendall Rd WC
• Tim Walker	<i>[Signature]</i>	106 Kendall Rd, WC
• Silvina Kastanova	<i>[Signature]</i>	101 Kendall Rd
• Alexander Kastanova	<i>[Signature]</i>	101 Kendall Rd
• Linda Changaris	<i>[Signature]</i>	131 Kendall Rd
• Mary Griscie	<i>[Signature]</i>	119 Kendall Rd
• Robert S. Pallarino	<i>[Signature]</i>	119 Kendall Rd

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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address
• Dessira Tish	<i>[Signature]</i>	107 Kendall Rd, WC
• Thomas Tish	<i>[Signature]</i>	107 Kendall Rd, WC
• Silvina Kastanova	<i>[Signature]</i>	101 Kendall Rd
• Alexander Kastanova	<i>[Signature]</i>	101 Kendall Rd
• Linda Changaris	<i>[Signature]</i>	131 Kendall Rd

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SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| TIM LYNCH | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2735 ACACIA RD, W.C. 94595 |
| • Barry Burlingame | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2755 Acacia Rd, WC 94595 |
| ✓ Virginia Tiernao | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2832 Acacia Rd, W.C. 94595 |
| ✓ Robert Parrott | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2882 Acacia Rd W.C. 94595 |
| • Julie D'Amante | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2805 Acacia Rd, WC 94595 |
| ✓ Mary Durrell | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2745 Acacia Rd, WC 94595 |
| ✓ Lynn Lewis | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2742 Acacia Rd. WC 94595 |
| ✓ DONNA GREEN | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2725 Acacia Rd, WC 94595 |
| ✓ CHARLES L. GREEN | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2725 Acacia Rd, W.C. 94595 |
| ✓ Susan Nutter | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2715 Acacia Rd WC 94595 |
| ✓ BETH BARNES | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2702 Acacia Rd W.C. 94595 |
| ✓ Desi Murray | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2752 Acacia Rd WC 94595 |
| ✓ Ken Nemancic | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2705 Acacia Rd W.C. 94595 |

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Ken Nemancic | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2705 Acacia Rd. |
| CYNDY NEMANTIC | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2705 Acacia Rd. |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

WERE NEVER ON SUPPORT LIST

SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address
Cyndy Nemanic	<i>[Signature]</i>	2705 Acacia Rd. 94595
Jasmine Senkiw	<i>[Signature]</i>	2822 Acacia Rd 94595
Jeff Tiernan	<i>[Signature]</i>	2832 Acacia Rd. 94595
Steve Bavel	<i>[Signature]</i>	2825 Acacia Rd 94595
Bob Satterho	<i>[Signature]</i>	2835 Acacia Rd 94595
JARROD DeBOY	<i>[Signature]</i>	2845 ACACIA RD 94595
Lori DeBoy	<i>[Signature]</i>	2845 Acacia Rd 94595
DAVE CHRISTON	<i>[Signature]</i>	2872 ACACIA RD 94595
Pete Coffin	<i>[Signature]</i>	2805 Acacia Rd. 94595
Virginia Cotton	<i>[Signature]</i>	2865 Acacia Rd 94595
RUSS BENNARD	<i>[Signature]</i>	2875 ACACIA RD 94595

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Name (Printed)	Signature	Address
DAVID CHERTON	<i>[Signature]</i>	2872 ACACIA RD - NC 94595
Pete Coffin	<i>[Signature]</i>	2805 Acacia Rd. NC 94595
Virginia G Cotton	<i>[Signature]</i>	2865 Acacia Rd. NC 94595

WERE NEVER
ON SUPPORT
LIST

SARANAP NEIGHBORS AGAINST PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| CHRISTINE SWIHART | | 248 SEQUOIA AVE WC CA 94595 |
| Steve Swihart | | 248 Sequoia Ave WC CA 94595 |
| GARY ALDERMAN | | 160 SEQUOIA AVE WC. 94595 |
| POD RUMMEL | | 150 Sequoia Ave WC 94595 |
| Donna Glubers | | 130 Sequoia Ave " |
| DAVID M CHIVERS | | 130 SEQUOIA AVE |
| Jim Smith | | 120 Sequoia Ave |
| JEREMY RUES | | 121 SEQUOIA AVE |
| Lisa Rues | | 121 Sequoia Ave |

SARANAP NEIGHBORS CHANGE SUPPORT TO OPPOSITION

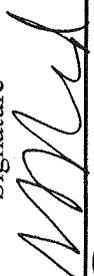
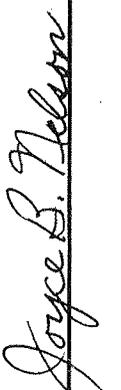
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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|------------------|--|-----------------------|
| MARK REDMOND |  | 1222 SUNSET LOOP |
| Janet Redmond |  | 1222 Sunset Loop |
| S.T. Wiseman |  | 148 SUNSET LOOP |
| Caroline Wiseman |  | 1481 Sunset Loop |
| KEN AXE |  | 1270 LAUREL OAK LN |
| Carol Axe |  | 1270 Laurel Oak Ln. |
| ROALD H. NELSON |  | 3455 FREEMAN RD W.C. |
| JOYCE B. NELSON |  | 3455 FREEMAN RD. W.C. |

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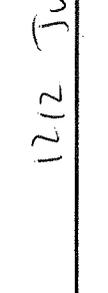
Signature

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|--------------------|---|---------------------|
| • Lindsay Vignoles |  | 1212 Juanita DC |
| • John Martinez |  | 1223 JUANITA DR |
| • Doris Martinez |  | 1223 Juanita Dr. Wc |
| • Jason Brown |  | 1229 JUANITA DC WDC |
| • Erik Nemanic |  | 2705 Acacia Rd. |

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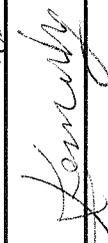
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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|----------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| ✓ C. ANTKOWIAK | C. Antkowiak | #1 WESTMINSTER PL |
| ✓ B. SCHEGOLEV |  | 45 WESTMINSTER |
| ✓ M E FISCHBACK | M E Fischback | 1324 El Curto CA Blvd |
| ✓ RYANT C. FISCHBACK |  | 1324 El Curto CA Blvd |
| ✓ Amy Kennedy |  | 1330 El Curto CA Blvd |
| ✓ Doris C. Smith |  | 1356 El Curto CA Blvd |
| ✓ JOHN R Schueller | John R Schueller | 1375 EL CURTOCA BLVD |
| ✓ DONNA D Schweller | Donna D Schweller | 1375 EL CURTOCA BLVD |
| ✓ JOHN SCHULLER JR |  | 3281 BROOKSIDE DR MARTINEZ |
| ✓ Chris Motta | Chris Motta | 1367 El Curto CA Blvd, CA 94549 |
| ✓ RANDAL HARRIS | Randal Harris | 1360 EL CURTOCA BLVD. CA 94549 |
| ✓ Rochelle Basalduan |  | 1359 El Curto CA Blvd CA 94549 |

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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|---------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| ✓ Ginny Velasquez | | 288 Castle Glen Rd Wc 94595 |
| ✓ John Mendala | | 288 Castle Glen Rd Wc 94595 |
| ✓ Karmen Taft | | 79 del Hambore Circle Wc 94595 |
| ✓ MICHA TAFT | | 11 " |
| ✓ Kathleen Corcoran | | 78 " " |
| ✓ Kate Besocke | | 13 Del Hambore Circle Wc 94595 |
| ✓ Amy Matherson | | 84 Del Hambore Wc 94595 |
| ✓ Heidi | | 11 " |
| ✓ Ayla Cunningham | | 50 Blade Wy Wc 94595 |
| ✓ Nancy Brightman | | 91 del Hambore Cir. 94595 |
| ✓ Rich Brightman | | 11 " |
| ✓ CHARLES BESOCKE | | 73 Del Hambore Cr. Wc 94595 |

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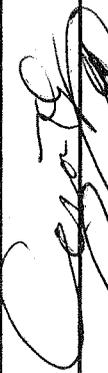
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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------|
| ✓ Anne Adami | <i>[Signature]</i> | 1351 Dewing Ln. WC | 94595 |
| ✓ LANFRED ADAMI | <i>[Signature]</i> | 1351 Dewing Ln | 94595 |
| ✓ KRIS M. INER | <i>[Signature]</i> | 59 Peterson Place W.C | 94595 |
| ✓ Jennifer Laredo | <i>[Signature]</i> | 2442 Warren Rd. W.C | 94595 |
| ✓ Mary McMillan | <i>[Signature]</i> | 40 Peterson Pl, WC | 94595 |
| ✓ Dan McMillan | <i>[Signature]</i> | 40 Peterson Pl, WC | 94595 |
| ✓ STAN BREWER | <i>[Signature]</i> | 32 Peterson Place | 94595 |
| ✓ MARYANN BRODLO | <i>[Signature]</i> | 32 Peterson Pl. 94595 | |
| ✓ Jackie Curtis | <i>[Signature]</i> | 10 Peterson Pl | 94595 |
| ✓ Sara Ball | <i>[Signature]</i> | 1268 Dewing Ln | 94595 |
| | | | |
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- | Name (Printed) | Signature | Address |
|--------------------|--|----------------------|
| Bill Allan |  | 1300 Dewing Ln |
| Margaret Allan | Margaret Allan | 1300 Dewing Lane |
| Aron Clymer |  | 1260 Dewing Lane, NC |
| Chris Frick |  | 1210 Dewing Ln |
| Jamela Frick |  | 1210 Dewing Ln. |
| David Berg |  | 1265 Dewing Ln |
| Jill Berg |  | 1265 Dewing Ln |
| Robert Schneider |  | 1241 Dewing Ln. |
| Jennifer Schneider |  | 1241 Dewing Ln. |
| Paul Osgment |  | 1240 Dewing Ln. |
| Anne Zeiph |  | 1310 Dewing Ln |
| Joe Zeiph |  | 1310 Dewing Lane |
| Heather Lavallee |  | 1314 Dewing Lane |