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2009 JUL 27 P 1:12

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/22/09

Printed Name
Cynthia Atiyeh

Address:
295 Tharp Dr
Moraga Ca 94556

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (PL) 7/22/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Kim Aardalen Date: 6/5/10

Printed Name: Kim Aardalen AARDALEN

Address: 1380 Juanita Drive
W.C. CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 MAY 11 P 1:48

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

May 8, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

Enclosed please find a copy of my letter of support to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema for a building project in the Saranap area where I live. Sufism Reoriented, which has their center in the Saranap, has filed an application to build a new sanctuary.

Please register my support of this project on record with your office. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Betty S. Abramson

Betty S. Abramson
51 Alder Avenue
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
(925) 934-3791

P.S. Please add my name to the notification list for any project hearings.

BSA

May 8, 2009

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

Re: Support for Sufism Reoriented's sanctuary project

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I write in support of Sufism Reoriented, an organization which plans to build a new sanctuary in my community, the Saranap area of unincorporated Walnut Creek.

I've been a resident homeowner in the Saranap for more than 31 years, residing a half-mile from the site where they propose to build their new church. I am aware that Sufism Reoriented has been in the Saranap for as many years as I have. Thanks to their efforts to share their plans with neighbors, I've had the chance to see enough information to know that I completely approve.

This will be a great enhancement to the neighborhood, providing beautiful gardens open to the public, an environmentally friendly structure, and a very innovative building whose architectural distinction will be unique. It has been designed by one of the world's great architecture firms. My brother, who is an architect, has seen the plans and agrees that this is an outstanding design.

This is a project we can be proud to have in Walnut Creek and in Contra Costa County. I believe it will be one of the greenest buildings in our area, which is important to me. I urge you to support Sufism Reoriented's building project.

Sincerely,

Betty S. Abramson
51 Alder Avenue
Walnut Creek, CA 94595-1200
(925) 934-3791

S (R)
11/10/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
2010 OCT 27 P 1:49
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: August 25, 10

Printed name: RAY ADIB

Business name: ADIB'S Persian Rug

Address: 1375 N. Main St.
W.C CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5

Date March 6,

CONTRA COSTA

2009 MAR 10 P 12: 19

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
621 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufism reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for Their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in Support of that application.

Sincerely,

Rosalie Acherson

5
2

March 6, 2009

Sherman & Rosalie Ackerson
21 Richie Dr.
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine St. Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am writing this letter to urge you to support the application for construction of a new building to house Sufism Reoriented.

The new building, which is proposed to be built in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek, is not only architecturally pleasing, but also carefully designed so as not to deflect from the bucolic environment of the neighborhood. The issues regarding traffic have been addressed and because of extensive car pooling should have no significant negative impact on the neighborhood.

I think it is also important to state that Sufism Reoriented has been a good neighbor for over 30 years, and its nearly three hundred members are politically involved and have participated in many community events.

Again, I urge you to support the project.

Sincerely,

Rosalie Ackerson

Rosalie T. Ackerson

April 8, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

2009 APR 10 P 3:04

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross, County Planner
651 Pine Street Room 4th Floor - North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms Cross,

I am writing to express my support of the new building Sufism is proposing to build on Boulevard Way. I live on Boulevard Way and after looking at the project they proposed I feel strongly that this would make my neighborhood more beautiful. I also think that it would make property values in our neighborhood worth more. Please note my support for this project.

Sincerely,

Ashley Adams

Ashley Adams
1582 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

S

2009 JUL 14 P 2:29

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Mark Adams Date: 7/11/09

Printed Name: Mark Adams

Address: 120 Panoramic Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

I

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Peggy Adams Date: 8/13/2011

Printed Name Peggy Adams

Address: 120 Panoramic Way
Walnut Creek, CA

CONTRA COSTA
2011 AUG 23 A 11:46
LETTER HAS BEEN ENTERED
AND DISTRIBUTED

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

Ruth and David Adams
519 Bartolini St.
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
03 FEB -5 PM 12:41
DEVELOPMENT DEPT

LeShun Cross, Community Development Department
Contra Costa County
651 Pine St., 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Re: land use permit for Sufism Reoriented

Dear Ms. Cross,

We are writing to fully support the request by the Sufism Reoriented community for a land use permit to build a sanctuary in Walnut Creek.

Our son, Duncan, has attended Meher School, the Sufi community's primary community service commitment, for the past 1 1/2 yrs. We cannot express the full extent of our gratitude to the Sufi community for the service they provide that make this school possible. The loving, positive atmosphere is exactly what we want for our son; he is able to learn and grow academically in balance with the attention given to his whole being. We feel fortunate that we have Duncan in a school where he is seen as an individual and the entire staff is concerned with his personal wellbeing in coordination with the school community's wellbeing. The nourishing and loving values he is receiving are amazing and deeply valuable to our family.

In addition to our son attending Meher School, I have worked in the local community for over 10 yr as Medical Director at VCA Cottage Animal Hospital. It is clear that the Sufi community is not intrusive in any way in the local area; they appear to conduct their worship and business in a way that draws little attention to their activities, both at their center and at the school. I cannot imagine any objection the local community would have to the building of the sanctuary.

We fully support the building of the sanctuary for this humble, understated, loving and clearly responsible community of spiritual people. Please help them achieve this worthy goal.

Sincerely,

Ruth Adams, DVM

Ruth Adams, DVM
David Adams

S

Sara J. Adams
1336 Boulevard Way #306
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
08 JUN -3 AM 11:45
COUNTY
DEVELOPMENT DEPT

June 2, 2008

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

enclosure

Dear Ms Cross;

Sufism Reoriented will be filing its land use application soon and I want to document my support for this project by forwarding to you a copy of my letter to Supervisor Uilkema.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours truly,

Sara J. Adams

Copy

Sara J. Adams
1336 Boulevard Way #306
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

June 2, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine St. Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I have been a resident of the Saranap area for more than 20 years as a property owner, renter and community participant. I am a voter who has supported your candidacy and been very pleased to do so! I am also a member of Sufism Reoriented.

When I joined the Sufi community, I had no very clear idea about what I was getting into, it just felt like the right thing to do with my life. Now that I have been an active participant in the group for more than 20 years I can say without any reservations that it has been a joyous experience. I have been able to contribute to the Saranap community through volunteer work at the Meher School, supportive service to other residents of the area, and participation in Sufi activities that feel to me like contributions to the quality of life we all enjoy. I think we Sufis show attention and care for our community that has not been characteristic of other communities in which I have lived.

The activities that I most enjoy are the opportunities I have to serve others...they make me feel that I am being useful and able to contribute to the community where I live in very demonstrable ways. I have participated in programs for children, community garage sales, teaching and training programs, and upkeep and support for the Meher Schools. Since this (and more!) is also true of my Sufi companions, I strongly believe that we have a very visible and positive impact on the Saranap area.

Our current facilities, a converted restaurant, have never been adequate for our worship. Thus we would like to create a real sanctuary that provides the space we need. The sanctuary we propose to build is not only beautiful but will be a quiet enhancement to the neighborhood with very careful attention to environmental issues and a beneficial impact on local property values. It will certainly be an upgrade to what is currently an unattractive corner! It has also been designed to be graceful, serene and unimposing...in fact, the building will be mostly out of view from the street once the landscaping is complete.

I do hope you will support our building/land use applications that will enable us to continue as members of the Saranap community.

Yours truly,

Sara J. Adams

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CONTRA COSTA

2009 MAY 27 A 11: 51

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

5/25/09

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I enclose a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of Sufism Reoriented's Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary.

Sincerely,

Dan Adler

Dan Adler
872 Sutter Street
San Francisco, CA 94109
May 25, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I work and live in San Francisco but write to you in support of Sufism Reoriented's planned structure in the Saranap neighborhood. For the last 12 years Sufism Reoriented has been an integral and transformative part of my life. The simple acts of service, love and kindness that its members impart to all that they do will now have a physical representation in their refined and inspiring building. Making the twice weekly pilgrimage to the Saranap area to worship with companions of Sufism Reoriented my heart thrills at the vision of how this enchanting structure, designed by one of the most renowned architectural firms in the world, will help lift up the otherwise wanting atmosphere of the area. And how sweet it will be to see the public walking through such enchanting and peaceful public gardens. Losing this inspiring group of individuals and their esthetically designed devotional structure to some other area of California would leave a vacuum that I am afraid would never be filled.

As the country turns a new page in its development and the nation's President asks us to serve and uplift our communities, your support of this inspiring addition to Walnut Creek and northern California will be a source of pride through the years.

Sincerely,

Dan Adler

Cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

08 SEP 17 PM 1:08
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

J. Hettinger
INTERIORS

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553
September 13, 2008

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am enclosing a copy of a letter that I sent to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema. I hope this will help forward the land use permit application recently filed by Sufism Reoriented for their planned sanctuary. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robineve Adler-Cole

Robineve AdlerCole
Interior Designer

J. HETTINGER PLAZA 200 HARTZ AVENUE DANVILLE, CA 94526 925.820.9336 FAX 925.820.9414

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CONTRA COSTA
08 OCT 21 PM 1:08
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

J. Hettinger
INTERIORS

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553
October 1, 2008

Dear Ms. Cross,

My family and I have been residents of the Saranap area for 27 years. I owned a wholesale and retail clothing design business on Boulevard Way from 1982-88 and have owned three homes in the area. I am currently a designer at J. Hettinger Interiors. Our youngest child attended The Meher Schools, whose pre-school program and aftercare enabled me to return to work when she was little. I am very familiar with the neighborhood and the ways it has—and has not—evolved over the past quarter century. My physical environment is very important tome, and though we have loved living in and around the Saranap community, it has not been the most beautiful or architecturally interesting area.

When I used to travel to New York on design business, I always enjoyed the brilliant architecture of Philip Johnson, both in and around Manhattan. I had studied his architectural design in art school and found his concepts so original yet inclusive of humor and the human element. When I learned that the office of Philip Johnson and Alan Ritchey is involved in the design of a church in my own neighborhood, I was thrilled and astonished. I have since learned that the planned project is not only uniquely beautiful, but that it will be a very "green" forward-thinking building.

I believe this is an historic opportunity and an amazing privilege to have a building designed by this famous architectural firm in Contra Costa. To have it in my own charming little neighborhood, where I can drive by it every day and where our neighbors can take such pride in its presence certainly bodes an exciting future for our larger community. From seeing the preliminary concept development and reading the literature, I believe Sufism Reoriented knows what it is doing aesthetically and environmentally. I hope you will join me and my enthusiastic neighbors in bringing this fantastic project to Walnut Creek.

Sincerely yours,

Robineve Adler-Cole

Robineve Adler-Cole
Sr. Designer, J. Hettinger Interiors

Cc: Gayle Uilkema

J. HETTINGER PLAZA 200 HARTZ AVENUE DANVILLE, CA 94526 925.820.9336 FAX 925.820.9414

S (AU)
11/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
10 OCT 20 P 1:32
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
& DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 10/15/10

Printed name: Numan Atayolu NUMAN ATAYOLU

Business name: Walnut Creek Test Only Center

Address: 1387 S. California blvd. Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

X

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 9/8/09

Printed Name: Laura Ahlstrand

Address: 1229 Boulevard Way #9
Walnut Creek CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 14 P 1:42

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Francine Aiello Date: 8/13/09

Printed Name
FRANCINE AIELLO

Address: 1871 Glenview Dr. Walnut Creek, CA. 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S
+

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed:
Carolyn Alarie-Nelson

Date:
1/5/09 cw

Printed Name
Carolyn Alarie-Nelson

Address:
2141 Hadden Rd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUN 29 P 1:50

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Barbara Albaf Date: 6-24-09

Address: 111 Panoramic Way
Walnut Creek, CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -7 P 1:48

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/5/09

Ian Albaugh

Address: 111 panoramic way

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -9 P 1:04

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jordan Albaugh
Jordan Albaugh

Date: 7/7/09

Address: 111 Panoramic Way
Walnut Creek, CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 19 P 1:40

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Susan A Alcamo Date: 8/17/09

Address: 3766 Mosswood Dr.
Lafayette

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (HL) 7/22/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 4.7.10

Printed name: Rodrick Alexander

Business name: J. Crew

Address: 1279 Broadway Plaza

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

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CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -7 P 1:47

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 7-5-2009

Address: RICHARD J. ALEXANDER
1054 Leland Dr.
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Khaled Alfaqih
2120 Whyte Park Avenue
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
08 OCT 14 PM 3:21
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

S

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor – North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

October 12, 2008

I wish to express my support for Sufism Reoriented' Building project and to that end I am forwarding a copy of a letter which I sent to Supervisor Gail Uilkema.

With sincere best wishes,

Khaled Alfaqih

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Khaled Alfaqih
2120 Whyte Park Ave.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Respected Supervisor Uilkema,

Thirty six years ago, in the summer of 1972, at the age of 30, I was beginning my professional life as a Chiropractor. Having graduated from the National College of Chiropractic in the 'Lilac Capitol of the World' Lombard, Illinois that January, I completed a 6 month internship with Dr. Lloyd Latch whose offices were right off Union Square. I was earnestly looking to open my own practice, and was looking around the San Francisco Bay Area trying to decide where my future home would be. I had connections with the Peninsula as I was awarded an Associate of Arts from Menlo School and College. I was madly in love with Cable Cars, Golden Gate Park and China Town. I lived in and worked briefly in Oakland. I complained to a friend of mine who lived in this remote outback in Contra Costa County! Duncan invited me to visit his home and one grey, cold summer day I drove miles away from civilization, through a tunnel and out into warm sunlight. I kept driving feeling astonished at the play of light on golden hills dotted with lovely oaks, and now drawn by a magnificent sight of an apparently high distant mountain peak. I had found my home.

I had also become distracted and missed my mapped exit. I wound up taking the Walnut Creek cut off and landed on Boulevard Way. So my earliest memories of what has been my home for these many years were of sun light, hills and a mountain and this small, cozy slum that I found myself driving around. I practiced in Walnut Creek for over 33 years, and about half of that time in and around the Saranap area. With a brief defection in San Ramon on Silver Maple Drive in Blackhawk, my family and I have lived in the Saranap since that time, and have been in our current home on Whyte Park Avenue for nearly 20 years.

I wished to give you this background because this is the basis for my appeal to you as a public servant who holds the best interest of our community at the core of your responsibility. The building project that Sufism Reoriented has designed and will submit to the County for approval respects wonderful character of our neighborhood. It is - to repeat a theme! - our new and hopefully permanent home in area that has been kind to us.

I think you may agree that there is a marked difference between preserving the character of a neighborhood - retro though it maybe - and just plain neglect of neighborhood structures. The building site will eliminate several current run down structures, replacing them with well designed, well landscaped ones. When the project was presented for our membership it was all new to me. I found everything about it appealing, but if I had to chose one or two to bring to your kind attention, then it must be those that I hold near and dear.

A story I once heard was about a gentleman who rushed into a Walnut Creek Council meeting to speak on a topic. He was late, and apologized to the Council members

that he had been delayed because he had to stop to inquire about the health of gentleman who he had noticed laying down the gutter on Main Street. He rushed over the man and asked him could help and what had happened to the gentleman. "Oh I am okay." the man said, "I was walking down Main when I found this open parking spot, so I lay down here and sent the wife to Stead's to buy a car."

I think the County's Transportation Demand program is a brilliant piece of legislation. That commitment which we wholeheartedly endorse is further enhanced by using the astonishing Grass Pave product and pervious concrete in a very minimal area. The presenter knocked me over by pointing out that the runoff from the current structures in the seven lots - that we sincerely hope will become the site of the project - is more than the final product when our new church and surrounding driveways and parking areas are built. It was also very gratified to find out that the site plans have been altered more than six times to reflect concerns voiced by our close neighbors.

With appreciation for your commitment to our county and it's populace, and sincerely hoping that you find it in our neighborhoods best interest to rule favorably on this harmonious, beautiful and deeply meaningful project which is nothing but a new home for our most intimate life, that of worship.

Thank you for taking the time to read my appeal.

Sincerely and with best wishes,

Khaled

S

The Honorable Gayle B Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

As a former student at the Meher Schools, I am writing this letter to express my support for the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek.

Name: Selma Al-Faqih

Signature: Selma Al-Faqih

Address: 1518 Euclid Street, #6
Santa Monica, CA. 90404

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL 13 P 3:19
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

I am writing to express my support for the Sufism Reoriented sanctuary project, as a former Meher Schools student.

I was one of the original students, attending three different Meher Schools sites before they landed on this current location. The work this school as done for three decades astounds me, and has often moved me to tears. I'd like to tell you why. What I want to share with you is how the school has continued to support me, even after I was too old to attend!

As a kid attending school there, I knew I was surrounded by loving people. Being beyond painfully shy, somewhere in my small mind I knew I was being protected, and that I was in a safe environment. When I was in the third grade, my family moved to the East coast. I went to a local public school, and was immediately aware that I was in a very different environment. The atmosphere was different, it wasn't as kind, it wasn't as safe- I went into a state of shock and confusion. In order to protect myself, I had to learn tough lessons and quickly gained street smarts (not a bad thing, of course). But the stark contrast was very real and clear to me.

I am a Sufi, and so is some of my family. So as a kid I often traveled back to Walnut Creek for visits on my own. I would always go back to the White Pony, to visit staff and to my beloved alma mater. Just to be on the grounds made me happy. By the age of 14, I was working as an assistant during the summers. I did so for years thereafter. I live in Los Angeles, and being an artist, after college there were some lean years! The school was always there for me. There was always work for me, every time I needed work. They not only were able to open up and bring me in, the supportive, loving, nurturing environment would heal my tired mind. It can be a tough world out there. I would rejuvenate, and then head back down to LA for the next chapter in my life.

When I walk around the Meher Schools, I see light, I see love, and I see happy children. The dedicated staff, the volunteer efforts, astounds me. Losing such a place would be so detrimental to the neighborhood. What the school does is "grow" incredibly bright, buoyant, confident people. They foster a feeling of mutual respect, light friendships, and accountability.

My understanding is that in order for the school to continue, the new sanctuary must be built close by. It is with all of my heart that I hope happy resolutions can be quickly found, enabling the new sanctuary to begin building.

Sincerely and with Many Thanks,

Selma Al-Faqih

SELMA AL-FAQIH

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CONTRA COSTA

2009 NOV 12 P 2:03

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Ben Alisea Date: 11/8/09

Address: 1370 Sunset Loop
Lafayette

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S 10/07/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner, or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 9.30.10

Printed Name: Lezli Fenk

Business Name: ATH ALL THAT HAIR

Address:
1601 N. Main St.
Ste 104
W.C.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA
08 MAY 23 AM 11:46
DEVELOPMENT DEPT

May 14, 2008

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I learned that Sufism Reoriented was going to be filing its land use application and so I wanted to forward this letter of support that I wrote to Supervisor Uilkema. Thank you for your consideration. ~~eo~~

Sincerely,

Anton Allen

May 21, 2008

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

My name is Anton Allen. I am an educator and have worked for the Mount Diablo Unified School District for the past twenty four years. My wife and I have owned a home at 50 Island Court here in the Sarnap during that time. We have really enjoyed our time here and are surrounded by close family including our wonderful grandchildren whose parents were raised in this very house. We love living here and care very much about what happens here.

I was recently presented a brochure depicting renderings of a proposed church to be built very near our home.
Being a person who loves to browse architectural magazines, I was deeply moved by the timeless beauty of the design that simultaneously embodies both classic and contemporary elements while blending with the surround in such a seamless and natural manner. My favorite feature is the wonderfully iterated spheres that define the roof line. I think this new building will serve not only as a central point of interest and elegance for our area but also as an inspiration for future projects of every kind in the neighborhood. It was a delightful surprise to learn that we might be living within a block of a structure designed by the world renowned architectural firm of Philip Johnson/Alan Ritchie.

The brochure points out the many ways in which the sanctuary will incorporate innovative, highly effective techniques to ensure that the environment is not only respected, but improved. The use of pervious materials and subterranean structuring with expansive green spaces, all promise a low impact infrastructure unique to our area. Add to this a traffic control plan that demonstrates a reduction

in automobile use and you have further support of this theme.

Finally, the park-like beauty of the colorful landscaping in which the simple lines of the church is set promises not only to benefit the Sarnap esthetically but to also enhance our property values and quality of life. Clearly this sanctuary offers an exciting and positive addition to our neighborhood.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Anton Allen

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May 13, 2008

CONTRA COSTA
08 MAY 16 PM 1:28
DEVELOPMENT DEPT

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

My name is Jacquie Allen, and I live at 50 Island Ct., in Walnut Creek. I am a Program Director for Futures Explored, a vocational program for adults with development disabilities located in downtown Lafayette. Throughout my career I have developed small businesses as training programs for the disabled. I have developed two baking companies. One was in conjunction with Clausen House Catering Company in Oakland. The other was at Las Trampas in Lafayette. It was called Rapid Rolls. I taught developmentally disabled adults to bake pastries and we sold them from a cart at the BART station. I have supervised the running of the Nifty Thrift Shop in Lafayette, which is a vocational training site for many of our disabled clients. My latest project is Huckleberry Cafe -To -Go. It is a food service training program and a catering company which will serve the Lamorinda, Walnut Creek and surrounding areas. Our developmentally disabled clients are being trained to make boxed lunches and baked goods. We are almost finished building a commercial kitchen at our Lafayette site and will be fully licensed and open later on this summer.

I am writing to you because I recently learned of a new sanctuary that has been designed for Sufism Reoriented and is proposed for our Saranap neighborhood. My husband and I have owned our home in this area for 24 years. As you can see I have also worked in Lafayette for many years. We raised our children on Island Ct. Now our grandchildren frequently come to visit and they love to play out on the Court just as our own children did. Naturally we are interested in the project, as we are located only about a block away from the proposed site.

Recently I had an opportunity to see renderings of the building and grounds and read some information about it. I was pleasantly surprised at the graceful beauty of the building and grounds. I am a gardener myself and I love the idea of such a park like setting with many flowers and trees, the only one of its kind in our suburban area. The quiet, low building, surrounded by trees, seems to fit in so naturally with the landscaping and the surrounding area. I think it will greatly improve that part of Boulevard Way which at this time is full of weeds and some dilapidated buildings and fencing.

I was impressed by the work that has gone into making sure that the building and grounds are environmentally friendly. Placing the majority of the building below ground to help cool and heat it is a unique environmental solution. I think that it will be a model for the future. Using pervious materials that let the water percolate through, rather than run off into the storm drains as asphalt does, seems like a good idea. I am aware of the problems with our drains and sewer systems, having worked with the Contra Costa Sanitation District on the plans for our commercial kitchen at Futures Explored. I am pleased to see that the plans for the new building have taken this into account.
As a long time resident of the Saranap area I support this project and feel that it will add value to our neighborhood. Thank you for considering this letter.

Sincerely,

Jacquie Allen

Jacquie Allen

cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

CONTRA COSTA
08 MAY 16 PM 1:28
DEVELOPMENT DEPT

May 14, 2008

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I learned that Sufism Reoriented was going to be filing its land use application and so I wanted to forward this letter of support that I wrote to Supervisor Uilkema. Thank you for considering my letter.

Sincerely,

Jacquie Allen

Jacquie Allen

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T

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: SMAllen, PhD. Date: 12/9/09

Printed Name: Suzanne M. Allen

Address: 3249 Mt. Diablo Blvd. #210
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL 10 P 2:11

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: F. RICHARD ALLEN Date: 7/7/09

Address: 640 CENTER ST.
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (HD 3/2021

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JUL 14 P 2:37

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Janice Alley Date: 7/12/10

Printed Name: Janice Alley

Address: 1305 Boulevard Way #301
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 11-11-09

Printed name: David Aimar

Business name:

Address: DAVID F. AIMAR, D.D.S., INC.
1655 OLYMPIC BLVD., STE. 360
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94596

CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV 13 P 2:09
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG -6 P 1:31

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Suzun A. Almquist Date: 8/5/2009

Printed Name Suzun Almquist

Address: 150 Hall Ln
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

8

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 10/03/09

Printed Name
JOAN AMANO

Address:
1211 BACON WAY
LAFAYETTE, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (9th)
9/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2010 SEP 23 P 12:30
CONTROL/DISTRIBUTION
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 9/2/10

Printed name: MITRH AMBROSE

Business name: GREEN CASTLE INC

Address: 1517 N. MAIN ST
WALNUT CREEK CA
94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

SCHD
09/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner, or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 09/10/10

Printed Name: Nathan Anderson

Business Name: All American Signs

Address: 1601 N. Main St 101, Walnut Creek, CA

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Helen E. Anderson Date: 7-11-09

Helen E. Anderson

Address: 51 Manzanita Ct.
Walnut Creek,
CA. 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL 14 P 2:28
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
ADMINISTRATION

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Dup

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Robert E. Anderson, M.D.
Robert E. Anderson, M.D.

576 S Wildwood
Lincoln Ca 95648

CONTRA COSTA
2004 JUL 14 P 2:27
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 3/24/11

Printed Name: Victoria Andersen

Address: 79 Palona Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Javier Andreino
1305 Boulevard Way #302
W C Ca 94595

CONTRA COSTA
2007 JUL 20 P 1:32
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Brian Andriozzo Date: 9/8/09

Printed Name Brian A. Andriozzo

Address: 100 Lafayette Circle #203
Lafayette CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 19 P 1:40

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Richard Andron

Date: 8/16/09

Address: 422 BRIDGE RD
Walnut Creek CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG -4 P 12: 16

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Sh Y. Anduri Date: 8/1/09

Printed Name Sharon L. Anduri

Address: 3360 Kincheloe Ct.
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

7/6/09

Mauricio Arguelles
N. Villa Way #318
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 19 P 1:40
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

No street #

cc: Ms Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

s 6/7/10 CR

CONTRA COSTA

2010 JUN -7 P 2:01

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Mellara Anzenberger Date: 5/30/10

Printed Name: Mellara Anzenberger

Address: 3335 Freeman Road
Walnut Creek, CA

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 6/3/10 CD

CONTRA COSTA

2010 JUN -7 P 2:01

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 5/30/10

Printed Name: Mike Anzenberger

Address: 3335 Freeman Rd
Walnut Creek CA

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: N. Arkwright Date: 10/5/09

Printed Name Nan Arkwright

Address: 614 Ahwahnee Ct.
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (N) 9/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2010 SEP 23 P 12:38
CONTROLLER-CLERK
RECORDING DIV

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 9.16.10

Printed name: SAUL ARMIAN ARMIAN

Business name: AG REAL ESTATE

Address: 1343 LOCUST ST #208
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

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CONTRA COSTA

2009 NOV 18 P 1:36

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Yvonne Arnold Date: 11/16/09

Printed Name
Yvonne Arnold

Address:
2524 Virginia Ave.
Richmond, CA 94804

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

Narra S. Asher
50 Orchard Road
Orinda, California 94563

CONTRA COSTA
2009 MAR -3 P 1:15
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

March 2, 2009

Lashun Cross
Community Development
651 Pine St., 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Lashun Cross,

Enclosed is a copy of the letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema regarding Sufism Reoriented's proposed sanctuary.

Sincerely,

Narra S. Asher

Narra S. Asher

Enclosure

Narra Asher
50 Orchard Road
Orinda, California 94563

March 2, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing in support of the proposed new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented. Although I live in Orinda, I have been a part of the Sufism Reoriented community for 26 years, and spend a great deal of my time there, at meetings, chorus rehearsals and volunteer work at the Center and at the Meher Schools. Because of this, I recently purchased a duplex on Island Court, less than a half block from the proposed site, and plan to move there as soon as I can sell my house in Orinda. I am looking forward to seeing the new sanctuary come into reality, as I believe it will be a beautiful enhancement to the neighborhood, as well as to the organization.

As a realtor in the East Bay for 38 years, and having worked extensively in the Saranap area for 26 years, I am aware of the value to homeowners in this area of having Sufism Reoriented located there. The members' demand for housing close to our sanctuary has maintained the market value of homes in Saranap at a level higher than other areas of Walnut Creek and surrounding areas, notwithstanding the serious downturn in the market. If the organization were forced to find a location distant from the Saranap area, the property values in Saranap would drop severely.

Although I can understand the neighbors' reluctance to endure the disturbance that new construction provides, I truly believe that the result will be an addition to the neighborhood that all will enjoy and have pride in.

Sincerely,

/s/

Narra S. Asher

cc: Lashun Cross, Community Development

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the ~~Saranap area~~ DLA Contra Costa Co., and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Dara L. Askay Date: 9-13-09

Address:

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

Ellen Augustine, M.A. *(formerly Schwartz)*
84 Monte Vista Avenue #4 <> Oakland, CA 94611
ellenaugustine@earthlink.net <> 510-428-1832

08 FEB 12 PM 12:59

February 11, 2008

LeShun Cross
Community Development Department
Contra Costa County
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94556

Re: Sufism Reoriented Land Use Permit Application

Dear Ms. Cross:

The Land Use Permit Application for Sufism Reoriented is a matter which both touches me deeply and is a community asset. This permit is necessary to provide a sanctuary in the neighborhood for the volunteers who so ardently and kindly provide the support system for Meher School. My daughter, Andrea, attended Meher from kindergarten through 5th grade when we lived in Contra Costa. She is now a senior in college, and what she absorbed there is still making a positive impact in her life!

Andrea is a very strong student, having had a solid foundation in reading and phonics. More than that, she was imbued with a love of words and a love of learning. Drama, poetry, music, and art were integrally entwined in the lessons—through this her spirit soared. Compassion, caring and equanimity are palpable at Meher School—Andrea is definitely the most balanced member of our family and her circle of friends!

Not only I as Mom see wonderful things in my daughter, but her actions belie her own love for the school. Every year since 5th grade—indeed, several times a year—Andrea has gone back to visit teachers and younger classmates. In high school and college Andrea was very happy to work at the school. For the past two years she has been working in her major (Theatre Lighting) at Berkeley Rep, but she still sought out the opportunity to assist in the 5th grade play this coming June for two weeks.

I do not use the word tragedy lightly, but it would be a tragedy to lose such a jewel as Meher School. Children emerge from Meher with bright minds and open hearts—the best preparation to live as conscious, committed citizens.

Please do not hesitate to call if I can answer any further questions for you.

Best Regards,

Ellen Augustine

Ellen Augustine, M.A.

Ms. Lashun Cross
Senior Planner
Community Development Division
651 Pine St, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL 16 P 1:25

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am writing in support of the Meher Schools and the Sufism Reoriented sanctuary project on Boulevard Way in my hometown of Walnut Creek, CA. I am not and have never been a member or follower of Sufism, nor were my parents when they picked the elementary school for their children. Yet my entire self is based upon a childhood spent under their loving instruction and guidance. It is hard to put the blessings of your life into words, but for them I am willing to try.

My parents, from what I understand, spend a good amount of time looking for a suitable elementary school. They found public education in the early 80's to be lacking in artistic and educational opportunity and my mother has often told me of the vast difference she saw when she visited the Meher Schools. She felt that the children there were not simply being supervised, but encouraged to grow and learn from a very young age. And so I started out as an infant and stayed until the 5th grade. If they had taught higher grades, I would have stayed longer! My transition from a world where I was a known, loved and cared for member of a community into public middle school was a hard one, and no school I've been to since sparks in me the extreme love I feel for my very first first alma mater.

I'm sure many people will write to tell you what a loving and profoundly accepting place the Meher School is, how free from any sort of dogmatic religious teaching or instruction. I remember very clearly being extremely surprised when I learned, as an older child, that the school I was attending had any sort of religious affiliation! All I knew was that the schools sense of loving-kindness, acceptance and respect for all radiated from every teacher, administrator and assistant. I have never run into anything of that nature again - a community so dedicated to service and support and yet almost invisible in its nature. I went to their school, played in their homes with their children and went to innumerable Sufi celebrations, all as a little Jewish girl, and I never knew a thing. This to me is a lovely example of the subtlety, gentleness and awareness that is the essence of Sufism Reoriented.

I have not, however, named the part of the school that most influenced my adult life: the drama department. From infancy at the school I was surrounded by music, drama and story. It is only now in adulthood that I can see how unique this was. It is even more so today where budgeting for the arts is often the first to get cut. As I grew I eagerly joined the incredible drama department the school has. I did musicals and original plays based on history and fables, even Shakespeare and kid-friendly Broadway hits. My most beloved drama instructor, who wrote

many extraordinary musicals for us, is now a professional director living and working on Broadway in NYC. These are the kind of people this school attracts. I went on to attended a prestigious preforming arts college in Boston (returning for a summer to teach as in instructor in the school's drama camp) and am now a professional actor. I owe my profession entirely to the Meher Schools brilliant drama department and the passion they awoke in me.

But besides helping me find my true calling, the Meher Schools have tapped into how theatre can be used to teach all children. Their policy of having each upper grade do one show per year is one I find deeply important and profound. To be on stage is my joy, and it may not be for everyone, but every child should get a chance to taste it. Out of the 25 or so children I grew up with, only three of us are now in the preforming arts - but I have no doubt the others remember their forays into theatre as moments of pride, accomplishment, fun and magic. The lessons you learn on stage - about how to both share and take the spotlight, have confidence in yourself while in front of others, speak clearly and audibly, and have respect for the things and people around you. These skills are vital for anyone, in any profession. Theatre teaches you how to be a better human being.

I believe the Meher Schools and by extension Sufism Reoriented have given back to the community a thousand times over, in ways too innumerable to count. They will always be family in my heart and in the hearts of countless others that have called the Bay Area home (for indeed many of my classmates traveled a great distance from all over the bay to attend this school.) I know that any new sanctuary they create will be completely conscious and respectful of the surrounding communities and will in fact add to the beauty and value of all around it. For as much as they have given, they deserve to house their family in whatever way they deem most appropriate. It is **VITAL** for the good of the greater Bay Area community that the Meher Schools be allowed to keep its arms open for our children. It is a rare jewel in this world and we must protect and encourage it whenever we have the chance.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

Sarah Augusta Reich OR
sarah Augusta

augusta.sarah@gmail.com
925.324.9393

2253 W. Iowa St Apt 2F
Chicago Il. 60622

2253 West Iowa St. Apt 2F Chicago, IL 60622

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 OCT 23 P 2:06

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 10/21/09

Printed Name Mehrdad Aunavi

Address:
1343 Locust st
WC CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

3
8/9/11

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Barbara Ausherman Date: 7-12-11

Printed name: BARBARA AUSHERMAN

Business name: Access STRENGTH CENTERS

Address: 1280 Boulevard WAY #106
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
2011 AUG - 8 P 2:23
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S/

(2)

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUN 15 P 2:12
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

June 12, 2009

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

Dear Ms. Cross,

We are writing you in support of the project that Sufism Reoriented has proposed for the Saranap area, which is where Joanna, my wife, and I reside. The Church has provided us with extensive information regarding the location, appearance and intended use of the proposed facilities. We are impressed with the aesthetics of the entire design and think it will represent a significant enhancement to this community from that stand point alone, in particular the park and gardens that will be open to the general public.

Equally important is that this organization has been a very worthy neighbor for many years, they serve the community through their schools and church, and they have earned the right to build better, environmentally responsible facilities.

We understand that a land use permit application has been filed and we urge you and the County Board of Supervisors to grant approval as proposed.

Sincerely,

Peter & Joanna Auzers

Peter and Joanna Auzers
25 Samantha Drive
Lafayette, CA 94549

June 12, 2009

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

My wife Joanna and I are residents of the Saranap area and we are writing you in support of the new church and ancillary facilities that Sufism Reoriented is proposing to have built. We have received extensive information regarding the location, appearance and intended uses of the proposed new facility. Upon completion we believe this project will represent a significant enhancement to our community. We strongly urge you and the Board to approve the project as proposed and grant a land use permit so that Sufism Reoriented may commence execution of their plans.

Sincerely,

Peter and Joanna Auzers
25 Samantha Drive
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: L.Cross

S (HR) 07/01/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JUN 29 P 2:44
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 06.25.10

Printed name: UMIDA AVLONI

Business name: Lamorinda Academy of Music

Address: 3534 Golden Gate Way Lafayette 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S (H) C

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 2-9-11

Printed name: Anton Axelsson.

Business name: Katy's Kreek

Address: 1680 Locust st. W.C. 94596

CONTRA COSTA
11 FEB 23 P 2:06

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S (H)
5/13/10

CONTRA COSTA
2010 MAY 11 P 2:31
DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 5/03/2010

Printed Name
P. KOFI BAAH-MARTIN

Address:
CEO,
Aseya Africa, Inc
451 Moraga Way,
Orinda, CA 94563

The Sufism Reoriented Choir has been very readily supportive of our efforts to build healthcare and school structures in villages in Africa. I am glad they want to benefit the community with the beauty they know.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S(H) 9/22/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2010 SEP 21 P 2:46
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 09/17/10

Printed name: Leo

Business name: Babushka BABUSHKA

Address: 1475 Newell Av
NEWELL AV 94595
W.C.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S
4/30/10

CONTRA COSTA
2010 APR 29 P 2:29
DEPT. OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 4/20/10

Printed Name KRIS BAINES

Address: 1210 ELMWOOD DR.
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (H) 7/8/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Mahendra Date: 6/24/10

Business name: Baja Fresh

Address: 1273 S. California Blvd
Walnut Creek. 94596

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JUL -6 P 2:52
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

ANDREW BARNETT, M.D.
COSMETIC PLASTIC SURGERY

112 LA CASA VIA
SUITE 350
WALNUT CREEK
CA 94598
925 932-8982
FAX 415 362-2733

450 SUTTER STREET
SUITE 1123
SAN FRANCISCO
CA 94108
415 362-1221
FAX 415 362-2733

S (HR) 02/04/11

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Cost Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary Project

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I've reviewed the plans and I feel strongly that the proposed sanctuary is an elegant design which is sensitive to the aesthetic and scale of the community.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

CONTRA COSTA
JAN -3 P 3:19
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AND CLERK OF THE BOARD

Sincerely,

Andrew Barnett

Andrew Barnett, MD

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

AB:em

CONTRA COSTA

2010 MAR 19 A 11: 21

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 3/10/10

Printed Name Omar + Bassamat Bahnasy

Address: 1549 Springbrook Road Walnut Creek

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Saranap Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/8/09

Address: 1101 El Curtola BLVD
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
STEFAN Bain

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL 14 P 2:28
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA

2010 JAN 22 P 1:38

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Dorothy L. Baker Date: 01-20-10

Printed Name DOROTHY L. BAKER

Address: 29 HONEY HILL Rd
ORINDA, CA 94563

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 27 P 2:19
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Rina Baker Date: 8-25-09

Printed Name Rina J. Baker

Address: 3829 Linden Ln,
El Sobrante CA 94803

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S
+

3829 Linden Ln.
El Sobrante, CA
94803

September 16th, 2009

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Your Honor,

I am writing to elicit your support for construction of a Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary proposed for Walnut Creek.

I have reviewed the plans and design and am very impressed with the forward thinking architecture and grounds. I found them environmentally sensitive and considerate of the surrounding residential area.

The beauty of the buildings and the grace of the gardens would enhance the neighborhood and serve as quiet retreat. The "green" aspects of the proposed building provide a model of conscious and responsible development.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

Rina Baker

Rina Baker

c.c. Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

+ S

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

Dear Ms. Lashun Cross,

As a former student of Meher School and a life-long resident of the Saranap area, I am writing to express my strong support for the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented in Walnut Creek. Both my parents and many of my dearest friends are members of Sufism Reoriented. I have never been able to find a stronger or more loving community since leaving Walnut Creek. I intend to send my future children to Meher School because I believe it has the best teachers and most welcoming atmosphere of any school in the Bay Area.

I recently graduated with Honors from the University of California Santa Cruz and love returning home to Walnut Creek to visit my parents, friends, and former teachers who I am still very close to. I can't imagine anyone not being able to get along with any one of the Sufism Reoriented community.

I have seen the plans for the new sanctuary and think it looks beautiful. I know that it was designed to be invisible from the street and is going to be built on an otherwise dry and ugly corner of the neighborhood. Its presence would beautify the area due to the selfless volunteer work of the Sufi community, who would keep the inside and outside of the sanctuary spotless. The sanctuary was also designed by a famous architecture firm and would be a treasured landmark for years to come.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this letter,

Brenda Barnhart

Brenda Barnhart

307 Oxford Way
Santa Cruz, CA
95060

2009 JUL 20 P 1:32
CONTRA COSTA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 18 P 12:48

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Laurie Bankhead Date: July 21, 2009

Address: Laurie Bankhead
21 Newell Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

3

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 DEC -4 P 1:06
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: C. Banerjee, MD. Date: 12/2/09

Business name: Center For Integrated Health + Aesthetics

Address: 2940 Camino Diablo #120
Walnut Creek, Calif.
94597

Banerjee

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

Rec'd
Done
c

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Victor Bargas Date: 3-4-11

Printed name: VICTOR BARGAS

Business name: Cinco de Mayo

Address: 1372 Locust St W.C.

CONTRA COSTA
2011 MAR -9 P 1:10
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MARTINEZ, CALIFORNIA

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5 (N)
7/22/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 4/27/2010

Printed name: TONY BARBERA

Business name: SUNGLASS HUT

Address: 1188 BROADWAY PLAZA

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5

2009 JUL 14 P 2:29

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Beth Barbier Date: 7/11/09

Address: 74 Park Ave
Walnut Creek Ca 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL 14 P 2:29
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/11/09

Address: Brady Barbier

74 Park Ave
WC, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

+ 5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 14 P 1:42

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: _____ Date: 8/8/09

Printed Name: Brady Barbier

Address: 94 Park Ave Walnut Creek Ca 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 14 P 1:42

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: [signature] Date: 8/8/09

Printed Name: Elizabeth Barbier

Address: 74 Park Ave Walnut Creek Ca 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I want to express my feelings about the planned Sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented. I have been a member for over 30 years. We have dreamed of having a new church that will have room for all our projects. Having worked in the area for well over 30 years, I've watched the Saranap and hoped someone would update this pleasant, quiet neighborhood. I have dreamed of a new building for Sufism Reoriented. The drawings and descriptions of the new sanctuary in a park-like setting I have seen look like our dream has come true.

People in our community have lived, worked and worshipped here for three generations. Churches in areas seem to draw families and keep crime lower. It's exciting to look forward to having a beautiful sanctuary that will enhance our area. This project is a hope for peace, harmony and beauty for all. It's heartwarming to envision the future of the Saranap.

Sincerely,

Dee Barclay
Owner/stylist of Harmony Hair
1239 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Sept 1 2015

Ms Lashan Cross,

Inclosed is a copy of the letter mailed to Supervisor Uilkema. Concerning the building permit of a new Sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented.

Thank you

~~Dottie~~ Barclay Barclay

Harmony Hair Bty Salon

1239 Blod Way

Walnut Creek Ca 94595

A VERY NICE POOL COMPANY, LTD.

S

T

2010 FEB -9 P 1:32

February 8, 2010

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner in Lafayette near the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Very truly yours,

Paul R. Barendregt
General Manager
PB:ds

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

P.O. Box 1241 • Lafayette, CA 94549 • (925) 283-5180 • Fax (925) 283-9843 • CSL 383481
www.AVeryNicePoolCo.com

5 (TP) 08/30/10

CONTRA COSTA
2010 AUG 26 P 2:41
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: Jana Barkley Date: 8-17-10

Printed Name: Jana Barkley

Address: 2580 Lucy Ln.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

As a former student at the Meher Schools, I am writing this letter to express my support for the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek.

Name: DAVID BARNETT

Signature: David Barnett

Address:
49 VISTA LANE
ALAMO, 94507

CONTRA COSTA
2001 JUL 13 P 3:48
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S
+

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 9.8.09

Printed Name MARK BARNES

Address: 4787 JOHN MUIR RD
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG -3 P 1:16
DEPT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jeanette Barnes Date: 7/25/09

Printed Name Jeanette Barnes

Address:
4787 John Muir Rd.
Martinez, CA 94553

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA

08 OCT 16 PM 3:27

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

September 20, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the planned Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary project.

Sincerely,

Ann Barnhart

Ann Barnhart

1336 Boulevard Way .#202
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
Sept. 20, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
652 Pine St. ,Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I recently learned that Sufism Reoriented has filed a land use application to build a new house of worship and I wanted to write and share my support of such a plan.

I have lived in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek for the past 28 years. Most of that time I have been a renter in the various apartments surrounding the current Sufism Reoriented Center. My husband and I are currently renters at Le Boulevard Apartments on Boulevard Way. I am impressed with the beautiful plans for this esthetically designed devotional building and especially pleased to live next door to it. I feel this house of worship will uplift this whole neighborhood bringing a sense of peace and calm.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Ann Barnhart

Ann Barnhart

Ce: Lashun Cross, Community Development

CONTRA COSTA

08 OCT 15 PM 1:17

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

S

9/1/2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street
Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema;

I wanted to take this very happy opportunity to write to you to request your support for the proposed Sufism Reoriented sanctuary in Walnut Creek.

Thirty-one years ago I began teaching the first Kindergarten class at the White Pony School in Lafayette, then located at the United Methodist Church. During the intervening years I've taught many grade levels at The Meher Schools, including pre-school. I don't think I could count the number of parents and children I know in our community as a result of this wonderful experience. Anyone who comes to the Meher Schools cannot help but note the warm, positive atmosphere that pervades this sunny place. For all these years its mission of service to the community has been lovingly carried out without trying to call any special attention to itself. I think the degree of enthusiastic support for the new sanctuary that we've received from past and current Meher Schools families is a testimony to the work.

My wife and I rent an apartment on Boulevard Way about a mile from the school's current location and have lived in the Saranap area for more than ten years. As you know the majority of members of Sufism Reoriented live in the Saranap and have done so for many years. For the most part I've found our neighbors to be supportive of the plan for the new sanctuary. There has been a natural concern about change and other issues involving any large project. In studying the plans for the sanctuary I must say it seems to me these issues are addressed in positive ways. Also, I am amazed at the beauty and green features of the building and can only think of such a building as a unique asset to the community and a great enhancement to the neighborhood. To approve such a project would be a wonderful way to honor the spirit of service that Sufism Reoriented embodies.

I hope you agree.

With warmest good wishes and thanks for your own dedicated service,

Tim Barnhart
1336 Boulevard Way #202
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc Lashun Cross

5

Ms. Lashun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation Development Dept.
651 Pine St., 4th Floor – North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Channing Bartlett
R.P.T., Piano Technicians Guild
P.O. Box 1426
Lafayette, CA 94549

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

Dear Ms. Cross:

Please find attached a copy of a letter I have written to the Hon. Gayle Uilkema in support of the proposed new Sufism Reoriented center in Walnut Creek. I wish to share my comments with you too.

Thank you –

Channing Bartlett

Channing Bartlett

CONTRA COSTA
2009 APR -3 P 12:41
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Rm. 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Channing Bartlett,
R.P.T., Piano Technicians Guild
P.O. Box 1426
Lafayette, CA 94549

Tuesday, 31 March 2009

To The Hon. Gayle Uilkema:

I am writing in support of the proposed new Sufism Reoriented center in Walnut Creek.

I am a piano tuner, fifty-four, a native of the S.F. Bay Area, and have lived in the Lafayette and Walnut Creek area for eight years, including one year in the Saranap neighborhood. I make my living going into schools, churches, and people's homes, and among my customers I have met a number of Sufis. I have found them to be very responsible and considerate. I gather that in their lives they seek to expand their understanding by identifying with others and having compassion for others, and I am not surprised to see this reflected in the great care that has gone into the planning for the new center. I have heard that their present center was originally a restaurant, and it seems they have brought that place much more in line with a semi-rural style. Maybe the new Sufi center would be something like the Temple Isaiah center in Lafayette, very inconspicuous.

Probably each generation living in a place like Saranap can affectionately remember a time when the place was closer to its original state. Yet how many of the structures here now were conceived and planned with as much regard as the current plan for harmony with the neighborhood?

I feel Walnut Creek is fortunate that Sufism Reoriented has made its home here since 1974, and that the currently proposed plan, while serving a beautiful purpose beautifully, would seem also to preserve a sizable chunk of Saranap from development in less attractive ways.

Thank you –

Channing Bartlett

copy to Ms. Lashun Cross

CONTRA COSTA

2009 SEP -1 P 12: 32

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Leonard G. Barton

Date: August 30th, 2009

Printed Name: ~~1248 J.~~ Leonard G. Barton

Address: 1248 Juanita Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (H) 07/25/10

CONTRA COSTA

2010 JUL 26 P 2:33

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Gretchen Bartzen

Date: 7/7/10

Printed Name

GRETCHEN BARTZEN

Address: 6 Del Mar Ct. Orinda, CA 94563

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: R Basaldua Date: 9.13.09

Printed Name: R. BASALDUA

Address: 1359 EL CURTOLA

Rochelle

Laf.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL -7 PM 2:18

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

July 4, 2008

1348 Rockledge Lane, #8
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Ms. Lashum Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

FYI, enclosed is a copy of the letter of support I sent to Supervisor Gale Uilkema regarding the proposed new church for Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way, Walnut Creek, CA.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Daniel R. Basora, Ph.D.

Dr. Daniel R. Basora, Ph.D.
CC: Letter to Supervisor Gale Uilkema

July 4, 2008

1348 Rockledge Lane, #8
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Supervisor Gale Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

My wife and I are 30 year members of Sufism Reoriented and wish to express our fullest support for the proposed new church on Boulevard Way. Through the many years of our association with Sufism Reoriented we've lived on Island Court and Saranap until recently and moved to Rossmoor. My wife and I raised our two children in the neighborhood and they attended The Meher School.

Over the years I've served our community in a variety of capacities including volunteering at the Meher School, representing my employer, AT&T, with community service organizations, and serving on the board of directors for the Rosebridge Graduate School of Integrative Psychology and Catholic Social Services. Sufism Reoriented inspires my volunteer activities which will expand in the future as I "retire" from industry within the next two years.

Sufism Reoriented is dear to my heart and enriches my life beyond measure. It has been a privilege to be a part of this extraordinary community these many years. The proposed development of this sparkling new facility will enable us to meet our needs for worship and service, the hallmarks of our community.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Daniel R. Basora, Ph.D.

Dr. Daniel R. Basora, Ph.D.
CC: Lashum Cross
Community Development Department

CONTRA COSTA

08 OCT 15 PM 1:16

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

5

October 13, 2008

Ms Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the planned Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary project.

Sincerely,

Monika Basora

Monika Basora

Monika Basora

October 13, 2008
1348 Rockledge Lane # 8
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
652 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Reg.: A request for support of Sufism Reoriented in the building of a new church.

Dear Supervisor Gayle Uilkema,

I met you a while back at Rossmoor, when I attended your talk on Evacu-Pac, that you so successfully initiated for all residents here.
I can tell you – it is hanging by my door today.

Prior to moving to Rossmoor my family lived in the Saranap neighborhood around Boulevard Way for almost 20 years. My husband and I are members of Sufism Reoriented. My son and daughter attended The Meher Schools 20 years ago. My daughter now is a member on their staff. I still volunteer there on Saturday mornings cleaning and my husband does maintenance. We love working together there with our friends. We know how fully the members of Sufism Reoriented wish to beautify the neighborhood through their new design of a church.

I grew up as a city-girl, which was very much removed from nature and find myself so loving the natural settings here at Rossmoor. My husband and I always say everybody should have a chance to live in natural beautiful settings. It seems to me, that the new proposed plan for a Sanctuary would be a wonderful step in that direction and surely would add a breath of fresh air to the neighborhood around Boulevard Way for all to enjoy.

Sincerely,

Monika Basora

Monika Basora

Cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

+ S

2009 JUL 27 P 3:13

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: T. Bataa Date: 7/21/09

Address: 1384 OAKLAND BLVD #4
Walnut Creek California

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 MAR 30 P 3:20

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

611 Mason, #504

San Francisco, CA 94108

27 March, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: New sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented

Dear Ms. Cross:

I thought you might like to see a copy of the letter of support I wrote to Gayle Uilkema. A copy is enclosed.

Sincerely,

William M. Baum
Professor

Enclosures: Copy of letter to Gayle Uilkema

611 Mason, #504
San Francisco, CA 94108

27 March, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: New sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented

Dear Ms. Uilkema:

I am writing to lend support to Sufism Reoriented's new sanctuary project. I know about the project because I have been participating in Sufism's classes and other activities for several years. As a retired university professor and soon-to-be septuagenarian, I have considered carefully the plans and rationale for the new sanctuary.

First, the design is admirable in at least two ways. It will be a beautiful building by any standard, the product of an able architectural firm. Because it will be mostly underground, the building will enhance the neighborhood without imposing on it. Because it is carefully designed to minimize its environmental impact, the building will stand as a model of "green" architecture.

Second, if I lived near the new sanctuary, I would be grateful to have such friendly, considerate, and helpful neighbors. Sufism Reoriented practices the path of Love for God. Members of Sufism Reoriented are taught to act out in their everyday lives the principles of service and love for people and the world around them. As a concrete example, the group has instituted a traffic management plan for its members. According to the plan, those who can walk, and those who must drive are organized into car pools to minimize the number of cars and thus the impact of traffic on the neighborhood. Being well-organized and well-motivated, Sufism Reoriented is able to be considerate and loving in this practical way.

Finally, in my judgment, the group needs a larger space for its many activities. At present, the lack of space forces members to scatter their efforts to various facilities. The new sanctuary would allow all the activities to come under one roof.

Sincerely,

William M. Baum
Professor

Cc: Lashun Cross, Community Development

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1

CONTRA COSTA

2009 MAR -9 P 12:57

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Fay Royal Baxter
#4 Iron Horse Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94597
March 6, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross, Planner
Comm. Conserv. & Devel. Dept.
651 Pine St., 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Madame:

Please find attached a copy of my letter to The Honorable Gail Uilkema. As a long time resident of Walnut Creek and former resident of the Saranap area, I have written Ms. Uilkema in support of Sufism Reoriented's proposed Sanctuary which is now under consideration by the County.

Thank you in advance for consideration of my comments.

Very Sincerely,

Fay Royal Baxter

Fay Royal Baxter

Enclosure

Mr. Fay Royal Baxter
#4 Iron Horse Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94597
March 6, 2009

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Madame:

I have been a resident of Walnut Creek since moving to 2175 Whyte Park Avenue in the Saranap in June, 1980. I have since moved to a loft at 4 Iron Horse Lane, Contra Costa Transit Village in November, 2005, after selling that home. Even after moving to the other side of Walnut Creek I still maintain very strong ties with my old neighborhood. Many of the neighbors and friends there still call me the honorary title that was informally bestowed on me: "The Mayor."

There is an issue that has been brought to my attention over the past few months on those occasions from time to time when I am in the Saranap. It is the new Sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way. Also, I have heard negative remarks made about the Sufis themselves. I feel that, after looking at both points of view that are circulating, we have some grave misunderstandings being put forth. I was at a Mardi Gras party on Center Street on the night of February 20th when a remark made to me by a former neighbor – which I knew was a mis-statement – was the final straw for me. Bad things happen when people fear things that seem to them new and different. When my son and I moved in to the Saranap in 1980, two households on our street chose to move away because of our race. The two families that replaced them are still there and are very close and supportive friends of mine to this day. In 1991, as the contract supervisor and landscape designer for the BART station on Ygnacio Boulevard, I again witnessed our community's reflex resistance to change. As we were bulldozing and removing the trees, people driving by were yelling out, "How dare you?" Now look at what we have, just a decade later, with the lovely terraced walls and trees that are coming into maturity.

I still have a strong commitment to the Saranap having been a member of the association for years and having many friends that I intend to keep for a lifetime. I have seen the plans for the new Sanctuary proposed by Sufism which is stunning and it, like our White House in our nation's capital rebuild which my late uncle was a laborer during President Truman's term, is two-thirds below ground. My degree in ornamental horticulture qualifies me to state that the landscape design by the SWA group and plant material chosen will in maturity minimize the mass of the structure that will be built.

One of the issues that I have encountered amongst my friends and former neighbors in the Whyte Park area is their residual fear that Sufism Reoriented is somehow connected to or has evolved from Islam. I would like to quote former Secretary of Sate, Colin Powell, who recently made the comment, when people say of President Obama, "Oh, but he's not a Muslin", with his statement, "So what?" The point I am making is that I believe we as a country are working to get away from narrow stereotypes and are striving – under the leadership and inspiration of our new President – to embrace all beliefs and faiths, as our nation has done since its inception.

But, I would like to note, despite "So what", I have been friends with a number of members of Sufism Reoriented for almost three decades. Let me tell you about a few of them. My physician, Dr. Tighe O'Hanrahan, who co-founded the Hospice of Contra Costa County and has served in his community and neighborhood since the early 1980s, lives on Warren Road. Another physician, Dr. Gwendolyn Hamilton, a former neighbor of mine on Whyte Park, is a pediatrician at Merrithew Hospital in Martinez. Mary Silver, also on Whyte Park, is an artist who teaches in Moraga who I will always remember as an active mom raising her kids with strong ethical values. Dr. Robert Johnson, former head of the Sickle Cell Program at Alta Bates Hospital in Berkeley, is now head of Oncology at Kaiser in Walnut Creek and is on the design committee of the Palliative Care Program for the entire northern region of Kaiser Permanente. Leroy Parker, and artist, art dealer, and professor at San Jose State, is a lively member of the Saranap community; he and his wife, Carolyn, an author and a gardener, delight all of us with their beautiful rose garden off Kinney Drive. Another friend is Dr. Robin Miller, a dentist who has practiced in the Saranap since 1986 and who served as a coach for the Lafayette-Moraga Youth Association while raising his boys. I wish you could read the letters from parents of children coached by "Dr. Rob" who expressed such appreciation for his care and counseling of their children. These are the members of Sufism Reoriented I know well and whose lives reflect their church's ideals to quietly serve in their community and neighborhood.

I am confident that the Sanctuary, once built, will be a true gift to our community. The architecture will be a source of pride and the garden, a respite for us all. The old structures will go, the older trees will go – but the Sanctuary will inspire and the new trees will grow. The members of Sufism Reoriented, through their outreach program, are themselves creating new pathways of friendship in a neighborhood I hold very dear. When the dust settles and the quiet harmony has returned to the Saranap, we will be stronger through the friendships that have been forged. I, myself, hope that the Sanctuary project can move forward as a beacon of the new light and understanding which we all long for.

Sincerely,

Fay Royal Baxter

I

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible]

Date: 17 July 2011

Printed Name: MIM BAZZEL

Address: 2513 A Lucy Ln.
Walnut Creek CA
94595

CONTRA COSTA
2011 AUG 23 A 11:46
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

3

2010 FEB -9 P 3:32

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Katherine M. Beadleson Date: 1/26/10

Printed Name KATHERINE M. BEADLESON

Address: 2504 CORTE DEL MARQUES
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Dear Senior Planner Cross,

As a former student of the Meher Schools, I am writing this letter to express my support for the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek.

I grew up in the Saranap area and currently live at 874 Juanita Dr., which is right down the road from the sanctuary. I attended The Meher Schools all the through from preschool to the fifth grade. After graduating from The Meher Schools I went on to attend other wonderful schools including a private university at which I am now studying for an undergraduate degree. Throughout all of my schooling experiences I can tell you with the highest confidence that I received the most love and support at The Meher Schools. The ideals and values of The Meher Schools have stuck with my throughout my entire life. I have yet to experience the same nurturing environment and wonderful teaching at any of my other schools. I learned not only curriculum subjects but also life lessons such as how to deal politely with people and to stand up for my beliefs in life. From my experience at The Meher Schools and the lessons I have been taught by the many Sufi's that work there I have learned how to respect many different cultures and religions. By being respected as an individual I was able to become very independent and have the respect for values such as honesty, patience and accountability starting at a very young age.

Sufism to me is all about love and respect for others no matter what race, religious beliefs, or class structure a person is from. Sufism's presence in the Saranap area is a major part of the neighborhoods character. Their school and community provide parents and children support as well as affordable and high-quality care. The new sanctuary will be a very non-intrusive place for the Sufi's to continue their wonderful outreach to the community around them. If permitted to build this sanctuary, Sufism will only help to rejuvenate the Saranap area with its loving and caring values of life for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Ariel Beard
Meher School Graduate and Saranap area resident
arielb924@yahoo.com
(925)324-5104

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG -4 P 12:16
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Keith D Beard Date: 1/29/10

Printed Name: Keith Beard

Address: 874 Juanita drive
Walnut Creek, CA, 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jennifer Beard Date: 1/29/10

Address: 874 Juanita dr
Walnut Creek CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

August 26, 2009 S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 27 P 2:20

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Maninez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have reviewed information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I was very impressed by the careful consideration shown in their building design, landscaping features and parking arrangement. I commute to Walnut Creek everyday and have often driven down Boulevard Way and know the area. I would consider the project an upgrade to that particular block.

As the nearby city of Walnut Creek ponders yet another shopping destination, I consider the contrast of the beautiful place for spiritual pursuits. In the name of balance itself, it seems like a positive contribution for the community. I was told by a representative that their total attendance at any one time would be in the low hundreds. In my neighborhood of El Sobrante, we are considering a facility upgrade that would involve attendees in the thousands. I just can't see how transforming three old houses into a calming, low profile structure is not an asset to the mixed-use zoning of Boulevard Avenue.

I appreciated that the representative took time seeking my support and would only accept a signature on a petition knowing that I had seen the design and considered the circumstances of the project.

I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project. I would welcome a project like this in my neighborhood. I think it's worth your support as well.

Signed:

Lance D Beeson

Lance Beeson
106 Bolduc Court
San Pablo, CA 94806

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross. Senior Planner

lb

July 17, 2009

Senior Planner Lashun Cross
Community Development Division
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor – North Wing
Martinez, CA 94533

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Sufism Reoriented sanctuary project. I grew up in the Saranap neighborhood, was raised by Sufi parents, and had the incredible good fortune of attending the Meher Schools from preschool until fifth grade. The Meher School and the Sufi community infused my life with love and a life long love of learning and community spirit. Although I am not a member of Sufism Reoriented, I am honored to be a part of their extended family and community. It is due to this group of family, friends and teachers that I have dedicated my life to education.

The Sufi community is one of the most loving and giving groups of people that I have ever had the pleasure of being a part of. They do not recruit new members, but actively involve themselves in providing top-notch education and community service to the Saranap neighborhood and surrounding area. They do this out of pure love and good intention.

After many years in their current building, Sufism Reoriented deserves to have the beautiful sanctuary they have worked so hard to save and plan for. Any opposition to this project can only come from misunderstanding or lack of information. As individuals and as a group, Sufis are incredibly joyful and unassuming and would never plan a building that would not fit with or contribute to the beauty and enjoyment of the community they reside in. After reviewing the proposed building plans, I am in awe of the beauty of the design.

In closing, I want to thank you for taking the time to read this letter of support for the Sufism Reoriented sanctuary project. For a group that has dedicated their lives to love, education, and community spirit I can imagine no better reward than a new and beautiful place to be together in their faith and friendship.

Kindest Regards,
Marika Beck
Marika Beck

6911 N. Curtis Ave
Portland, OR
97203

Cc: Supervisor Gayle Uikema

2009 JUL 20 P 1:32
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

5 (A) 6/15/10

CONTRA COSTA

2010 JUN -8 P 2:34

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Lucy E. Beck Date: 6/5/10

Printed Name Lucy E. Beck

Address: 1086 W. Thompson Rd.
Lafayette, CA 94549

I think building this beautiful space will be a real asset to the community. I have been fortunate to meet several individuals who are in this church and they are people who benefit communities in many ways.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: Robert E Becker Date: 9-28-09

Printed Name: Robert E Becker.

Address: 141 Park Ave CVC 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

SP 7/221

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 5-12-10

Printed name: Michelle Beglinger

Business name: Starbucks

Address: 1146 Broadway Plaza

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S/

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JAN 20 P 1:48

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

January 16, 2009

Ms Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the planned Sufism Reoriented Land Use Permit application and Sanctuary project.

Sincerely,

Ingrid A Bellwood MD

Ingrid A Bellwood, MD

January 15, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street
Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing in support of the new Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary to be located on Boulevard Way in unincorporated Contra Costa County.

As a member of Sufism Reoriented, I moved to the Saranap in 1987 and have lived here since. From 1987 – 2001, I worked as an emergency department physician at Contra Costa Regional Medical Center. Since retiring in 2001, I have served as a private medical consultant for many members of Sufism Reoriented.

Helping people with their medical problems has allowed me to become well acquainted with most members of Sufism Reoriented, and the values and principles they represent and aspire to live in the world. These values of collaboration and harmony have always seemed to me to be quite complementary with the Saranap neighborhood culture, where there is wide diversity of people, lifestyles, goals, and ideals. Creating meaning and beauty from differences is the "stuff" of Sufism Reoriented practice and mystical principles. This is why I believe Sufism Reoriented and our new building are a perfect fit for the Saranap area.

The building itself, a beautiful structure designed by the renowned Johnson/Ritchie firm, will be nearly totally veiled from view by the equally beautiful landscaping, creating a large area of preserved "green". This is important to us all. The grounds of the new sanctuary will provide a wonderful oasis of green for generations to come, while keeping poorly designed high density projects at bay.

Sincerely yours,

Ingrid A Bellwood, M.D.
c.c. Lashun Cross

5

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Thank you!

Krista Bendinelli

Krista Bendinelli

7/11/09

cc: Lashua Cross, Planner

248 S. Wildwood

Lafayette CA 94549

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL 14 P 2:29
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV 12 P 2:03
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

RE: Change position from opposed on Sufi Sanctuary

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed.

My position of opposition was based on my concern specifically related to traffic and parking. With a membership in the hundreds and only 72 parking spaces, I am concerned that that the project will have adverse traffic congestion on the area for both the day to day facility activities as well as during larger functions, such as weddings, community gatherings, etc.

Since the Planning Department is taking this issue under careful consideration and conducting traffic and parking studies, I trust the Planning Department will have the knowledge base to make decisions about traffic and parking that are protective of the Saranap neighborhood. Therefore, I rescind my position in opposition to the project.

Thank you.

Signed: Heidi Benenson Date: Nov. 9, 2009

Printed Name: Heidi Benenson

Address: 70 Park Avenue, Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV 12 P 2:03
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

RE: Change position from opposed on Sufi Sanctuary

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed.

My position of opposition was based on my concern specifically related to traffic and parking. With a membership in the hundreds and only 72 parking spaces, I am concerned that that the project will have adverse traffic congestion on the area for both the day to day facility activities as well as during larger functions, such as weddings, community gatherings, etc.

Since the Planning Department is taking this issue under careful consideration and conducting traffic and parking studies, I trust the Planning Department will have the knowledge base to make decisions about traffic and parking that are protective of the Saranap neighborhood. Therefore, I rescind my position in opposition to the project.

Thank you.

Signed: _____ Date: 11-10-09

Printed Name: Herb Benenson

Address: 70 Park Avenue, Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 of

CONTRA COSTA

2009 OCT 26 P 2:08

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Adam Benetti

Date: 10/17/09

Address: 161 Flora Ave

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Add to
Gilmy Benetti

+ S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 OCT 26 P 2:08

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: _____ Date: 10/12/09

Printed Name: Adam Berc tt

Address: 161 Flora Ave

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 10·17·09

Printed Name: Anne Bentley

Address: 1112 Juanita Dr.
Walnut Creek 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

Gmail BETA

Rob Miller <robinsnest411@gmail.com>

Sufism Reoriented - New Sanctuary - Walnut Creek, California

10 messages

Bill Berdux <bill@berdux.org> **Sun, Oct 5, 2008 at 2:32 PM**
Reply-To: bill@berdux.org
To: robinsnest411@gmail.com

Rob Miller

Sufism Reoriented

Walnut Creek, California

Good afternoon Rob,

It was a pleasure speaking with you this afternoon.

As I mentioned, my wife Barbara and I fully support the construction of your proposed sanctuary which will be on our street within two blocks of our house.

My wife and I have studied the location of the new sanctuary and vehicular traffic patterns in the neighborhood, including freeway ingress and egress points and the sanctuary's proximity to Walnut Creek retail businesses and we do not believe that the proposed project will have a significant impact on traffic, if any, in our neighborhood.

The architectural design of the new edifice has certainly taken into consideration the unique ambiance of the Saranap community. It preserves the semi-rural, wooded, floral landscape and will obviously provide a quiet, aesthetic retreat for nearby residents and passers-by.

Please feel free to include my wife and I on your list of supporters.

Sincerely,

William and Barbara Berdux

1447 Boulevard Way

Walnut Creek, California 94595

S
+

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

2010 JAN 29 P 2:00

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: David Bergesen MFT Date: 1/27/2010

Printed name: David Bergesen, MFT

Business name: COMMUNITY OPTIONS FOR FAMILIES & YOUTH (COFY)

Address: 1910 Olympic Blvd, #200 WALNUT CREEK CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -7 P 1:48

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 02 JULY 09

GEORGE BERNARD

Address: 90 PANORAMIC WAY
WC CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV 13 P 2:09

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 11/11/09

Printed name:
ROBERT D BERNIE

Business name: WALNUT CREEK ENDODONTICS

Address:

ROBERT BERNIE, D.D.S., INC.
1855 OLYMPIC BLVD., STE. 360
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5

CONTRA COSTA
2010 MAR -2 P 2:06
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Eleanor Bernstein

Date: 2/22/10

Printed Name
ELEANOR BERNSTEIN

Address:
1877 Chaparro Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

3

CONTRA COSTA

2010 JAN -5 P 1:31

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jean Bernstein

Date: Dec 6, 2009

Printed Name
Jean Bernstein

Address:

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA
DEVELOPMENT DEPT

FINANCIAL NETWORK INVESTMENT CORPORATION

MARK B. BERTOLI, CFP — FINANCIAL ADVISOR

February 13, 2008

LeShun Cross
Community Development Department
Contra Costa County
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I would like to voice my complete support for Ellen Evans and her efforts on behalf of Sufism Reoriented. Please give them every consideration with regard to their land use permit application.

Both of my children have attended or are still attending the Meher School and have greatly benefited from the values-based education that they were/are fortunate to receive.

Given the magnitude of negativity that often prevails in society, it is very comforting to know there are agents of positive, uplifting influence in our community. The Meher School is, without question, one of these institutions. They are making a difference in a lot of people's lives and deserve our support. I hope that we, collectively, are smart enough to give it to them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mark B. Bertoli

3478 BUSKIRK AVENUE, SUITE 300, PLEASANT HILL, CA 94523
(925) 944-9644 EXT 120 FACSIMILE (925) 944-5675
www.markbertoli.com mark@markbertoli.com
MEMBER SIPC CA INSURANCE # 0715608

Copy for Ms. LaShun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, in Walnut Creek, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Penelope Devereux-Berry Date: 6-19-09

Address: 75 Island Court
Walnut Creek, CA. 94595

Cc: Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner Conservation & Dev. Dept.

I am looking forward to the Sanctuary as I am sure it will improve our neighborhood. The parks and gardens will be a welcomed addition for all of us. Never in all the years that I have lived here has there been a problem with noise or traffic congestion.

Jen S
3/8

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 3/6/11

Printed name: Nick Bigotti NICK BIGOTTI

Business name: Il Pavone Rest IL PAVONE REST.

Address: 2291 Olympic Blvd 94595

MAR 21 AM 10:

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

June 29, 2009

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -9 P 1:04
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I have enclosed a copy of a letter I sent to Supervisor Uilkema expressing my support of the Sufism Reoriented Land Use Permit Application.

Thank you,

Eve Birge

June 29, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to you as a former resident on Warren Road in the Saranap neighborhood and a former student at The Meher Schools. I recently had an opportunity to review a brochure about the sanctuary development for Sufism Reoriented. I was so struck by the beauty of the design I felt compelled to share my reactions with you.

I grew up in the Saranap and attended The Meher Schools from pre-school through fifth grade. I treasure my experience and memories of The Meher Schools. These include creative lesson plans; bright, loving teachers; art, drama, and songs I remember to this day (!); and daily celebrations of an open mind and diversity that are integral to learning at this unique school. As a Federal employee (Education Specialist) at the U.S. Department Education in the Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools, I recognize this approach to teaching and learning as a model for the nation.

The new building that Sufism Reoriented envisions will bring beauty and radiance to a neighborhood thirsty for refreshment! My memories of the Saranap are fond, although the area seemed wanting and ready for re-vitalization. Over the last decade, I have noticed positive changes on my visits to Boulevard Way – I believe the sanctuary, with its welcoming gardens, lovely vistas, and expert architecture, will add significant value and charm to the community.

Thank you for your dedication and service to the Saranap neighborhood. I look forward to following the progress of this project.

Sincerely,

Eve Birge

Eve Birge
Education Program Specialist
Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools
U.S. Department of Education
Washington, DC

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV 10 P 1:52
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Catherine Bischoff Date: 10/14/09

Printed name: Catherine Bischoff LMFT

Business name: Same

Address: 3184 Old Tunnel Rd, suite B
Lafayette, CA. 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

Kirsten Black
2521C Lucy Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

February 27, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to express my complete support for the new building proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I have been a resident of the Saranap neighborhood for more than 20 years. I have rented apartments at three apartment complexes, a home on Warren Road, and for the last 8 years, I have lived with my infirm mother in a condominium she owns on Lucy Lane.

I have been a long time resident of the Saranap neighborhood because I am a participant in Sufism Reoriented. It is important for me to be able to live close to my place of worship. As the center of my life, everything else has been arranged around it.

Nothing could make me happier than to see the lovely new building proposed by Sufism Reoriented become a reality. It's beautiful design, innovative green features and park like setting would be fabulous for this neighborhood, and extremely important for me personally.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Black

Kirsten Black

5

2521C Lucy Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA

2009 MAR 13 A 11:37

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

February 27, 2009

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, north wing
Martinez, Ca 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of the Land Use Permit Application submitted by Sufism Reoriented.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Black

5
4

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: P Black Date: 12/15/09

Printed Name PATRICIA BLACK

Address: 3939 Canyon Rd
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JAN 12 P 2:13
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Candice J Blackman Date: 9 jan 2010

Printed Name Candice J Blackman

Address: 173 ironwood dr
pleasant hill CA 94523

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (11)
09/30/1

2010 SEP 28 P 12:04

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 9/23/10

Printed Name Ariel Blason

Address: 21 Watkins Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

1

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Alan Blum

Date: 9-21-09

Printed Name

Alan Blum

Address:

1295 Homestead Ave. #38
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA
00 MAY 20 PM 12:59
DEVELOPMENT DEPT

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Mr. Cross:

Enclosed please find a copy of a letter that I have written to Supervisor Uilkema concerning a new building being proposed on Boulevard Way, Walnut Creek. I have learned that Sufism Reoriented will be filing its land use application for that building soon. As you can see from my letter to the Supervisor, I strongly support the project and wanted you to know that also.

Sincerely,

Karin Thure Bodman

Karin Thure Bodman

May 15, 2008

Supervisor Gail Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am writing in support of the new sanctuary building being proposed by Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way, Walnut Creek. I own and have lived in my home within a few hundred yards of the proposed site for over 25 years. I am thrilled with the prospect of this weed-filled acreage with a few very rundown buildings being transformed into two acres of landscaped garden surrounding a lovely, classically designed building. When I was shown the aerial view of the proposed development, I was particularly struck by the sizeable green space it affords amid the tight clusters of homes surrounding it. Having grown up on a farm, I am eager to see this space saved before we are completely overrun by tightly packed housing developments.

I also am very supportive of this proposal because of my long association with the Meher Schools. Both my children attended the school from preschool through fifth grade, and now I have a granddaughter just moving up from kindergarten to the first grade there. I was struck from the first by the love, respect, collaboration, and continual effort toward increasing excellence that is the hallmark of administration, teachers, and students alike. In fact, I was so impressed with the school that I applied for a job there, first in the office and eventually as an elementary school teacher*. For the past 15 years I have had the privilege of teaching (and learning) in this wonderful environment and contributing to the service it offers to the community through its low cost programs.

Additionally, I am very grateful for the time, effort, and expense that Sufism is putting into creating a building and setting that strives to fulfill the highest standards and newest technology for protecting our environment and resources. From all that I read and observe it seems terribly important for all new construction to be held to similar standards.

Finally, I have known and worked with members of Sufism Reoriented for all the years I have lived here. I have the greatest respect for their dedication to their church and their service to the community through their school. They have been kind, thoughtful, and very responsible and responsive neighbors. I want them to have this beautiful new sanctuary that they so desire.

Sincerely,

Karin Thure Bodman
80 Island Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

*With a Master's Degree in Psychology from the University of Michigan and education units from the University of Alaska, I had obtained a lifetime California Elementary Teaching Credential some years before. I had long had a dream of teaching elementary school, actually since I was in elementary school in a one-room schoolhouse in western Michigan.

5

William C. Bodman
80 Island Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
08 JUL 21 PM 1:27
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

July 18, 2008

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

Dear Lashun,

Now that Sufism Reoriented has filed the land use application for its new building on Boulevard Way, I wanted to write to Supervisor Uilkema asking for her support and to share that letter with you. I send warm personal regards and best wishes to you.

Sincerely,

Bill Bodman

Bill Bodman

William C. Bodman
80 Island Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

July 18, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
61 Pine Street, Rm 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Copy

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I write as an enthusiastic supporter of Sufism Reoriented's plan to build a new sanctuary to replace its current building. In order to become a member of Sufism, I moved back to California in 1974, buying a house in Lafayette on Via Los Colorados. Earlier I had graduated from Stanford Business School and worked in San Francisco. In 1975 I had the pleasure of participating in the transformation of the Iron Gate Restaurant and Club into Sufism Reoriented's current home. We scraped paint off the windows that had been painted black to keep the light out, took out the pecky cedar booths, removed the red carpets that were heavily stained and smelled of aging alcohol, cleaned and painted.

I purchased a natural food wholesaling company located in Marin County. I moved it to Boulevard Way and moved with my family to Island Court, to have the pleasure of my work and my church life right around the corner.

As a member of Sufism Reoriented since its move to Walnut Creek, I have seen the organization and individual members establish themselves as quiet, dedicated members of the city and county. I have also experienced for many years the shortcomings of our current building. I am eager to move to a new building that will better accommodate and support our activities. It has taken many years to save the financial resources necessary to undertake the move. As you know, we do not want or expect to grow in numbers; rather we wish to do better those things that we already do.

I believe that the new building designed by Alan Ritchie of Philip Johnson/Alan Ritchie will become recognized as an outstanding architectural landmark in Northern California. Many are astonished that the Philip Johnson/Alan Ritchie firm is designing a building for Walnut Creek. I have a wonderful daughter, who went to the White Pony and Meher Schools, Stanford, and UC Berkeley, where she received a Ph. D in Developmental Psychology. She married into a wealthy San Francisco family and lives in Pacific Heights. She and her husband are not easily impressed by anything in Walnut Creek. However, when they learned that Philip Johnson/Alan Ritchie had designed Sufism Reoriented's new sanctuary, they were very impressed. Her husband's first question was, "How did you ever get Alan Ritchie to design your new building?"

One of the expensive charity events that they had recently attended had as its featured prize attending a dinner at the Glass House designed by Philip Johnson. I believe that Mr. Ritchie's talents and affinity for smaller religious structures coupled with Sufism Reoriented's love of beauty will produce an astonishingly beautiful building. Your support of this project would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Bill Bodman

Copy to Lashun Cross at
Community Conservation and Development Dept.

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Sandy Bohac Date: 10-8-09

Printed name: Sandy Bohac

Business name: Beauty for You Sandy Bohac

Address: 3561 Mt Diablo Blvd
LaFayette CA. 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

Kate Grayson Boisvert
1314 C Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
08 JUL -7 PM 2:18
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

July 3, 2008

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I have learned that Sufism Reoriented will be filing its land use application soon. I want to express my support for this project by sending you the copy of the letter that I also shared with Supervisor Uilkema.

Sincerely yours,

Kate Grayson Boisvert

Kate Grayson Boisvert, Ph.D.

Kate Grayson Boisvert
1314 C Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

July 3, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to support Sufism Reoriented's new sanctuary in the Saranap area of our county. I have lived in this county for the past 34 years, owned a home in the Saranap area for 31 years, and for the past 16 years lived one block from the proposed sanctuary site.

The aspect of the sanctuary that inspires me most deeply is its vision of unity—the unity of all mankind and the unity of religions at their core. This ideal is built into the very structure of the building, with its circular form and emblem displaying the symbols of world religions.

I have cherished a vision of unity all my life. After graduate training in astronomy at U.C. Berkeley, I was fortunate to become a founding faculty member at a college committed to the unity of knowledge, Los Medanos. There, I taught astronomy and a combined science and religion course for the past 34 years. I recently had a textbook on the scientific and religious understanding of creation and evolution published. In my early adult life, I was drawn to the ideals of religious unity held by Sufism Reoriented, where I have been a member since 1970.

I believe that this sanctuary, which embodies in its very form a beautiful vision of unity, can inspire many with the ideal of harmony among people and be a beacon of hope. I can only imagine that residents of Contra Costa might one day feel joyful to have such a building within their county.

Sincerely yours,

Kate Grayson Boisvert, Ph.D.

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Friday, May 23, 2008

CONTRA COSTA

08 OCT 14 PM 3:21

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I recently learned that Sufism Reoriented will be filing a land use application soon regarding a new church they wish to build in my neighborhood. I have enclosed a copy of a letter I've written to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema that describes my feelings about this new church project and my support of it. I want you to know that I heartily support the addition of this beautiful church to the neighborhood and look forward to experiencing the uplifted atmosphere it will bring.

Sincerely,

Nick Boisvert

Nick Boisvert

Friday, May 23, 2008

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Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street,
Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to you to ask for your support of Sufism Reoriented's project to build a new sanctuary in the Saranap neighborhood. I have lived in the Saranap since 1983, first at 1572 Boulevard Way for 10 years, and most recently at 1314 Boulevard Way for the last 12 years with my wife Kate. We are homeowners of this condo.

I live within short walking distance of the proposed site of the new sanctuary, and for the past several years I have been taking walks in the neighborhood as part of a personal exercise program. Throughout most of my adult working life I have had two careers—Journeylevel Carpenter (30 years in the Carpenters Union, Local 152 in Martinez) and as a Fine Artist. As I walk through the neighborhood I study the architecture, the gardens, and the landscaping of the homes and commercial properties I pass by. That is what I naturally do—I pair my experience in construction and art and see how well the buildings and landscaping work in their surround. I am able to visualize how the proposed church will integrate with the land and community, and I am excited by the transformative beauty I see growing there.

Having traveled in Europe and Asia and visited many cathedrals, churches and temples, I know from first hand experience the positive and uplifting atmosphere that surrounds a sacred structure. I was recently presented with a brochure that described the new project, showing color renderings of the sanctuary and landscaped areas. I was struck by the beauty of the architecture and sophistication of the design. As an artist and a builder of both public and private structures I can appreciate and value a well designed and thought out structure. This new sanctuary was designed by the renowned architecture firm of Philip Johnson/Alan Ritchie and will be a uniquely beautiful addition to the community. I look forward to the day when I can walk by this property and experience its graceful harmony and feel the peace that will flow out from it.

I have voted for you in the past, and I continue to support you in your job as Supervisor, because I believe you to be fair and even handed in the way you respond to the many complex issues you face. This project by Sufism Reoriented will greatly enhance and enrich the Saranap community in many beneficial ways. I urge you to lend your support.

Sincerely,

Nick Boisvert

Nick Boisvert

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Deborah E. Boland
1830 Alray Dr.
Concord, CA 94519

CONTRA COSTA

2009 MAR 20 P 1:24

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

March 1, 2009

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am enclosing a copy of the letter I am sending to Supervisor Uilkema. My letter is in support of the Sufism Reoriented Land Use Permit application.

Sincerely,

Deborah Boland

Deborah E. Boland

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Deborah E. Boland
1830 Alray Dr.
Concord, CA 94519

March 1, 2009

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

As a resident of Contra Costa County, I am writing in support for the approval of the Land Use Permit Application by Sufism Reoriented to build a new sanctuary to replace its current building.

My cousin is a long time resident and homeowner in the Saranap. I have seen the artistic renditions of the new sanctuary and it is beautiful. I am mindful that it will be very convenient for the new church to be within a block of the older building since so many of its members live in the Saranap neighborhood.

I am also impressed that two-thirds of the proposed sanctuary will be below grade, is a one story structure and that the landscaping and many trees are designed to have less impact on the neighborhood. It will actually improve and beautify that area of Boulevard Way. A number of years ago, when my husband and I lived on what was a "rural" section of North Gate Road in Walnut Creek, there was a very large Mormon Church across the street. There was no consideration for its above grade size or its impact on the surrounding rural setting. Sufism Reoriented has done an excellent job addressing its impact on the surrounding apartment buildings, businesses and residential homes with its thoughtful and beautiful building and landscape design.

Thank you for your consideration. Please support the approval of the Land Use Applicaton for the new Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary.

Sincerely,

Deborah E. Boland

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: J. BOLOGNA Date: 9/1/09

Business name: HOLLMAN BOLOGNA ARCHITECTS

Address: 1415 OAKLAND BLVD STE 103
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

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227 Douglas Lane
Pleasant Hill, Ca 94523

CONTRA COSTA
08 JUN -3 AM 11:45
DEVELOPMENT DEPT

June 1, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, North Wing
Martinez, Ca 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

It has come to my attention that Sufism Reoriented will soon be filing its land use application. I would like to express my support for this wonderful project by forwarding a letter that I shared with Supervisor Uilkema.

Thank you,

Julia Bonacich

Julia Bonacich

227 Douglas Lane
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

June 1, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108 A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

Recently, my husband Steven and I had the pleasure of running into you at a local restaurant in Concord. It was a pleasure to meet you again. Upon seeing you, I thought of the last time we had met in your office in Lafayette. I was with Herb Putnam and others representing the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill ("NAMI"). We were visiting you regarding some wording that we hoped could be included in Proposition 63. It was to include the words "at risk of homelessness." Well, that did get adopted into the Proposition, and for that, many more of our loved ones with mental illness have been helped. Thank you so much for your support with that matter.

Prior to that, many of us fought hard to get the Crestwood Healing Center open in Pleasant Hill. Once again we were all before you and the other distinguished Supervisors, and once again… a life saver! My daughter is at that very facility at this time, doing better than she has done since the onset of her illness ten years ago. Having her so well cared for, so close to my home, allows me to see her daily, thus aiding in her recovery.

Again, I am at your door to ask for your support with a matter also very close to my heart. For almost a decade my family lived on Marlene Drive in Lafayette, and for the next decade we lived in the Saranap area in Walnut Creek. During that time, we were fortunate to have our children attend The Meher Schools. Also, for three decades Sufism Reoriented has been located at 1300 Boulevard Way, and I have been a member of Sufism since 1967. For many years we have struggled with inadequate space in which to worship and work. We have so many projects going on all the time that we have been forced to do "some here and some there" throughout the area. Yes, the work still gets done. However, we have an opportunity at long last to have a beautiful new building, designed by the world famous firm of Philip Johnson/Alan Ritchie. It will be a place that is uplifting and inspirational for our membership, the neighborhood, and the County. It will be tasteful, unimposing and will be an environmentally "green" building.

As a Realtor who specializes in the immediate area, I am pleased about the value added to properties and homes in the Saranap community. Recent independent studies suggest that churches, in general, have a positive impact on real estate values. Members of Sufism either already live in the area or aspire to do so. Having members close by more easily supports our

work with the Meher Schools, our own community of members, and the wider community as well, since our focus is on loving God through service to humanity.

I have been teaching a twelve-week course in Lafayette for NAMI since 2000 after my daughter became ill in 1998. Even though I was heartbroken and grieving about her illness, I knew I had to roll up my sleeves and get to work to try to make life better for her, for the mentally ill, and their families. Since 1998, I have had the privilege of addressing different social and political groups, participating in newspaper interviews, as well as being involved with mental health publicity and fund raising events. A few years ago, I was interviewed for a segment of a featured story on mental illness in the streets of San Francisco on Channel 5. I tell you this only because it is a tiny example of Sufis serving in the community.

Supervisor Uilkema, please support our plan to build a beautiful new place of worship on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek.

Sincerely, and in gratitude for all your service to our County residents,

Julia Bonacich

LC

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CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL -1 PM 1:44

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

July 9, 2008
227 Douglas Lane
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
61 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I'm writing to you today in support of Sufism Reoriented's sanctuary project that is being proposed for the Saranap area in Walnut Creek. I'm sure you are familiar with the plans and will continue to hear about them for some time. This seems like a good time to let you know that I strongly support the project.

At a time of ever-increasing use of county land for purely residential purposes, the prospect of a new alternative that features a park-like setting and environmentally sensitive qualities is especially appealing. Having lived in Contra Costa County for virtually my entire life and in the Saranap area for nearly twenty years, I am well aware of the growth and changes that have occurred since the 1950s and the possibility of a unique building designed by nationally recognized experts dedicated to high purpose is very exciting – a quantum leap over other development in the Saranap area.

Thank you for accepting and reading this letter. I appreciate the opportunity to contact you about this exciting new project that will benefit the local neighborhood and the greater county area as well.

Sincerely,

Steven A. Bonacich

cc: Lashun Cross

SA

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Benjamin Bond Date: Feb 08, 2011

Printed Name Benjamin Bond

Address: 1829 Almond Ave. Walnut Creek, CA 94596

CONTRA COSTA
2011 MAR 14 A 11: 31
DEVELOPMENT
CONSERVATION
DEPARTMENT

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Aaron Bonds Date: 9/18/09

Printed Name Aaron Bonds

Address: abonds85@yahoo.com
250 Hall Drive Orinda
Ca. 94563

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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---COPY FOR MS. LASHUN CROSS---

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signature Kenneth Boozy Date 2/3/10

Business name Billy Blue Porta Solar Delicia

Address 1109 Bont Ln Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Bont

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CONTRA COSTA
2009 FEB 20 P 1:11
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

February 18, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit application for their new sanctuary. I am enclosing a copy of a letter I sent to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Maia Bora

Maia Bora

544 Colusa Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530

February 18, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

It is with great enthusiasm that I extend my support for the proposed sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented. As a member of this group for the past twelve years, I have witnessed the dedication, devotion and commitment to service of its members. Another core value of our group is the cultivation of beauty and harmony in every aspect of our lives. The new building promises to be not only breathtakingly beautiful on an aesthetic level, but also a welcoming, peaceful contemplative garden.

Dating back to my undergraduate study of the history of architecture, I have held an avid interest in the design of modern buildings. I was thrilled to learn that the world-renowned firm, Philip Johnson/Alan Ritchie, drew up the plans for our house of worship! I feel that the residents of the Saranap are incredibly fortunate to have this opportunity to enjoy an architectural treasure in their neighborhood. The fact that the grounds will be beautifully landscaped, and both the building and its environs will be ecologically "green", only adds to the benefit that this building will likely bring to the entire area.

For twenty years I lived in and around Lafayette, where I was both a renter and homeowner. Recently, I moved to El Cerrito as a result of some happy changes in my life. For the past decade I have worked for Solano County, as a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, counseling high-risk youth and their families. Although I no longer live near my spiritual center, I feel privileged to remain connected with this vibrant community, and excited to witness the realization of a magnificent new work of sacred architecture.

Sincerely,

Maia Bora

Maia Bora

cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

S 2/15/11 (A)

CONTRA COSTA

2011 FEB -8 P 4:05

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: _____ Date: 2/6/11

Printed Name: MANRELA BORDEN

Address: 151 Flora Ave. WC, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (11)
11/08/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 9/4/10

Printed Name: TRACER BORDEN

Address: 151 FLORA AVE W.C. 94595

2010 OCT 29 P 2:36
CONTRA COSTA

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 7-26-09

Printed Name: STEVE BOSROCK

Address: 1172 Saranap Ave 383
Walnut Creek.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUN 11 P 1:17

June 5, 2009

Dear Ms. Cross,

I would like to express my support of the proposed sanctuary on Boulevard Way. This project will only improve the neighborhood. The responsible design of the structure and beautiful grounds are things to look forward to.

Thank you for your time,

Karen Bottiani
1648 Springbrook Rd
Lafayette

CONTRA COSTA

2010 MAR -9 P 2:23

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Liz Bowen Date: 3-6-10

Printed Name: Liz Bowen

Address: 1570 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, Ca 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

April 15, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

2009 APR 17 P 12:41

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Barbara Boyan

Barbara Boyan

105 Island Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

105 Island Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
April 14, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I would like to express my whole-hearted support for the new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented. I have been a member of Sufism Reoriented since 1972 and am a resident of the Saranap. I feel that this beautifully designed building with its many "green" features and its peaceful and spacious grounds would greatly enhance our neighborhood.

I have driven through the streets of the Saranap on my way to work at the White Pony/Meher Schools since 1979. I helped develop an infant/toddler program there and served as its director from 1981 to 1990. Since 1990 I have taught preschool at the White Pony. Over the years I have met so very many wonderful infants, toddlers, preschoolers and their families, many of whom are residents of the Saranap. My own children also attended the Meher Schools and benefitted greatly from this experience. I also serve as a mentor teacher for Diablo Valley College's Early Childhood Education department, supervising student teachers in my classroom at White Pony. This is another way White Pony/Meher Schools serve the community.

My husband and I moved to the Saranap in 1974 and lived here until 1983. After living just outside the Saranap for some years we were delighted to return to the Saranap in 1997. We lived here earlier as renters and now are homeowners. We live on Island Court which is around the corner and about a block away from the site of the new sanctuary.

With all this experience living and working in the Saranap I feel that I know this neighborhood well. The new sanctuary with its graceful design will provide an uplifting and very valuable addition to the Saranap community. I thank you for your consideration and urge your support of this beautiful sanctuary.

Sincerely,

Barbara Boyan

Barbara Boyan

cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

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October 18, 2008

CONTRA COSTA

08 OCT 20 PM 1:24

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine St., 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Lashun Cross:

Earlier this year, I wrote a letter supporting Sufism Reoriented's land use application to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema. I wanted to show my support for this project by sending you a copy of that letter.

Thank you very much.

Yours truly,

Craig Boyan

Craig Boyan
105 Island Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Hello Ms. Cross
This is a copy of a letter I sent to Supervisor Uilkema re: Sufism Reoriented's land use application. I support Sufism's project. Thank you!
Ivy Boyan

S

CONTRA COSTA
08 MAY 16 PM 1:27
DEVELOPMENT DEPT

Ivy Boyan
1336 Boulevard Way #301
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
ivyboyan@hotmail.com

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

May 13, 2008

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to express my support for the new church that Sufism Reoriented plans to build on Boulevard Way. I currently rent an apartment just down the street from the proposed site. I've lived on Boulevard Way for four years and have spent most of my life in the Walnut Creek area. I grew up near Newell Avenue and attended Walnut Creek Intermediate and then Las Lomas High School. After college, I returned to Walnut Creek about nine years ago. I've seen the Walnut Creek/Lafayette area change quite a bit since my childhood, and I believe that the church will be a great addition to the area.

One thing I like about the proposed building is its beauty. I like the simplicity and rounded shapes in the pictures I've seen of the new building. I also think it's exciting for our area to have a building designed by a famous architectural firm. As someone who walks around our neighborhood a lot, I also like the idea of a new building with nice landscaping and a lot of plants and lawns around it. Perhaps other neighbors will be inspired to plant more trees and we will have more shade on hot summer days.

As you know, Sufism Reoriented founded the Meher Schools. I am a graduate of the Meher Schools, and I think the school provides a great service to the community. The Meher School gave me a strong academic foundation for future studies which helped me when I attended Walnut Creek's excellent public schools and then the University of California for undergraduate studies and S.F.S.U. for graduate school. The school also taught me about working cooperatively, and about kindness and respect and service, which are all values I try to incorporate into my current work as a Speech-Language Pathologist in the public schools.

The school provides a great service to many families by offering education and on-site daycare for extended hours at reasonable rates. I currently work in a preschool special education program, and many parents tell me about the challenges of finding an affordable preschool program in this area. The Meher School provides a great service to the community by offering quality childcare with extended hours of operation for relatively low tuition.

I consider myself very fortunate to have received a good education from the Meher Schools and then from California's public education system all the way through graduate

school. I am happy that I can help serve the community and give back by working in the local public schools. I hope that the Meher School will continue to serve the community for many more years, and I hope that Sufism's proposed project will be approved so that the school can continue to play a role in the raising and educating of our children. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ivy Boyan

(HV 7/20/10
S

CONTRA COSTA
2002 JUL 13 P 2:46
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: Donald Bozorth Date: 7/10/02

Printed Name: DONALD BOZORTH

Address: 3380 FREEMAN RD

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 10-8-09

Printed name: ANNE MARIE BRUGGE

Business name: ABSOLUTE PERFECTION

Address: 1222 BLVD WY WC 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: M Braikoff

Date: 10/5/09

Printed Name

M BRAIKOFF

Address:

1933 FALLEN OAK CT
WALNUT CREEK, CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (HD) 08/04/10

CONTRA COSTA
2010 AUG -3 P 2:49
DEVELOPMENT & CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Steve Breashers Date: 10/25/2009

Address:
1230 EL CARTOLA, WALNUT CREEK 94595
Steve Breashers

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Tim Brennan

1229 Boulevard Way #10
Walnut Creek 94595

2008 JUL 17 P 12:39
CONTRA COSTA
COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

S

2009 SEP -8 P 1:53
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Robert S. Brindley Date: 9-3-09

Printed Name Robert S. Brindley

Address: 2456 Encinal Dr
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL 14 P 2:29

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7-12-09

MIKE BRINGEL

Address: 3138 MARS CT MARS CT
LAFAYETTE CA
94549.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 2-13-10

Printed Name Daniel Brodigan

Address: 1457 Treat Blvd, #525
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

LC

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COM USE
08 MAY 12:43
CO
DEVELO

May 25, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street
Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Uilkema,

My name is Mary Brooks and I have lived and worked in Walnut Creek for 25 years. I am writing in support of the proposed building of a new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way. I live very near the proposed site at 1278 Laurel Oak Lane in Walnut Creek.

I first arrived in Walnut Creek early in 1983 to visit friends who lived here. I had rarely been to California, and certainly never to Walnut Creek. Yet, the minute I arrived I looked around at the beauty of this area and said to myself, "This is my home." And I have never once regretted my decision. Since I have lived in the Saranap for 25 years, you know the incredible changes I have witnessed in our community. I even remember Simon's Hardware! And each time something changes it is a little bit hard to let it go—and yet, each time the old buildings come down and I wonder how could they be replaced, a better, more beautiful, more fully used structure takes its place. I have had the privilege of seeing the beautiful Regional Center for the Arts become a reality in a block that used to sell bagels. I have served on the Foundation Board for John Muir Hospital, and now witness the realization of the magnificent new John Muir complex. I have worked for 13 years at Smith Barney, in a beautiful glass building called the golden triangle where there used to be vacation cottages and vegetable gardens. I look forward with joyous anticipation to the opening of the new Walnut Creek library.

Contra Costa county has established a tradition of thoughtful, planned change that has succeeded in making us a major destination for residents and businesses alike. People don't just come here to "visit". They live and work in our neighborhoods and office buildings and small companies. Sufism Reoriented's beautiful design by one of the world's most respected architectural firms makes its building a valuable addition to our community in the spirit of timeless, integrated design and natural beauty.

I want to thank you for your many years of service to our community, and ask for your support of Sufism Reoriented's new building.

Sincerely,

Mary S. Brooks

Mary S. Brooks, CFP
Senior Vice-President Wealth Management
Citi-Smith Barney

I have learned that
Sufism Reoriented will be filing
its land use permit soon, and
I would like to express my
support for this project. See
attached my letter to
Supervisor Wilkema.

Sincerely,
Mary Brooks

S

PETER BROOKS
1278 LAUREL OAK LANE
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 945495

CONTRA COSTA
08 MAY 19 PM 2:12
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPT

May 13, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, California 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I have learned that Sufism Reoriented will soon be filing its land use application for a sanctuary in the Saranap neighborhood of Walnut Creek.

I would like to express my support for this project, and so I am attaching for you a copy of the letter I sent to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema.

Sincerely,

Peter Brooks

attachment

PETER BROOKS
1278 LAUREL OAK LANE
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94595

May 12, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

A Sufi Sanctuary in the Saranap Neighborhood

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I have lived in the Saranap neighborhood as a homeowner since 1977, first at 1125 Juanita Drive, where my former wife and I raised our daughter, and more recently, now that I am remarried, on Laurel Oak Lane. Both locations are a short walk from the site of the new proposed Sufi sanctuary.

My own background and experience predispose me to support this project, which I welcome.

Since 1975 I have had a career where my charge was to seek public support for the inclusion of persons with developmental disabilities in the community. I began this career in 1975 in Oakland, at Clausen House, an agency serving 180 developmentally disabled adults, where I served as Director of Development until 1980, and where I returned to the same position in 1995. I continue to work there, both as a staff member of Clausen House and as a member of the Episcopal Diocese's Planned Giving Department.

From 1983 to 1995 I was Director of Development at Las Trampas, in Lafayette, and took great pride in the work of that organization in helping its members become part of the community also, in jobs, housing and recreation. It gave me special pleasure to see the growing acceptance and support that our program received from the community, particularly the cities of Lafayette and Walnut Creek. During those years my daughter was a student at the Meher School, operated by Sufism Reoriented, and I was touched to find that the values of inclusion and support of diversity that were

at the core of my professional work were also part of the philosophy of the Meher School. One day I came to school to pick up my daughter, and found her in one of the smaller play areas, happily playing a one-on-one game with a girl with Down Syndrome. I felt proud of my daughter and proud of the school. I was especially impressed when I learned that the Meher School had offered to be a site for a Contra Costa County special education program that none of the public schools would accept at their own locations. My daughter is now 26 years old, an alumna of Boston University, and living in New York. She continues to have warm memories of the Meher School, and keeps in touch with some of the friends she made there.

My admiration for the Sufi sanctuary project also resonates with another track of my experience. I have degrees in Art History from Harvard and U.C. Berkeley, and have taught Art History classes part-time in community colleges since 1968. Since 1991 I have been teaching in the evening at Diablo Valley College. The textbook I have always used is the benchmark in art history survey course texts: *Janson's History of Art*, now in its seventh edition. In two of its sections on modern architecture, the work of Philip Johnson is featured. I was amazed to learn that the firm of Philip Johnson/Alan Ritchie had been commissioned to design a church in my own neighborhood. When I was shown the preliminary renderings I was even more delighted. If this structure, in its park-like setting and its ecological sensitivity, comes to realization as planned, it will be a jewel, and a real point of pride for this area.

For these reasons, I warmly support the Sufi sanctuary in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek.

Sincerely,

Peter Brooks

cc: Lashun Cross

5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 DEC -1 P 2:09

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Anne Chalfant Brown

Date: 11/28/09

Printed Name
Anne Chalfant Brown

Address:
1961 Woodpecker Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

(13)

March 8, 2011

Dear Ms Cross,

As I know you have received a large volume of mail regarding this topic, I will attempt to be brief. I wish to support Sufism Reoriented's new sanctuary building project on Boulevard Way. I have reviewed the intentions for this project and see three great reasons for giving my support.

First, the majority of the building will be underground. This means that the highest portion of the building will barely rise above the building currently standing next to the site of the project. As far as I can tell, very little of the buildings above ground square footage even reaches this point. This demonstrates a consideration for the local community on the part of the building's planners.

Additionally, as walker/runner in the Saranap neighborhood, I find myself daily jogging down Boulevard Way. I firmly believe the architectural design of the building will complement and improve this portion of my neighborhood. And eventually the architecture will disappear from street view behind the growing landscape features. While I acknowledge that taste in architecture varies, when the landscaping is fully developed, I believe the neighborhood will embrace this areas improved beauty. I know it will make my walks more enjoyable.

And finally, the planners of this project have again considered the Saranap community by designing a public park into the structure. This public space will incorporate nature, features conducive for tranquility and contemplation, walking paths and sitting structures. Currently I journey to Lafayette Reservoir when I want to be away from my normal residential and commercial environment. With the completion of this project, I will be able to stay in my Saranap neighborhood and enjoy a quiet place for contemplation. Of course the quiet will increase with the full development of the landscape features.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my thoughts on this wonderful and thoughtful addition to the Saranap neighborhood. I hope that for the above reasons and for many others that you will give your full support to this project.

Sincerely,

Frederick Browne
Saranap Resident

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
2011 MAR 11 AM 11:31
CONTRA COSTA

5 (7) 7/22/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JUL -6 P 2:33
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Kerry Abbott Brown Date: June 29, 2010

Printed Name KERRY ABBOTT BROWN

Address: 256 CRESTRIDGE DR.
DANVILLE, CA 94506

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Caree Brown, LCSW Date: July 29/09

Printed Name: Caree Brown, LCSW

Address: 1849 Bonanza St.
Walnut Creek, Ca.
94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

2009 JUL 29 P 4:41

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Elizabeth Brown Date: 7/7/09

Printed Name ELIZABETH BROWN

Address: 3 PALM TREE CREEK DR UNIT 4
WALNUT CREEK CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S 8/16/10
(R)

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Katherine Espinosa-Brown Date: Aug 8, 2010

Printed Name Katherine Espinosa-Brown

Address: 543 LA VISTA RD
Walnut Creek, Ca 94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S 8/16/10
(A)

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed:

Date: 8-8-10

Printed Name
SCOTT ESPINOSA-BROWN

Address:
543 LA VISTA RD
WALNUT CREEK, CA. 94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: SMB

Date: 10/2/09

Printed Name Sara Marks Brown

Address: 1841 Soaprock Ct
Walnut Creek
CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA

2010 JAN 13 P 1:49

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Stephanie Browning Date: 12/22/09

Printed Name Browning, Stephanie

Address:

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Barry Brunckhorst Date: Oct 4, 2009

Printed Name: Barry Brunckhorst

Address: 1039 Windsor Dr.
LAF., CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

FRED BRUNSWIG

1316 C BOULEVARD WAY
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595
925-938-2170

CONTRA COSTA
08 OCT 14 PM 3:21
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

October 13, 2008

Ms Lashun Cross,
Contra Costa County Planning Department
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms Cross,

I am sending a second copy of the letter that I addressed to Supervisor Uilkema last month, because Mr Carpenter informed me that you had no record of receiving the copy I sent earlier.

Thank you for your attention to this project.

Sincerely

Fred Brunswig

FRED BRUNSWIG
1316 C BOULEVARD WAY
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595
925-933-3487

September 21,2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

This letter is in regards to the proposed new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented. I moved here to the Saranap in 1975 to join this group's dedicated service and devotion to God. Over the intervening years, the activities have gradually grown to the point where many activities must be carried out in homes and other spaces in the vicinity when available. This proposed new building will provide much needed space for many of these activities to be carried out, in a much more appropriate and less crowded way. Yet by having much of the planned space underground, there will not be the appearance of a large campus of structures.

I have made my living as an electrical contractor for thirty years, with my office at 1251 Boulevard Way across the street from Sufism Reoriented's current sanctuary. Like my father I was born and raised in San Francisco. Hence I have long and firm ties to the Bay Area and now the Saranap.

It has been my pleasure and privilege to volunteer my electrical and sound engineering skills to Sufism Reoriented for thirty years. I look forward to volunteering on one last great project, helping the construction of this beautiful new sanctuary for the Sufism Reoriented community. I can't imagine a more exciting or important project for this neighborhood. I hope you and the other members of the Board can look equally favorably on the value and appropriateness of this project for this neighborhood.

With my sincere thanks,

Fred Brunswig

Cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA

October 17, 2008

08 OCT 20 PM 1:24

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Fl, N. Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dearest Ms. Cross,

I am sending to you a copy of a letter of support for the Sufism Reoriented land use permit application that I sent to Supervisor Uilkema at the beginning of this year.

I hope that this letter reaches you, and that you are enjoying our beautiful fall weather.

Sincerely,

Kathy Brunswig

Kathy Brunswig
1316C Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

C-O-P-Y

Katherine M. Brunswig
1316C Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

January 28, 2008

Supervisor Gayle B. Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I live next door to Sufism Reoriented, where I am also employed. My mother, who passed away last August, lived in an apartment at Le Boulevard during the last years of her life.

I used to stop by to see Mom two or three times a day, doing her laundry, getting mail, bringing her dinner, and helping her get ready for bed. Since I lived a block away from her apartment, I would like to walk over, happy to have some exercise. However, I was often at her house after dark. At night, walking past Super Liquor, I never felt safe. As it would get dark, young people would congregate in the parking lot, young people would call out to me, cars would pull in and out of the driveway going very fast and driving recklessly. There are also homeless people who walk up and down Boulevard Way. Last year, a group of drug dealers were apprehended operating out of a home just across Boulevard Way, and in a separate incident, a prostitution ring was uncovered operating out of a poorly cared for building along this strip. Most evenings I would run home, scared, or my husband would ask me to call so that he could meet me. He was also concerned about my safety (I am talking about walking only one block).

I'm writing this note just to express how grateful I am that that liquor store on Boulevard Way, now owned by Sufism, has been closed. You might think that my being an employee of Sufism makes me overly-biased about my gratitude to this organization for the safe feeling it provides in the neighborhood. I am grateful that they will build a new building a block away and that they will they remain in our area. I have lived in the Saranap area for over 30 years. I was musing about this on Sunday, as I walked around the block, and saw a member of Sufism sweeping the gutter around the Sufi Center. There is a fresh and safe feeling around the building, with flowerbeds and a positive presence that has spread in the neighborhood.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Sincerely,

Katherine Brunswig

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL 23 P 12:16
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION
ANTIOCH, CALIF.

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Christina Brush

Date: 7/18/09

Printed Name
Christina Brush

Address:
3949 S. Peardale Dr.
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL 23 P 12:16

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Eric Brush Date: 7/18/09

Printed Name
Eric Brush

Address:
3949 South Peardale
Lafayette, ca 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S
4

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JAN -5 P 1:30
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 1/3/10

Printed Name: Irina Brusilovsky

Address: 1537 Blrd. Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 10-13-09

Printed Name: JEROME BAYS

Address: 56 PATERSON PL

W.C., CA.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Christa Buckingham

Date: 10-9-09

Printed Name
CHRISTA Buckingham

Address:
1137 LINDELL Dr.
Walnut Creek, CA

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Paula Dickerson
559 High Eagle Ct
Walnut Creek CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
2008 JUL 15 P 2:16
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St. Room 108A
Martinez, Ca 94553

June 15, 2009

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I write to ask you to approve the building of a sanctuary by Sufism Reoriented in a neighborhood not far from Rossmoor, where I live. As a retired art instructor I think that the architectural plans for the building are very beautiful and well designed to fit into the general environment. I am also impressed that its plans for filtering ground water will reduce pollution of our creeks and that the energy saving features of the building would be so up to date. I think the project would be a real asset to the area.

Sincerely,

Robert Buickerood
559 High Eagle Court
Walnut Creek, CA
94595

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUN 15 P 2:16
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Betty Buettner

Date: 20 Sept. 09

Printed Name

BETTY BUETTNER

Address:

1757 SPRINGBROOK RD
LAFAYETTE, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

1 5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 27 P 2:20

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: John Bulger Date: 8/25/09

Printed Name John Bulger

Address: 2765 Erb ct
Walnut Creek Ca

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S
4

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Roseanna Bullis

Roseanna Bullis
232 S. Wildwood
Hercules, CA 94547

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 NOV 30 PM 2:51

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 11-17-09

Address: 675 IGNACIO VALLEY RD.
A200
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL -1 PM 1:43

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

July 10, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkima,

I am writing in support of the new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented to be built on Boulevard Way in the Saranap area. I have been a resident of Walnut Creek for about 30 years. 20 of those years have been in the Saranap.

I have lived through the rebuilding of the freeway, and I have seen several older homes razed to make way for the building of apartments and high density single-family dwellings. Even though I miss some of those quaint, older houses, like a little farmhouse with its own windmill, I have benefited by being able to live in one or more of the new apartment buildings. Also it is nice to see the neighborhood thoughtfully encompass the necessary growth demanded by the times. My apartment is on the border of the residential area of the Saranap well in view of the business area. I am naturally interested in how this new building would affect both the homes and businesses.

I think the Saranap will definitely be enriched by the realization of the new sanctuary. The plans for the building are beautiful and inspiring. The presence of the building might encourage current business owners to revitalize and upgrade their businesses. The beauty of the building with its planted open space, would surely grace the residential area.

I hope that you will see the possibilities in this proposal, and I urge you to support it.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nancy Burgess

Nancy Burgess
1336 Boulevard Way #100
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CC. Lashun Cross, County Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -6 P 2:04

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Daniel Burr Date: 7/1/09

Address: 3 Olde Creek Place

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

A Note from

Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Burnett

To Ms. Lashun Cross -

We are 40-year residents of this neighborhood and heartily support the lovely new building planned by the Sufism Reoriented group.

What an improvement by these caring, thoughtful people to the Boulevard Way corner, currently a deplorable eye-sore

G & B Burnett

1012 Juanita Dr.

NORBERT ROSING/GETTY IMAGES

A proud supporter of World Wildlife Fund WFE3006

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Bruce K. Burns Date: 12/4/09

Printed Name Bruce K. Burns

Address: 1912 Rose Lane
Pleasant Hill
CA 94523

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

SKD 7/22/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Orta Date: 5/4/10

Printed name: Orta Burnside

Business name: Lucky Brand

Address: 1177 Broadway Plaza
Walnut Creek 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

2009 SEP -3 P 4:54

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: Mary Burrill Date: 9/3/09

Printed Name: MARY BURRILL

Address: 2745 ACACIA RD, W.C. 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUN 29 P 1:50

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 6/24/09

Address:
111 Panoramic Way
Walnut Creek, CA
94595

Barbara Butcher

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S(T) 07/01/10

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JUN 29 P 2:44
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Barbara Butrin Date: 6/26/10

Printed Name BARBARA BUTRIN

Address: 1030 Lindsey Ct
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -7 P 1:48

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jack Butlin Date: 7-5-09

JACK BUTLIN

Address: 1030 Lindsey Ct
Lafayette, Calif 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Cherlo Cairoy Date: 7/10/09

Address: 1750 mesa street
Concord CA. 94518

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA

08 NOV -5 AM 8:03

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

35 Island Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

October 12, 2008

Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Contra Costa County

Community Development Department

652 Pine Street, Second Floor North Wing

Martinez, CA 94553-0095

Dear Ms. Cross,

I have learned that Sufism Reoriented has filed a land use application, and wish to support that application. Therefore, I am sending you a copy of a letter I wrote to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the project.

Sincerely,

Joyce A. Caldeira

Joyce A. Caldeira, MS

School Psychologist

Licensed Educational Psychologist

Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist

35 Island Court

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

October 12, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema

652 Pine Street, Room 108A

Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

As a longtime resident of the Saranap neighborhood, I am writing to express my support for the proposed sanctuary of Sufism Reoriented in this area. I initially moved into the neighborhood in 1985, when my husband and I bought a house on Kendall Court. Since we divorced, I have rented another house on Kendall Court, a duplex on Palana Court, and now a duplex on Island Court, which is very near to the construction site.

When I first moved into the neighborhood, I was struck by these people known as "Sufis" and asked around about them. I was told they were very nice and smiled a lot and that I would like them. It's true! I do! And, they are good neighbors. They take good care of their homes and improve the quality of the neighborhood.

As a single mother, I felt very safe and confident raising my son in this neighborhood. He went to Parkmead, WCI, and then Las Lomas, from which he graduated in 2000. After he graduated, he went to Whitman College, a small private college in Washington state. Since graduating from college, he has worked in advertising and as a sleep technician and traveled extensively in Europe and Asia. Recently, he decided to move back in with me while pursuing the post-baccalaureate pre-med program at UC Berkeley. He would like to work with Doctors without Borders after graduation from medical school. I believe that

the quality of the neighborhood contributed to who he is today. The neighborhood still has that old world feel of a secure and friendly place where you can walk down the street and see people you know. It is like a village within the metropolis.

The plans I have seen for the sanctuary would enhance this neighborhood. The design appears to be an esthetically beautiful model of environmentally sound planning. I am confident that any disruption to life in the neighborhood during the building phase will be kept to a minimum and that the neighborhood will be more beautiful after the sanctuary's completion.

Thank you for your work for the community and for considering my opinion.

Sincerely,

Joyce A. Caldeira

Joyce A. Caldeira, MS

School Psychologist

Licensed Educational Psychologist

Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist

Cc: Lashun Cross

County Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Sara Calvert Date: July 9, 2009
Sara Calvert
Business name: Safestway Driving school
Address: 1133 Bont Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL 13 P 3:48
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5
4

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Camacho Mary Date: 8/28/09

Printed Name
Camacho Mary

Address:
105 lupine ln
Pleasant Hill, CA.

cc: Ms. L. Cross

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

June 28, 2009

Dr. Isa Campbell
5920 16th St NW
Washington, DC 20011

Ms Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine St., 4th Floor, North wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for the sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy fo a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Isa Campbell, PhD

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -1 P 1:56
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

June 27, 2009

Dr. Isa Campbell
5920 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20011

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Rom 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I'm writing to wholeheartedly endorse the proposed church for Sufism Reoriented in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek, CA.

I currently reside in Washington DC and work for the Federal Aviation Administration as the Organizational Psychologist. I've lived in DC for over 11 years but prior to that I lived in the Saranap for over 18 years and for a time my business was located there. We owned a lovely home and then subsequently a condominium in the neighborhood. My children attended The Meher Schools for at least part of their young lives (we were overseas for their initial schooling). My sons still live in the Bay Area and my youngest son is a nurse at John Muir Hospital. He often visits his friends in the neighborhood over lunch at Morucci's and considers the Saranap home.

Last week, as I walked back to my office building from the US capitol on the national mall, I glanced to my right and admired two beautifully domed buildings gracing the DC skyline. I thought how wonderful it will be for the architecture that inspires our capitol to bring a lift and beauty to the Saranap. Of course, the domes for the church will not be as high as these in Washington but equally as lovely. When I took a walk in the Saranap what I saw was an old construction yard where Sufism Reoriented plans to build their church!

I'm familiar with the design of the building through my review of the tasteful brochures produced by Sufism Reoriented. It is very impressive how "green" the building and surrounding grounds will be and, given the thrust of our government to become friendly to the planet, this church is likely to set the standard for the future.

However, most important to me is the uplift the church will bring to an area that is naturally beautiful. The church will make it lovelier by upgrading the buildings and surrounding landscape so the neighborhood is congruous with the earth itself. It will move this little neighborhood forward.

Sincerely,

Isa Campbell, Ph.D.

June 28, 2009

Michael Campbell
5920 16th St NW
Washington, DC 20011

Ms Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine St., 4th Floor, North wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for the sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy fo a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Michael Campbell

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -1 P 1:55
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

June 28, 2009

Michael Campbell
5920 16th St NW
Washington, DC 20011

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine St., Rm 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

This is a letter in support of the new church being proposed in the Saranap by Sufism Reoriented.

As a former Saranap resident for 14 years, I feel a special kinship with the area, and my wife and I visit there whenever possible to visit friends. After seeing the brochure and related materials on the new structure, I think that the building and the landscaping will provide the area with beauty and elegance.

As a member of Sufism Reoriented, I'm aware of the amount of energy that the members have and are giving to the success of The Meher Schools. They also give a great amount of time and energy toward keeping the current center maintained and able to handle the wealth of activities. The new church will allow our activities to be centralized, plus it will give us an incredibly beautiful place to worship God.

I'm a consultant on Oracle/PeopleSoft software systems (based in Pleasanton) and have traveled throughout the US to assist companies in implementing the systems. Outside of some structures in Washington, DC, I haven't seen anything that compares in simplicity and elegance to the proposed new church.

Your support in approving the new church would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Michael Campbell

6/22/11

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 6.12.11

Printed Name: Jose Campos Cruz

Address: 1162 Saranap Ave #1A
Walnut Creek CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
JUN 20 P 2:05

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

X

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: N.P. Candelaria Date: 7/10/09

Address: 1631 Third Ave.
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jodi Cannon Date: 9/22/09

Printed Name Jodi Cannon

Address:
952 Dewing Ave
Lafayette, Ca. 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 10/03/09

Printed Name Honggao CAO

Address: 1988 Suenen Ct., Walnut Creek
CA 94595
(925) 934-5990

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 9/24/09

Business name: Gerry Carbajal Ins.

Address: 1900 Olympic Blvd #103
Walnut Creek, Ca 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -9 P 1:04

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Gwen Carda Date: 7/7/09

Printed Name:
Gwen Carda

Address:
2920 Windtree Ct.
Lafayette, Ca
94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S+

January 14, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JAN 16 A 11:37

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of Sufism Reoriented's Land Use Permit Application for a new sanctuary.

Sincerely,

Jerry Carlin

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 24 P 1:30
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 8/14/09

Printed name: John Carlson, ASA

Business name: John Carlson & Associates

Address: ~~2910 P~~
3182 Old Tunnel Rd #B
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5

2009 JUL 29 P 1:01

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Mae J. Carlson

Date: July 6, 2009

Printed Name
Mae J. Carlson

Address:
3341 Tice Creek Dr. #5
Walnut Creek CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

2009 JUL 29 P 1:41

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Melvin G. Carlson

Date: 7-6-09

Printed Name
Melvin G. Carlson

Address:
3341 Tice Creek Drive #5
Walnut Creek, CA. 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -6 P 2:04

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Richard Carlson Date: 7/3/09

Address: 1028 Windsor Dr
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5
ATTACH

CONTRA COSTA

2009 FEB 17 P 2:15

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

February 13, 2009

Ms Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the planned Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary project.

Sincerely,

Bob Carpenter

Bob Carpenter
1300 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

5

February 12, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108 A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am writing to lend my voice to the growing chorus of support for the new Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary project. I have been a member of Sufism Reoriented for nearly thirty years. Its principles and values are the central light informing every aspect of my life. In the past year I have had the privilege of working as a fulltime volunteer on this building project, having retired as the Chief Executive Officer of an international social science research firm in early 2008.

This new role provides me the opportunity to see and understand clearly how necessary this new Sanctuary is in allowing the spiritual work of our small congregation to reach its full potential. Our current building, as I'm certain you've heard said many times, is wholly inadequate for our worship and service activities. As a remodeled former restaurant, the building we use at 1300 Boulevard Way does not hold and reflect in its design, size or configuration the tenets of our faith, nor does it meet our current needs as a place of worship. It actually never has but it was what we could afford thirty years ago. But now, having saved and sacrificed for three decades, this small group of ordinary people with an extraordinary commitment to God, see the possibility that this dream can be realized.

The exceptionally beautiful, environmentally sound sanctuary, designed so carefully by one of the world's leading architects (Philip Johnson/Alan Ritchie) and landscaped by an equally significant landscaping firm (The SWA Group), meets those needs perfectly and will be an important and enduring addition to Walnut Creek and Contra Costa County.

I hope you will lend your active support to this project as designed, not just for our congregation's immediate needs and use, but also as a gift of timeless beauty and a spiritual legacy for generations to come.

My very best regards,

Bob Carpenter

Bob Carpenter
1300 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Lashun Cross

+ 5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG -6 P 1:31

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 8.4.09

Printed Name Catherine Cartier

Address: 961 Reliez Station Road.
Lafayette CA 94549.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Duncan Ross Carroll
233 Alta Vista Dr.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

7/13/09

Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Supervisor D2
651 Pine St. Rm. 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Honorable Supervisor Uilkema,

Allow me to submit my complete support for the construction of the Sanctuary envisioned by Sufism Reoriented along Boulevard Way. As weary of these letters as I am sure a busy professional such as yourself is, I appreciate this moment of your time and reflection on a matter which is of heartfelt importance to a venerable group of citizens whom you serve—many of whom have graciously dedicated themselves to lives of service to their community, just as you yourself have.

To summarize my own background, I was born at Alta Bates and lived the majority of my young adult life in Walnut Creek directly above the Rossmoor Shopping Center along Tice Valley Blvd. My father commuted daily to San Francisco as an expert witness for Transamerica, and my mother still teaches Special Education in Martinez. Both were Sufis, a personal choice they were fortunate enough to be able to make as American citizens. I attended The Meher School as an elementary student, followed by the rigors of Dorris-Eaton, and later the civic proving ground that is The Athenian School of Danville. Upon graduation I was accepted to several schools in California but chose to follow my aspirations as a technology-oriented individual (A.K.A. nerd) in attending the well-established Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Following my humanitarian instincts for social policy, I graduated in 2003 with a Bachelors of Science in History and Policy and a minor in Fine Art. After a stint in the non-profit sector, I worked in Chicago from 2004 to 2008 as a Creative Director at OnCall Interactive, where I applied my talents on behalf of such clients as Nike, McDonald's, QualComm, and The Department of Defense. In June of 2009 I fulfilled my dream of establishing my own business and relocated to Santa Cruz, CA, where I presently reside.

Throughout my adult life, my involvement with the Sufi community has been at arm's length—an effort on my part to maintain an objective, scientific viewpoint from which to evaluate the community within which I was raised. Unlike some of my peers, the years I spent living outside California have both sharpened my understanding of Walnut Creek relative to America-at-large, and my appreciation of the traditional values of the Sufi community in which I was raised.

It is with this perspective that I submit my complete support for the development of the Sufi Sanctuary along Boulevard Way. In an age where some of our most-respected

national institutions seem to have eroded, it is comforting to me to know that the Sufi community, small as it may be, thrives in Walnut Creek, resting as it does on a foundation of Service, with a capital S. Seldom have I encountered elsewhere such a respectable and benevolent organization.

As a busy small business owner, I appreciate your time and devotion to this matter, and I trust your years of civic commitment and experience.

Sincerely,

Mr. Duncan Carroll

cc. Ellen Evans
cc. Lashun Cross

S

CONTRA COSTA

08 SEP 30 PM 1:00

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

September 28, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

Enclosed please find a copy of the letter I have sent to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of the new sanctuary that Sufism Reoriented is proposing to build in Walnut Creek. I understand that a Land Use Permit Application has been submitted by Sufism Reoriented for this new project.

Sincerely,

Kathleen S. Carroll

Kathleen S. Carroll

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1308 A Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
September 21, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
652 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am writing to let you know that I am strongly in favor of the proposed new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek.

I am a special education teacher at John Muir Elementary school in Martinez, and the mother of two sons who grew up in the Saranap neighborhood of Walnut Creek. My sons attended The Meher Schools in Lafayette, and my older son swam for the Sun Valley Swim Team on Leland Drive from the age of 6 through 15.

Although we lived most of that time up Rolling Hills Drive off Tice Valley Boulevard, our lives were centered in the Saranap due to the school my sons attended and the swimming pool where we were members for twelve years. When we sold our home in 1999, I moved to Boulevard Way and currently own my own condominium there.

As a person whose life has been centered in the Saranap neighborhood for the past 26 years, I have a deep interest in its future growth. I would love to see a park-like area here, as the sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented proposes, which would hold two acres of land from further development. My son lives in Chicago, and on his way to work in the center of the business district, passes a large area of green grass bordered by flowering shrubs and bushes. He told me that this property is part of the Moody Center, a religious organization whose members he sees out tending the grounds early in the mornings. I was glad to see that my son can enjoy the peaceful beauty of these grounds on his way to work. I

envision the grounds of the proposed Sufism Reoriented sanctuary as providing a similar refreshment to those passing by on foot, by car, or by bicycle.

In addition, as the population in Walnut Creek grows and more housing is needed, I am very glad to think that our neighborhood will have a beautiful park-like area which will be preserved even as the area around it may be developed into more residential properties. I think this attractive and graceful property will enhance the neighborhood and that those of us who live here will be grateful for the contribution of peace and beauty it will make.

Sincerely,

Kathleen S. Carroll

Kathleen S. Carroll

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG -4 P 12: 16

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 8-2-09

Printed Name: Russell Carroll

Address: 107 Postwood St
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Terri Carroll Date: 8-2-09

Printed Name: Terri Carroll

Address: 107 Poshard St.
Pleasant Hill, CA
94523

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Letter of Community Support

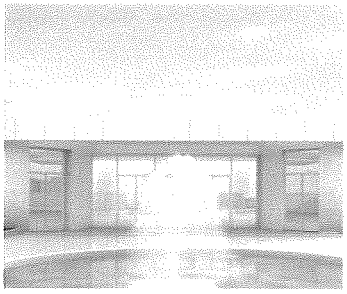
Proposed Sanctuary

CONTRA COSTA

To the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors:

We are former students of the Meher Schools and understand that Sufism Reoriented is applying to the County for a land use permit to build a new sanctuary on Boulevard Way, a depiction of which is included below. We want you to know we support the project and ask that you consider our voices in approving it. Thank you.

View of new sanctuary from Boulevard Way



Close-up view of entrance (unlandscaped)

View of new sanctuary from corner of Kinney Drive and Boulevard Way

Printed Name & Signature	Address	Saranap Resident?
1. THOMAS CARROLL	1308A Boulevard Way	yes!
	Walnut Creek, CA 94595	
2.		
3.		

Sam
3/16/11

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 3/4/11

Printed Name: Sam Carter

Address: 1225 Clover lane
Walnut Creek CA

CONTRA COSTA
2011 MAR 15 P 1:41
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Janice Castagnini Date: Nov. 6, 2009

Printed Name Janice Castagnini

Address: 1934 Basalt Ct.
Walnut Creek, CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 NOV 13 P 2:09

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Elizabeth D Castellano Date: 10/25/09

Printed Name ELIZABETH D. CASTELLANO

Address: 3304 AMENO DR.
LAFAYETTE, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 OCT 28 A 11: 29

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Ellen Castleman Date: 10/19/09

Printed Name: Ellen Castleman

Address: 2920 Camino Diablo Ste110C
Walnut Creek CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

February 23, 2009

CONTRA COSTA
2009 FEB 25 P 1:36
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Gabrielle Cavagnaro

Gabrielle Cavagnaro

3

2010 FEB -1 P 1:30
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Nicolette Centeno Date: January 25, 2010

Printed Name
NICOLETTE CENTENO

Address:
816 Meander Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JAN 19 P 1:39
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: F. Cervantes Date: 1/15/10

Printed Name Francoise Cervantes

Address: 17 Lombardy Lane
Orinda, CA 94563

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JAN 12 P 2:13
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jorge Cerrera Date: 8/23/09

Printed Name
JORGE CERRERA

Address:
1799 TICE VALLEY BLD.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S 6/15/10 (H)

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JUN -9 P 2:14
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Karen G Chadbourne Date: 5/7/10

Printed Name Karen G. Chadbourne

Address: 30 Salem Town Ct.
Danville, CA 94526

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek ~~near~~ in the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 9-15-09

Printed name:

DONNA CHAN

Business name: AUSTATE INSURANCE

Address: 1280 Boulevard Way #202
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595
925-256-3810

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Thomas W Chapman Date: 9-23-09

Printed name: THOMAS W. CHAPMAN

Business name: PEACE CREATIONS

Address: 2960 Camino Diablo, #220 W.C., CA. 94597

5

Jot Charlot
1287 Boulevard Way Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
8 NOV 10 PM 1:28
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Supervisor Uilkema
651 Pine Street, #108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

My sons, now 39 and 41 years old, attended The Meher Schools, a Saranap community school run by Sufism Reoriented. Each has excelled in life – one in music and the other in design and construction. Their early training at The Meher Schools gave them the strength to hold on and pursue their individual talents.

How wonderful that Sufism Reoriented is now proposing a world class architectural building in the Saranap. Again expressing their vision of creativity as a universal symbol of the unification of all peoples. I hope you can support this wonderful project.

Sincerely,

Jot Charlot

5

X

2009 SEP 18 P 1:37

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 9/8/2009

Printed Name
MICAH CHARLOT Rhea Fontaine-Charlot

Address:
320 40th ST
RICHMOND, CA
94805

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

July 5, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross

Community Development Department

651 Pine St, 4th Floor, North Wing

Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL 13 P 3:
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in **support** of that application.

Sincerely yours,

Brian Chavanne

Brian Chavanne

1305 Boulevard Way, #216

WC, CA 94595

July 5, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema

651 Pine St. Rm. 108A

Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to declare my whole hearted and enthusiastic support for the church proposed by Sufism Reoriented. I am a participating member of the community and I live in the Saranap neighborhood (I rent).

I walk a couple of dogs every morning around the neighborhood from Boulevard Way to Lucy Lane, Juanita and Kinney Drive and Warren Road. You might say I know the "streets" really well and have met quite a few of my neighbors, as well. The houses and buildings on these streets offer a range of manicured lawns, attractive gardens and pleasing colors to the not so well maintained and sometimes even run-down.

I am really looking forward to the realization of Sufism Reoriented's building because I think it will provide a beautiful, peaceful and even serene addition to our local environment. Great building ***do*** change their surrounding neighborhoods and perhaps that idea is what opponents fear. But...I believe that this proposed structure, with the sensitivity displayed in the planning so far, will blend in and elevate the area at the same time.

Sincerely yours,

Brian Chavanne

1305 Boulevard Way, #216

WC, CA 94595

S (H2) 08/30/10

*

CONTRA COSTA

2010 AUG 24 P 2:18

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 08-21-2010

Printed Name: Atanas Chavdarov The Upstairs HAIR SALON

Address: 1327 N. Main St. Ste. 111
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (HD) 11/29/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: Oct. 3, 2010

Printed Name: Vanessa Chen

Address: 30 Manzanita Ct. Walnut Creek CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S 9/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2010 SEP 21 P 2:46
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 9/17/10

Printed name: STANLY CHANG

Business name: Dragon 2000 Restaurant

Address: 1651 Botelho Dr W.C Ca 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV -4 P 1:16
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 10-30-09

Printed Name: Benny Chetcuti Jr

Address: 1204 Alpine Rd #3
Walnut Creek CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

+

2010 JAN 20 P 12:23

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Matt Chevial Date: 1/10/2010

Printed Name: Matt Chevial

Address: 45 Peterson Pl.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL -1 PM 12: 54

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Lashun Cross:

We have learned that Sufism Reoriented will be filing its land use application soon and my husband and I wanted to voice our support by forwarding the letters we recently sent to Supervisor Uilkema.

Sincerely,

Lynne and Marc Childers

Lynne Childers
2633 West Newell Avenue
Walnut Creek, Ca 94595

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

As a resident of the Saranap neighborhood for over 24 years and a member of Sufism during that time, I am writing in support of the new building project proposed by Sufism Reoriented. I live with my husband and two sons next to the wonderful bike path and community garden on Olympic Boulevard, which we often use for walking or biking. We so appreciate your support in improving our neighborhood. We enjoyed meeting you in person at the community events associated with the bike path and community garden.

As a member of Sufism, the building will furnish much needed space to continue the activities that give so much nourishment and focus to my day to day life as the mother of two active children, school psychologist for the Walnut Creek School District and homeowner. I am so happy the proposed site will continue to be close to my home as it could be a great burden to have to commute to a place farther away. My husband and I are very fortunate to live in an area that is so close to our place of worship, our jobs and provide our children with a wealth of stimulating activities as they grow up. For example, we belong to the Sun Valley community pool and both children participate in swim team there in the summer. Our children have had the benefit of attending the Meher Schools through kindergarten and continuing their education in the wonderful public schools in Lafayette, Burton Valley Elementary and Stanley Middle School. They are active participants in many local sport teams through LMYA and Lafayette Little League.

I hope you can support a project that will bring such benefit to the neighborhood.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lynne Childers

Lynne Childers

Cc Lashun Cross

Marc Childers
2633 West Newell Avenue
Walnut Creek, Ca 94595

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Gayle Uilkema,
I am writing to you in support of the new building sanctuary along Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek proposed by Sufisim Reoriented. I have been a member of Sufism Reoriented for many years. I have raised my family here in Walnut Creek in large part because of Sufism Reoriented's location. I could not be prouder of the community I am associated with and with the way Sufism Reoriented has helped shape my life to be a contributing and active member of the community.

I am a teacher at Walnut Creek Intermediate School (WCI) teaching science. You may remember me from when you decorated me with an honorary certificate as one of the "mulchers" who helped beautify and plant Crepe Myrtle trees along Olympic Boulevard. I love to garden, something we share. I am actively involved in projects at WCI to increase the amount of recyclables to generate less waste and have established an organic garden. I recall our conversation when you encouraged me to write a grant to help fund this school project. Sufism Reoriented has added features at the new sanctuary site that I am proud to say are a step in the right direction environmentally. I hope to be involved in the garden we will have and continue to shape our approach to being environmentally sustainable.

I have lived in the Saranap neighborhood for twenty-four years, own a beautiful house and with a bit of luck hope to see my children raise their family nearby, being contributing members of this wonderful community. I hope you support the sanctuary and all that it stands for.

Thank you,
Marc Childers
Marc Childers
cc Lashun Cross

CONTRA COSTA

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Andrew Chiu Date: 1.29.2010

Printed Name
Andrew Chiu

Address:
1871 Glen View Dr
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (7) 08/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 7/14/10

Printed name: Rusy Chow

Business name: Cartridge World

Address: 1554 Newell Avenue 94596

CONTRA COSTA
2010 AUG 24 P 2:10
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
ADMINISTRATOR

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 10/2/09

Printed Name
Darrell Chrastek

Address:
3352 Victoria Ave
Lafayette CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

June 23, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -2 P 3:14

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine St. Rm 108it
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

RE: Support for new Sufism Reoriented Church

I am writing to ask your support for the beautiful new sanctuary which Sufism Reoriented hopes to build on Boulevard Way. I have been a member of Sufism for more than 30 years, and actually moved to the Saranap area in the 1970's to live near my spiritual community. Several years ago, I purchased and moved to a home in the Rossmoor retirement community, although I continue to work at an environmental engineering firm in Walnut Creek.

To me, the Saranap area is unique; its beautiful, quiet neighborhoods are a treasure. I believe that the new church, with its lovely gardens and building, will help beautify and revitalize an area of Saranap that might be described as "mixed" at best. Working in environmental engineering, I am particularly aware of the critical need for sustainable buildings and am proud of the innovations in design and engineering that Sufism has used to ensure the "greenness" of our church. I believe it will be used as an example for others to emulate.

It is my hope that the Saranap area will continue to be one of the "jewels" of Walnut Creek and I think that our new sanctuary will help ensure that will be the case.

I appreciate your taking the time to consider my opinions.

Sincerely
Gervaise Christiansen

1940 Skycrest Drive #6
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Lashun Cross

5

CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV 30 P 12: 51
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed:

Date: 11/24/09

Printed Name: Susan Christiansen

Address: 141 Molly Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

(2)
47-28

CONTRA COSTA
2011 JUL 27 P 12:49
CLERK OF THE BOARD
AND ADMINISTRATOR

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 7/23/11

Printed Name
MARCUS CHRISTESON

Address:
3152 MARYOLA CT
LAFAYETTE, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

(3)
7-28-11

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Susan S. Christeson Date: 7-23-11

Printed Name: SUSAN S. CHRISTESON

Address:
3152 MARYOLA CT
LAFAYETTE, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5/20-S

CONTRA COSTA

2011 MAY 19 P 12:36

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 5/14/11

Printed Name: ERIC CHUNG

Address: 1276 Juanita Dr
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 27 P 2:19

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Forrest Cioppa Sandra M. Cioppa Date: 8/18/09

Printed Name SANDRA M. CIOPPA
FORREST CIOPPA

Address: 1180 BOLLINGER CANYON RD
MORAGA CA 94556

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -8 A 11: 52
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Kevin Clancy Date: 7/2/09

Business name: KEVIN CLANCY
BAYVIEW MAINTENANCE

Address: 1280 Boulevard Way #309
WALNUT CREEK, CA

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

X

DAVID CLAYDON R.I.B.A.

1472 Sunset Loop, Lafayette, Ca. 94549
tel. 925-946-9321 fax. 925-946-9331
e-mail Drclaydon@aol.com

September 26, 2009

Ms. Lushun Cross
Community Development Division
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor North Wing
Martinez, CA. 94553

Sufism Reoriented - Proposed Sanctuary

Dear Ms Lushun,

I am an architect that has lived and worked in the Saranap area for 22 years.

I think it would be a loss to the neighborhood if the 'NIMBY Brigade' has their way and stop this project. My experience as an architect is that there is a mindless objection to any form of development, not a reasoned objection on logical grounds and I am sure you, with your experience as a planner know what I mean.

In my opinion there are no reasonable grounds for objection from an architectural standpoint. The neighborhood has no cohesive style or scale and I think the symbolic style of the Sanctuary will be a refreshing enhancement.

Several of my clients are Sufis and I have found their lifestyles and attitudes are admirable in this age of violence and skepticism.

I can not think of a better building in my neighborhood than the proposed Sufi Sanctuary

Sincerely

David Claydon

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/5/09

Printed Name: DAVID CLAMMER

Address: 1472 SUNSET LOOP
LAFAYETTE
94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S ® 6/23/10

CONTRA COSTA

2010 JUN 17 P 2:47

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Joanne Clarke Date: 6-14-10

Printed Name Joanne Clarke

Address: 1949 Dora Ave
Walnut Creek, CA. 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

Ms. Kathern Cross
Comm. Conserv. + Development Dept.

Dear Supervisor Uilkema, and Ms. Cross

I am a resident of Contra Costa County and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Mary Clisbee

Clisbee Illegible

No address on letter or envelope

Dear Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

I am a former student of the White Pony Meher School and wanted to express my support for the new center proposed by Sufism Reoriented in Walnut Creek. This year has been the year of change for me taking risks in life that I wouldn't have normally taken and traveled around Europe.

I have been surrounded by the Sufi community all my life and have met extraordinary people who provided me with opportunities and support. Some of my best memories in life are from the White Pony School.

I can't imagine not being able to share the history of the first school I went to with my friends and family if this Sanctuary does not get approved. For if this sanctuary is not approved the school would be forced to move elsewhere along with members of the community.

Sincerely Buck Cloudtree

07/25/09

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Stephanie Coate Date: 9/27/09

Printed Name: Stephanie Coate

Address: 147 Bacon Court
Lafayette, CA
94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108 A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA

July 5, 2008

08 JUL -0 PM 1:18

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

As a resident in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek for over 32 years, I would like to say I'm strongly in favor of Sufism's proposed new sanctuary there.

I live at Le Boulevard Apartments, which is adjacent to Sufism's new building site. As a longtime member of Sufism, I very much look forward to a more amply spacious and inspiring building in which to meet. (The old one has always been a tight fit.) And I do look forward to the carefully tended landscaping that will be so enhance this area, and be so lush with trees.

My occupation is teaching, and for over 20 years I've taught at the Meher School in Lafayette. The strong impetus of the school, founded by Sufism, is to support individual and community growth, by cooperative effort with all around. Love of beauty is another emphasis, as one can see in the school's extensive front gardens(complete with waterfall). Over the years Sufism Reoriented's hand in transforming any building site has proved to be a real plus for the neighborhood.

Please give your support to this very positive project! I know you are interested in your district, and aim to reflect the needs and wishes of all residing there. Your support on this project will make the Saranap blossom.

Sincerely,

Diane Cobb

cc. Lashun Cross, County Planner ✓

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA

2010 MAR 11 P 2:35

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: William F. Coby Date: 3/9/10

Printed name: William F. Coby

Business name: Lafayette Psychological Services

Address: 3468 Mt. Diablo #B203
Lafayette, CA 94549

✓Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

July 3, 2008

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL -7 PM 2:13

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross,
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms Lashun Cross, County Planner,

I have learned that the Sufism Reoriented Building and land use application is being prepared to be submitted to your office soon. I wanted to forward a letter to you about that application that I have recently sent to Supervisor Uilkema, for your information and to offer my support of that project.

Please find that letter enclosed.

Regards,

Patti Cochran

Patti Cochran

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine St., Room 108A,
Martinez, CA 94553

Re: Sufism Reoriented Church Building Plans

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

My name is Patti Cochran. I live in your district, as I own a condominium in the Saranap neighborhood across the street from the proposed building project of Sufism Reoriented. I have been a resident here since 1981, and a county resident since childhood when I lived in Danville. I appreciate your work for us in the County as a long-time county resident. A few years ago, as a member of the Board of Directors of my condominium, Atrium Villas, when the high density housing development for the Molly Way was going through the planning stages, I participated in discussions with those developers and the Planning commission on the needs of our 50 unit condominium complex with respect to the developers' plans. The discussions were difficult and tense. The developers' didn't contact our association in advance though we are adjacent to that development.

At this time, another neighborhood building project, the Sufism Reoriented church building project, is being proposed and has come to my attention. I couldn't help notice the marked contrast between the Sufism Reoriented approach to their neighbors and the Molly Way Developers' approach. The members of Sufism Reoriented show a friendly, neighborly attitude. Recently they gave a packet of printed information and materials to our condominium owners in advance of their project. I want to point out to you their thoughtfulness, as an example of a group with neighborhood awareness, and worth supporting as neighbors going forward. Sufism Reoriented is doing a nice job of including their neighbors in their planning, so that all can have the time to discuss concerns in a relaxed frame of mind and come up with resolutions to concerns of the neighborhood at large.

My best to you for the year at hand, and in the continued effort to support the beautiful life here, at the foot of Mt. Diablo.

Regards,

Patti Cochran

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 20 P 1:19

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Carolyn Cogan Date: 8-18-09

Printed Name CAROLYN COGAN

Address: 343 ROSEWOOD DR.
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

(R) 4/20/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2010 APR 20 P 3:46

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Cynthia Cogswell

Date: 4/12/10

Printed Name
Cynthia Cogswell

Address:
131 Fairfield Pl.
Moraga, CA 94556

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

PIRE

July 11, 2009

County Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez CA 94553

cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to ask your vigorous support for the construction of a new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented. Although I now reside primarily in Washington DC, for over 15 years I lived in the Saranap area of the County and in Lafayette. You may not be fully aware of the role that Sufism Reoriented has played in the fight against substance abuse among the County's (and the nation's) youth. As early as the mid-60's, members of the congregation challenged the spiritual value of LSD, marijuana and other psychedelic drugs through billboards, publications, and media appearances. At the time, I was a counseling psychologist at the University of California Berkeley, having been at Harvard during a time when these drugs were popularized. I learned both the allure and the dangers of these drugs at very close hand. I became active in drug abuse prevention while at the Berkeley campus, lecturing at other colleges and doing national radio and television appearances pointing out the illusion of spirituality such drugs could generate. Members of Sufism Reoriented and other Meher Baba followers were of invaluable assistance to me setting up lecture and media opportunities in the Bay Area and across America.

Later, while I served as Dean of Students at John F. Kennedy University (then in Orinda), I and a colleague founded Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation (PIRE), for several years headquartered in Lafayette and then Walnut Creek. Over the decades, PIRE has become the nation's pre-eminent independent non-profit in substance abuse prevention program development and research (cf. www.pire.org), still employing staff in your district and the Bay area, some 400 nationwide. In our developmental stages, the volunteer support given by Sufism Reoriented was critical to the Institute's success in promoting healthy alternatives to drugs. Closely related, in PIRE's federal work, we learned that Sufism Reoriented's creative stewardship at The Meher Schools has been recognized by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools for its relevance to ED's character and civic education initiatives.

From my best understanding, the construction of a new sanctuary building is absolutely necessary for Sufism Reoriented to integrate efficiently its laudable education and community service activities. In my experience, this congregation has proven its sincerity, capability and commitment to provide important community service toward substance abuse prevention, primary education and other emerging neighborhood, community and national issues. It is my hope that you and your colleagues in civic authority are able to enthusiastically endorse this project and speed it on its way.

Sincerely,

Allan Y. Cohen, Ph.D., Founder, former President and Executive Director
Emeritus Member, Board of Directors; Chief, Public Health Innovation and Development

11720 Beltsville Drive, Suite 900 | Beltsville, MD 20705 | Tel: 301-755-2700 | Fax: 301-755-2799

PIRE

July 11, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez CA 94553

2009 JUL 14 P 2:26
CONTRA COSTA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Ms. Cross,

I learned that it might be helpful for your office to have a copy of the letter I sent Supervisor Uilkema.

Please find one enclosed.

Sincerely,

Allan Y. Cohen, Ph.D.

11720 Beltsville Drive, Suite 900 | Beltsville, MD 20705 | Tel: 301-755-2700 | Fax: 301-755-2799

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 24 P 1:30

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Susan B Cohen MFT Date: 8/20/09

Printed name: SUSAN B. COHEN MFT

Business name: SUSAN B COHEN MFT

Address: 2940 Camino Diablo Ste 300
Walnut Creek, Ca. 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

JOHN COLE, ARCHITECT

1318 Boulevard Way ♦ Suite D ♦ Walnut Creek, CA ♦ 94595 ♦ 925-360-7336

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October 22, 2008

CONTRA COSTA
08 OCT 27 PM 1:01
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
652 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms Cross,

Please read the attached copy of my letter to Supervisor Uilkema – I am in strong support of the new church proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

Cordially,

John Cole

John Cole
CA Architectural License 19,195

JOHN COLE, ARCHITECT

1318 Boulevard Way ♦ Suite D ♦ Walnut Creek, CA ♦ 94595 ♦ 925-360-7336

October 22, 2008

Supervisor Gale Uilkema
652 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I've lived in the County for 40 years, the last half of that time as a homeowner in the Saranap neighborhood, and for the last 2 years two blocks from the location of the new church proposed by Sufism Re-oriented.

I've been a licensed architect for 20 years. For the last 10 years I've had the privilege of working professionally to improve our local K-12 public schools, in the Acalanes and other nearby school districts. When I visit a campus in the course of my work, and see all those young faces, so full of life, I'm refreshed and reminded how important children's education is and am grateful for the role The Meher Schools has played in educating many children in the Saranap district.

I'm also grateful for the opportunity to support an important building project in our neighborhood, the new church proposed by Sufism Re-oriented, the organization that serves our community through The Meher Schools. They provide such a needed and welcomed service. I speak from experience since my daughter attended there from age 2 to 12. I am asking that the church be approved, so that The Meher Schools will not be faced with the possibility of having to leave the neighborhood.

Sufism Re-oriented is creating a building that is classic in its historical reference, yet restrained. Its simple lines and shapes are pleasing to the eye. While different by definition from the nearby commercial buildings and houses, it respects the suburban fabric by showing a one-story profile. The park-like setting that was pictured in a newsletter I received, is a welcome relief from the 12 or more two-story houses that could result from the current zoning. Personally, I'm very happy the site will not be filled with even more high density two-story houses as envisioned by the General Plan – I can feel what that would be like when I walk down the Molly Way development, which is just across the street.

In addition to its exemplary green features, the project has a *serene beauty*.

I read in the paper a comment by the architect, Alan Ritchie, who said the building could be a "little gem"! Over time, many will much prefer that to crowded production housing.

Thank you for your help. I hope you will support this worthy project.

John Cole

John Cole
CA Architectural License 19,195

C: Lashun Cross, CCC Community Development

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business ~~owner~~ manager near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature]

Date: AUG 17 2009

Printed Name: Deborah. L Coleman

Address: 3182 OLD TUNNER RD.
Lafayette, CA
94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

October 28, 2009

Diane Collen
4347 Walnut Boulevard
Walnut Creek, California 94596

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV - 2 P 2:35
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Mrs. Uilkema,

I am writing in support of the new Sanctuary that the people at Sufism Reoriented have designed and hope to have built close to their present building. I have seen the plans for the building and am impressed by several features. It is a low profile building that will not distract from the overall look of the neighborhood and indeed will add some beauty to the area through the park and gardens that will be open to the public to visit and enjoy. I like the green features of the building including the materials and the parking lot. The design itself is very beautiful, especially the pond. The church needs additional space and it appears that this space will meet their needs as well as be a visual asset to the neighborhood.

Thank you for the opportunity to give feedback to this worthwhile project.

Diane Collen

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross Senior Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -8 A 11:52

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

June 30, 2009

Supervisor Gayle B. Uilkema

RE: SUFISM REORIENTED – NEW CHURCH PLAN FOR SARANAP

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing this letter in support of building this church. I own the commercial building at 1181 Boulevard Way. I have difficulty seeing how anyone would oppose putting this building in their neighborhood. This will be a beautiful building designed by world class architects. The gardens will be open to the public, the traffic problem will be less than that of most commercial use buildings, and use will be during off business hours.

I live on Walnut Avenue close to Wiget. There are two churches within several blocks of my house. They are not very attractive in that they are standard, box-like construction. I am sure they are used much more than the church proposed by Sufism Reoriented. Since church use is mainly on Sunday and Friday evening, there will be no traffic problems created by this building in the Saranap neighborhood.

I endorse Sufism Reoriented's proposal as an enhancement to the Saranap.

Sincerely,

Sam Cole

Sam Cole

Cc: LaShun Cross, Planning Dept.

S

CONTRA COSTA

June 2, 2008

08 JUN -3 AM 11:45

Scott C. Colt
1336 Boulevard Way Apt. 302
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street
4th floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94533

Dear Ms. Cross,

Enclosed please find a copy of my letter dated February 8, 2008 to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema expressing my enthusiastic support for a new building project being undertaken by a group called Sufism Reoriented. It is my understanding that Sufism Reoriented has filed a land use application for the project. I want to share my support for the project that I have already registered with Supervisor Uilkema with County planning officials as well.

Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Sincerely,

Scott C. Colt

February 8, 2008

Scott C. Colt
1336 Boulevard Way Apt. 302
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Supervisor Gayle B. Uilkema, District 2
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Supervisor Uilkema,

Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Scott Colt. Since the fall of 2001 my wife Jan and I have lived on the third floor of the Le Boulevard apartments at 1336 Boulevard Way, just outside the city limits of Walnut Creek. We have resided in this immediate neighborhood for over 20 years.

From the perspective of a long time resident I was so pleased and relieved when in 2000 and 2001 the White Horse Court residence was built directly behind the Le Boulevard apartment complex. Prior to that time the property was used as a storage yard for paving equipment and a dump for excess or demolished asphalt paving. It was such a pleasure to see this ugly industrial site in the middle of our neighborhood transformed into a lovely home surrounded by trees, shrubs, flowers and acres of grass. A rough dirt driveway became a beautiful formal entrance off Boulevard Way framed with trees and plants. The unattractive and rundown wood perimeter fencing was replaced with a substantial stucco finished concrete block wall with a classical ornamental cap and faced with continuous planting beds. It all blended together to create a delightful vista for us to overlook when we moved into the Le Boulevard apartments in 2001.

By contrast, I have been increasingly saddened that the property directly adjacent the White Horse Court residence with run down houses, one frequented by drug users, all surrounded by ramshackle sheds and no landscaping seemed destined never to be developed. However, I am writing to you now to express my delight in learning just a few days ago that the same group that built the White Horse Court residence has proposed a new building project to be constructed on the adjacent derelict property. As a licensed architect in California, I find the beauty of the proposed building and its landscaped surround to be exceptional. I was also surprised and delighted to learn that the group has engaged as their master architect the firm of Johnson and Ritchie, one of America's most acclaimed and honored architects, and the wisdom of their choice is reflected in the exceptionally beautiful design that I have just seen. I urge your support of this very special project as it makes its way through the planning approval process and look forward to seeing the vision it embodies realized in the very near future. I feel certain it will be a significant addition to the quality of the built environment not only in the Saranap area, but in Contra Costa County and the greater Bay Area.

Sincerely,

Scott C. Colt

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CONTRA COSTA

2010 JAN 12 P 2:13

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Matthew Combs Date: 1-8-10

Printed name: Matthew Combs

Business name: Leslie's

Address: 3389 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

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4

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 9/11/09

Printed Name
Richard L. Commeck

Address:
34 Underhill Rd
Orinda, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

GARY L. CONNER
1300 BOULEVARD WAY
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595
TEL.: (202) 256-2871
Email: gary@consortiumofthearts.org

CONTRA COSTA
2009 APR 15 P 1:21
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

April 14, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner
Community Development Division
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA

Dear Ms. Cross,

Enclosed is a letter of support for the new sanctuary of Sufism Reoriented, the original of which was sent to Supervisor Uilkema.

Truly yours,

Gary L Conner

GARY L. CONNER
1300 BOULEVARD WAY
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595
TEL (202) 256-2871
Email: gary@consortiumofthearts.org

April 13, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

With great happiness I take this opportunity to ask you to support Sufism Reoriented's application for a land use permit for the construction of its new sanctuary near Walnut Creek. This application provides all of us with a fresh opening to bring new beauty and an uplifting presence to an area of our community much in need of both.

You no doubt have seen renderings of the timeless jewel Alan Ritchie has designed for Sufism Reoriented. You also know from your own experience and reading that no beautiful building has ever diminished the area in which it is built. No matter how vigorously opposed before they are realized, such projects become the focus of community pride over time. I am reminded of the almost vicious opposition that so many new designs have had to weather: the Golden Gate Bridge, The U.S. Capitol, the Washington Monument, the Vietnam Memorial, The Eiffel Tower, The TransAmerica Pyramid and many others come to mind. Now each is an icon, because of the courage of those who could see the important new energy for growth that each of these projects represented. The new sanctuary is unwanted by a minority of our neighbors who hate change, but if history is any indication, within a few years they will be proud to have such a distinguished building in their neighborhood. And even more importantly, the American history of freedom of worship will have been honored.

I moved to the somewhat unkempt Saranap in 1975 to be near the then new Sufism Reoriented Center—in the old Iron Gate Restaurant building. You may remember the old rotting boat that gradually decayed over decades in the corner of the property that the new sanctuary will inhabit. Most of the remainder of Sufism Reoriented's new site was a disheveled storage yard,

replete with shacks and piles of debris until the Sufism Reoriented parsonage was built there. Over time, the Saranap has gradually become a more pleasant place, as new projects replaced those which were past their time and other properties were upgraded by their owners. Personally, I have owned several properties in or bordering the Saranap over the past 34 years. I have taken it as a responsibility to the community to leave each property brighter and better than when I first purchased it.

I have also been involved in trying to create a more supportive environment for the community during these decades. As a young attorney in the late 1970s, I was instrumental in the founding of the Hospice of Contra Costa, our county's first hospice, as its first president. It is now known as the Hospice of the East Bay. You no doubt know that members of Sufism Reoriented have been instrumental in many community projects over the years they have called Walnut Creek home. Like hundreds of other members of Sufism Reoriented, for decades I spent one evening each week cleaning the Meher Schools, so that our neighborhood children would thrive in a fresh, shining environment.

This new sanctuary, a precious home of worship for us, will also be a leavening for the shared lives of our neighborhood. An enhanced sense of community has already developed as our neighbors and we get to know each other better—by acknowledging that we share life here. And many have told us how they will be glad to have a garden oasis for meditation and reflection open to the neighbors, in this transitional area. There is now no common place of meeting open to the neighborhood.

In your considerations, I hope you will be able to take into account how precious this new sanctuary is to us. And how, in truth, it will enhance all of the lives it touches, radiating the highest aspirations of our joint humanity, while being a lovely place of peace.

Truly yours,

Gary L. Conner

cc:
Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner
Community Development Division
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Kathleen Conner Date: 2/14/10

Printed Name: Kathleen Conner

Address: 3507 Freeman Road
Walnut Creek, CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

(5)
#216

CONTRA COSTA

2011 JUL -5 P 1:36

DEPARTMENT OF CO[illegible]TION
AND DEVELO[illegible]

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 6/25/2011

Printed Name: Kenn Conner CONNER

Address: 3507 Freeman Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

KIRA COSTA

08 DEC 24 PM 1:32

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Lashun Cross,

I am writing to express my support for Dufferin Reoriented's plan for a new sanctuary in the Saranap area. Dufferin Reoriented, their center, and the Maher Schools are positive, active, and important parts of the community that deserve support, and they have a good building plan. I grew up in the neighborhood and attended the Maher Schools, as do my children, now. Please support the progress of this important organization by approving their plan. Thank you.

Truly Yours,

Robin Conner

ROBIN E. CONNER

12/21/08

2009 JUL 21 P 12:16

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/16/09

Address: Shawn Conner
1172 Saranap Ave #24B
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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2345 Thackeray Dr.
Oakland, CA 94611
March 13, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing in support of the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented. I am a former Saranap resident, and from all that I have seen of the plans for the building and grounds, I believe that the structure will take nothing away from the peaceful quality of the neighborhood. On the contrary, I believe that its lovely design will actually add a sense of tranquility and elegance to the neighborhood itself.

I worked at The Meher School for several years, and its philosophy of loving service inspired me to obtain a teaching credential. I try each day to bring the same sense of respect, love, and beautiful attention to details that I learned while working at The Meher School to my own urban classroom and students. My colleagues often remark that my classroom is clean, light, and uncluttered. They often seem to enjoy coming by just to stand in the doorway. I truly feel that they're responding to qualities of beauty and harmony that I learned while working for Sufism. I can only imagine how positively the neighborhood will be affected by the gracious design submitted by Sufism Reoriented.

Sincerely,

Christine Conrad

S

March 13, 2009

CONTRA COSTA
2009 MAR 16 P 1:49
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary. I am enclosing a copy of a letter to supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Christine Conrad

1310C BOULEVARD WAY WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595
TEL 925 945 1885 FAX HOME FAX PHONE EMAIL WCOOK2002@HOTMAIL.COM

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CONTRA COSTA
2008 MAY 23 AM 11:46

WILLIAM COOK, M.D., FACOG

DEVELOPMENT DEPT

May 26, 2008
Ms Lashun Cross
Community Developement Dept.
651 Pine St, Fourth floor north wing
Martinez, Ca 94553

Dear Ms Cross,

When I learned that Sufism Reoriented was planning to file their land use application soon, I sent a letter of support to Supervisor Uilkema I have enclosed a copy of the letter for your consideration as well.

Sincerely,

William A. Cook, MD

1310C BOULEVARD WAY WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595
TEL 925 945 1885 FAX HOME FAX PHONE EMAIL WCOOK2002@HOTMAIL.COM

WILLIAM COOK, M.D. FACOG

,May 26, 2008

Ms Gayle Uilkema
Supervisor, Contra Costa County
651 Pine Street, Rm 108A
Martinez, Ca 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,
This letter is written to share with you some of my thoughts and feelings regarding the proposed new Sufism Reoriented center on Boulevard Way in the Saranap area.
By way of introduction, my wife, Anna and I have owned and lived at the Boulevard Terrace condominium complex, less than 1 block from the proposed site, at 1310 Boulevard Way, for the past 24 years. For the first 14 years, I practiced OB-GYN with Kaiser Permanente at both the Walnut Creek and Martinez Hospitals. Most of that time I was the Chief of OB-GYN at the Martinez-Antioch facilities. Anna is a Registered Nurse. We are both currently retired, and have been associated with Sufism Reoriented throughout .
When I learned some of the details of the proposed building design and surrounding landscaping, I was struck not only by the beauty of the visible building itself, but also by the open space created by constructing 67% of the building underground, thus creating two open acres in a three acre space.
As you know, this Saranap area under the General Plan is scheduled for high density residential use. Now, instead of 22 two-story houses that plan would allow on this site, a one-story beautifully curvilinear structure, smaller than the Le Boulevard apartment building...barely visible from the street... and 2 ACRES of OPEN SPACE landscaped

with shrubs, trees, and green grass, would add both a breath of fresh air and reduce the spacial density of the community, thereby helping to create the pastoral atmosphere to which the Saranap community ascribes.

Our highest principles of Beauty and Harmony, as reflected in the Feng Shui of the project, will add Qi to the Saranap area . When completed, I feel this project will contribute to the community, both literally and figuratively, our most precious ideal...the sound of Silence.

,

Sincerely yours,

William Cook, M.D.
1310C Boulevard Way Walnut Creek, CA 94595
tel 925 945 1885 fax Home Fax Phone email
wcook2002@hotmail.com

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Dr. Michael and Teri Cooper
978 Condit Rd.
Lafayette, CA 94549
June 8, 2009

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUN 12 P 12:51
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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

Dear Ms. Lashum Cross,

We are enclosing a letter sent to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema regarding the land use permit for the Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary.

Sincerely,

Michael and Teri Cooper

enc.

Dr. Michael and Teri Cooper
978 Condit Rd.
Lafayette, CA 94549
June 8, 2009

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Gayle Uilkema:

We are writing to express our support for the construction of the Sufism Reoriented Church in the Saranap neighborhood. We have been residents of the Saranap area for over 16 years and our children attended the Meher School during their preschool and Kindergarten years. We have always been impressed with the school's commitment to keeping the school grounds well maintained as well as their willingness to share the grounds with the community. Throughout the years, the Meher school has allowed our community to walk our dogs and play with our children and visit their gardens during nonschool hours.

We have received several mailings regarding the land use application for the development of the new sanctuary and find the design to be beautiful and of low impact to the immediate neighborhood. Considering the sense of community the Meher Schools has imparted to our neighborhood, we would expect the sanctuary to do the same. The plans we have reviewed clearly add beauty to the area and will improve the visibility of a troublesome intersection on Boulevard Way.

We are in support of the new construction and consider it to be an asset to our community.

We hope that you will support this project.

Sincerely,

Michael and Teri Cooper

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Owen Cooper
1615 Manchester Lane NW
Washington, DC 20011
202-557-8367

June 29, 2009

Owen Cooper
1630 Missouri Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20011

Dear Ms Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for a new sanctuary, and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely

Owen Cooper

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL - 1 P 1:55
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

1630 Missouri Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20011

June 29, 2009

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to convey my full support of the proposed sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented, which I read about this morning in a lovely new brochure.

I am currently a Federal employee living in Washington, but have a long and happy association with the Saranap. I lived there for twenty-three years. In fact you and I met years ago at a community meeting at Petar's. My two children grew up in the Saranap and attended The Meher Schools. I owned a home and a management consulting practice on Boulevard Way. I am also a long-term member of Sufism Reoriented with many friends in the Saranap. I look forward to worshiping in our new sanctuary when I come to visit.

Over the years Sufism Reoriented has helped me to approach God's love within myself and in turn to express what I have found in service to all of life – whether it be a silent gesture such as picking up a bit of litter or something more visible such as volunteer work at The Meher Schools. Of course, this approach to life is strongly associated with houses of worship everywhere and has a wholesome influence strengthening families, reducing substance abuse, etc.

In ways that I could not articulate, but experience very fully, the design of our new sanctuary supports and enhances both our personal enjoyment of God's love and our service to others. I would not know how to explain why, but many of the seemingly insignificant details of sacred buildings are centrally important to the experience of worship. For this reason, the building must be built with its design intact in all its detail. A good example is our use of the color white with its association for us with unity and inner purity.

I certainly hope you will find chances to visit our neighborhood prayer garden and be nourished by its quiet unobtrusive presence.

Thank you, Supervisor Uilkema, for your kind support,

Owen Cooper

cc: Lashun Cross

June 4, 2009

Re: Sufism Reoriented Land Use Permit Application

Dear Gayle Uilkema and LeShun Cross,

We are writing in support of the Sufism Reoriented Land Use Project to build a sanctuary in Walnut Creek, CA.

As Orinda, CA residence and parents of a child at the Meher Schools we believe the Sufi's sanctuary will only benefit the surrounding community.

Just as the Sufi's work at the Meher School has benefitted the children and families of our community, the new place of worship is certain to give only more.

This organization has helped so many and is an example of what's right and working in our world today. This building will serve as a place for them to carry out their service to others and the community and a place for them to worship – a right of every American citizen.

Kind regards,

Lisa Copass and John Gripp
17 El Rincon
Orinda, CA
94563

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUN -5 P 1:16
DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Rene Coppings Date: NOV 2 1 2002

Printed Name Rene Coppings

Address: 3306 Whitehaven Dr
Walnut Creek CA 94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

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CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 25 P 1:35

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 8/19/09

Printed name: Russell L. Copping

Business name: Russell Copping Chiropractic

Address: 1980 Beach St. Concord, CA 94519

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 APR 10 P 3:04

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

April 9, 2009

Lashun Cross, County Planner
651 Pine Street Room 4th Floor - North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms Cross,

I am writing to you to express my support for the proposed church of Sufism Reoriented.

I recently saw the project that the Sufism Reoriented group is proposing to build in the Saranap. I support this and I think that it will be a benefit to the neighborhood. My wife and I, plus our two children, live in the Saranap and one of my sons attends the White Pony preschool. The Sufism Reoriented group has done so much for this community and it seems they have kept the communities best interest in mind when coming up with a design and construction plan for their proposed new development.

Sincerely,

Michael Cormier
1582 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

June 7, 2008

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing in support of the new church being proposed by Sufism Reoriented. The brochure that I have received describes a building and gardens that looklike a beautiful addition to the Saranap community.

I am a member of the Olympic Boulevard.Garden Commitee which afforded me the pleasure
of meeting you.We are so grateful for the help you provided that project. I am also a member of the Saranap Community Association. My involvement with these groups has made me aware how much public sentiment means in these issues. That is why I felt moved to write and express my feelings on Sufism Reoriented's proposed sanctuary.

I have been a homeowner here in the Saranap for over 30 years. My children attended The Meher Schools and now, many years later, they have moved back to this area for the purpose of sending their children to the school that they remember with such fondness. It seem to me that the organization that supports this school is endeavoring to bring more beauty to this area and offers a plan that provides a lovely space.

I saw what a help it was for the Olympic Boulevard garden project to have you on our side, so I felt as your constituent I should write and ask you to support this project.

Sincerely,

Richard Cormier
2531 Olympic Blvd
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

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LC

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUN 11 PM 1:35

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

To the County Planner,

I felt that I should share with you a letter that i have written to Superviser Uilkema regarding the land use application filed by Sufism Reoriented.

Richard Cormier

8 +

January 16, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JAN 20 P 1:48

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashum Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new church and I am enclosing a copy of a letter I sent to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Marta Cormier

Marta Cormier
2531 Olympic Blvd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

January 16, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to you to express my support for the proposed church of Sufism Reoriented.

I became a Saranap homeowner in 1976. My two children grew up in this neighborhood, both attended the remarkable White Pony/Meher Schools. It was at this time that I started volunteering at the school which I continue to do to this day. My children left the area to attend university, each married and started families. Both families have since moved back to the Saranap for the opportunity to send their children to The Meher Schools and today three of my grandchildren attend this school.

I am a regular participant of the Saranap Community Garden, and I am an adoptee of two garden plots in front of my home on Olympic Boulevard. As you well know, this garden project took many years to come to fruition, and now has not only made our immediate neighbors happy but has sparked an interest in those who pass by on a daily basis. I believe that the somewhat rundown parcels on Boulevard Way will be greatly enhanced and revitalized by the proposed landscaping that I have seen in the plans for the Sufism Reoriented's church.

Being someone who has a great concern for our environment, I am so impressed by the attention to concern for the environment given to the proposed building plans by Sufism Reoriented. Treating the storm water runoff, replacing asphalt with grass for parking, placing 2/3 of the building underground which permits a roof garden and an innovative energy saving heating and air system: all details that provide a truly eco-friendly building.

I most definitely consider this building a unique offering to our community.
Thank you for taking the time to read my thoughts of support for the proposed plans presented by Sufism Reoriented.

Sincerely,

Marta Cormier
2531 Olympic Blvd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Lashum Cross, Community Development Department

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG -4 P 12: 16

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 7-27-09

Printed Name: KEVIN CORNISH

Address: 11 RUTH CT
LAFAYETTE, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 8/8/09

Printed Name
BETSY CORTEZ

Address:
2 EVERGREEN CT
W.C. CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Roberto Cortez Date:

Printed name: Roberto Cortez

Business name: Walnutcreek Produce

Address: 2251 Olympic Blvd
Walnut Creek CA

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

/ ⑥

CONTRA COSTA
2010 APR 13 P 1:34
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Karen M. Cousins Date: April 7, 2010

Printed Name Karen M. Cousins

Address: 1759 Oro Valley Circle
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

+ S

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 25 P 1:36
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: C.S. Cowles Date: 8/27/09

Printed Name: Chris S. Cowles

Address: 1397 Boulevard Way W.C. 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

The Rev. Anne Cox Bailey
Long Term Interim Rector

Box 2088
Walnut Creek, CA
94595
Rossmoor

stlukeswcr@sbcglobal.net

925/937-4820

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -8 A 11:51
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

July 6, 2009

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 08A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

As a member of the clergy in Contra Costa County, currently serving as Long-Term Interim Rector of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, I am writing to express my support for the proposed new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented.

The basic right of citizens to build houses of worship in the neighborhoods where they live is a long and established tradition in America, supported and protected in recent laws such as the Religious Land Use and Incarcerated Persons Act (RLUIPA). With more that 85% of its membership living within two miles of its proposed sanctuary, this project truly qualifies as a neighborhood church.

In addition, the building design proposed by Sufism Reoriented not only reflects the tenets and emblems of its faith, but does so in a way that shows respect for the environment and our natural resources.

I hope you will support this new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented in the Saranap area of unincorporated Contra Costa County.

I remember with gratitude our meeting on Memorial Day at Oakmont Memorial Park, Supervisor Uilkema, and send my personal greetings to you.

Sincerely,

Anne+

The Rev. Anne Cox Bailey

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner
Community Conservation and Development Dept.
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-N. Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
08 OCT 29 PM 1:27
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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October 28th, 2008

Dear Ms. Lashun,

I am enclosing a letter I wrote to Supervisor Uilkema regarding proposal before you for a new sanctuary of worship submitted by Sufism Reoriented in Walnut Creek.

I wished to share that letter with you, and express my sentiments as a resident of Walnut Creek and a citizen of the United States.. where freedom of belief and worship are so carefully and wisely protected.

I hope that your experience in the world is such that you are very aware most people who oppose such proposals do so out of fear of the unknown, bias or misinformation. A place of worship as beautiful as the design of the proposed building, and as 'green' and low profile cannot but enhance our neighborhood and infuse the surrounding atmosphere with the serenity it expresses.

Thank you,

Hoda A. Cox

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I have been a resident of this county and Walnut Creek since 1985. I was born in the Capital of the U.S. but was raised overseas in a large close knit family. I returned in 1976 and lived in several other states while completing both a Bachelors and Masters Degree. I now work as a Sr. Business Manager for AT&T.

The first half of this letter may seem confusing, but I feel compelled to give you a little background.

My mother was a larger-than-life woman with strong religious beliefs and ethics. She raised her 7 children to love God and to bring His presence into everything we attempted to do. As a 6 year old, I would sit quietly next to her on the floor in her bedroom Thursday nights, while she held in her lap our prayer book, and prayed for an hour. She wore a white sheer scarf over her hair, and the atmosphere around her was charged with an energy that embraced me. I felt so very safe next to her.

Through the years I watched her say God's name over every dish she prepared for us and for the hundreds of guests we entertained in our home overseas. I felt the difference in the food we ate, and all her friends begged her to write a cookbook, believing it was her skill alone that made her creations taste so wonderfully. But I knew better.

I have often catered parties for friends here in Walnut Creek because they love Middle Eastern food so much. I am always told how very tasty the food is. I say His name as my mother did.

I've visited many churches in Italy and France, and been to several Mosques in Damascus and Istanbul. The quality of the atmosphere inside these structures pours out of the windows and consciously or not, must be felt by all who visit. I'm sure you have felt that same serenity at times.
That's what people who bring God's Presence into their lives and homes do for the rest of us.

And now to the main reason I am writing. I understand you have before you a proposal for a new structure of worship in my Saranap neighborhood. I also understand that out of fear of the unknown, or misinformation, or plain resistance to change, you have received discouraging letters.

Bringing God's presence into one's daily life is what members of Sufism Reoriented do best. Serving God by being of service to his world is their life's work. The new Center will allow the now cramped space they use to be retired, and offer a much more beautiful addition to the neighborhood. The care and detail that go into maintaining the grounds is visible to all who drive by the current Center on weekends. I cannot but encourage you to please support the creation of this sanctuary where nothing but harmony and love will reside and spill onto the streets of our neighborhood.

We wouldn't be worried if this was a church being erected. This is no different. There is but One God, and worshipping Him in any way, in any language, in any time should be what we encourage more than anything in this very fragile world we now live in. I very eagerly await this new sanctuary.

Thank you,

Hoda A. Cox

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114 Cleaveland Rd.
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

March 24, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uikema
651 Pine St. Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uikema,

I am writing to show my support for the sanctuary that Sufism Reoriented is proposing for construction in the Saranap neighborhood. I believe it will be a wonderful addition to the area.

I remember growing up in Memphis, Tennessee, where our family's church was down at the end of the street. As a child and as a young adult, it was comforting to have the church as a landmark that I could relate to as being part of my neighborhood.

I am excited to think that I may once again have the pleasure of seeing my place of worship as a community landmark. This time, instead of a beautifully impressive red brick building with a towering steeple, I will see what might look like a neighborhood park with flowering trees and views of Mt. Diablo, and just a glimpse of our domed roof nestled back in that park-like setting.

I have lived in Saranap since 1984 and moved to Pleasant Hill in 2001. My wife and I own a condominium on Lucy Lane and plan to return to the neighborhood soon. We look forward to strolling through the neighborhood, to and from our new church.

Sincerely,

Jason Cox

Same address as
Edie McCleod

Same last name as
Hada Cox (+ no address)

JASON entered as
new/separate

Please leave this
POST-IT ON

S

March 24, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

2009 MAR 25 P 1:30

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufisim Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Jason Cox

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 9/6/09

Printed Name BRIAN COYLE

Address: 174 PINEHURST RD
CANYON CA 94516

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

2009 JUL 21 P 12:16

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Robert Crawford Date: July 18, 2009

Printed Name: Robert L. Crawford

Address: 3156 Mays Ct
Lafayette, Ca. 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

2009 JUL 21 P 12:16
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Susan F. Crawford Date: July 18, 2009

Printed Name: Susan F. Crawford

Address: 3156 Mars Ct
Lafayette, CA

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL 21 P 12:16

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Stacia H. Craigholm Date: 7·17·09

Printed Name Stacia H. Craigholm

Address: 3975 S. Peardale Dr.
Lafayette CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

2009 SEP -8 P 1:53

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 8/17/09

Printed Name: James Grinnion

Address: 2735 Kinney Dr

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 18 P 12:48

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Gail Beth Crinnion

Date: 7-18-2

Address:
2735 Kinney Dr
WC, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Brent Crisp
Brent Crisp

cc: Lashun Cross, Planner
7/13/09

146 S. Wildwood
Hercules Ca 94547

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL 14 P 2:28
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

M Eleg

MARY ELLEN CRISP

cc: Lashun Cross, Planner

7/12/09

146 S Wildwood
Walnut Creek CA 94597

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL 14 P 2:28
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

S FP
08/30/10

CONTRA COSTA
2010 AUG 19 P 2:04
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Cecile K. Crockett Date: Aug 5, 2010

Printed Name: Cecile Kay Crockett

Address: 1195 Saranap Ave #7
Walnut Creek, CA. 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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CONTRA COSTA
2010 JAN 27 P 1:32
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jami Fender Cronin

Date: Jan. 22, 2010

Printed Name Jami Fender Cronin

Address: 380 Camino Dobsante Orinda, Calif. 94563

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Richard Cruser

Date: 8/5/09

Printed Name

RICHARD CRUSER

Address:

150 HALL LN
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL 23 P 12:17
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/22/09

Printed name:
Jose A. CRUZ owner

Business name: Rite-Way Wire Wheel Spec.

Address: 1119 Alpine Rd.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the ~~Saranap~~ WC area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 9/26/09

Printed Name: JEFF CULBERTSON

Address:
1845 SOMPROOT CT
WALNUT CREEK CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Elizabeth Culler Date: 1/31/10

Printed Name: Elizabeth Culler

Address: 149 Kendall Rd.
Walnut Creek, CA

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 2/6/10

Address:

149 Kendall Rd
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Timothy Culler

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Sandra Currier Date: 1/20/10

Printed name: Sandra Currier

Business name: They Grow So Fast

Address: 3413 Mt. Diablo Blvd Lafayette, CA.

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Brad Curry

Date: 10/3/09

Printed Name
Brad Curry

Address:
66 Bacow Ct
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

Connie Cushing
885 Holly Hill Drive
Walnut Creek CA 94596
September 19, 2008

CONTRA COSTA
08 SEP 23 PM 2:21
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, North Wing
Martinez CA 94553

Re: Sufism Reoriented Land Use Application

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the Sufism Reoriented Land Use Application for their Sanctuary project.

Sincerely,

Connie Cushing

Connie Cushing

Connie Cushing
885 Holly Hill Drive
Walnut Creek CA 94596
September 11, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
652 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez CA 94553

Re: Sufism Reoriented Land Use Application

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I have recently learned that Sufism Reoriented has filed its land use application. I am very happy to hear that and to indicate my complete support for that application!

I am one of your constituents currently living in the unincorporated Walnut Creek/Rudgear area. But thirty years ago my family and I lived in the Saranap on Blade Way. Just a month ago our neighbor from across the street sat at a table with us at Peet's Coffee and remembered us and our girls! It shows how deep the human connections run in this area!

At that time our two daughters were living with us. They were twelve and fourteen. One daughter, with a little flag sticking up high so cars could see her, rode in her wheelchair to The Meher Schools to attend the junior high school. At that time The Meher Schools extended through junior high school. Both still remember and find valuable the wonderful life lessons and instruction they received while there, the lifelong friendships they developed and the beautiful artwork they incorporated in their every day classwork. The expectation to do your best and produce beautiful work was not a chore- it was a joy!

I am a Special Educator and Manager in Mt. Diablo Unified School District. I've been working in special education as a teacher and manager for thirty-two years. My first job was in the Contra Costa County Schools in 1974. I came to Contra Costa County at age 4 in 1954. It is my home.

The Sufism Reoriented building and landscaping plan is a stunning and yet calming reflection of the values of clear and fresh spiritual living for our modern age. I know you must find it a very special and wonderful project indeed!

I sincerely hope you will support this project with your whole heart and mind!

Sincerely,

Connie Cushing

Connie Cushing

S (11) 02/04/11

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
DEC -9 P 3:02

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 11/1/10

Printed name: RUI FANG SU

Business name: DA LAT RESTAURANT

Address: 1353 LOCUST ST. WALNUT CREEK

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5

J. David & Rachel Dacus

1308C Boulvard Way, Walnut Creek, CA 94595-1200

08 MAY -9 PM 2:37

May 6, 2008

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

Re: Opportunity to beautify the Saranap area with a "Green" sanctuary project by Sufism Reoriented.

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am pleased to send you, a copy of a letter I sent Supervisor Gayle B. Uilkema regarding the proposed sanctuary project for Sufism Reoriented in the unincorporated Saranap community of Contra Costa County. I know sometime soon, Sufism Reoriented will be filing their Land Use Application, and I wanted to forward you this letter supporting their beautiful and unique project.

I called Community Development to confirm your title/address, as the card you once gave me was from a time, so many years ago, that you wrote your name by hand on a generic card. You had just started with the Community Development Department, and I had just opened a home office in my Saranap neighborhood. Now you are Senior Planner, and I am Director of Design for the Commercial Group of ATI Architects and Engineers in Danville. In the intervening years, we have both grown professionally, and also seen the amazing growth and development of Contra Costa County.

As I said to Supervisor Uilkema:

> **"Besides the tremendous beauty of the project architecture, and the innovation of the environmental design, the most compelling idea for me is the following: What could be more expressive of American ideals, than residents of a community, sharing their love for God, and a commitment to their own children, and the children of their neighbors, and who have demonstrated thoughtful citizenship and care for the Saranap area, coming together to build their place of worship in the community in which they live?"**

I want to sincerely thank you for giving this very special project your thoughtful and professional consideration during the review process to come.

With best regards,

J. David Dacus, R.A.

H 925.947.0978
O 925.648.8800
david@dacushome.com

Attachment

J. David & Rachel Dacus
1308C Boulvard Way, Walnut Creek, CA 94595-1200

March 5, 2008

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

Re: Opportunity to beautify the Saranap area with
a "Green" church project by Sufism Reoriented.

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

As a twenty-seven-year resident of the Saranap community, I wanted to tell you of my personal and professional excitement about the opportunity to be a neighbor to a new worship, support and administrative facility for Sufism Reoriented. I moved to the Saranap in 1981 following completion of my Masters of Architecture degree at U.C. Berkeley. I've lived in the neighborhood for almost three decades (my wife for some years longer). We own a home about 325 yards from the project site. We are thrilled at the prospect of a structure of this kind enhancing the beauty of our area.

I am a registered architect (#C15474), an Associate and Director of Design for the Commercial Studio of ATI Architects and Engineers in Danville. ATI has four locations in California. The company prides itself on innovation and design excellence in a wide variety of design, including: K-12, college/university, commercial, office, medical, defense, corporate, and other essential service facilities, such as fire stations, banks and data centers. In 2007, we had sales exceeding $13.5M, with construction value over our 18-year history approaching $5 billion. We are also Campus Engineers for your *alma mater*, CSU East Bay.

ATI has directed our staff of design professionals to "go green." I am one of several dozen ATI architects and engineers who have taken courses in green design and are in the process of studying for tests to become LEED AP's (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professionals). ATI is a member of the United States Green Building Council. I mention this because this church project is one of the greenest, and most environmentally friendly projects to ever be proposed for Contra Costa County. It could be said to be the model of an innovative approach to building an earth friendly project.

The project is designed by the world renowned architectural firm of Philip Johnson Alan Ritchie of New York. PJAR has designed buildings of distinction all over the United States and around the world. Among their excellent religious projects are: the award winning St. Basil's Chapel in Houston; the Pilgrimage Chapel - Sacro Monte of Carlo in Arona, Italy; the Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove; and Thanksgiving Square in Dallas. Sufism Reoriented was fortunate to secure the interest and design services of PJAR for their church. This is a project that residents of the Saranap and District 2 will be able to point to with excitement and pride. I have seen renderings of the project, and I feel it will

be a beautiful and restful sacred space, resting lightly on the land. It provides a template for worship spaces to be built in our community for years to come. As an architect and member of the Saranap Community Association, I feel it is outstanding. As a neighbor, I will be pleased to have it nearby.

Another role I perform is that of Planning and Architectural Reviewer for the Mountain House new town in San Joaquin County. I helped write, administer and lead Design Reviews for every building and landscape design executed to date in this new California community (expected to be about 44,000 people at build-out). I am also Design Reviewer for both the MH Community Services District and for San Joaquin County Community Development. In these projects, some of the largest and best builders in the United States, have had to be led, cajoled, coerced – even leaned on – to achieve the kind of design and environmental direction that Sufism Reoriented is proposing for its church. This kind of green project, offered voluntarily, with such an excellent design team, should top any list of projects to be supported by a person interested in environmental stewardship.

At great additional expense, they have chosen to place two-thirds of the building under ground. The above ground portion, at 20,000 gross square feet, is only a single level. It is circular in design, and recedes away from the viewer on all sides, minimizing its appearance. The sanctuary spaces are topped with simple and serene shallow domes of varying sizes. These echo the gentle beauty of nearby rolling hills, and average less than eighteen feet in height. The main perimeter eave is only fourteen and a half feet high. The surface structure will be remarkably less massive than the adjacent three-story Le Boulevard Apartments, which has an average roof eave of more than thirty feet. The church will be set back almost sixty-five feet from the nearest street (Boulevard Way), and about 190 feet from the other nearby street (Warren Road).

We live in a climate of development, where growing communities have pressure to build higher and denser, and are land and resource poor. This project preserves almost two acres of open space in the neighborhood. If the church is impeded, I am concerned what *else* might be built on the three-plus-acre site! The church utilizes forward-thinking *pervious* concrete paving and a grass planted parking area. The balance of the site will be planted with lovely flowers, grasses and shrubs, and it is to be surrounded by flowering trees. Amazingly, the project uses no asphalt. It will function like a pleasant park – a quiet place apart from the hubbub of a suburban arterial – an oasis in my Saranap neighborhood. It will end up having less *impervious* material than presently exists on-site.

The project will irrigate the landscape with well water. It will treat all its on-site runoff with an impressive filtration/mitigation system of bio-swales, and other best management practices. It will heat and cool the interior with a ground-source heat pump (thus, no ugly cooling towers or noisy condensing units). All this is amazing to me as a designer. As a person who received a Bachelor of Environmental Design in 1973 – and attended the very first Earth Day – this project seems the culmination of many decades of waiting for ideas like these to take root, even in our environmentally friendly northern California area. It will actually improve and enhance the environment in the Saranap.

I know traffic and transportation is one of your four main areas of special interest. The church has already implemented a Traffic Demand Management Plan. Over many

months members have demonstrated a consistent commitment to reduced traffic, vehicular trips, and parking at their old facility. Their plan is to carry this through to their new facility. I understand a large number of the church's membership live within walking distance – and actually do walk. As a neighbor, I have already experienced the lessening of traffic and parking in the area. This is the exact opposite of most developments I encounter. I feel certain the desire to live near their facility has also helped support property value over the years. I expect this will continue. It's very nice to have churches in my area.

This church also sponsors a childcare facility and school in the immediate area of the Saranap. The White Pony & Meher Schools have educated thousands of young people from inside and outside the area. For thirty years, they have contributed to the harmony of my neighborhood by their provision of supportive care and education for future citizens and voters of the community. Perhaps you have seen these young people singing holiday carols at Broadway Plaza, or performing Stephen Sondheim musicals in the neighborhood. The school is voluntarily maintained by the good citizen members of this church, which has kept the costs of providing this service among the lowest available in our area. The school is beautifully maintained and landscaped, and I have every expectation their new project would be as well.

Besides the tremendous beauty of the project architecture, and the innovation of the environmental design, the most compelling idea for me is the following: What could be more expressive of American ideals, than residents of a community, sharing their love for God, and a commitment to their own children, and the children of their neighbors, and who have demonstrated thoughtful citizenship and care for the Saranap area, coming together to build their place of worship in the community in which they live?

I ask you to lend your very strong support to this remarkable project.

With best regards,

COPY

J. David Dacus, R.A.

H 925.947.0978
O 925.648.8800
david@dacushome.com

5

R A C H E L D A C U S

1308C Boulevard Way, Walnut Creek, California 94595 * (925) 947-0978

June 5, 2008

08 JUN -6 PM 2:45
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT
CONTRA COSTA

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Re: My support of a new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented

Dear Ms. Cross,

I'm sending you a copy of my letter of support to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema for a building project in the Saranap area where I live. I've heard that Sufism Reoriented, which has a center nearby, is planning to file an application for a land use permit to build a new sanctuary. I'd like my support of this project to be on record with your office as well, and so I am enclosing my letter to Supervisor Uilkema. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rachel Dacus

R A C H E L D A C U S

1308C Boulevard Way, Walnut Creek, California 94595 * (925) 947-0978

June 5, 2008

COPY

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

Re: My support of a new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I'm writing to register my support of a building project in the Saranap area. I've lived here for thirty years, since 1978. My husband and I have been homeowners since 1995. My mother also owns a home in the Saranap area and we have many family friends in the area. For more than thirty years, I've had a practice as a fundraising consultant to nonprofit organizations, writing fundraising materials and advising organizations on their fund development programs. Many of my clients are based in the East Bay, and have included John Muir Medical Center Foundation, Alta Bates Foundation, Futures Explored and Center for the Education of the Infant Deaf. I also pursue an active career as a working poet, with three published books of poetry and numerous magazine and anthology publications to my credit. As a voter in District 2, I have recently voted for you! You've long balanced complicated issues in our District and I am happy to say I am a supporter of your work.

I live near the site of the proposed new building project by Sufism Reoriented, on Boulevard Way about a block from their old site. I have seen the materials presenting the project and discussed it. I spend a good part of every day walking around my immediate neighborhood, in the process of generating ideas for my work. I have often observed changes in my surroundings, including many new homes and large home renovations – in fact, quite a boom recently in new construction. Unfortunately, I also see much deterioration. But I look for lovely views and natural beauty to counter these impressions. I find beauty is a vital force in my creative life and I value my connection with the environment and my neighbors. Every lovely planting, every neighborly greeting and every well-tended house sparks my interest. Much of my neighborhood, however, is aging and suffers from lack of maintenance. This is a suburban agglomeration of small homes and office buildings and was not built to last.

So it is with great enthusiasm that I support a project that is clearly thoughtfully developed with an eye toward permanence. The new sanctuary project will be an aesthetic delight and an environment-friendly marvel! Designed by an internationally

renowned architectural firm, it seems likely to become a local treasure. I've visited many gorgeous churches, temples, sanctuaries, mosques, civic buildings, campuses and mansions around the world and seen beautiful architecture in the East and West. I am delighted that we might have such a building in our area. We can all be proud to have such a project here. It is sure to increase the value of my neighborhood in every aspect – aesthetic, environmental, social and financial.

I look forward to being able to stroll past this beautiful place, visit the bookstore and deeply enjoy a new island of green on my street. I urge you to support this potentially wonderful addition to the neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Rachel Dacus

ZC
S Dre

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 3/2/2011

Printed name: Afy Dadafarin AFY DADAFARIN

Business name: Cotyledon COTYLEDON

Address: 1412 N. Main St WC CA 94596

CONTRA COSTA
2011 MAR -9 P 1:10
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

SCAN
09/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 9/12/10

Printed Name: ANDREA L. YOUNG DATH

Address: 21 BONITA CT.
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (H) 5/10/16

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2010 MAY -6 P 12: 35
DEPT. OF CONSERVATION

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Bob Daing Date: 4-30-10

Printed name: BOB DAING

Business name: SHELL SERVICE CENTER

Address: 3356 MT. DIABLO BLVD.
LAFAYETTE, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

June 30, 2008

Dear Supervisor Uhkema,

I'm writing about the proposed new building for Sufism Reoriented

I've been a member of Sufism since 1971 & I've worked at the Meher School over 20 years in the pre-school program.

I lived in the Saranap community for many years however I moved to Senior Housing at "Tice Oaks" about 10 years ago. It is about 2 miles to the school & to the Center, - but we car pool to the Sufi Center as part of our shared commitment to conserve our resources

Gathering together enriches & supports us in our daily lives & having this beautiful temple for our place of worship will enrich us as well as our Community.

Sincerely

Patricia Dailey
2150 Tice Valley Blvd #138
Walnut Creek CA 94595

S

CONTRA COSTA June 30, 2008

06 JUL -2 AM 11:08

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashum Cross
Community Development Dept.

I am enclosing a copy of the letter I sent to Supervisor Uilkema regarding the proposed new church.

Patricia Dailey #138
2150 Tice Valley Blvd
Walnut Creek CA. 94595

5

4

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Annie Dalsey Date: 10.8.09

Printed Name Annie Dalsey

Address: 190 Hilltop Crescent
W. C. CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (HD) 08/04/10

CONTRA COSTA
2010 AUG -3 P 2:49
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: _____ Date: 8/23/09

Printed Name: Ann M. Dalsin

Address: 88 Willow Av

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

LC

CONTRA COSTA

08 OCT 15 PM 1:16

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

5

This is a letter
of support for the Sufism
ReOriented Sanctuary Project

October 12, 2008
Margaret Dalton

1336 BLVD. WY
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
October 12, 2008

MS. LASHUN CROSS
COMMUNITY DEV. DEPT.
651 PINE STREET 4TH FLOOR N. WING
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

DEAR MS. LASHUN CROSS:

THE SUFI CENTER is "MY HOME":
THE Meher School houses "MY CHILDREN"
THOUGH MY residence is LeBoulevard Apt. Building #200, the business of caring for "MY HOME" and educating "MY CHILDREN" includes our neighborhood.

Naturally,
For more than 25 years, I've lived and worked in the neighborhood of the PROPOSED SUFISM REORIENTED SANCTUARY in easy walk to the site.

Potentially,
I find "MY HOME" a beautiful new structure AND a gift to our neighborhood given such as an artist-sculptor places a beloved work of art in an open space to open a conversation about how lovely it is to live here and share a common view... that work of art is of mutual care, that work of art is devoted to peaceful purposes...

In much the same way anyone walks by or drives past a landscaped yard or a well tended garden or a freshly painted building or a new addition or a new roof that belongs to any private family in any private household within our neighborhood, somehow WE ALL GAIN.

Whenever anyone of us re-furbishes or rebuilds or plants a new rose or adds a carefully crafted retaining wall or prunes a tree to weather the climate, EVERYONE BENEFITS and might feel uplifted, inspired or nurtured just by being in juxtaposition to it.

I am a teacher of pre-school children at the White Pony School and Regard Sufism reoriented as a personal source of Beauty Inspiration and Refreshment for any work that I do. Please count on this support for the proposed new building and help us see it through to completion!

Thank You Sincerely -
Margaret Dalton

S
X

CONTRA COSTA
2009 DEC -1 P 2:09
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed:

Date: NOV. 29. 09

Printed Name
TED DANCIU

Address:
1215 BACON WAY,
LAFAYETTE, CA. 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek ~~near~~ in the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Rajesh Dandova Date: 09.18.09

Printed name:
RAJESH DANDOVA

Business name:
7-11

Address:
1248 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 945951

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

+5

2009 JUL 28 P 4:26

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Maureen Daniel Date: 7/23/09

Printed Name: MAUREEN DANIEL

Address: 2099 Mt Diablo Blvd #202
Walnut Creek, Ca.
94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 9·20·09

Address: 670 Gloriettta Blvd.
Lafayette, CA·94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Walter E Daniels

S 6/15/10 P

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: M. [illegible] Date: 5-15-10

Address: 150 Ponderosa Ln / WC. ca. 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (A) 6/15/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 5-15-10

Rosemary H Darabian

Printed Name

Rosemary H. Darabian

Address:

150 Ponderosa Lane

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 9/25/09

Printed name: Massood Darvishzadeh

Business name: Walnut Creek Dental

Address: 1855 Olympic Blvd #320
Walnut Creek Ca 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5

CONTRA COSTA
08 MAY -8 PM 2:38
DEVELOPMENT DEPT

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

A land use application concerning property in my neighbor is soon to be filed by Sufism Reoriented. I have previously expressed my support for the project in a letter to Supervisor Uilkema. I have enclosed a copy of that letter for consideration by your office and other County planning departments.

Yours truly,

Don Davenport

Don Davenport
110 Island Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street
Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

February 9, 2008

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to express my support for the new sanctuary that Sufism Reoriented is planning in the Saranap neighborhood.

I have lived in the Saranap neighborhood for almost 20 years, and 3 years ago bought my home at 110 Island Court. Island Court is an attractive pleasant street with well kept suburban homes. It is a pleasure to live here and it is only a short walk from the proposed site.

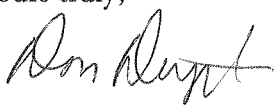
I have the pleasure of living close enough to my work that I make it a habit to walk as often as I can. This gives me the opportunity to enjoy the neighborhood and see what is changing. What I see that is positive are homes being modernized, apartment complexes with well tended lawns and gardens, beautification happening in many ways. I am a member of the Saranap Neighborhood Association and attended the special meeting that was held for Sufism Reoriented to present a first look at the new sanctuary. I was very impressed by its beauty and am fully convinced that it will harmonize with this trend in the neighborhood, and inspire continued improvement all around it.

On my walks I noticed one house on Dewing Road, owned by an energetic young family that I do not know, has had solar panels installed. To me this is admirable. During the presentation by Sufism Reoriented, much emphasis was placed on the attention to ecological principles in designing the building. More than just a detail here and there, the entire design for the structure focused on having a small and self-sustaining footprint from its inception. It is just amazing that such building is being planned for our neighbor. I believe it will be a model not just for similar structures, but of how building is thought about in the future. If houses in the neighborhood are being fitted with ecological features now, think how having such a building will inspire more such thinking.

I believe that change in and of itself is neither good nor bad, but that it *is* inevitable. I belong to the Saranap Neighborhood Association so that I can have a say in helping to direct change for the better. In this case, because of the beauty of the project and the careful thought put into its design, I believe the change is definitely and absolutely for the better.

In short, I am a long time resident of the neighborhood, a member of the Saranap Neighborhood Association, who also works nearby. I spend a lot of time in the neighborhood and I enjoy it a great deal, and I know many of my neighbors are members of Sufism Reoriented. I can see only positive impacts from the new building.

Yours truly,



Don Davenport
110 Island Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

S

September 26, 2008

CONTRA COSTA

08 SEP 29 PM 1:52

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary, and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application

Sincerely

Keith Davenport

Keith Davenport

S

10 Garden Court
Walnut Creek, CA. 94595
September 23, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
652 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94533

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am writing to give my full support to a new place of worship for Sufism Reoriented in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek.

I am a member of Sufism Reoriented and have lived in Contra Costa County for over 34 years.

In 1975, after graduating from U.C. Berkeley with a Master's Degree in Industrial Engineering, I moved to the Saranap area of Walnut Creek and lived there until 1994. With the coming birth of our second son, my wife and I purchased a single-level home in north Walnut Creek. We were not eager to leave the Saranap area and proximity to our place of worship, but felt that our children's needs required moving.

This year, with our eldest son going off to college in Boston, we happily seized the opportunity to downsize by selling our house and renting the home at 10 Garden Court, directly across the street from the proposed building site.

I am personally extremely thrilled at the prospect of living next door to the new building. I am impressed at how today's architecture and technology make possible a setting both beautiful and practical.

Given that Sufism Reoriented has had its existing building in the neighborhood for the last 32-plus years, the new location will not impact the Saranap area by increasing use and traffic, but will surely enhance the neighborhood.

Sincerely yours,

Keith Davenport

Keith Davenport

Cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

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CONTRA COSTA
08 OCT 15 PM 1:16
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

October 13, 2008

Dear Ms. Lashun Cross,

I would like to affirm my support of Sufism Reoriented's land use application, and am therefore attaching a copy of the letter I sent Supervisor Uilkema in support of the project.

Thank you,

Mimi Davenport

Mimi Davenport

May 22, 2008

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a member of Sufism Reoriented, and a pre-school teacher at the Meher Schools, where I have worked for thirty years. During the afternoon I tutor Meher School students in 1st through 5th grade. I have a Master's degree in Early Childhood Education and a Master's degree in Creative Writing.

I must say that this teaching opportunity has transformed my life. As a writer, my natural tendency is to become absorbed in my imagination. Working at the Meher School has enabled me to extend my creativity to others—to children, to parents, to other teachers. I am deeply grateful to be connected to the community is this way.

When I saw the plans and designs for the new Sufi sanctuary, I was moved by the way it reflected the highest aspirations of my work in the world. It's unimposing beauty, its exquisite consideration of the environment, the lovely balance of its prayer hall, all express in material form my best efforts to love God in everyday life. I cannot but think that such a sanctuay would benefit everyone living near it.

Thank you so much for considering my views. Although I haven't met you, I have heard you spoken of as a person who deals with her constituents with intelligence, balance, and sensitivity. I'm glad you represent our particular "neck of the woods".

Sincerely,

Mimi Davenport

S

CONTRA COSTA
1289 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
08 JUL -9 PM 1:16

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine St. 4th Floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Enclosed is a copy of a letter I sent to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema regarding the proposed Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary building project in Walnut Creek.
I thought you might want to review it.

Mark Davenport

Mark Davenport

1289 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, Ca 94595

July 8, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I would like to be counted as being in support of the proposed sanctuary by Sufism Reoriented. I cannot help but think that its beauty will enhance the landscape of the Saranap area.

I am a member of this group, having come from San Antonio, Texas in 1977 specifically to be part of this community when I was about 25 years old. Here I have formed friendships and watched this bunch of youngsters grow in so many positive ways. I have a jewelry business across the street from the present sanctuary and have served the Contra Costa area in that capacity since I moved here. I was married to my wife, Mimi at the White Pony Meher School, where she is a preschool teacher and tutor. Grown young people came to our wedding because they wanted to see Miss Mimi married. I have volunteered as a cleaner of the School for thirty years. Though my wife and I no longer live in the Saranap area (We live at 370 Shaw Rd. near Pleasant Hill) we continue to be a part of the Saranap area community.

Thank you for considering my voice in support of this vital and beautiful project.

Respectfully,
Mark Davenport
Mark Davenport

cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA
08 OCT 14 PM 3:21
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Ms. Cross,

I sent this letter of support the building of Sufism Reoriented's new Sanctuary to Supervisor Uilkema.

With Warm and Hopeful Autumnal Greetings,

Shireen Davenport

5

Shireen Davenport
10 Garden Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
(925)938-9024

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema,
652 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I want to tell you how thrilled my family and myself will be when finally our church is built! We live directly across the street from the proposed entrance to the new site (some twenty or so feet). We sold our house on the other side of town just so we could be as near as possible. My two sons are hoping they can participate in helping to build Sufism Reoriented's new church. Every year they make and sell beautiful crafts for our Christmas Bazaar as a church building fund raiser.

I am a teacher at the Meher Schools and also the Arts and Crafts teacher of Sufism's Sunday School. Directly after graduate school (in psychology) I moved to the Saranap District and lived here for fourteen years to be near our church.

I am personally indebted to Sufism Reoriented for its role in character building. In our children, the teachers following the principles of Sufism Reoriented instill the highest principles of kindness, service, honesty, and purity. The Meher Schools taught tolerance, teamwork and compassion for others who are having a hard time in life. I remember when recently my husband lost his job and it was Christmas time. Pursuing the principles of Sufism Reoriented, my husband and I took our two sons to a soup kitchen on Christmas morning, to give the Christmas Day meal to 7,000 needy souls. What gifts our family received at that soup kitchen on Christmas Day.

Both my sons have gardened at Sufism Reoriented's church and The Meher Schools for the last seven years. They enjoy sharing in the responsibility of maintaining a garden that brings joy to so many. Recently while my fourteen year old son, Toran, was filling up the bird-feeder at our church, my heart was touched as he remembered Saint Francis, and how fully he loved all living creatures and even knew the language of the birds.

I pray that God's beautiful new church will be built soon. It certainly feels as if now is a very good time to begin.

Sincerely Yours,
Shireen Davenport
Shireen Davenport

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JAN 30 P 1:03
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

54

Sidney Davenport
110 Island Court
Walnut Creek CA 94595

January 29, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

Sufism Reoriented, a church in my neighborhood, has filed a land use application for their new sanctuary. I have expressed my support for the project in a letter to Supervisor Uilkema and have enclosed a copy of that letter for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sidney Davenport

Sidney Davenport

Sidney Davenport
110 Island Court
Walnut Creek CA 94595
siddav@gmail.com

January 29, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I'm delighted to take this opportunity to write to you in support of Sufism Reoriented's new sanctuary.

I moved to the Saranap neighborhood in 1975 to be part of Sufism Reoriented and married here. Four years ago we were able to buy a permanent home in the Saranap where we had rented for so many years. Our home is in the same block as the proposed new permanent home for Sufism Reoriented. Because of my work for Sufism Reoriented, the possibility of a permanent home with adequate space for all our activities affects me strongly in a very positive way. My professional training is in graphic arts and publishing and for most of each year I work in this field from part to full time as a volunteer for Sufism Reoriented. I collaborate closely with the staff and other volunteers at our church where we share supplies and resources. Because of lack of room in our current building, I travel to and from Sufism's offices to bring supplies to my home where I produce posters, brochures, flyers, booklets, newsletters, web pages, CD and DVD covers, and books. Although I will always maintain a home office, with a larger building there will be room for meetings, work parties, and storage of the supplies that we all share.

I am also looking forward to walking alongside the lovely gardens that will become part of our neighborhood when the computer becomes too much and I go out for exercise. Presently I avoid Boulevard Way because the character of the street doesn't inspire me to keep walking.

Thank you so much for taking the time and interest to read my letter and to keep up with our very special project.

Sincerely yours,

Sidney Davenport

cc: Ms. Lashun Cross

S (H)
11/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA. 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner, or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I am writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 10/18/10

Printed name: David Nails

Business name: 1237 Boulevard Way

Address: Walnut Creek

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 NOV -5 P 12:02

DEVELOPMENT CONSERVATION
DEPARTMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Date: 11/3/09

Signed: Nora K Davidson

Printed Name
Nora Davidson

Address:
2165 Ward Drive
Walnut Creek, CA
94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jesse David

Date: 2-13-10

Address: 2410 Warren Rd
Walnut Creek CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA
08 MAY 14 PM 1:20
DEVELOPMENT DEPT

May 12, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez CA 94553

Subject: Sufism Reoriented Land Use Application

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented will be submitting a land use application for their new church in the near future. I am forwarding a letter I sent to Supervisor Uilkema and in so doing reiterating my support as a long time resident of the Saranap area.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mark Davis

April 17, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema

651 Pine Street, Room 108A

Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to express my support for the new Sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way. I have lived in the neighborhood much of my life and experienced it from different perspectives. As a child I had the great privilege of attending the Meher Schools on Leland Drive in Lafayette, a few blocks from the new church site. I am so grateful for the education and life preparation I received there. The low cost of the school made it possible for my parents to send me. Since I now understand the key relationship between the proximity of Sufism Reoriented and the school's ability to provide its high quality education at a low cost, it is one strong reason I support the building of the new Sanctuary at the proposed site. I am now 36 years old. I currently rent the residence at 1366 Boulevard Way, one of the addresses I understand will become part of the grounds of the new church. Despite having to move, I am quite pleased to see such a beautiful and superbly designed Church building coming into the neighborhood in which I have lived for many years, and in which I plan to stay for many more.

I am a licensed civil engineer specializing in stormwater treatment and control. I am also a Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC). I work at Shaw Environmental and Infrastructure in Concord. Previously, I worked at ENGEO Inc.

April 17, 2008

in San Ramon. I've seen plans for the new church site and am professionally impressed at the degree of progressive, environmentally beneficial principles and technologies being used. In my profession I frequently see development plans that have to incorporate storm water controls as an afterthought. But this site is designed with environmental principles already integrated into the design itself. For example, there is no asphalt; all the parking areas are designed with Grasspave2 (a permeable, vegetated pavement) and porous concrete. Heating and air conditioning is provided by an underground geo-exchange system. This system is energy efficient and clean, as it uses pure water as a coolant. With so much of the building underground, the temperature control will require much less power. The energy efficiency of this building will be outstanding by today's standards. The roof of the underground building will be landscaped. From what I know of this building, it is likely to be widely recognized as an environmental model in this area.

Once again Supervisor Uilkema, as a long-term resident in the Saranap area (and I plan to stay here for a long time to come), and as a professional with an interest in environmental design and sustainable development, I'd like to give my support to the new church building by Sufism Reoriented.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Mark Davis

2009 JUL 23 P 12:17

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Sally A Davis Date: 7-21-09

Printed Name Sally A Davis

Address: 560 Fern Ave
Pinole CA 94524

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Barbara Day

Date: 8/27/09

Printed Name

Barbara Day

Address:

2925 Walnut Blvd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Lashun Cross, Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -6 P 2:04

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signature Marie Day

Business name U.S. ALLOYS. CO

Address 2756 CAMINO DIABLO, WC

Day Construction

NEW CONSTRUCTION * REMODELING * COMMERCIAL * RESIDENTIAL

2925 Walnut Boulevard, Walnut Creek, CA 94596 * (925) 202-9496 * License No. 376422

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

August 30, 2009

Dear Ms. Uilkema;

Recently, it has come to my attention that Sufism Reoriented has proposed a new sanctuary and gardens to be located on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek. I am not a member of this organization; however I have had extensive associations with a number of their members over the course of the last 24-plus years.

Each of my three children attended the Meher School, located on Leland Drive in Lafayette, for a combined enrollment period of 10 years. We have many positive memories of growth and delight from this period in our lives. Each of our children's teachers was a nurturing and dedicated individual and has a special place in our heart.

We have come to know the members of Sufism Reoriented to be hardworking, fiscally conservative, yet socially progressive members of our community. Over the past 24-plus years I have had the privilege of working on various home remodeling and repair projects for several of their members.

The proposed sanctuary and gardens is an ambitious endeavor with a low impact footprint on the neighborhood. The sensitive design has effectively addressed traffic concerns, visual appeal, and wise use of natural resources, which should make this a feasible and welcome addition to the neighborhood.

I feel this project will enhance, rather than detract from the Walnut Creek and Diablo Valley area both culturally and spiritually. As an area known more for shopping and dining establishments than spiritual growth, it seems to me that this can only improve and help to balance our community. Please consider the Sufism Reoriented request to construct a new sanctuary and garden.

Sincerely,

Michael H. Day

Cc: Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner

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CONTRA COSTA

2009 NOV -5 P 12:01

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Suzanne Day Date: 11/2/09

Printed Name Suzanne Day

Address: 61 San Luis Ct
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Alyanedra DeAvalon Date: 9-14-09

Business name: AVALON SCHOOL OF MASSAGE THERAPY

Address: 1280 Boulevard Way, Ste 214
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV 24 P 1:31
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: Nov. 17, 2009

Printed name: JAS DEEPAK

Business name: HELP-U-SELL ALLIED REALTY

Address: 1320 BLVD. WAY, WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

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CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV 17 P 2:04
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 11/14/09

Printed Name: ARON DEFERRARI

Address: 140 Sequoia Ave
Walnut Creek CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Ira G. Deitrick
Sufism Reoriented
1300 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
Email: ira@consortiumofthearts.org
Phone: (925) 519-4445

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -2 P 3:15
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I have had the privilege of working closely with Sufism Reoriented's proposed land use application, as you know. While you may have presumed my support for the project, I wanted to formally register my wholehearted support and my earnest endorsement of all that Sufism Reoriented has done to design an unimposing, beautiful building, carefully considering the neighborhood and the environment.

Sincerely,

Ira G. Deitrick

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Ronnie Deitrick
1318 A Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
08 MAY -8 PM 2:38
DEVELOPMENT DEPT

Dear Ms. Cross,

I have enclosed a copy of the letter I recently sent to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the land use application which will soon be filed by Sufism Reoriented.

I hope you will have a chance in your busy schedule to briefly review it, as I wished you to know of my interest and background concerning this project.

Sincerely,

Ronnie Deitrick

March 25, 2008

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing you in support of Sufism Reoriented's project to build a new sanctuary near their present center on Boulevard Way which would more fully accommodate their many activities as well as provide a beautiful building in a park-like setting.

I have lived in the Saranap area since 1981 and, prior to that, in Lafayette for eight years. During nearly all of these years, I have focused my life around the Meher School, both professionally and personally. As a member of Sufism Reoriented since 1971, I was keenly interested in 1975 when our group began to develop plans to create a school which would hold as its foundation the principles of harmony and beauty through an infusion of the arts and with regard for a high academic standard in the elementary setting. Our group also recognized the need to provide a quality preschool environment and a daily schedule from early morning to late afternoon with a full-year roster of activities to help support the needs of working parents.

As a parent, I was delighted to offer this education to our two sons who both attended the school. Both of our sons, while not members of Sufism themselves, credit the Meher School with providing them with an invaluable education which included a deep appreciation of the earth, a compassionate faith in humanity and a strong academic foundation. Both attended California universities where they graduated with honors. Our first son has three children, the eldest being a Meher School alumni now in middle school and two younger children are currently enrolled in our preschool. Both of our daughter-in-laws were drawn to the school and now teach there as well.

After our sons graduated from the school during which time I was a parent liaison and volunteer, I became a staff member, working first in the school office, next as Elementary Resource Director and for the last seven years, as a part-time teacher. During these years I also helped to develop the after-school arts and enrichment program now known as Explorations. I currently serve as Registrar for that program and also help to research and design special events for the school.

The school has become my community and over the last many years, I have had the privilege to get to know many, many of its families, the majority of whom are not members of Sufism Reoriented. I have also had the great pleasure to watch, support and befriend many children whom I have come to know as unique and marvelous human beings.

I am enclosing a recent edition of our "Wednesday Message" distributed to all our families each week. This issue focuses on the role of drama throughout our curriculum. At the Meher School, all of the arts, both visual and performing, are understood to be a doorway to self-expression and discovery, an invaluable aid in self-development and in the case of drama, a chance to learn group cooperation, so essential in today's world. My

role as Explorations Registrar and Summer Drama Program Coordinator have given me a chance to support the importance of drama and to witness the transformative process of working together towards a goal, melding individual into a unity of expression.

Living in the immediate vicinity of our spiritual center and the projected site of our new sanctuary and being involved in its activities provides the basis of my life and sustenance. The Meher School is an extension of that commitment. Our new sanctuary actualizes many of the principles which are the basis of our lives by providing a physical space of quiet beauty and a site which accommodates our many meaningful activities. It is essential to my continued involvement with the Meher School to support Sufism Reoriented's new building project so that as efficiently as possible, and with as much reserve as possible, I can continue to participate and contribute to both of these centers of learning which I feel to encourage its members to serve this immediate community. I would be very grateful for your support towards our new project.

Sincerely,

Ronnie Deitrick

Ronnie Deitrick
1318 A Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
deits2@astound.net

S (HL)
11/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

CONTRA COSTA
2010 NOV -4 PM 12:
PLANNING DIV. CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Signed: David A. DeLa Campa Date: 10-30-2010

Printed Name: DAVID A. DELA CAMPA

Address: 101 Rose St. Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 24 P 1:30

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: R A deLeuze Date: 8.6.09

Printed Name: Robin de Leuze

Address: State Farm Ins.
3186 Old Tunnel Rd.
Lafayette CA 94549

Ms. June Sardella
85 Island Ct
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S
11/29/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: David Delucchi Date: 09-23-10

Printed name: David Delucchi

Business name: D. Delucchi Fine Jewelry

Address: 1507 Locust St. W.C. Ca. 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

3281 Marlene Drive
Lafayette, CA 94549
July 5, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Stree, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms Cross:

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Bill Dempsey Dempsey

Bill Dempsey

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -7 P 1:41
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

3281 Marlene Drive
Lafayette, CA 94549
July 5, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am writing in support of the proposed sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented.

Thirty years ago my wife and I completed our undergraduate education at Harvard and moved our young family of four to Contra Costa County to enable us to participate more fully in the activities of Sufism Reoriented. We rented an apartment in Concord and then were able to move to Lafayette to be closer to our sanctuary and to The Meher Schools.

In 1986 we moved to Marlene Drive in Lafayette to be even closer to the Saranap neighborhood. At that time we had one child at Acalanes, one at Stanley, and one at The Meher Schools.

As a homeowner in a Common Interest Development, I have been an active member of our homeowners association for 20 years, the last several as Treasurer and head of the Architecture Committee.

Over the years we have been fortunate to be able to travel widely throughout Europe and Asia. Some of our fondest memories are of visits to sacred places like Assisi in Italy, and the beautiful Cathedral at Chartres in France. Chartres for us is so inspiring that we have stayed there for multiple nights on two recent trips to France.

When I first saw the plans for our new Sanctuary in Walnut Creek, I was overwhelmed with its beauty and grace. And yet it would harmonize and not overpower the surrounding neighborhood.

To have such an inspiring place of worship in the Saranap would seem to me a great blessing to the area.

Sincerely,

Bill Dempsey

Bill Dempsey

Cass Dempsey
3281 Marlene Drive
Lafayette, CA 94549

CONTRA COSTA
2009 APR 16 A 11:49
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

April 15, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Stree, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms Cross:

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

C. L. Dempsey

Cass Dempsey

Cass Dempsey
3281 Marlene Drive
Lafayette, CA 94549

April 15, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to express my complete support for the proposed new Sufism Reoriented building in the Saranap neighborhood. I believe the new building will be a beautiful addition to the area. I especially like the way the gently sloping domes will reflect the surrounding hills. The new building will be an improvement over the existing structures and will blend beautifully into its surroundings.

I have lived in Contra Costa County since the 1970s, in Lafayette since 1983, as a homeowner since 1988. My three children have attended The Meher Schools. Our family has been the happy recipient of this important service offered to our community by Sufism Reoriented.

As a resident of Lafayette, I have followed your career in public service, and been grateful for it. I have voted for you every time I found your name on my ballot. I am sure you will do the right thing and support the construction of this beautiful building in our district.

Sincerely,

Cass Dempsey

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross

130 Rudgear Dr.
Walnut Creek, CA 94596
May 17, 2009

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

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am sending a letter of support for the new Safeway in Rossmoor Shopping. I understand the final use permit application has been filed.

With the design by Alan Rotelli of world renowned Phillip Johnson / Alan Rotelli, it is a beautiful design with landscaping to be equally beautiful, and, what a growing Safeway Rossmoor their needed extra space, will greatly improve the neighborhood.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,
Beatrice Dempff

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
2009 MAY 27 A 9:01
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

S
+

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 12/6/09

Printed Name: Sigrid Bench

Address:
2732 W Newell Ave
Walnut Creek CA, 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (AB)
08/04/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Cynthia Deres Date: July 10, 2010

Address: 118 Panoramic Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cynthia Deres

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5(H)
08/04/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 7/10/10

Address: 118 Panoramic Way

Peter Denes

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7-26-09

Address: TRAVIS DENTON
140 Flora Ave #104 Walnut Creek CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA

08 MAY -9 PM 12:49

COUNTY
DEVELOPMENT DEPT

May 7, 2008

Dear Lashun Cross,

Recently, I learned that Sufism Reoriented was about to file its land use application. I wanted to send you a copy of the letter I sent earlier to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the project to be registered and shared with County planning officials.

Thank you very much for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Adell de Persia

Adell de Persia

February 18, 2008

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

The new church project submitted by Sufism Reoriented, and designed by Allen Ritchie, of the world-renowned firm of Phillip Johnson/Allen Ritchie, will be an exciting and forward-looking addition to the Saranap area, and I urge you to approve it. The beautiful building with ecologically friendly gardens and energy and water saving systems will be an inspiration both locally and beyond. There is growing awareness of the need to consider things in relation to the intricate ways in which we are all connected. This beautiful building, reflecting the Contra Costa hills surrounding us, and allowing us to walk to and from activities without increasing traffic inspires that awareness. I'm also delighted that an effort is being made to create an open feeling, through placing so much of the building underground, and freeing up a vista of Mt. Diablo by thoughtful consideration of height, placement, and landscaping. The quality of the neighborhood will certainly be enhanced. This project touches my life intimately, because I rent at The Villas on Boulevard Way. My short "commute" to the Meher Schools that has reminded me daily, for many years, why I am so glad to be living here, will be enlivened by this wonderful addition.

After college I took Montessori training in Italy at both the preschool and elementary levels. I lived around the Bay while starting the Berkeley Montessori Elementary School, working as an assistant trainer at the International Montessori Association Training Center in Palo Alto, setting up a Montessori Head Start Program in conjunctions with a Woman's Back to Work Program at Foothill College, Cupertino where Montessori Trainees gained classroom experience; and also as co-director a the Marin Montessori School setting up the beginning of their Elementary Montessori Program and working with architects to double the size of the facility both indoors and out. These beautiful and vibrant communities did not allow me to live close to school, which I had enjoyed so much in Bergamo and Perugia during my training. I feel that what makes our Meher School so special is that we do live nearby and are continuously in contact through one activity or another.

I have worked at the Meher School since we started on Moraga Road in Lafayette, and remember our excitement when we were later able to rent the Montecito School on Leland Drive. We have continued to maintain and improve the environment since 1975 while creating wonderful programs to serve the needs of families year round. Families continue to volunteer even after their children graduate, and we now have graduates returning to the area to be sure their children can attend the Meher Schools. I've always been impressed by the very dedicated parents who's work requires them to take advantage of our early morning and late afternoon programs. Certainly the breakfast program, with its wonderful smells of "home cooking," has made it easier for tricky good by's early in the morning with very young children. And the fact that children are often not quite ready to leave their games, projects, and friends, when parents arrive in the late afternoon, have made it easier for parents to know their children are happy as they learn and grow.

As an example of the rich experience that being here in the Saranap has made possible, I would like to share an event that began this fall. Kindergarteners brought to school some of the bountiful harvest of acorns they discovered at parks and in their driveways. The life they saw springing from acorns sprouting roots and shoot in small containers on a windowsill, inspired the children to see if a place could be found to plant their little trees. As he looked at the four-inch trees, after many weeks of checking on them, one child leaned over in a big brotherly spirit, and said, "When we're ready to plant them, my friends and I will make fences for them." The chance to use a child size spade, saws to shorten stakes, wire cutters to snip and bend the fencing, a small rubber mallet to pound in stakes, and later returning to water and care for this new life, seemed to me to help each child feel strengths and possibilities within that were eager to burst out into the world for all to recognize. As one little girl swung the small mallet to drive a stake into the damp soil, she steadily increased the energy she put into each swing, moving from tentative to a confident pounding, and stated strongly "I'm really good at this." Learning like this happened because Mr. Tim, who is in charge of improving and maintaining the places at school that we all enjoy, was delighted to have us go into his shop to find the tools we needed. It was also possible because the volunteers who care for our beautiful grounds were easy to "bump into" during every day activities and could be consulted about where the trees might be planted.

I'm including a recent copy of a weekly newsletter that might give you another peek into life at the Meher Schools.

These are personal experiences, but I hope that they express to you how important being close to the school is to many, and how vital it is to the school to have the support of those who do live nearby. The Saranap has offered many opportunities to enjoy real quality of life experiences. I ask you to approve the design of our beautiful new sanctuary.

Sincerely,

Adell de Persia

Adell de Persia

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 11/18/02

Printed name: STEVEN DEPPER

Business name: DUTCH GIRL CLEANERS

Address: 2094 MT DIABLO BLVD W.C

CONTRA COSTA
2002 NOV 21 P 1:31
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

LA SH

Sup

September 2, 2009
32 Kingston Pl.
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

This is a note to let you know that our household supports the gentle Sufi community's proposed project for their faith community, as it will enhance the entire community from a number of perspectives.

First, we are a community that values parks and outside spaces. The Sufi project will be opening its grounds, a lovely contemplative park, to us. What a boon. We would get additional outdoor space at no cost our upkeep to the local tax-paying citizen.

Second, our area over the past several decades has been attracting some outstanding pieces of architecture. The Dean Lesher Performing Arts Center is a case in point. The Sufie faith community would be following this recent tradition by adding a subtle but sophisticated work, a work that reflects the rounded, curving aspects of nature, designed by the well-known, international firm of Phillip Johnson and Alan Ritchie.

And finally, the Sufi construction would be a "green" construction with two thirds of it underground, pervious concrete in place of asphalt, and "green" features. It will be of the model for all the area to follow.

In conclusion, we hope that this beautiful construction will move forward to become an integrated, appreciated addition to our area, adding value to its own neighborhood as well as the entire East Bay area in general.

Sincerely,

Kay Derrico

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2009 SEP 10 P 2:12

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: R. DeShong Date: 9-4-2009

Printed Name: Richard DeShong

Address: 111 El Cortola Blvd
Walnut Creek 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

February 4, 2009

The Honorable Gayle Uilkema
Supervisor District #2
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 FEB -5 P 1:04
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Re: Sufism Reoriented Project

Dear Ms. Uilkema:

I am writing to show my support regarding the building of the Sufism Reoriented Project in Walnut Creek.

My son attends the Meher school preschool and will start Kindergarten this Summer. I am always so impressed with the kindness and gentleness that the teachers show all the students. My son thrives in this atmosphere as do all the children who attend the school.

You should know that my family is not affiliated with Sufism Reoriented as a religion, however we deeply admire their tireless dedication to serving their community through education. The school already provides a very affordable and extremely supportive environment for children and I'm sure the proposed center will only add to the community as well.

I believe that this project could only benefit the community as the school has already done for many, many years.

Best regards,

Swathi Desai-Silva
4733 Sunny Place
Concord, CA 94521
(925) 429-1144

cc: Ms. Leshun Cross
Ellen Evans

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL 16 P 1:26

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
AND PLANNING

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Don De Valle Date: 7-11-09

Address: 1195 Saranap Ave #14. W.C. 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

Dana DeVeau, MA

RETURN TO WORK

P. O. Box 2102 • Walnut Creek, CA 94595
(925) 932-7771 Phone • (925) 932-7779 Fax

CONTRA COSTA
08 JUN 20 PM 3:18
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

June 18, 2008

Ms. Lashon Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street
4th Floor
North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufism Reoriented will be filing for a land use permit soon, and I am forwarding a copy of my letter of support for the project, which I have sent to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema.

Sincerely,

Dana DeVeau

Dana DeVeau, M.A.
Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor

DD:sma

Enclosure

Dana DeVeau, MA

RETURN TO WORK

P. O. Box 2102 • Walnut Creek, CA 94595
(925) 932-7771 Phone • (925) 932-7779 Fax

June 2, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Uilkema:

I am writing this letter to express my support for the proposed Sufism Reoriented church on the site located in District 2, Walnut Creek. You have served this district well for the past 10+ years and now will continue to serve following the local election.

My name is Dana DeVeau. I am a California native, raised and educated in Contra Costa County, where I have seen amazing growth and change over the years.

I am a member of Sufism Reoriented. My life as a Sufi has brought me to a life of dedicated service to others and a gradual awakening to the exquisite beauty and unity of all life.

I look forward to the building of our new sanctuary as a permanent home where we can continue to live, work, worship and serve in a community which we love.

The lovely quiet presence of our building structure set against the beautiful contours of Mt. Diablo, will bring a fresh, positive atmosphere to our neighborhood. And, I think you might agree that improvement of the physical environment by a carefully and beautifully designed building will greatly benefit the Saranap area.

I am excited and hopeful for a positive outcome as Sufism Reoriented moves forward with its land use application. I hope you can lend your support to this positive outcome.

Sincerely and with my best to you,

Dana DeVeau

Dana DeVeau, M.A.
Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor

DD:sma

cc: Lashon Cross
Community Development Department

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Suzette DeWinter Date: 10/29/09

Printed name: Suzette DeWinter

Business name: Russell Allen Salon

Address: 2363 Blvd. Cir.
Walnut Creek, CA. 94595

CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV -2 P 2:34
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5 (11) 06/23/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JUN 16 P 3:16
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 12 June 2010

Printed name: Julio Del Santo

Business name: Duoum Real Estate Group, Inc

Address: 1910 Olympic Blvd. #100, W.C., CA, 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

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CONTRA COSTA

2009 MAR -9 P 12: 58

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

March 4, 2009

Ms Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the planned Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary project.

Sincerely,

Melody Dickinson

Melody Dickinson
458 Shaw Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

March 4, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108 A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to you to show my full and happy support for the proposed new Sufism Reoriented sanctuary on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek.

In the past 26 years I have owned a condominium at the Atrium Villas of Walnut Creek, and rented apartments in several Saranap area locations near there, including Le Boulevard Apartments and the Birchwood Apartments. I taught at The Meher Schools and attended services and classes at the present Sufism Reoriented site, just one block east of the proposed new sanctuary.

For these past many years, I have hoped to see beautiful changes unfold in this pretty drab, hodge-podge neighborhood with its mixture of businesses, apartment buildings and private residences. Sufism Reoriented's new building and garden will provide a wonderful "face lift" to this area. From the plans I have seen for our new sanctuary, our building is unobtrusive as 2/3 of the building will be underground. The lovely park area surrounding the sanctuary will be open to the public for quiet contemplation and this will benefit the whole neighborhood.

The past 41 years that I have been a member of Sufism Reoriented are the happiest and most inspiring years of my 69 years on earth, and with the completion of this new sanctuary, I hope to enjoy this singularly beautiful place of worship for many years to come.

Very truly yours,

Melody Dickinson

Melody Dickinson
458 Shaw Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Cc: Lashun Cross
Community Development Department

5

2009 SEP -2 P 12:48

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 9/1/09

Printed Name: Lawrence Diller

Address: 2099 Mt Diablo Blvd
Ste 208 WC 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Zola Dishong Date: 9.11.09

Printed Name

ZOLA DISHONG

Address:

2040 N Broadway
WC 94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S
T

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 9/21/09

Business name: Susan W. Dixon, MD

Address: 2910 Camino Diablo, Ste
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

2910 Camino Diablo

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 8/14/09

Printed name:
Michael DiBenedetto

Business name:
LifeForce Massage

Address:
3190 Old Tunnel Rd. Ste C
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S HR 9/22/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Bonnie Dlott Date: 9/14/2010

Printed Name Rev. Bonnie Dlott

Address: 236 Rainbow Lane
Pleasant Hill, CA
94523

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA
2000 NOV 17 P 2:03
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Date: 11/13/00

Signed:
Joel Dolowich

Printed Name
JOEL DOLOWICH

Address:
603 LINDEN LANE
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

FLORALI
Fine Flowers
2345 Boulevard Circle
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
08 JUL -9 PM 1:16
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

June 29, 2008

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to let you know of my support for the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way. I have lived in or near the Saranap area for the past 33 years. I currently own a flower business, Florali, on Boulevard Circle. From the information that Sufism has shared, the innovative plans for this new building promise to bring to the neighborhood not only a place of stunning beauty, but also one that is friendly to the environment. I think we would be lucky to have it so near by! And I hope you do, too.

All the best to you,

Susan Donley

Susan Donley

cc: Lashum Cross,
Community Development Dept.

LC

S

Tim Donley
2175 Oakvale Rd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

CONTRA COSTA
08 JUL -9 PM 1:16
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

July 5, 2008

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a home owner in Walnut Creek and a home repair contractor. I am writing this letter to wholeheartedly extend my support for the new sanctuary of Sufism Reoriented. I find it very exciting to think of this new "green" building being constructed in our neighborhood. As a builder, I have great appreciation for many aspects of the building. The heating and cooling efficiency due to the underground placement of the building combined with the use of underground heat exchange system, the skylights, ground water filtration before entering the drainage system, and the grass roof are all very intriguing. I eagerly look forward to the start of the project.

Sincerely,

Tim Donley

+ 5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 27 P 2:20

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Francine Donner

Date: 8/17/09

Printed Name
Francine Donner

Address:
3197 Acalanes Ave.
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Copy for Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: F W Dorband Date: 7-30-09

Printed name: F. William Dorband

Business name: Dorband & Schneider, LLP

Address: 3182 Old Tunnel Rd. Suite C
Lafayette, CA. 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL 16 P 1:25

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Rych Dorsie Date: 7-11-09

Address: 1195 SARANAP #5 W.C.

Rych Dorsie

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

2009 SEP 16 P 1:5
DATING CONTRA COSTA
ADMINISTRATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Faith Dossa Date: 9-2-09

Printed Name: FAITH DOSSA

Address: 1324 Deering Lane, Walnut Creek

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

August 7, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street
Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I have heard very positive comments about your efforts and efforts for and interest in our local community. I am writing to let you know of my support for the new church building that is being proposed by Sufism Reoriented in an area of your interest and concern.

I first learned about Sufism Reoriented when I was looking for a private school for my special needs daughter in 1979. Because of our experience at the Meher Schools, I sought to know more about Sufi principles of love and service. Following our divorce in 1995 and my retirement from the University of Hawaii system as a Learning Disabilities Specialist, I joined the Sufism Reoriented community here. Currently, I live in Rossmoor.

When I first saw the plan for the proposed building, it took my breath away. I had never imagined such an amazing and innovative design. It is so classically beautiful and seems to have such a sense of peace about it. The fact that it also incorporates close attention to environmental detail is also a big plus for me. Once it is completed, I think the whole Saranap community will welcome this beautiful and serene addition to the neighborhood. For myself, it will be such a joy to worship there.

I hope you will join me in my support.

Sincerely,

C. Lynne Douglas

CC: Lashum Cross
Community Development Department

August 7, 2008

CONTRA COSTA

08 AUG 11 PM 1:28

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Lashun Cross,

As I understand that Sufism Reoriented has recently submitted its land use application, I am enclosing a copy of a letter I have sent to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema expressing my support.

Sincerely,

C. Lynne Douglas

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

S
T

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JAN 27 P 1:32

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 1/25/10

Business name: Rolfing Bodyworks of Contra Costa

Address: 1280 Boulevard Way, Ste. 213
Walnut Creek, CA
94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JAN 27 P 1:32
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Gary T. Drummond Date: 1/25/10

Business name: Stevens, Drummond & Gifford

Address: 1910 Olympic Blvd.
Walnut Creek 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5 (H) 2/2/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 6-24-10

Printed name: Michael DUBOS

Business name: California Auto Repair

Address: 1611 Newell Ave WC CA 94596

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JUL -6 P 2:52
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5

Ron Duce
111 Donegal Way
Martinez, CA 94553

June 15, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

First, I would like to thank you for your service to the County. At this time, when many elected officials seem most interested in re-election and fundraising for their next election, it is refreshing to have you as a representative. I applaud your dedication to your job, and to the county.

I am writing in support of the new sanctuary project of Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way in Walnut ~~Creek. I lived~~ in Tice Valley or the Saranap area for a total of about 27 years. I have been a member of Sufism Reoriented for 38 years. My eldest son was one of the first students of the White Pony School, and I was a volunteer on the cleaning crew for many years more.

I am a General Building Contractor, and for many years worked in the Saranap area on remodeling projects. I have always liked the neighborhood atmosphere, and the bulk of my friends live there today. I believe that the beautiful new sanctuary and its landscaping will be a breath of fresh air. It is time for this type of transition from the commercial area to the neighborhood. With views of Mt. Diablo that haven't previously been available, framed by trees and flowers, it will truly be a boon to the area.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Ron Duce

Ron Duce

cc: Lashun Cross
Community Development Division

S

Cheryl Dumesnil
<riseup1969@sbcglobal.net>
12/01/2008 03:33 PM
Please respond to
riseup1969@sbcglobal.net

To lcros@cd.cccounty.us
cc
bcc
Subject Proposed Sufi Sanctuary in Saranap

Dear LaShun Cross,

I am writing to express my support for Sufi Reoriented's proposed sanctuary in the Saranap neighborhood of Walnut Creek. I am a Saranap resident, I am not a member of Sufism Reoriented, and I support the plan for three reasons. First, I think it's a mindful, beautiful, environmentally conscious plan that will provide a visual uplift to the area. The surrounding gardens will be open to the public, and I hope to take walks there with my children. Second, I appreciate the public service contributions this organization has made to my neighborhood, in the form of hosting family-friendly community gatherings and toy/clothing swaps among residents. Finally, "Save Our Saranap," the organization that is waging the fight against this sanctuary, has circulated a newsletter that includes incendiary language that smacks of prejudice against this peaceful, service-oriented, religious organization. I wonder, if they were a Christian organization, would they be facing such resistance?

Please count me among those who will welcome a new Sufism Reoriented sanctuary in my Saranap neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Dumesnil
39 Alder Avenue
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Mihr'un Nisa Douglass Date: 8/10/09

Printed Name MIHR'UN' NISA DOUGLASS

Address:
197 SOUTH WILDWOOD
HERCULES, CA 94547

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 11 P 1:19

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Nancy Drake Date: 8.6.09

Printed Name: Nancy Drake
Center for Family Empowerment
Address:
1808 San Miguel Drive
W. C. 94596

Nancy Drake, MFT
1808 San Miguel Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Turi S. Drake Date: 10/9/09

Printed name:
TURI S. DRAKE

Business name: TURI DRAKE

Address: 3561 Mt. Diablo Blvd Ste A
Lafayette CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S
Dup

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JAN 26 P 2:00
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: Sandra Lee Duckert Date: 1/23/10

Printed Name: Sandra Lee Duckert

Address: 91 Grandview Place

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Terry S. Duff Date: 7-20-09

Printed Name: Terry S. Duff

Address: 90 Panoramic way
Walnut Creek, CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

2009 SEP -2 P 12:40

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Erik Dunn

Date: 8/31/2009

Printed Name

Erik Dunn

Address:

252 Appalachian Drive
Martinez, CA 94553

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 SEP -2 P 12:48
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Mary A Dunn Date: 8.31.09

Printed Name Mary A Dunn

Address: 252 Appalachian Drive
Martinez, CA 94553

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Stephen E Dunn Date: 8-31-09

Printed Name Stephen E. Dunn

Address: 252 Appalachian Drive
Martinez, CA. 94553

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross. Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA
2010 MAR -2 P 2:06
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Gerry Dunn-Gerardin

Date: 2/22/10

Printed Name
Gerry Dunn-Gerardin

Address:
6655 Arlington Blvd.
Richmond CA 94805

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 9/19/09

Printed Name

JOSEF EDLINGER

Address:
1741 SPRINGBOOK RD,
LAFAYETTE, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Kinney Ed

Date: 9-19-09

Printed Name
Kinney Edlinger

Address:
1749 Springbrook Road
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Mark Edwards Date: 2/7/2016

Printed Name Mark Edwards

Address: 241 Sequoia Ave, W.C. 94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 TP
2/15/11

CONTRA COSTA

2011 FEB -8 P 4: 10

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 02/05/11

Printed Name: Thomas Efird

Address: 40 Iris Lane Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA
2009 DEC -9 P 12:44
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Kathleen M. Eggleston

Date: 12/8/09

Printed Name
KATHLEEN M. EGGLESTON

Address:
4483 SNOWBERRY CT.
CONCORD, CA 94521

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 18 P 12:48
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: July 22, 2009

Address: Richard Eichmann
21 Nevell Ct.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S R
10/29/10

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
2010 OCT 27 P 1:50
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner, or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 10/1/10

Printed Name: Brittni Elsberry

Business Name: Wags and Whiskers

Address: 1528 Locust St. W.C. 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 25 P 1:35
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: _____ Date: 8/22/09

Printed Name: R. EISENMAN

Address: 2875 ACACIA BLVD.

Russ Eisenman

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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+

CONTRA COSTA

2009 NOV 12 P 2:03

DEPARTMENT OF CONSTRUCTION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 11/7/09

Printed Name Daniel G. Esner

Address: 1843 Oro Valley Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

3

CONTRA COSTA

2009 NOV 12 P 2:03

DEPARTMENT OF ADMIN

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed:

Date: 11/7/09

Printed Name

Theresa M. Eisner

Address:

1843 Oro Valley Ct.
Walnut Creek, CA
94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (H) 9/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Aracli Ekren Date: 09/03/10

Printed Name: Aracelli Ekren

Address: 1230 El Curtola
W.C. CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
DIO SEP 20 P 2:34
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

✓ S
JR 10/3/11

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed:

Date: 9/24/11

Printed Name:
Ingrid Elkerbrook

Address: 1132 El Cortda Blvd. WC 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

S (H) 09/30/1

CONTRA COSTA

10 SEP 28 P 12:05

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 9/12/10

Printed Name Nesrin Eltawil

Address: 1945 warmsprings ct
W.C CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (FD) 09/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
09 SEP 23 P 3:38
CONTROL OF CORRESPONDENCE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 9/16/10

Printed name: Ron Elridge

Business name: IPS

Address: 1343 Locust Street #204
Walnut Creek, CA
94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

CONTRA COSTA
2009 FEB 18 P 1:24
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

February 12, 2009

Ms Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the planned Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary project.

Sincerely,

Barbara Emrich
1300 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

5

February 7, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing in support of the Sufism Reoriented sanctuary project under consideration for the Saranap area of Contra Costa County.

I have lived in this neighborhood for more than ten years and over that time have had the privilege of serving as a volunteer on the small administrative staff for Sufism Reoriented. My role involves providing a wide range of administrative and management support for many of the worship and service activities of the congregation. This has provided an opportunity to witness and observe up close the unusual degree of loving care and attention to detail that goes into every project, no matter how small. This special characteristic was very clear as I reviewed the plans for the new sanctuary and its beautiful gardens. I am convinced that it will be a long term enhancement for our neighborhood that all will come to love and take pride in. It will clearly uplift the entire area.

In addition, my career experience included many years as a real estate broker. During that time I came to understand that the addition of a structure as beautiful as this new sanctuary, indeed almost any well designed and well maintained church, greatly enhances property values and the residential desirability of any neighborhood.

I hope you will support this important addition to the Saranap.

Sincerely,

Barbara Emrich

Barbara Emrich
1300 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Lashun Cross

Ms Lashun Cross
Community Development Dept
651 Pine St 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA

2009 APR 16 A 11:49

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

4/15/09

Dear Ms Cross

Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary, and I've enclosed a copy of a letter I wrote to Supervisor Uilkema supporting that application.

Best Regards,

David Emrich

4/15/09

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

Sufism Reoriented has proposed building a new sanctuary just a block away from their current building in the Saranap area. I'm writing to support that project.

I'm affiliated with Sufism Reoriented, I live nearby in Lafayette—although I did live in the Saranap in the mid-90s. Many others who participate in Sufism Reoriented continue to live in the neighborhood. If the new sanctuary does not get approved, it seems likely to me it will eventually get built elsewhere, and I'd expect participants to gradually begin moving closer to it wherever it ends up.

With the proposed park-like setting, I think the sanctuary will be a pleasant part of the neighborhood. And I think the sufis make quiet, pleasant neighbors. I think it would be good for the neighborhood, as well as very convenient for me and other participants in sufism if the sanctuary project is approved.

Best Regards,

David Emrich

3152 Sun Ridge Ct,

Lafayette, CA 94549

+ S

2009 JUL 29 P 1:42

DEVELOPMENT COORDINATION AND REVIEW

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed:
Wayne Emrich

Date:
July 7, 2009

Printed Name
WAYNE EMRICH

Address:
3375 TICE CREEK DR #1
WALNUT CREEK CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

3/31/09

CONTRA COSTA

2009 APR -1 P 1:33

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that new sanctuary.

Sincerely,

Mark Engel

Mark Engel

S

+

2009 JUL 29 P 1:42

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Martha Engelbert Date: 7/8/09

Printed Name

MARTHA ENGELBERT

Address:

1 Foothill Park Terr.
Lafayette CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -7 P 1:46

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Florence Enos Date: June 24-09

Address: #8 Ruth ct. Lafayette 94549

Florence Enos

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Helene P. Epstein
6704 Hillandale Road
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

July 9, 2009

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

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for the new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Helene P. Epstein

Helene P. Epstein

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL 13 P 3:18
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Leonard G. Epstein, M.S.W.
6704 Hillandale Road
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

June 27, 2009

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

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for the new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Leonard G. Epstein, M.S.W.

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -1 P 1:56
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Leonard G. Epstein, M.S.W.
6704 Hillandale Road
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

June 27, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

As a former resident of Saranap area (1981-1989) and a member of Sufism Reoriented, I wholeheartedly offer my support for the proposed Sufism Reoriented sanctuary. After viewing the lovely architectural renderings of this new church building, I am moved to voice my affirmation that this new building will make an aesthetic contribution to the Boulevard Way corridor, a transitional area that is undoubtedly in significant need of enrichment and beautification. What impresses me most is the structure's low community profile and its light footprint on the earth.

I am currently a Senior Advisor in Public Health at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Both of our sons attended The Meher Schools during our wonderful near-decade residence in Saranap. Both sons are pursuing careers in health care, our oldest is self-employed as a certified nurse's homecare assistant, and our youngest just completed his Doctor of Pharmacy degree and is on his way to San Francisco to pursue a residency in Clinical Pharmacy at Kaiser-Permanente. My wife, Helene and I reside in Chevy Chase Maryland. We fondly remember our joy-filled days as Saranap residents, owning our condo at 1316C Boulevard Way! We do, when possible, visit with the many friends that we are fortunate to have in the community.

Our sons' enriching experiences at The Meher Schools have indeed provided the academic and spiritual foundations to perform lives of service. I also have had the privilege of serving as a volunteer at the school during the years we lived in the community. I am quite aware that the continued flourishing of The Meher Schools depends on its volunteer base comprising the members of Sufism Reoriented who are residents of Saranap.

I hope that you would lend your ~~support to the~~ enhancement of the Saranap area by looking favorably toward the construction of this beautiful house of worship.

Most sincerely yours,

Leonard G. Epstein, M.S.W.

S 11/30/10

AUG 31 P 2:30

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 8/14/2010

Printed Name: Tatiana Erchova

Address: 141 Molly Way
W.C. CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

LC
S

CONTRA COSTA
2009 MAR 30 P 3: 19
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

March 27, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
Contra Costa County, District 2
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to you to ask for the approval of the land use permit application requested by Sufism Reoriented. I am a member of the Sufism Reoriented community.
I am a long time resident of Lafayette, and, I am a mother whose child, Matthew, attended the Meher Schools from pre-school through the fifth grade. I write with profound gratefulness for every administrator, every single and all office personnel,
every volunteer, and, every teacher who tends the gardens in, around, and of each child.
The school continues to have an enormous, positive impact in the communities of Lafayette, Walnut Creek, Pleasant Hill, and more.
It is as clear to me in image and in feeling, as it was eighteen years ago when I held my boy's hand and walked him up the Meher School stairs to his first official day in
pre school. How difficult the separation was, but, how grateful to know how carefully tended he was. I can't imagine the intervening years without the school's presence and influence. A thing becomes increasingly beautiful with the possibility of its absence.

The first time I walked around the school grounds was in the 1970's. My son wasn't yet born. Living in San Francisco in those years, I didn't even know that anything existed beyond the Caldecott Tunnel. But, an opportunity developed to visit the school, and, my impression of the light and creativity and love that suffused the environment stayed with me. I am only one of thousands of families whose children have benefited by the educational cornerstones set for each child. Fees for families are kept reasonable because of the extraordinary cooperative, volunteer systems in place by Sufism Reoriented. Members of Sufism Reoriented, like members of the many denominational churches throughout Lafayette and Walnut Creek wish to worship and work in their communities, in their neighborhoods. The beauty of the design, the gardens, the sanctuary itself increase the resonance already experienced by the many Meher School students and their families. There is no way to calculate in *wigits* that resonance of light, creativity and love, but, the feeling, the feeling will stay with them for a long, long time.

I thank you in advance for your consideration to approve the land use permit application.

Sincerely,

Janice G. Erlendson
Cc: Lashun Cross, Community Development

Lachman S

JE Talent SF
P: 415.395.9475
F: 415.395.9301
W: jetalent.com
323 GEARY ST. SUITE 302 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102

March 30, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

This letter is written in support of the construction of a new house of worship for Sufism Reoriented in the Saranap area.
I am a business owner in San Francisco and have lived in Lafayette for the past 19 years. My wife and I moved to Lafayette from San Francisco in 1990 when our son Matthew was two years old solely because of the opportunity to have him matriculate at the White Pony/Meher School. Knowledge of this school came to us from multiple sources as we began to face the challenge of finding the right educational opportunity for our son. After interviewing Ellen Evans, the Principal at the time, we fell in love with the school and its unique educational environment. We were both encouraged to participate in the education of the children by sharing our particular skill sets. My wife, a professional actress who was a member of the corps acting company at San Francisco's American Conservatory Theatre as well as a stage director and member of the Board of Director's, directed the 5th grade play for a number of years, and I taught voice-over skills to a summer acting class. Our son graduated the fifth grade and enrolled at Stanley Middle School. Currently he is a Junior at The University of California, Santa Cruz and continues to keep in contact with the life-long friends he made while at the Meher School.

I have come to know many of the members of Sufism Reoriented over these 19 years and have the utmost respect for their commitment to serve our community and our children.

I find it refreshing and heart-warming to know that a beautiful house of worship will grace our community reminding all of us that we are one in faith, whatever that faith may be.

Yours truly,

John J. Erlendson
1160 Sierra Vista Way
Lafayette, CA 94549

JU
Opr

CONTRA COSTA

2011 SEP -9 P 12:16

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Alicia F Date: 9/5/11

Printed Name: Alicia Ferry

Address: 2218A Whyte Park Ave
Walnut Creek CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

✓ S (AP)

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Leticia Espinoza Date: 2/11/11

Printed name: Leticia Espinoza

Business name: Taqueria Mexican Grill

Address: 1353 Locust St. W.C. 94596

CONTRA COSTA
2011 FEB 22 P 12:44

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/11/09

Address: 2031 Olympic Blvd
Walnut Creek, CA
95495

ELIZABETH EUBANKS

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL 15 P 2:16
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

S

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 9/26/09.

Printed Name: D. EVA

Address: 3 GILMORE Ct
LAF, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 9/26/09.

Printed Name: PETER EVA.

Address: 3 GILMORE CT, LAFAYETTE, CA 94549.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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CONTRA COSTA
08 MAY 29 PM 12: 10
CLERK OF THE BOARD

May 27, 2008

Dear Lashun Cross,

I have recently learned that Sufism Reoriented will be filing its land use application in the near future. As a Saranap resident I would like to express my support of this project. Therefore, I am forwarding you a copy of a letter that I am sending to Supervisor Uilkema in which I share the reasons I have been moved to support this project so fully.

Sincerely,

Dana Evans

Dana Evans

May 27, 2008

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

This letter regards the new church that Sufism Reoriented has proposed building on Boulevard way. I am writing it as both a Saranap resident and as an active member of the Sufi community.

My current home is on Kendall Court within walking distance of the proposed site. I have lived here with my husband and daughter for the last 18 years. The year before, we lived at *Le Boulevard Apartments* on Boulevard Way just next door to the new site.

My husband and I were drawn to this community for two reasons. The first was that I had become interested in Sufism Reoriented. The other major reason was that I had learned of a wonderful preschool for our daughter who was then two years old. This was of course, The White Pony at The Meher Schools. We came to The Meher Schools and were thrilled by the loving, warm, atmosphere we found there.

Prior to this I had been a professional actress, director and teacher, performing with the American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco and heading the acting program in the Department of Theatre Arts at U.C., Berkeley. Later, in addition to acting and directing with numerous professional companies, I performed with Xorica, a dance Theatre Company in Athens, Greece and also founded The Actor's School which employed 15 prominent Bay Area performer teachers as well as the first noon time theatre in the Bay Area, called the Lunch Box Theatre. The latter took on several incarnations until it became The Inner Stage. We toured businesses and senior centers with the hopes of bringing a little joyful and refreshing change of pace to people in the middle of their work days.

Since my daughter was young when we came to Walnut Creek, I continued to work professionally in film, but wanted to focus on a stable life for my daughter, so I cut back some of my other professional activities and continued teaching privately. Gradually, I was drawn naturally into helping in the preschool classrooms at the Meher Schools, then, as a full time substitute and eventually, to my own amazement, found myself inquiring about the position of Registrar at the school. I have functioned in that role for about the last 15 years.

In addition to this work, all my most secret dreams were answered as I slowly found myself participating more and more in choral and theatrical programs with the Consortium of the Arts. To be quite frank, these dreams had to do with a deep conviction that the sole purpose of theatre is to celebrate and worship Divinity and its beauty as expressed in all aspects of our lives on earth.

The new building will of course provide a sacred environment to house such activities as one of the functions that it will serve. For this reason alone, it's lovely,

gracious renderings move me to tears. But most importantly, the building will be the home for members of Sufism, including those who serve the Meher Schools and make it possible for this school to continue to serve the larger community.

What I learned about the school and the community that supports it, is that only a handful of the families served belong to the Sufi community. Yet it draws beautiful people who are bent toward service themselves. Parents whose children have graduated still return once a week year after year, to help us in the office, for example. Some even have children who are now graduating from high school or are in college. Additionally, I have been amazed to see members of the Sufi Community continue year after year to clean the school or garden—doctors, lawyers, dentists, computer technicians, psychologists, special ed teachers, artists, even the teachers themselves—all give of their time freely on evenings and weekends to keep the school beautiful. This is what allows us to keep our rates low in the true spirit of service.

Sometimes I have to pinch myself to know that this beautiful gift of an environment filled with such love is real and I am actually living in it right now. I live in awe of these beautiful, generous beings who are drawn to the school now as well as those who have offered themselves to support it for so many years. It only seems right that if a community of this type can thrive for as many years as this one has, that it should have a building to house the activities that allow this loving community, in service to the larger community, to continue to grow.

It seems to me that the grace, beauty and peace that would emanate from the sanctuary that we hope to build, with its adjoining rooms dedicated to support practical, service oriented activities, will refresh those who are members to expand into fuller and fuller service to the community at large. The spirit of unity of all faiths, as "beads on one string", a tenet basic to Sufism Reoriented, reflects in those beautiful circular walls as a silent offering toward the spirit of unity in the world at large.

I hold deep within my heart a feeling of certainty that the whole Saranap community will recognize the opportunity to support this building project as a ringing affirmation of the values of love, peace, harmony, beauty and service that the members of this church are so dedicated to uphold.

Thank you for your ongoing service to this community as well. And thank you for reading this letter I felt moved to write.

With Warm Regards,

Dana Evans

Dana Evans, Registrar
The Meher Schools

5 (PP) 6/15/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JUN -7 P 2:01
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 6/4/10

Printed name: Nicholas B. Evans

Business name: Shell Service Center

Address: 3356 Mt. Diablo Blv. 94594

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Meher Schools

CONTRA COSTA

2008 MAY -7 PM 1:02

DEVELOPMENT DEPT

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May 6, 2008

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I just learned that Sufism Reoriented is about to file the land use application. I would like to share the support of the project that I registered with Supervisor Uilkema in January, to be shared with the County planning officials. That letter is enclosed.

Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

Ellen Evans

Ellen Evans
Principal

CONTRA COSTA
2009 OCT 23 P 2:06
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Geri Evans Date: 10-21-09

Printed Name GERI EVANS

Address: 99 JEROME CT
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

April 5, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA

2009 APR -7 P 1:13

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new Sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Michael Evans

Michael Evans

1316 Boulevard Way #D
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

March 31, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine St. Rm. 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

Thank you for the opportunity to share perspectives about the proposed church for Sufism Reoriented. As a member of this organization for over 40 years and a resident of the Saranap area for more than 30 years, the development of this sacred building is at the heart of my hopes for our community and beyond.

For over two decades I have helped create programs for youth and adults in challenging areas of Richmond, Oakland and South Central Los Angeles. These have always been built upon the strong structures of churches that aid all residents in need and enrich the quality of a shared life. Sufism Reoriented's sanctuary promises to be a source of vibrant energy that will benefit our Saranap community, indeed the County at large, by anchoring in a sacred structure the living of lives in response to the highest ideals we each and all find within.

I bring my learning as a member of Sufism Reoriented into my professional work. I provide business advisory services to senior corporate executives and Federal government administrators. The principles and practices learned in our church form the core of the leadership and business performance principles I teach. With a new church that offers better facilities and support for Sufism Reoriented's activities, I look forward to years of imbibing more spiritual inspiration that enriches my professional contributions in daily life.

I sense we are at a transformative moment in our country's evolution and will see a rich spiritual unfolding in our nation in our lifetime toward the fulfillment of American ideals in the deepest and truest sense. The new, beautiful church proposed by Sufism Reoriented seems to me no more than a natural expression of this.

With warm regards and appreciation for the opportunity to write to you,

Michael Evans

Michael Evans

✓ cc: Lashun Cross

LC

S

May 8, 2009

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, room 108A
Martinez, Ca 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing in support of the new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented.

I attended and currently teach at the Meher Schools and believe that it is an important part of the community. The values that I learned as a student and as a teacher at the school have had a positive impact on who I have become as an adult. Because of what I learned at the Meher Schools, I have been able to help others.

I think that it is important for the school to remain in this community, and I know that having the new sanctuary will make it possible for the members of Sufism Reoriented to continue to support the school.

There are many working parents that depend on the school to provide their children with an enriched and affordable environment. The school continues to be able to provide education that incorporates the arts in the curriculum while other schools have been forced to cut those programs.

I am not a member of Sufism Reoriented, but I do believe in the school and the values that the school embodies. The school continues to graduate children that do well in the schools they attend, and the teachers love our students, so we must be doing something right!

I urge you to allow the new sanctuary to be built so that the Meher Schools can continue to provide this essential service to the wider community.

CONTRA COSTA
2009 MAY 11 P 1:48
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Sincerely,

Reuel Evans

1750 Parkside Drive
WC 94597
(envelope)

S 7/22/10 CHC

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in ~~Walnut Creek~~ Lafayette near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 2/19/10

Printed name: Todd Everett

Business name: The Elevator

Address: 3490 Mt. Diablo Blvd 202
Lafayette CA 94549

CONTRA COSTA
2010 FEB 23 P 3:50

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV 10 P 1:51
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Robert Famulener Date: 10-16-09

Printed name: ROBERT FAMULENER

Business name: LAW OFFICE OF ROBERT K. FAMULENER

Address: 1850 MT. DIABLO BLVD., #130
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

MICHAEL FARRELL

Signed: [signature] Date: 28 JUNE 09

Address: 2616 LUCY LANE
WALNUT CREEK

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -6 P 2:04
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

3

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Joseph P. Farley Date: 8/25/09

Printed name:
Joseph P. Farley

Business name: Psychotherapy Services

Address:
1148 Alpine Rd #205
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 26 P 1:17
DEPT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL 18 AM 11:46

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

July 14, 2008

Lana Farson
141 Flora Avenue, #2
Walnut Creek, CA

Dear Ms. Lashun Cross,
Here is a copy of the letter I sent to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema.
Sincerely
Lana Farson

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Re: Proposed Sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing this letter in support of the b
Reoriented. Sufism Reoriented provides many
Schools, where my son and daughter have atten
education, and the support of Sufism Reoriente
the price of most other private schools. We have
Berkeley, where we have lived for nine years, because we want the
the loving teachings of The Meher Schools. Just last month we decided to sell our Berkeley property to move closer to the school and my Lafayette office, where I have worked as an acupuncturist for nine years. We are currently living just a few blocks from the present Sufism Reoriented building, and plan on buying a house in the Saranap area.

I am really pleased that plans are under way to build a new sanctuary and I feel lucky to be part of a loving community of people who are committed to working together for the common good of all.

Sincerely,

Lana Farson

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 11/11/09

Printed name: NASSER FARZANEH

Business name: Alwand S.S. Inc (Royal Gasoline

Address: 3357 Mt Diablo Blvd Laf.

CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV 13 P 2:06
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

December 2, 2008

CONTRA COSTA
08 DEC 15 PM 2:34
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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

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

Dear Ms. Cross,

I had written you back in August, 2008 regarding the Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary plans for the Boulevard Way, Walnut Creek, CA site. Since my first letter, I have received more information on the project and I have additional concerns.

The Sufis have 350 local members. The square footage of the building is 66,000 square feet. This is larger than the Walnut Creek North Creek Church, 60,000 square feet, which services 1300 members. I do not know the maximum member capacity of the Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary, but assume that any residential impact, such as, traffic, pedestrians, environmental concerns, will be based on maximum member capacity. Our semi-rural neighborhood has been able to handle their current members numbers, but additional members will pose many problems for the existing neighborhoods surrounding the sanctuary and residents who live here.

North Creek Church has the City of Walnut Creek's infrastructure in place to handle its 1300 members. Ygnacio Valley Road is 3 lanes wide with timed signals, crosswalks, pedestrian walkways, good lightening and a police force in constant vigilance. In addition, North Creek Church has plenty of parking. In contrast, Boulevard Way has very few areas with pedestrian walkways, no signals, poor lighting, and is one lane in both directions just south of the proposed project. It has very few crosswalks, blind intersections, driveways with obstructed vision, and limited law enforcement coverage. The road is heavily used by local motorist and pedestrians. Motorist outside of the area use it as a cut-through to access Hwy 24 and Hwy 680 in both directions. It currently is a risky road to access and to travel on. The additional traffic that will come with the sanctuary will make it more unsafe.

Also, the Sufi Sanctuary drawings submitted to the county propose a reduced parking variance that will allow limited parking on-site. The proposed plans I have seen do not even accommodate their current local members. Parking is not allowed anywhere on Boulevard Way close to the proposed sanctuary site. The overflow parking will spill on to the neighborhood side streets. Our streets have no sidewalks and the majority are 18 feet wide at best. One parked car equates to a single lane road for motorist and

pedestrians in the general vicinity and increases the risk of accidents significantly. Multiple cars parked single file on our side streets will only make the situation worse for local residents in cars and on foot. Sanctuary parking will negatively impact the visual serenity of the neighborhood, as well as, negatively impact its residents quality of life.

The three parcels of land currently identified as the new Sanctuary location are currently property tax revenue producing parcels. Given the current economic status of Contra Costa County, it is not fiscally prudent to remove property tax parcels of land from the county's books. This county has been hard hit by foreclosures and the county's property tax revenues are dwindling. A new sanctuary will service only a few county residents, require huge amounts of county infrastructure to support it, and contribute nothing to the property tax revenues of the county.

As stated in my last letter, I would very much like to see the Sufis have their place of worship to call their own, but I do not believe that it should be at the of the majority of the property owners of this semi-rural area of Contra Costa County or the residents of the county at-large. I am against accepting this plan as submitted.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Judy Fassler
2837 Kinney Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

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

2009 JUL 29 P 4:42

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Rosa L. Fernandez Date: 07/22/09

Printed Name Rosa L. Fernandez

Address: 3341 Tice Creek Dr #11 - Walnut Creek CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 24 P 1:29

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed:

Date: Aug. 10, 09

Printed Name:
Vincent Fernandez

Address:
Bauhaus
34 Las Palmas
Orinda Ca 94563

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Louis Ferrari Date: 9/3/09

Printed name: Louis Ferrari

Business name: Dolans Windows + Doors

Address: 2750 Ygnacio Diablo Walnut Creek 94597

5 LC
KA
11/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2010 NOV 18 P 5:32
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Kelly Fernhout Date: 09/01/10

Printed name: Kelly Fernhout

Business name: The Beauty Source

Address: 1545 Botelho drive
W.C. 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

duplicate

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Kelly Fernhout Date: 09/01/10

Printed name: Kelly Fernhout

Business name: The Beauty Source

Address: 1545 Botelho drive
W.C. 94596

CONTRA COSTA
2010 MAR -9 P 1:14
ACTION PENDING CONSTITUENT
MAILING LIST

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Elizabeth H Ferree, PhD Date: 2/22/10

Printed name: Elizabeth H. Ferree, Ph.D.

Business name: Psychologist

Address:
3468 Mt. Diablo Blvd. B201
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

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2

CONTRA COSTA

2009 APR 10 P 3:04

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Wednesday, April 08, 2009

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Gayle,

You have seen these neighborhood wrangles a thousand times but let me emphatically support the Sufism Reoriented request to build a new sanctuary building on their property in the Saranap Area between Walnut Creek and Lafayette.

I am so disappointed with the "crazies" in our neighborhood who have tried to trash another group of our neighbors, local Sufism Reoriented members who live here, by distorting the facts of their proposal to the county.

We have known members of this faith since taking classes years ago from Pascal Kaplan at JFK University. Many of our friends have or have had children at the White Pony School. These people have been great citizens and contributors to our community.

We know you know all of these things. Glenda and I just wanted you to have another piece of paper documenting strong support for Sufism Reoriented's request to build their new, and sensitively designed, sanctuary building and grounds.

Thank you for your consideration,

Paul and Glenda Fillinger
3132 Mars Ct.
Lafayette, CA 94549
925-939-2859

Glenda Fillinger

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

5 (A)
11/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner, or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 8/27/10

Printed Name: Trish Wallace

Business Name: Fifty Gorgeous

Address: 1329 A North Main St
Walnut Creek CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 2-14-10

Printed Name: [illegible]

Address: 3177 Stanwood

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

One Hour Delivery Service, Inc. • 1280 Boulevard Way, #205 • Walnut Creek, CA 94595

September 10, 2009

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

Re: New Sufism Church

Dear Ms. Cross:

I would like to offer my strong support for the approval of a new church in my neighborhood. It is for the Sufism Reoriented Santuary. The church community has developed a beautiful new building that will truly enhance our area. The plans include a park and gardens open for quiet meditation.

This is an excellent group of people that provide many benefits to our community including a school and a place for spiritual enrichment.

Please approve their plans if at all possible.

Sincerely,

Chris Finn

Chris Finn
President

(925) 947-1100 • (510) 451-6700 • (415) 777-0327 • Fax (925) 947-3480

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CONTRA COSTA

2009 SEP -3 P 2:01

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: H Gertrude Fischbach Date: 8-1-09

Printed Name: H Gertrude Fischback

Address: 1324 El Curtola Blvd
Lafayette Ca 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2011 SEP 21 P 2:11

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: Annette Fisherkeller Date: 9-18-2011

Printed Name: Annette Fisherkeller

Address: 31 Iris Lane Walnut Creek CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

LC

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CONTRA COSTA

08 JUN -4 PM 1:05

DEVELOPMENT DEPT

June 3, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am pleased to have an opportunity to express to you my support for the construction of a sanctuary by Sufism Reoriented, in the Saranap neighborhood. I moved to Saranap in 1984, and have lived in the area ever since. Within weeks of coming here from Washington DC, I realized that this was a special neighborhood, country-like and yet close to so many vital places.

One of those places is The Meher Schools, also aligned with Sufism. My father, a retired U.S. Army colonel, toured the Meher Schools years ago, and pronounced it, "Outstanding!" I've been privileged to work there as a volunteer aide and janitor since the 80s.

As a Saranap resident, I've owned and rented homes in the area for more than 20 years, and worked for two well-known local employers: AT&T and (currently) Chevron. In addition to my work in information technology as a Web site content manager, I previously owned two Walnut Creek businesses: one was a desktop publishing venture on Boulevard Way. The other was a retail store in downtown Walnut Creek, where I was a member of the Chamber of Commerce. Having a local business has given me the opportunity to serve local residents, and come to know them. I have had opportunities to give back to the community through fundraising activities for local schools, and to help others by tapping into our community for their assistance. My retail business raised hundreds of dollars for displaced pets after Hurricane Katrina, when we had a fund-raising flea market in the store's parking lot, next to Civic Feline Clinic on Broadway.

Although I recently moved to Rossmoor after selling my Saranap home, I plan to move back into Saranap within the next two years. Rossmoor doesn't provide the yard I need to actively participate in fostering dogs for German Shepherd Rescue of Northern California, one of my favorite local causes.

I have described my contacts with the community simply to illustrate that in fulfillment of my commitment to Sufism Reoriented I have enjoyed reaching out in service to the community. Hopefully it represents a tiny window into the range of community service offered by members of Sufism Reoriented to the community. I believe having this group permanently located in the Saranap is of benefit to the community and urge you to support our project.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter – and thank you for your service to Contra Costa County. It is a wonderful place to live, and I am sure you are a part of making that happen for all of us.

Sincerely,

Collins Flannery
2101 Pine Knoll #15
Walnut Creek CA 94595

cc: Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor - north wing
Martinez CA 94553

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CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 11 P 1:20

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident ~~of~~ near of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 8/4/09

Printed Name: Marianne Flatland.

Address: 3164 Maryola
Lafayette, Ca 94549.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL 16 P 1:25

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Kathy Florence Date: 7-13-09

Address: 155 Kendall Rd
WC CA 94595

KATHY FLORENCE

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL 14 P 2:29

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Steven R Florence Date: 7-11-09

Address: 155 Kendall Rd
Walnut Creek, CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2010 APR 12 P 1:45
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 3/12/10

Printed Name MELANIE P. FLORES

Address: 190 DAYTON CT
SAN RAMON CA 94583

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

3

CONTRA COSTA

2009 OCT 27 P 1:54

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 10/24/09

Printed Name

CATHERINE S. FLORES

Address:

3001 KODIAK ST. APT. 231
ANTIOCH, CA 94531

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

(5)
8/8/21

CONTRA COSTA
2011 AUG -8 P 2:23
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jeff Fong Date: 07-30-2011

Printed Name Jeff Fong

Address: 1331 SUNSET LOOP
Lafayette, CALIF 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL 14 P 2:29

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Kathy Foreman Date: 7/12/09

KATHERYN FOREMAN

Address: 3490 Monroe Ave
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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June 6, 2008

CONTRA COSTA
08 JUN 10 PM 12:36
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross
Community Development Dept
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented will be filing its land use application soon, and I wanted to express my support for the project by forwarding to you a letter I recently sent to Supervisor Uilkema.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Forman

Bonnie Forman
1771 Tice Valley Blvd
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
(925) 947-6987

June 6, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
61 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

As a 30 year resident of Saranap, and a member of Sufism Reoriented, I would like to share my support for the proposed new sanctuary with you.

I've owned my current Saranap residence on Tice Valley Blvd for the past 10 years, and appreciate the fact that I live close enough to walk to my place of worship. Saranap is a beautiful older area of Contra Costa, and I think the proposed building will only add to that beauty.

In addition, I am personally excited about Sufism Reoriented adding many environmentally-sensitive features that are so thoughtfully planned out. I think we all know that this creative approach to new building is in the best interest of everyone, and hopefully our sanctuary will set an example for others of what we can do to help preserve our planet and its resources.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Forman
1771 Tice Valley Blvd
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
(925) 947-6987

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Robin Fragner, Ph.D. Date: 8/26/09

Business name: 2950 Camino Diablo #120

Address: Walnut Creek, CA. 94597

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 28 P 1:49
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

LC

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Allan Francke

08 MAY 30 PM 12:43

DEVELOPMENT DEPT

1314 Boulevard Way
Apartment B
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
allanfrancke@acm.org

May 28, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street
Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

The Saranap has been my home for most of the last 30 years. I've been a renter on Acorn Court, Warren Road, Flora Avenue, Boulevard Way, and Saranap Avenue; more recently, I've owned a condo on Lucy Lane and now moved back to Boulevard Way to refurbish and upgrade a condo there. I'm a member of the Saranap Community Association and was on the board of directors of the Lucy Lane Condominium Homeowners Association.

I first moved to the Saranap as a Registered Nurse, working in my first career job at John Muir Hospital. Later on in that career, I worked on the hospice unit at Kaiser Walnut Creek Hospital and then as a visiting nurse with Hospice of Contra Costa. I'm currently in my second career as a technical editor and writer, serving engineers and scientists at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

As a longtime Saranap homeowner, I'm relieved to know that my neighborhood will not be *completely* filled with high-density two-story housing and three-story apartment buildings, but instead will be *augmented* by a pleasant, serene, park-like area of greenery and plantings surrounding a low-profile, beautiful structure. It is possible that not all Saranap residents would have my perspective, which comes from growing up in a minister's family. I lived in small towns, in tree-shaded residential neighborhoods in a parsonage next door to my father's church. Churches were a natural feature of many of the neighborhoods in those towns. So I've always been accustomed to living close to my church, and that's why I moved to the Saranap: to be close to Sufism Reoriented's place of worship.

Unlike my childhood experience of seeing cars parked on both sides of the street for a couple of blocks during worship services, I like to participate in a carpooling plan that keeps all of our cars off the surrounding streets during worship. And I get a kick out of knowing that the planned site down the block will have most of us parking on *grass* and not asphalt! I can't help but think that we'll all be proud to have this addition to our neighborhood.

And finally, a side note. Most of the Saranap is without street lights and sidewalks. The current building that has been our center of activities for over 30 years has *never* provided adequate space to house all of our activities. That's meant that I've had to walk down dark roads at night to go to small group activities like my chorus tenor sectional rehearsal group, held in someone's home. It'll be a relief to not have to do this when we can meet in the new structure. This is just another way of saying that Sufism Reoriented's plan to move down the block to a new structure will benefit all of the Saranap, including, in spiritual and personal ways, the many long-time residents who are also members of Sufism Reoriented. I hope you will agree.

Sincerely,

I've heard that Sufism Reoriented will be filing a land use application soon. Here is a copy of the letter I'm sending to Supervisor Uilkema to express my support for this project.

Allan Francke

5/28/08

CONTRA COSTA

2009 OCT 27 P 1:54

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jeanne Franke

Date: 10/24/09

Printed Name

Jeanne Franke

Address:
401 Muller Rd
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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CONTRA COSTA

2009 OCT 27 P 1:54

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Milton E. Franke Date: 10/24/09

MILTON E. Franke

Address: 401 Muller Rd
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Susan B Franklin Date: 11/13/09

Printed Name: SUSAN FRANKLIN

Address: 86 PALANA CT
WC, CA 94595

✓Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: Jan. 22, 2010

Printed Name
Judy French

Address:
261 Montecillo Dr.
Walnut Creek, CA
94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S
8

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 11/8/09

Printed Name:

Address: HOWARD J. FRIEDMAN, PH.D
1855 SAN MIGUEL DR., #23
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Joseph Fournier Date: 11/15/09

Printed Name: Joseph Fournier

Address: 141 Flora Ave. #42
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

2926 Velvet Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94596
May 18, 2008

Lashun Cross
Contra Costa County, Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Lashun Cross,

We are the parents of a fourth-grade student at the Meher School. Our daughter, Lisa, has attended the school since kindergarten. We are writing to you in the hope that you will support the "Sufism Reoriented Land Use Permit Application."

We originally enrolled Lisa in the Meher school after we learned that our local public school had been "impacted" the previous year, that she might be redirected to a different school in the San Ramon district, and that we might not know until the day before school started (as happened to our neighbor). This was a major concern to us, because we did not want Lisa in a school far from home in the opposite direction from our workplaces in Berkeley (where we are, respectively, a physicist and a university administrator).

Lisa's school experience at Meher has been everything we had hoped for. The teachers are excellent, the children almost always behave as if they are there to learn, and (in contrast with another neighbor child's experience at the local public school) cliques are rare. The atmosphere is friendly and the children are happy.

Although both Meher school and the associated White Pony preschool have strong ties to the local Sufism Reoriented community, we'd like to make clear that this is *not* a religious school--- in fact, it was just this year that Lisa asked us what "Sufi" meant. We have observed no promotion of religious beliefs to the children or the parents.

The school is simply the principal means by which the Sufism Reoriented community carries out voluntary service. The results of this service are evident throughout the school. The garden is lovely, and the school, though an old building, is always clean, with much of the cleaning done by volunteers.

Also, the tuition is about half that of other private schools, leading to a diverse student population. Because we both work full time, the Meher School has been an enormous benefit to us as a family; developed as a school for working parents, it is closed far fewer days than the public schools, and offers excellent after-care.

In summary, we would love to see this wonderful school continue to serve children for many years to come. For this to happen, the Sufism Reoriented community must have a satisfactory center in the neighborhood. We thus urge you to view the permit application favorably, so that this opportunity is not lost to future children.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this important matter.

Alex Friedman Deborah Friedman

Alex & Deborah Friedman

S ⊕ 7/22/10

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JUL 13 P 2:06

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Katie Fries Date: 6·6·10

Printed Name: Katie Fries

Address: 1826 Panoramic Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S AD 7/22/1

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JUN 13 P 2:55
LAND USE DIVISION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 6/6/10

Printed Name: ERIC FRIED

Address: 186 PANORAMIC WAY
WALNUT CREEK CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

COPY

8

HELENA FUENTES
1103 Westmoreland Circle
Walnut Creek, California 94596
Telephone: (925) 938-4981

July 19, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Re: Letter of Support

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

This letter is in support of the sanctuary Sufism Reoriented is proposing to build on Boulevard Way in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek.

As a member of Sufism Reoriented, I saw drawings of the building a few months ago. I was struck by the understated elegance and simplicity of the design. The proposed building is a work of art, a gem.

My husband, daughter and I rented a house in the Saranap neighborhood for ten years, though we could not find a home there when we had the funds to purchase a home. We currently own a home in the Rudgear area of Walnut Creek, though we intend to move back in the future. At the time we lived in the Saranap area, our house was almost across the street from where the new building is proposed.

I work for the Contra Costa Water District in the Water Conservation Office, where I am part of a group that educates the public and implements water conserving practices, programs and landscaping. In that capacity, I am kept informed of new technologies and cutting-edge methods for water as well as other environmental conservation. Thus, when I saw the innovative plans for the sanctuary, I was surprised and delighted. The pervious surfaces and planned gardens more than exceed what we hope for when we talk to the public about attractive water-conserving landscape methods. When I read that the landscape architectural firm is the same firm that is working on the new Natural History Museum in San Francisco, I was even more impressed. The environmentally responsible plans for this building and its gardens could and should serve as a template for building plans and gardening practices for the future.

Sincerely,

Helena Fuentes

Helena Fuentes

cc: Lashun Cross
Community Development Department

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL 22 PM 1:18

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

July 21, 2008

I learned that Sufism Reoriented recently filed its land use application.

I want to express my support and am forwarding a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema to you.

Thank you.

Helena Fuentes

COPY

AUG 12 2008

S

CONTRA COSTA

08 AUG 13 PM 1:27

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

As a resident of Walnut Creek since 1975 and a former resident of the Saranap area, I am writing to say that the rendition of the projected building for Sufism reoriented, as shown in the Contra Costa Times in late July, would be a lovely addition to our old neighborhood

Sincerely

Marco Fuentes

1103 Westmoreland Cir.

Walnut Creek CA 94596

★★★★★★★★★★★★★

5 (EE)
08/30/10

CONTRA COSTA
2010 AUG 19 P 2:04
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Rhonda Fugazi Date: 8/1/10

Printed Name RHONDA FUGAZI

Address: 3223 ALTA LN.
LAFAYETTE, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 EU
ub0/10

CONTRA COSTA
2010 AUG 31 P 2:29
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Carol Fuson

Date: 7-21-10

Printed Name
CAROL FUSON

Address:
1041 EL CURTOLA Blvd.
Walnut Creek, 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Supervisor Uilkema, March 24,2009

I am writing to support the proposed Sanctuary that is in question in the Saranap neighbourhood. I am not a Sufi, but have grown up in the Saranap and have known many Sufis. I have seen their service in action when my kids attended the Meher School.

I strongly endorse the new Sanctuary because of the enhancement which will result in the beauty of the gardens which the Sufis are opening to the public. Thank you for taking time out of your day to read my letter.

Sincerly,

Lila Gaitan

CONTRA COSTA
2009 MAR 25 P 1:30
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG -6 P 1:31

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 8-4-09

Printed Name MAŁGORZATA GAŁA

Address: 1739 TICE VALLEY BLV
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

+ S

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 25 P 1:35
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Ivone Gama

Date: 08/22/09

Printed Name
IVONE GAMA

Address:
2765 ERB CT.
WALNUT CREEK
CA, 94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

SR
11/30/10

CONTRA COSTA
'09 AUG 31 P 2:30
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Igor Date: 8/14/2010

Printed Name IGOR GAPONENKO

Address: 146 MOLLY WAY
W.C. CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 NOV 12 P 2:03

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed:

Date: 11/1/09

Printed Name

MARCO. Garcia

Address:

1414 #3
Oakland Blvd, Walnut Creek
CA. 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: David Gardner Date: 7/22/09

Printed name: PRUDENTIAL REAL ESTATE
DAVID GARDNER, MANAGER

Business name:

Address: 2051 MT. DIABLO. BLVD, WALNUT CREEK

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

(5)

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: David Gardner Date: 4/15/11

Printed Name: David Gardner

Address:
996 Leland Dr.
Lafayette CA
94549

CONTRA COSTA
2011 APR 19 AM 11:11
DEPARTMENTS CONFIRMATION
CLERK OF THE BOARD

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

C

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 9/26/09

Printed Name:
WORTH GARDNER

Address:
1845 Soaproot Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Rozan Gautier Date: 11/19/09

Printed Name
Rozan Gautier

Address: 40 Overlook Ct.
Walnut Creek, Ca. 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 NOV 24 P 3:32

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed:
Brad Gautier

Date:
11/19/09

Printed Name
Brad Gautier

Address:
40 Overlook Court
Walnut Creek
Ca 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

2009 SEP -2 P 12:08
DEVELOPMENT PLANNING DIVISION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Stephanie Hey Date: 8/30/01

Address: 3407 Freeman Rd.
Walnut Creek, Ca. 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

+ S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG -6 P 1:31

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

As a former student at the Meher Schools, I am writing this letter to express my support for the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek.

Name: Chandan Georgian

Signature:

Address: 79 Beech Street
Belmont, MA 02478

cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

3

CONTRA COSTA

2010 JAN 26 P 2:00

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Lisa Geula Date: 1/23/10

Printed Name: Lisa Geula

Address: 1375 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV 13 P 2:09
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Phyllis Genzoli Date: Nov. 9, 2009

Printed Name Phyllis Genzoli

Address: 2732 Walnut Blvd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Rita Geraghty Date: 10-09-09

Printed Name: Rita Geraghty

Address: 2748 West Newell Ave.
Walnut Creek, Ca 94595

P.S. I really appreciate the effort they have put into accomodating and educating the neighbors.

RG

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV 13 P 2:09
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

S
4

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Linda W. Ghysels Date: 11-11-09

Printed Name Linda W. Ghysels

Address: 400 Brandywine Ln
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (H) 06/23/1

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JUN 22 P 12: 49
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 6/14/10

Printed name: Ashley Gibson

Business name: AT&T

Address: 1521 Olympic Blvd WC 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

October 31, 2009

CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV -3 P 2:37
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County and a Saranap home owner who has lived in this community for 26 years. I am writing to let you know that I support the building of the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

Some of the reasons why I support the new sanctuary:

- The sanctuary's design is graceful and also addresses the concern for the environment and the neighborhood with its use of 'green' innovations. I appreciate that the building's height is around one story and the landscaping will enhance the beauty of Boulevard Way.

- The neighborhood already enjoys using the Meher school playgrounds on the weekends, so I know that the sanctuary's 2 acre park and gardens will also benefit those who seek a place for quiet reflection.

- The Sufism Reoriented community will live and work in the area and maintain their property.

- The Sufism Reoriented community provides a wonderful service to the community through the Meher schools. My children graduated from the preschool and elementary schools and received solid education taught in a nurturing environment. The reading program taught progressively through each grade impressed me. My children also gained public speaking confidence through their participation in the theatre and music programs. This community also supports the parents with the school's year round daycare and breakfast program.

I support this use of the property and their sanctuary design because it is in keeping with the essential spirit of community that makes Saranap such a wonderful place to live.

Sincerely,

Janet M. Gilman

Janet M. Gilman

1131 El Curtola Boulevard
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner
Community Development Division

S

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -8 A 11:52
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

As a former student at the Meher Schools, I am writing this letter to express my support for the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek.

Name: James Francis Ginty

Signature: [signature]

Address: 607 S. Clovardale Ave., Apt. 207
Los Angeles, CA 90036

cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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+

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 10/13/09

Printed Name Michael Gluss

Address: 63 Sandy Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Mimi Glass

Date: 10/13/09

Printed Name
Mimi Glass

Address:
63 Sandy
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

+S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG -7 P 1:50

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible]
NIXON 60

Date: 08-05-09

Address:
116 Molly Way, Walnut Creek, 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

+ 5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG -7 P 1:50

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: WMP
IONE GO

Date: 8/5/09

Address: 116 MOLLY WAY, WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

12/14/09

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Christina Goddard

Christina Goddard
941 Raintree Pl.
Lafayette CA 94549
925 941 0055

+ S

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 25 P 1:36
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 8/9/09

Address: John Goddard
941 Raintree Place
Lafayette, CA
94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

3

CONTRA COSTA

2010 JAN -4 P 3:02

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 12-28-09

Printed Name
KISH GATLEY

Address:
184 GROVER LN
WC 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
2009 JAN -6 P 2: 22
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Susanne Goldman Date: 1/4/09

Printed Name Susanne Goldman

Address: 1806 Poplar Dr
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 09/22/09

Printed Name Alexy Goldstein

Address: 2638 Pleasant Hill Rd.
Pleasant Hill, CA, 94523

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (H) 9/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner, or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Joshua Goldstein Date: 8/31/10

Printed Name: Joshua Goldstein

Business Name: Modern China Cafe

Address: 1525 N. Main St
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 OCT 27 P 1:55

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: oct/24/2009

Printed Name Patsrick Goldstein

Address: 266 Donegal way martinez
CA 94553

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S
11/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
10 OCT 20 P 1:32
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 10-15-2010

Printed name: SAMUEL E. GOLDSTEIN

Business name: Samuel E. Goldstein & Assoc

Address: 1777 Botelho Dr Suite 345
Walnut Creek CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 18 P 12:48

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 8/15/09

Printed Name: Lisa Gollo

Address: 1465 Sunset Loop
Lafayette CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: A Gomez
Andrew Gomez

Date: 7/30/09

Address:
3407 Freeman Road
Walnut Creek

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Dorene Gomez Date: 9-29-09

Printed Name
Dorene Gomez

Address:
325 Ahwanee Dr
Clayton, CA. 94523

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

+ S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 28 P 1:49

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Gordon R Gonsalves

Date: 8/26/09

Printed Name

GORDON R GONSALVES

Address:

1910 OLYMPIC BLVD
WALNUT CREEK CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

4

CONTRA COSTA

2009 OCT 27 P 1:55

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Cynthia M. Gonzales Date: 10-26-09

Printed Name
Cynthia M. Gonzales

Address: 1351 Bodega Place
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S
T

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 8/18/09

Reyna Gonzalez

Printed Name

Reyna Gonzalez

Address:

394 Mt Sequoia, Pl. Clayton CA 94517

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: DEBRA GOODMAN Date: 6/28/09

Address: 1038 Leland Dr.
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -6 P 2:04
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

5

Barbara Goodwin

100 Island Court,

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
08 JUN 10 PM 12:30
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

June 7, 2008

Lashun Cross

County Planner

Community Development Department

651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, north wing

Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am sending you a copy of my letter to Supervisor, Gayle Uilkema showing my support for the new Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary building .

Sufism Reoriented will be filing its land use application soon and I wished to express my support for this project.

Sincerely,

Barbara Goodwin

Barbara Goodwin

100 Island Court

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema

651 Pine Street, Room 108A

Martinez, CA 94553

June 7, 2008

Dear Supervisor Uilkema

I am a Saranap resident of 30 or more years writing to elicit your help in supporting the building of a new Sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way, Walnut Creek, CA.

During the past years I was an assistant teacher and school office secretary at The White Pony Meher Schools. Now retired, I am looking forward to the day I can sit in the lovely park surroundings the Sanctuary (which promises to be) a most beautiful place of worship.

The ringing of Church bells in a neighborhood change my mundane thoughts , likewise , the stillness and beauty of a beautiful Sanctuary in this unique Saranap country-like neighborhood setting, will inspire each and everyone fortunate enough to live and work in the area.

A new building which will be designed to facilitate Sufism Reoriented's multi-faceted community services and uplift the surrounding neighborhood and I do hope you will take my thoughts and hopes into account when a Land Permit is requested in the near future.

Most sincerely,

Barbara A. Goodwin

Cc: Lashun Cross

County Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL 14 P 2:29
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Dietlind Goricke Date: 7-11-09

Printed Name: DIETLIND GORICKE

Address: 156 PANORAMIC WAY
W.C.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 9-11-09

Printed name: WILLIAM R GORMAND

Business name: INDEPENDENT MERCEDES

Address: 1849 MT. DIABLO BLVD.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 8/23/09

Printed Name
Brian Grace

Address: 215 Apollo Dr #2
Hercules CA 94547

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

TEMPLE Isaiah
Member of the Union for Reform Judaism

Rabbi Roberto D. Graetz
3800 Mt. Diablo Boulevard, Lafayette, CA 94549
Office 925-283-8575 • School 925-284-9191 • Fax 925-283-8355
www.temple-isaiah.org • email: rabbi.graetz@temple-isaiah.org

June 18, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross, Planner
Comm. Conservation and Dev. Dept.
651 Pine Street, 4th Fl - North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

Enclosed find my letter of support, addressed to The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema, for the land use permit submitted by Sufism Reoriented to build a Sacred Space for their community in the Saranap Neighborhood. I hope and pray that their request will find the favor of a positive reply from the Community Conservation and Development Department.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Roberto D. Graetz

TEMPLE Isaiah
Member of the Union for Reform Judaism

Rabbi Roberto D. Graetz
3800 Mt. Diablo Boulevard, Lafayette, CA 94549
Office 925-283-8575 • School 925-284-9191 • Fax 925-283-8355
www.temple-isaiah.org • email: rabbi.graetz@temple-isaiah.org

June 18, 2009

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Gayle,

I am writing to request your support for the land use permit submitted by Sufism Reoriented to build a Sanctuary in the Saranap neighborhood. I have been impressed by their outreach to the community, their willingness to adapt their design to incorporate neighbors' wishes, and the beauty of the overall design.

Having dealt with 'nimby' issues in the past I know that you will never gain unanimity for a project of this magnitude but urge that this one be approved for the eventual benefit of the larger community and to deepen and enrich the pallet of faiths and traditions honored in our community.

Thanking you in advance for support in this project and all you do for us in the Board of Supervisors I remain faithfully yours,

Rabbi Roberto D. Graetz

cc: Ms. Lashun Cross

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

As a former student at the Meher Schools, I am writing this letter to express my support for the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek. .

Name: Kristen Graff-Baker

Signature:

Address: 1530 Rancho Vista Dr
Lafayette, CA
94549

I attended Meher prior to the GATE program at Burton Valley; later graduated from CPS/Oakland Yale (BS '00) and UC Hastings. I continue to believe the loving & supportive of Meher provided me with a foundation that was not available to me through the public schools.

cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

..ent of Contra Costa County, and I have received
..ormation about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Russell G. Grass Date: 9-13-2009

Printed Name
RUSSELL GRASS

Address:
2079 MT. DIABLO BLVD
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA

2010-8 P 4:37

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed:

Date: 12/06/2009

Printed Name

David Green

Address:

25 Canine Ct

Lafayette CA

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S 5/10/10

CONTRA COSTA

2010 MAY -5 P 2:48

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Beverly Gregory

Date: 11-15-09

Address: ~~21 Lily Court~~
21 Lily Court
239 Gregory Ln.
Pleasant Hill, Ca 94523-3324

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (11)
11/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Bonny W Grielstein Date: 9/18/10

Printed Name: Bonny W Grieb Stein

Address: 4 Asby Ct
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Sen 3/28

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 3/17/11

Printed name: Steve Greinotz

Business name: Omega Metals Co., Inc

Address: 1327 N. Main St., #100, Walnut Creek. 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5 (10) 08/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2010 AUG 24 P 2:17
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 8/10/10

Printed name: Adela Griffin

Business name: The Container Store

Address: 1100 Locust Street, W.C. CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S (+R) 8/16/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Barbara Grillo Date: 8-6-2010

Printed Name Barbara Grillo

Address: 726 Live Oak Lane
Pinole, CA 94564

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Beverly Gross Date: 9-11-09

Printed Name BEVERLY GROSS

Address: 1817 WALES DR.
WALNUT CREEK, CA.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG -6 P 1:31

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 8/4/09

Printed Name Jennifer Grossi

Address: 1021 Windsor Drive
Lafayette CA 94549

We have received some negative misinformation from community members regarding this project and have found it to be quite disturbing. Our son has just started at White Pony preschool and we are very, very happy with the school. Sufism Reoriented have always made our family feel welcome and part of this community.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (H)
7/22/10

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JUL 21 P 2:49
DEVELOPMENT & CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed:

Date: 7/17/2010

Printed Name: THOR GROSSEN

Address:
1501 Blvd. WAY
W.C. Ca 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 10/3/09

Printed name:
Gene Grossman, Ph.D.

Business name: Gene Grossman, PhD.
Licensed MFT

Address:
2960 Camino Diablo Ste 200
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/28/09

Printed Name: Dario Gutierrez

Address: 1172 Saranap ave 9B

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Kathleen Gurdel

Date: 2/20/2010

Printed Name:
Kathleen Gurdel

Address:
11 Calvin Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 2-20-10

Printed Name: Rosalie Gundel

Address: 11 calvin court
Walnutcreek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S 41271

CONTRA COSTA

2010 APR 26 P 2:44

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Shannon Hainline Date: 04/22/10

Printed Name: Shannon Hainline

Address: 2043 Olympic Blvd
Walnut Creek, CA. 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

L Cross

S

Hall Equities Group™
Real Estate Investment · Development · Management

November 17, 2009

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am a business owner in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciated receiving this information packet; have reviewed it and am writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Very truly yours,

Hall Equities Group

Mark D. Hall
President

MDH:clh

cc: David Pastor

1855 Olympic Boulevard · Suite 250 · Walnut Creek · California · 94596 · Tel. 925-933-4000 · Fax 925-933-4150
www.hallequitiesgroup.com

S

June 10, 2008

CONTRA COSTA
08 JUN 17 PM 1:11
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez,CA 94553

Dear Ms.Cross,

I have learned that Sufism Reoriented will be filing its land use application soon.
I wanted to express my support for the project by forwarding this letter that I sent to Supervisor Uilkema.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gwendolyn Hamilton,MD,FAAP

June 10, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I write in support of the building project proposed as a new place of worship for Sufism Reoriented in the Saranap community of Walnut Creek.

My work in our community has been as a pediatric physician for the past 26 years and with Contra Costa Health Services for 18 years. I am currently the Medical Director for California Children's Services. My professional career, as a physician, is dedicated to the service of children and my personal life, as a member of Sufism Reoriented, is also dedicated to love of God through service to His world, as this is the major tenet of this organization.

I am very excited that the organization is able to offer its new structure as a service to the Saranap community, where I have been a resident since 1984. This building will be an uplifting and beautifying addition in an area that has heretofore ranged into the unsightly. The proposed structure will not only enhance the neighborhood, with its gracious curvilinear roofline mirroring the hills in the distance; but will also be a model of environmentally progressive utility features, with its geo-exchange system for heating and cooling.

To harmonize with the surrounding environment, the new sanctuary will be built with two-thirds of the building below the ground level, so that the height of the structure will average only 17 ½ feet and views of the Mt. Diablo hills will remain visible behind the gracious, esthetically pleasing, gently curving roofs. Built without asphalt, its beautifully landscaped grounds will enhance the neighborhood environs in a new and exciting way.

Equally exciting are the many "green" features designed into the structure, as the organization has strived to be environmentally sensitive in the development of the structure's plans. With its pervious lawn surfaces and gardens, less storm water will run off into the storm drain system and the water that does enter the drain system will have been treated so that pollutants are removed. There will be no noisy unsightly cooling tower because of the ground-source heat pump system planned, which further considers the esthetics of the neighborhood.

I feel strongly that this project offers so much in service to our community. Its beauty and "green' features are only a start.

Sincerely,

Gwendolyn Hamilton, MD, FAAP

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Sincerely,

Jermaine Hamilton
2940 Frayne Lane
Concord CA 94518
925-209-3670

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUN 30 P 12: 12
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUN 30 P 12: 12

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: M Hamilton Date: 6/21/09

Address: 2990 FRAYNE LN
CONCORD, CA 94518

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL 16 P 3:53

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

July 13, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine St., 4th Floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Ginger Hammer

Ms. Ginger Hammer

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

July 9, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Uilkema,

I am writing to express my absolute support for the Sanctuary project proposed by Sufism Reoriented for the Saranap neighborhood. I grew up in Walnut Creek and lived on Saranap Avenue for many years. My mother still lives on Saranap Avenue and I visit her there regularly. As an art historian, I am so pleased to hear that a worthwhile piece of architecture will grace that neighborhood. The landscape and city of Walnut Creek have always been charming, but to my recollection, the area cannot boast a single truly gorgeous piece of architecture, and I eagerly anticipate having something inspiring to look at in the neighborhood, something which harmonizes with the natural beauty of Mt. Diablo and the surrounding hills. I champion this proposal.

Early in my career, I had the immense personal pleasure of working in a Philip Johnson building: the Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, owned by Harvard University. I spent four years as a Curatorial Assistant there. Whenever I had a visitor, I would whisk them over to the Philip Johnson wing because of its timeless serenity. It hosts a circle of connected domes supported by a minimalist colonnade encased by floor-to-ceiling windows. This elegant combination allows for a refreshing interplay of changing natural light throughout the day and offers continual visual access to the sumptuous surrounding gardens and interior fountain. It is jewel box of modern architecture. From what I have seen of the Johnson/Ritchie firm's proposed Sanctuary, it is not dissimilar to Dumbarton Oaks; a series of domes nestle unobtrusively in a garden oasis tucked into a quiet neighborhood, hardly seen by the street traffic. Up close, however, the space is utterly transformed through the presence of pure and elegant architectural forms set conscientiously in a park-like enclosure. What a happy surprise for anyone who rounds Boulevard Way and happens upon it! One thing I witnessed repeatedly at Dumbarton Oaks was that people stopped talking and started smiling as soon as they walked into the Johnson Wing –and that was a secular space. I am confident that a sacred building designed by that renowned firm will be all the more extraordinary.

Sixth Street and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC · *www.nga.gov*
Mailing address · 2000B South Club Drive, Landover, MD 20785

In addition to my professional enthusiasm for this project, it also has personal significance for me as well. My brother and I were among the first students to attend The Meher Schools, then called the White Pony School, founded by members of Sufism Reoriented. I consider myself one of the lucky guinea pigs of that fledgling elementary school, when it consisted of two rooms rented from a church in Lafayette. I am pleased to learn that it has flourished and grown to be a steady support to the community there. I suspect The Meher Schools are partly responsible for my fundamental appreciation for the arts and for a guiding principle of my life which is that a life dedicated to loving service to others is far more rewarding than a life lived for oneself. Great artists know that. They surrender everything to their art –or their architecture. It seems to me that the members of Sufism Reoriented know this and that their thoughtfulness to *all* their neighbors and their sincere worship of divinity should be supported.

My mother lives in an apartment near the site of the proposed sanctuary. We often enjoy sitting on her stoop and watching the humming birds feed in the refreshing Bay area air. On her porch, she is constantly greeted by several nice neighbors, many of whom are members of Sufism Reoriented. My mother is not a member, but she is a friend of Sufism Reoriented and I have always felt that I never have to worry about her living alone there, because she is surrounded by thoughtful, caring people.

I understand there has been some resistance to this project from a few local –but vocal– residents. That is to be expected. Every great piece of architecture encounters resistance but it's always worth pushing through. People crave beauty even if they don't realize it consciously. My current job takes me around the world as a courier with works of art that we loan to other cultural institutions. In February, I picked up one of our prized possessions; a Vermeer painting that we lent to the Norton Simon Collection in Pasadena. Their staff told me they had record lines of people waiting to see that one tiny painting. This was right after the economy tanked, yet people were spending a good bit of money and waiting for hours to look at one painting –a thing of beauty. Think of that. I understand the local Saranapers' apprehension, but after reviewing the design, it is clear that the Sanctuary will not disrupt the gentle small-town appeal of Walnut Creek or the Saranap. I recall feeling concern myself that the Lafayette Park Hotel would dwarf the area when they first constructed it -and now it strikes me as a modest, pleasant hotel and I enjoy staying there when I visit. Walnut Creek is ever changing and adapting; Blazing Burgers is gone; Lipperts Ice Cream is gone; and now my mother tells me Simon's hardware is finally gone –and Tiffany's has moved in (?!) So I put it to you: what's left to mourn if they upgrade the Saranap neighborhood with something really worthwhile? -A disreputable nail parlor and a former liquor mart? I don't see that there is anything there to talk about.

So let's instead talk about something real and something lasting, like an inspired building. I currently work in another masterpiece of modern architecture: the East Building of the National Gallery of Art, designed by I.M. Pei. I can hardly describe to you how nourishing it is to walk into a beautiful building every day. Everyone is refreshed by the space itself, from the people who buff the marble floors, to the groundskeepers, to the scholars. And we enjoy seeing how much delight it provides to visitors of all ages. An inspired building does change a neighborhood *for the better.* The residents around St. Peter's aren't grumpy because they have to look at a white dome gleaming in the morning sun. And the Bedouins in Jordan's Petra valley, don't complain that the Nabateans replaced their lean-tos with hand-carved temple facades two millennia ago; they still enjoy them today. And I would be all the more happy to come home if there were something refreshing to look at, beyond my mom's humming bird feeder…

I urge you to do all you can to improve the area with this brilliant new Sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented. The people who live in the neighborhood, both now and for countless years to come, will benefit from the beauty of the design. It promises to bring serenity to a place that has long hosted a needless amount of anxiety.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Ginger Crockett Hammer
Assistant Curator
Old Master Drawings
National Gallery of Art

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG -4 P 12: 16

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date:

Printed name: Glenn Hammill

Business name: Hammill Accountancy

Address: 1148 Alpine Rd Ste. 204, Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

COPY 5

Duplicate

Diane Hammon
1310 B Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

January 14, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine St., Rm. 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am sending this letter in full support of Sufism Reoriented's proposed glorious place of worship in the Saranap neighborhood. I have been a resident for 30 years, have owned my condominium on Boulevard Way for about 20 years and rented in the neighborhood previous to becoming an owner. Most importantly, I have been a teacher at The Meher Schools for over 25 years.

The full support that we receive at our school from Sufism Reoriented makes it possible for us to exist in a most amazingly clean and nurtured environment. This in turn, provides the children with a basic foundation of beauty for a more focused opportunity that is filled with love, the arts and academic excellence. Each morning, the children are received in an environment that is pristine and carefully cared for. The volunteers from Sufism Reoriented manicure, clean, mend, fix, expand, invent and on and on. It is more than we could ever do on our own.

The church will enhance our neighborhood, cast an extended feeling of well being into the Saranap area, and even provide many of us with a garden for quiet contemplation at the end of a long day. This new site is thoughtful in its plan, unobtrusive and quietly elegant in its presence.

Thank you for your time. I hope you can join in support of this project.

Sincerely,

Diane Hammon

Diane Hammon

RECEIVED
JAN 16 2009
GAYLE B. UILKEMA

S+

Diane Hammon
1310 B Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JAN 20 P 1:48
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

January 14, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Stree, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am enclosing a copy of a letter that I sent to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of the new sanctuary plans for Sufism Reoriented.

I fully support this project and wanted to formally support their Land Use Permit and thoughtful plans.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Diane Hammon

Diane Hammon

Diane Hammon
1310 B Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

January 14, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine St., Rm. 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am sending this letter in full support of Sufism Reoriented's proposed glorious place of worship in the Saranap neighborhood. I have been a resident for 30 years, have owned my condominium on Boulevard Way for about 20 years and rented in the neighborhood previous to becoming an owner. Most importantly, I have been a teacher at The Meher Schools for over 25 years.

The full support that we receive at our school from Sufism Reoriented makes it possible for us to exist in a most amazingly clean and nurtured environment. This in turn, provides the children with a basic foundation of beauty for a more focused opportunity that is filled with love, the arts and academic excellence. Each morning, the children are received in an environment that is pristine and carefully cared for. The volunteers from Sufism Reoriented manicure, clean, mend, fix, expand, invent and on and on. It is more than we could ever do on our own.

The church will enhance our neighborhood, cast an extended feeling of well being into the Saranap area, and even provide many of us with a garden for quiet contemplation at the end of a long day. This new site is thoughtful in its plan, unobtrusive and quietly elegant in its presence.

Thank you for your time. I hope you can join in support of this project.

Sincerely,

Diane Hammon

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CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL -7 PM 2:13

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Randy Hammon
1310B Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

June 24, 2008

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Mr Cross,
I have learned that Sufism Reoriented will soon be filing its land use application and wanted to say that I fully support the project. Enclosed is a copy of a letter sent to Supervisor Uilkema expressing such support and sharing my thoughts on the issue.

Sincerely,
Randy Hammon

Randy Hammon

Randy Hammon
1310B Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

June 24, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,
As a long-time resident of Walnut Creek, I am writing to express my full support for the building of a church by Sufism Reoriented in the Saranap area of Contra Costa County.

I have lived in the Walnut Creek-Pleasant Hill area for over 33 years and in the Saranap area of the County for over 23 years; 5 years as a renter on Saranap Avenue just off Boulevard Way, and for the last 18 years as a condominium owner on Boulevard Way across from Saranap Avenue. I live about one long block from the proposed site.

I am a Vietnam Era Veteran who served in the Army from 1970-1973. Using the G.I. Bill, I went on to receive a B.A. in Computer Science from U.C. Berkeley and an M.S. in Computer Science from Stanford University. And yes, I am conflicted when the Big Game happens every year.

I put my life on the line for the ideals of my country and the principles it is built on. A cornerstone of those ideals and principles is the freedom of religion and worship. I believe having a beautiful church where I live is an exercise of my free religious expression and should be honored and protected.

Further, I have always felt that service to one's country and fellow citizens, while most visibly expressed through military service, starts locally at home with one's neighbors and in one's neighborhood. Having a beautiful church in my neighborhood will most directly allow me to achieve those goals of local service to help make the world a better place for all of us.

Thank you so much for reading this letter.

Sincerely,
Randy Hammon

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CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG -4 P 12: 16

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 8/1/2009

Address:
DROR BEN HAMO
3152 MARYOLA CT
LAFAYETTE, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/1/09

Business name: Curves for Women

Address: 2092 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Walnut Creek, Ca 94596

✓ Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Elias Hanna Date: Sep. 27. 09

Printed Name: Elias Hanna

Address: 77 Carolyn Ct. Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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X

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Sarah Hanna Date: 9/27/09

Printed Name: Sarah Hanna

Address: 77 Carolyn Ct.
Lafayette, CA
94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 25 P 1:36

DEPARTMENT OF ...

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 8/4/09
Jessica Hannasetts
Address: 2308 SAN JUAN AVE
WALNUT CREEK, CA
94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (R) 7/22/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: J. Hansen Date: 6-6-10

Printed Name: JEFF HANSEN

Address: 40 PARK AVE W.C.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2011 JUN -1 P 1:49

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Sarah W. Hansen Date: 5/29/11

Printed Name: SARAH W. HANSEN

Address: 41 Manzanita Court W.C.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 8/11/09

Printed Name: Charles Hanson

Address: Hanson Environmental Inc.
132 College Ln
Walnut Creek, CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S FR
11/29/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

2010 OCT 27 PM 1:44

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Cherie Hardin Date: 8-26-10

Printed name: CHERIE HARDIN

Business name: ART + SCIENCE OF EYEWEAR

Address: 1385 C N. Main St. WC. 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Kathleen M Hargreaves Date: 1/3/2010

Address: 981 Conduit Ct.
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 1/3/10

Printed Name

Kenneth F. Hargreaves

Address:

981 Cenelit Ct
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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2010 JAN -5 P 1:30

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Linda Hargreaves Date: 1-3-2010

Printed Name: Linda Hargreaves

Address: 981 Condit Ct.
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (HU 08/04/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: Betty Harguindeguy Date: 8/16/09

Printed Name: Betty Harguindeguy

Address: 167 Richard Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Cristina Harman Date: 11/22/09

Printed Name: Cristina Harman

Address: 1202 Bacon Way Lafayette CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed:

Date: 02/12/10

Printed Name

Heather Harrington

Address:

2738 Oak Rd #167
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Leslie Harrison Date: 6/20/09

Address: Leslie Harrison
231 King Dr.
Walnut Creek, CA
94595

✓ Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Robert L. Harrison
1648 Springbrook Road
Lafayette CA 94549
Telephone: (925) 943-7351

June 5, 2009

Supervisor Gayle B. Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to express our support for the new Sufism building and grounds proposed for Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek. I have had an opportunity to review the plans for the project, and I believe that they reflect a good compromise between meeting the needs of the Sufis and addressing the concerns of the neighborhood. Also, and although I am not an adherent of Sufism or any other particular religion, I believe that spiritual spaces such as the one proposed here enrich the lives of everyone in our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

s/

cc. Community Conservation &
Development Department
Attention: Ms. Lashun Cross, Planner

+ S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Marguerite Hartnell Date: July 25, 2009

Printed Name: Marguerite Hartnell

Address: 1271 Bonita lane W.C 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Copy for Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Sarah Harvey Date: 7/30/09

Printed name:
Sarah Harvey

Business name: Sarah Harvey Math Tutor

Address: 3182 Old Tunnel Rd. suite A

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

RECEIVED
08 DEC 10 PM 1:49
COUNTY OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Emelyn Jewett Hasselfeld
aka Emelyn Jewett Carothers
2366 Warren Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
(925) 944-1244

December 8, 2008

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

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

Re: Proposed Sufi Project on Boulevard Way, Walnut Creek, CA

Dear Ms. Cross and Ms. Uilkema:

I write in support of the proposed expansion of the Sufi Center on Boulevard Way in the Walnut Creek area of Contra Costa County.

I am **not a Sufi** and I am **not a member of any homeowner's association**. I am a **neighbor** who has lived at 2366 Warren Road (only 2-3 blocks from the proposed center) **since July, 1986**, and I write of my own volition.

My strong support of the project is based on the following:

- Over the past 22 years, I have not seen, heard (or even heard of) any objectionable activity coming from the existing Sufi Center, or conducted by any members of it.

  There is no reason to expect that this will change simply because they have more space. The people are the same.

The existing Center is completely unobtrusive. Its most noticeable characteristic over the past 22 years (to those of us who are not part of that community) has been the pretty gardens gracing its entry.

I understand that some residents are concerned because the proposed project plans include a larger meeting space (which will be mostly underground and largely invisible from the street). Although their birds-eye view depiction of the project makes it look overwhelming - I like the view from the street - with a gently sloping rounded blue top peeking over their garden wall - and I especially like the fact that it will be set in a park-like environment with a contemplative garden which will be open to the public. We have quite a bit of asphalt in this neighborhood - and I look forward to seeing a lovely contemplative garden in the midst of all that.

I also understand that some residents object to the blue rounded roof. I like the design. More important, however, is the fact that this neighborhood does not have a HOA or CC&R's giving us the right to approve or disapprove of our neighbors' artistic sensibilities. That's one of the things I really like about our neighborhood, and one of the reasons I chose it over some of the more regulated subdivisions, such as those found in the Northgate area, or in Danville. Whatever decisions you make, I truly hope you do not set a precedent of granting some neighbors the right to dictate artistic choices of made by other neighbors, such as whether roofs are squared off, pitched, or rounded; or whether houses and their roofs are beige, blue, green, or whatever.

- I believe the Center is good for our neighborhood and very good for our property values. Property in our neighborhood is very desirable precisely because of its proximity to the Sufi Center - and those who wish to sell usually find that they have many buyers interested in their property. This should not be overlooked, especially in this economy. (I am confident of the truth of what I say - I have been licensed as a real estate agent, and broker, since 1979 and used to manage one of the major real estate offices in Walnut Creek [although I no longer broker for anyone except my immediate family].)

- My experience of the members of the Sufi Community is that they are quiet, decent, law-abiding people - and great neighbors. I raised two sons in this neighborhood, as a single mother, and took comfort in the knowledge that my sons could call on our neighbors if the need arose (as it did occasionally.) My reliance on them was not misplaced.

- In sum, 22 years of experience leads me to believe and trust that the Sufi's will continue to be the good neighbors they have been since I first moved her. I cannot see any justification for treating them as anything other than the good neighbors they have always been. Accordingly, I support their project.

In all candor, I don't really understand what the opponents are truly afraid of[1] - although I suspect that part of their opposition is based on fear of an unknown religion or sect of a religion. (And I hope that those who are afraid of their Sufi neighbors will take the time to learn enough about them to satisfy themselves that these are really decent, peaceful, law-abiding, people - many of them the professionals they encounter every day - teachers, lawyers, doctors, etc.)

I cannot help but wonder whether this project would face the same opposition if 350 +/- members of the Rotary, or Lions Club, pooled their resources in order to build a meeting place, with beautiful grounds open to the public in the same location. Or, whether a similar project would meet with such passionate opposition if it were proposed by a Zen monastery, or a Catholic convent.

I hope you will seriously consider the benefits of the proposed project and treat it and our Sufi neighbors with the dignity and respect they have certainly earned and deserve.

Very truly yours,

Emelyn J. Hasselfeld

Emelyn J. Hasselfeld
aka Emelyn ("Lyn") J. Carothers

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[1] I think that talk of trees, noise, yards of dirt, etc. are a smokescreen. We all lived through construction of the 680/24 interchange for years and years and years - without any of the hoopla surrounding this proposed project. The opposition here strikes me as completely out of proportion to the likely (and temporary) inconvenience.

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Selma A. Hassen

Date: 9/4/09

Printed Name

Selma A. Hassen

Address: 5 Iris Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

08 NOV 26 AM 11:45
DIVISION OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

November 20, 2008

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented is working towards building a new Sufi Center on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek. I am writing in complete support of the proposed new building. I am sharing a letter with you that I have sent to Supervisor Uilkema.

With thanks,

Ira Hastings

Ira Hastings

1176 Saranap Ave.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
October 12, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
652 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am writing in complete support of the proposed new building of a center of worship in the Saranap neighborhood. I am a residential remodel-carpenter who lives and works in the Saranap neighborhood I am also an active member of Sufism Reoriented.

Throughout my life I have been fascinated with every aspect of construction, from the clearing of the land with heavy equipment, to the finest details and finishing touches of the craftsmen. I am proud to say that I can walk around the Saranap pointing out more than a dozen homes which my skills and care have gone toward beautifying and bettering. When our new sanctuary breaks ground I will have the opportunity to work on this building, which is a reflection of my love for God. This will be an incredible learning experience which rivals the building of any great cathedral or temple of worship in the world. As past students of The Meher Schools, my wife and I are both the product of the school's principles of kindness and service to others. In January our son will be entering the White Pony preschool at The Meher Schools. Our commitment to our community is deeply connected to this school and Sufism Reoriented. The building of our sanctuary will be the project of a lifetime and I look forward to enjoying the benefit of the close proximity to my home.

Sincerely,

Ira Hastings

Cc: Lashun Cross, Community Development

S

May 27, 20007

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented is going to be filing for a land use application soon in hopes of building a new Sufi Center on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek. I wanted to voice that I support this project wholeheartedly. I am sharing a letter with you that I have sent to Supervisor Uilkema.

With thanks,

Karima Hastings

Karima Hastings

May 21, 2008

Dear Supervisor Gayle Uilkema,

My name is Karima Hastings. I am 35 and have spent a good portion of my life as a Saranap resident, both living with my parents and attending the Meher School (then the White Pony), and now, married with a 17 month old son who will also be attending the Meher school in January 2009. We rent a little house at 1176 Saranap Avenue where we enjoy tending to our vegetable garden, and watching our 17 month old son Matteu toddle around the yard.

Not only am I a Meher School graduate, but I have been working there for over 10 years and currently hold a second grade teaching position. I *have* been out of the neighborhood in my 35 years! I studied at the University of California at Santa Cruz where I majored in community studies with an emphasis in poverty. After college I joined the Peace Corps and applied my major, where I served as a water and sanitation extension agent on a red dusty road in the Congo rainforest in Cameroon. I lived in the village of Oveng-Fang where I was fortunate to have a strong mud brick house reinforced with a layer of cement to protect the walls. I had a corrugated roof, a pit latrine, a small kerosene stove and no electricity. My assignment and service to this village lead me to teach basic hygiene and sanitation to children of all ages. I also taught AIDS and STD prevention to teenagers in the arondisement. Life was sometimes very hard overseas. Learning a new language, contracting malaria, living with discrimination as a young unmarried woman living alone in Africa invited difficulties. I remember drawing on the principals of the Meher School and Sufism to give me strength. I was doing my best to serve others!

After my service was over I returned home via South Africa and India. I stepped onto American soil a different person than I left two years prior. I held the experiences of a woman who survived living "alone" in the African bush with all the adventure life could offer. I had a desire for deeper meaning. I was drawn closer to the Sufi Center where the broadening perspectives of life helped me to process my Peace Corps experiences. So, I moved back to the Saranap neighborhood where I grew up. Since then I have felt that the Sufi Center has held a special place in my heart. It is a place of worship for our family and gives us inner strength.

Since we are in the process of trying to build a new Sufi Center only a block down the road, it made me thoughtful about our planet and about the design of our new building. Recently, haven't we all been conscious of how we can personally decrease our carbon footprint? While living in Africa and traveling abroad, I noticed how pollution and cutting down the rainforest was making our world sick. How many third world countries do not have enforced laws that protect the environment? It's frightening to think of, really, that we share the same planet. Yet who is going to lead the way to a greener world? Well, the Sufi's have thought of a really good living example right here in our neighborhood! The design for the building incorporates multitudinous green features such as housing 2/3 of the building underground which invites expansive room for more trees and gardens. And, by

building underground it gives us the opportunity to use a system called a geo-exchange system. It uses the earth's constant temperature to regulate heat in the summer and winter. One doesn't need to burn *any* fossil fuel to create warmth inside the building. It reduces carbon dioxide emissions, (which, as you know, is a green house gas), compared to traditional heating and cooling systems. Also, the idea of using grass pave instead of asphalt is helpful to our planet. In the hot summer months on Boulevard Way, where the asphalt used to reflect and retain heat, we will now have beautiful lawns. In the winter our planet will be happy to know that grass pave is actually cleaning the water runoff and filtering out pollutants. Another green idea! Walking! My husband and I are part of the contingent of committed walkers that amble instead of drive to the Sufi Center. If our Center was not able to build the structure on the suggested land we would be forced to get back into our cars and drive for some distance. Come to think of it, that would invite hundreds of Sufis to get back into their cars which would increase our collective carbon footprint considerably! It's interesting to think that because of the carpool program the Sufi's have designed and follow so carefully, there won't be any increased traffic when the new building is erected.

I applaud the possibility that Boulevard Way will be revitalized and beautiful for my son to experience with new views of Mt. Diablo, and a cheerful tree-lined street, and look forward to him learning by example of how to live lightly on the land right here at home!

With thanks,

Karima Hastings

Karima Hastings

Cc: Ms. Cross

5

June 3, 2008
1310A Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek,
CA 94595

Lashun Cross
County Planner
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I wanted you to have a copy of the letter I recently sent to Supervisor Uilkema because I have learned that Sufism Reoriented will be filing its land use application in the very near future.

I wanted to convey my support for this endeavor by forwarding the letter I shared with Supervisor Uilkema.

Thank you,

Ken Hastings

Ken Hastings

May 29, 2008
1310 A Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street
Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94533

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

It gives me pleasure to write you since I have a very positive view of the work you have done for the County and for this district. I have thus enjoyed voting for you. My wife and I have lived in the Saranap area since 1986. We own a condominium just a block away from the proposed sanctuary that Sufism Reoriented wishes to build.

We are members of Sufism Reoriented. My wife worked at Sufism Reoriented's Meher Schools as a preschool teacher for ten years. I have volunteered at the school on the cleaning teams for more than thirty-five years. Our three children were able to attend the school for a few of those years. I have worked in Contra Costa County as a Program Specialist and as a Director of Special Education since 1980. As an educator, I have had the pleasure of presenting a few classes at the school that we are so happy to have as part of our work and service to the community. I tell you this because my wife and I enjoy living close to our sanctuary and to the school since it is such a large part of our lives and we hope this will continue. I have had the pleasure in participating in Sufism Reoriented's outreach to inform our neighbors about our plans to build a new sanctuary and to listen to their concerns. I have been pleasantly surprised by the affirmative responses I have gotten. Those who know about Meher Schools or who immediately perceive the beneficial aspects of the proposed new building are quite willing to sign our letter of community support. Others, while reticent to sign our letter of support, often

say, "I have no objection to it." Or "I'm neutral to it but I don't sign this sort of thing." So far I have not received one negative response.

So it seems that the building is actually encouraged by many here in the Saranap area. I really can see why, since the architecture of the building is so pleasing and unobtrusive and the grounds are designed to be park-like and so very environmentally responsible. It will truly be a beautiful and uplifting addition to the neighborhood.

When Sufism Reoriented applies to the Contra Costa Community Development Department for a land use permit to build a new sanctuary it is our hope that you will support our application.

Most sincerely,

Ken Hastings
Toni Hastings

Ken and Toni Hastings

Cc: Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

June 3, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Yolanda L. Hastings

Yolanda L. Hastings

June 3, 2009

Yolanda L. Hastings
1310 A Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, California 94595

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

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I live a block away from the proposed site of Sufism Reoriented's new building project. I am a member of Sufism Reoriented. I have lived in this area for twenty-two years. My husband and I rented a house for 10 years while the children went to The Meher Schools, Walnut Creek Intermediate School and graduated from Los Lomas High School. We now own a condominium in the neighborhood.

This area has never struck me as aesthetically attractive, partly because of all of the old commercial buildings nearby. Having graduated from college with a degree in Fine Arts, aesthetics are very important to me. I am delighted to think that a beautiful building with park-like grounds is being planned for our neighborhood. I see no reason why Sufism Reoriented should not be allowed to build the proposed sanctuary. This building will only enhance the area. I look forward to seeing this sanctuary enhance our Saranap neighborhood.

Sufism Reoriented has given much time and energy in service to others. I was a pre-school teacher at the White Pony/Meher Schools for over ten years and have personal experience of what this group is able to give to our community.

Sincerely,

Yolanda L. Hastings

Yolanda L. Hastings

Cc: Lashun Cross, Community Development

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CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -7 P 1:48

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jm Hatterslay

Date: 07/05/09.

Address: 3463 FREEMAN ROAD
WALNUT CREEK
94595.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

+ S

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 23 P 1:47

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: _____ Date: 8/23/09

Printed Name: D HATTERSLEY

Address: 3463 FREEMAN ROAD
WALNUT CREEK
CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Helen Hathaway
5116 Cochrane Avenue
Oakland, CA 94618

S

CONTRA COSTA
08 OCT 14 PM 3:21
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

October 6, 2008

Subject: Sufism Reoriented's Building Project in Walnut Creek

Dear Ms. Uilkema,

I recently learned that Sufism Reoriented has filed a land use application for the building of its proposed new sanctuary in the Saranap neighborhood. I am very much in favor of this new building and totally support this application.

Although I do not, at present, live in Walnut Creek, I have spent much of my time in this neighborhood since 1979. At that time I became interested in Sufism and this led me to work at the Meher School for all these years. From what I have observed during this time, Sufism has been a great asset to the area.

Often there are people who oppose any new idea, just because it is new and different, or worry about any change in their neighborhood. I understand these feelings, but think they are groundless in this case. The project includes a beautiful building in a park-like setting which the Saranap residents will enjoy. It should greatly enhance the area and increase overall property values.

Yours truly,

Helen Hathaway

Helen Hathaway

Copy To: Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street 4th Floor North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Robin Hauge Date: 9/9/09

Printed name:
Robin Hauge

Business name: Melmed Clinic

Address: 3182 Old Tunnel Rd
Laf, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

CONTRA COSTA

2009 MAY 26 P 1:08

incomplete address

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

I think the new plantings and building will be much more pleasant to the eye than the other current buildings on the property.

I am not a member of Sufi-reoriented but I do believe people should "reasonably" be able to do what they want with their aquired property.

I support their project.

Thanks,

Ryan + Kelly Hauck

2564 Lucy Lane W.C., 94595

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T

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 9.4.09

Printed Name
Curtis Hanke

Address: 2021 Ygnacio Valley Rd
Ste. C-204
Walnut Creek CA 94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 14 P 1:43
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 8/8/9

Printed Name: Brett Hawkins

Address: 81 Park Avenue
Walnut Creek CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 14 P 1:43

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 8/8/09

Printed Name: James Hawkins

Address: 81 Park Ave.
Walnut Creek, CA. 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 14 P 1:43

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: _____ Date: 8/8/09

Printed Name: James Hawkins

Address: 81 Park Ave, Walnut Creek, CA.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

May 19,2008

Dear Supervisor Uikema,

I work for the Oakland Public Library and have lived in the Saranap area for many years. I moved away about ten years ago to another part of Walnut Creek near BART. Since the recent death of my wife I plan to move back to the Saranap area again.
I am a member of Sufism and we are interested in constructing a new building for our activities. From what I have seen the new building is quite wonderful . It is very advanced and well thought out with many innnnovate 'green' features. Since we are already an established group who have been in the area for many years with no complaints, and since we are only planning to move down the block, it seems like a no brainer to support the plans for this beautiful new building.

Same group- better building.

Sincerely,

John Hawkins

John Hawkins
2145A Hillside Ave
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

08 OCT 24 PM 1:04
TRANSMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION
AND ENTRY INTO RECORD

P.S.

I am resending this letter of support, since I heard that some letters sent to Supervisor Uikema were never received. Thanks for your attention to this matter.

Joyce C. Hedgepath
2480 Warren Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
240-731-3285

CONTRA COSTA
08 OCT 15 PM 1:17
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

October 13, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, North wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Re: Sufism Reoriented

Dear Ms. Cross:

Enclosed is a copy of my letter of support for Sufism Reoriented's proposal. It was sent to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in January.

Sincerely,

Joyce C Hedgepath

Joyce C. Hedgepath

Joyce C. Hedgepath
2480 Warren Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
240.731.3285

January 19, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Uilkema:

In November 2007 I moved to California from Maryland and am currently renting a house at the above address on Warren Road, only three houses in from Boulevard Way. The house is in the immediate vicinity of the proposed Sufi site.

One of the reasons I chose to move to California is because of the greater environmental awareness here. After learning about the proposed building and grounds, I was very impressed with the proposed use of environmentally-friendly products. For example, Grasspave will be used for the parking lot and driveways rather than asphalt. This will not only look attractive, it also helps clean the environment by removing pollutants that would normally just run off asphalt and enter the storm drain system. The plan calls for extensive landscaping with gardens, trees and grass. The building, which is mostly underground, will naturally be energy efficient due to the more constant temperature of the ground. Plans also call for the use of a geo-exchange system for heating and air conditioning that is also very energy efficient.

Last night I witnessed physical violence between two teenagers directly in front of my home. I was shocked to see it and ran out to help the young lady in distress. I believe that having a church in the area will be beneficial to the neighborhood. There is much research showing that the presence of a church tends to reduce some of the social ills of our society, such as crime, alcohol and drug abuse. It is also my understanding that the church members are dedicated to helping others either directly through their professions or though organizations they have helped to create such as Hospice of Contra Costa County, the Contra Costa County Rape Crisis Center and The Meher Schools.

The building, itself, is esthetically pleasing although, as proposed, it would be unobtrusive from the surrounding streets. It is also lower in height than the adjacent apartment building. In Maryland, I lived in an area having very flat land. When I first came to Walnut Creek I fell in love with the lovely hills. The proposed domes of the building reflect the beautiful surrounding hills that are here. I believe the building will enhance the neighborhood and hope that the proposed plans will be approved.

Sincerely,

Joyce C. Hedgepath

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April 8, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Dept.
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor - North wing
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA

2009 APR -9 A 11: 30

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the new sanctuary building proposed by Sufism Reoriented in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek. My husband and I have participated in this organization since the late 1970's. We lived in the Flora Avenue Apartments which are near to the existing Sufism Reoriented building on Boulevard Way, from 1986-2000. I came to Contra Costa County from Michigan in 1968 as a girl of 16, attended Diablo Valley College, U.C. Berkeley, and later JFK University when its campus was in Orinda. I worked at John Muir Medical Center for many years, and I currently work for Aetna Health Insurance at their regional headquarters in the Shadelands office park.

In 2000, my husband and I had the opportunity to buy a condominium in Pleasant Hill where we live now. We enjoy our home and surroundings very much, but we often long to move back to the lovely Saranap neighborhood to again be closer to the Sufism Reoriented sanctuary. I grew up without any religious orientation so I never really understood what it meant to attend a church or temple. As an adult having found my spiritual path, I know first-hand the value of having a center of worship where one can enter to be renewed and re-inspired to join God in all activities of life. Needless to say, I am thrilled at the prospect of perhaps one day returning to live in my old neighborhood, and be able to worship in the simple elegance and serene beauty of this proposed new structure.

As you know, the new Sufism Reoriented church would be a model of "green", eco-friendly engineering. The plans include surrounding the building by lush garden-like landscaping. How wonderful that these grounds will be a delightful sight to passersby, and a haven for anyone wishing to sit quietly to rest and be refreshed by this suburban oasis!

I hope you agree that the new sanctuary and its grounds will enhance the Saranap community in many ways, and I hope we can count on your support to bring it to fruition.

Sincerely,

Janine Heineman

Janine Heineman
373 Ridgeview Dr.
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Cc: Supervisor Gayle Uilkema

April 8, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

2009 APR 13 P 1:33

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Dept.
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor – North wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am sending this letter in support of that project.

I have lived over 20 years on Flora Avenue, adjacent to the Sufism Reoriented property at its current location, 1300 Boulevard Way. I have met many neighbors and business owners that live and own businesses in that neighborhood. My doctor lives on Warren Road.

My wife and I bought a home in 2000, and currently live in Pleasant Hill, but we both spend much of our time participating in the activities of Sufism Reoriented in the Saranap area.

Having lived on Flora Avenue for many years, I know the problems industry has brought to the area: PG&E trucks coming and going from the corner lot at Flora Avenue made life noisy and dusty. The neighborhood has suffered from many cases of theft, and vagrancy. Once a burglar was caught by the police just outside our apartment window.The neighborhood could be greatly enhanced, I believe, with the addition of the new building Sufism Reoriented is planning to build. Churches tend to uplift a neighborhood and help create an aura of peace. The new sanctuary will add a beauty much like that of a park, with trees, flowers and fountains—and it will be open to the public for quiet contemplation.

With the addition of a very modern and environmentally friendly new structure, the Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary will bring beauty and upscale the neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Kirk Heineman

Kirk Heineman
373 Ridgeview Drive
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Cc: Supervisor Gayle Uilkema

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support ~~this build~~ing project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 6/26/2009

Address: Zinnia Heinzmann
1580 A Whitman Rd.
Concord, CA 94518

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -1 P 1:55
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

+ S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: Don Hendricks Date: 10/10/09

Printed Name: DON HENDRICKS

Address: 2547 LUCY LANE
WALNUT CREEK, CA.
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

LC

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 FEB 25 P 1:35

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

141 Flora Avenue, #41
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

February 5, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing enthusiastically in support of the new proposed church of Sufism Reoriented in Walnut Creek.

I have been living in the Saranap neighborhood for three years now, after having lived the last three decades in Southern California. That means I have a fresh eye and enthusiasm to get to know and appreciate this area.

As I discovered more about this area I found it's geography and natural features lovely and enjoy the seasonal change. I found the people to be warm, generous and decent.

It would be remarkable to include in the neighborhood the new sanctuary of Sufism Reoriented: notable architecture designed by an internationally renowned, prominent architectural firm which has designed dozens of high-profile structures around the world; a plan designed by an impressive landscape firm; and its focus on advanced environmentally responsible design. It may be the first structure of its kind in Walnut Creek and the County.

The place of worship offers a classical, simple yet serene, elegant design based on meaningful concepts, such as beauty and harmony and unity that uplift. It will also be very functional serving the needs of the organization in one dignified and efficient place.

The sanctuary would be a jewel like legacy for the good people here. I encourage your vote for it.

Thank you kindly for your time and consideration, Supervisor Uilkema.

Sincerely,

Autumn Henry

S t

CONTRA COSTA

2009 FEB -2 P 1:32

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

January 29, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that you are currently reviewing a Land Use Permit Application that Sufism Reoriented has submitted for their new sanctuary. Please find enclosed a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Jan Henson

Jan Henson

3926 South Peardale Drive
Lafayette, CA 94549

January 17, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I have been a member of Sufism Reoriented for more than twenty-six years. During the first few years of my association with the group, my husband and I lived in Antioch. Ron practiced dentistry in Brentwood and I worked at the We Care Day Treatment Center in Concord as an Occupational Therapist. In 1985, we moved with our two children to Lafayette where we still reside. My husband was fortunate to be able to acquire a dental practice in Lafayette and we have never looked back; in other words, it was a wonderful move for the whole family. I was delighted to be living just 10 minutes from the Sufism Reoriented sanctuary and The Meher Schools where our son attended from kindergarten through fifth grade. I worked for quite a few years in the preschool program. My husband semi-retired from practicing dentistry last June and it is our hope to move into the Saranap neighborhood in the near future to live closer to our many friends and our sanctuary where we enjoy gathering with others in worship of God and where we like to volunteer our time.

Sufism Reoriented has always provided support to the community through The Meher Schools. When I began working there in 1985, I was still fairly new to Sufism Reoriented and I was touched by how we provided care for the children and their families beyond what was provided by other schools at that time. One program was the infant program in which babies as young as six weeks could be cared for by loving care givers while their mothers returned to work. Another program that was unique to me was the breakfast program which provided hot breakfast for children at 7:30, and which still continues today. From working in the preschool program, I experienced first hand how harried and conflicted parents could sometimes be leaving their children. As I reflect upon the school, I find myself thinking what a wonderful service we provide the community, not only by providing a loving and supportive environment in which younger children can reach the developmental milestones of early childhood and the school- age children can obtain an excellent education, but where the parents feel supported by our programs as they balance busy lives of working and parenting. I also want to mention one other way in which our group provides support to learning beyond what occurs during the day in the classroom. For seven years, I have been a member of a nightly cleaning team which cleans the school from top to bottom with loving care to provide a sparkling and hygienic atmosphere in which the children can flourish. As members of

Sufism Reoriented, we do this from a sense of service to our organization and from a sense of service to our school community.

From my perspective, I can't understand why anyone would want to deny us our right to build a beautiful new sanctuary half a block away from where we presently are. Little would change for the Saranap neighborhood, except a beautification of the area. The shift for us would be tremendous as we bid farewell to a building that was transformed from a restaurant/bar into a sanctuary which has served us well, but which is inadequate. Moreover, I feel that the simple beauty of our proposed sanctuary with its blend of elegant white marble, reflecting pool, and lovely landscaping will bring refreshment to those who visit us, as they pause to breathe in the beauty. It will give them a sense of tranquility and well-being. I know people resist or oppose new ideas from a fear of the unknown or illusory views, but it wouldn't surprise me if those who have opposed our sanctuary would soon forget that they ever had any quarrel with this project once they have personally experienced the beauty which will surround them and realize that life in the Saranap neighborhood has changed very little, if at all.

I can't begin to describe the excitement I feel at the prospect of building our new sanctuary. As a member of Sufism Reoriented, I know that our membership will be benefited from our new sanctuary in many ways, but I also feel that we are offering this beautiful sanctuary to God as a symbol of our love and devotion to Him, and as a gift to all who come to visit us to enjoy our beautiful gardens and programs. This gives me great joy.

In closing, I would just like to say that I don't feel that we are asking for any more than any other religious group which has had the good fortune to build their house of worship in the neighborhood in which most of its members live and work. We have worked hard, employing world renowned architects and well respected landscape architects, to create a sanctuary that will be beautiful and which will certainly enhance the appearance of the neighborhood. We are in dire need of a new sanctuary that will better serve our needs in our work for God, and we will not be exclusive. People from all walks of like will be welcomed to join us in the enjoyment of our gardens and attend programs of interest. As one of your constituents, I hope that if a time comes when you might be called upon to cast your vote on the fate our sanctuary, you will cast your vote in our favor.

Most respectfully yours,

Jan Henson

Jan Henson

Cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

S+

January 29, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

2009 FEB -2 P 1:32

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I sent to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of the application for a Land Use Permit for the new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented.

Sincerely,

Ronald D. Henson, D.D.S.

3926 S. Peardale Drive
Lafayette, CA 94549

January 29, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to you in support of the proposed church to be built by Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek. It is my understanding that there is a small, but vocal group opposing this project which, though lamentable, is understandable. With your many years of public service, I know you have run into many examples of NIMBYism. Undoubtedly, every time a new project has been proposed in any location, there have always been some, usually a small but impassioned group, who will oppose any change, even one that will enhance the beauty and even the property values of the surrounding neighborhood.

I vividly remember attending several Lafayette City Council Meetings several years ago as a representative for the Lafayette-Moraga Youth Association (I was the director of soccer coaches training) and the Lafayette-Moraga Soccer Club where I served on the Board of Directors. At issue was the proposed sports complex to be located between the Burton Valley School and the Lafayette Community Center. Who doesn't want to provide outdoor playing fields for our children where they can get away from their TV's and Nintendos? Well, I found out. It was an eye-opener to see these few people, some were my patients whom I knew well, get purple-faced in their opposition to this project. Every objection imaginable, and most were unimaginable until they were actually voiced, was brought up. Every fact twisted and every outlandish scenario given full voice. And I mean full voice. As you know, the project was approved and has now been in full use for well over a decade and no one living in that area now has even a second thought about its existence.

I have lived in your district, Lafayette, for over 23 years. My dental practice from which I recently semi-retired has also been located in Lafayette for those same 23 years. My wife has been a member of the Sufism Reoriented congregation for even longer than that. A large reason for our relocating to Lafayette from the east county was so that she could be closer to her spiritual Center. I became an active member seven years ago.

When I was young, around eight or nine, the church I was raised in purchased the empty lot across from where my family lived in our small central California town and proceeded to build our church there. It was so exciting to have my church right across the street from my home in the middle of my neighborhood. That is, after all, where churches belong: among the people. They are not businesses, but houses of worship and ought to be located, as much as possible, within the greatest concentration of the

congregation. This is certainly true of the proposed Sufism Reoriented sanctuary. The majority of the community live within walking distance or a short drive of their present sanctuary and the new sanctuary will be only a half block away.

Now that our children are grown and I am semi-retired, my wife and I are actively looking to move to the Saranap area. If we are lucky, we will find a place right next door or across the street from the new sanctuary. History can repeat itself.

I sincerely hope you will give your active support to the fulfillment of this beautifully thought-out and designed dream project.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration,

Ronald D. Henson, D.D.S.

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 1/5/10

Printed Name Christine Herbert

Address: 29 Kippy Ct.
Moraga CA 94556

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Daniel P. Herbert

Date: 04 JAN 2010

Printed Name

DANIEL P. HERBERT

Address: 29 KIPPY CT.
MORAGA, CA 94556

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

08/30/10
S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: _____ Date: 8/15/10

Printed Name: Pamela Herbert

Address: 2556 Lucy Ln. W.C. CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 OCT 29 P 1:11

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Marion Hermens

Date: Oct. 27, 2009

Printed Name MARION Hermens

Address: 1929 Dora Ave.
Walnut Creek,
CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Diana Herold

Date: 9/2/09

Printed Name
DIANA HEROLD

Address:
743 ROSEWOOD DR
WALNUT CREEK
CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (H)
11/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Pamela M. Herrera Date: Oct. 16, 2010

Printed Name: Pamela M. Herrera

Address: 82 Park Ave.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Bill Herza

1630 MISSOURI AVE NW
WASHINGTON DC 20011

The Honorable Gayle Uilkema
Contra Costa County District 2 Supervisor
651 PINE ST RM 108A
MARTINEZ CA 94553

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 PINE ST, 4th Floor, North Wing
MARTINEZ CA 94553

Friday, July 17 2009

Dear Ms. Cross,
Enclosed please find a copy of a letter to the Honorable Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of Sufism Reoriented's new sanctuary Land Use Permit Application.

Sincerely,

Bill Herza

1630 Missouri Ave
Wash. DC 20011

Bill Herza

1630 MISSOURI AVE NW
WASHINGTON DC 20011

Friday, July 17 2009

The Honorable Gayle Uilkema
Contra Costa County District 2 Supervisor
651 PINE ST RM 108A
MARTINEZ CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,
I vigorously support the new Sufism Reoriented church.

I'd like to share with you a few perspectives I've gained while participating in Sufism Reoriented and living in Walnut Creek.

When I first started my weekly Friday night Meher Schools volunteer work in 1987, I did so partially for personal reasons (I suspected it would please Sufism Reoriented's leader at that time) as well as to help the students at the school there. At that time nothing could have seemed more foreign to me than the idea of giving up a free evening in order to mop some floor. After a few weeks, however – partly because of the infectious love and spirit of my volunteer companions at the school – I found myself refreshed and looking forward to going back for more. I cleaned Friday nights for about an hour over the course of 15 years, and I also worked there on Saturday mornings in the garden for at least three years.

I cannot prove any of the following things, but I believe them to be true:

- That the mere presence of loving people in a community helps that community to grow in ways that are difficult to scientifically or outwardly measure;
- To borrow from a Meher Schools' song, 'Love grows like a rose in the garden; water it and tend to it every day': love begets love, and the loving intentions of people can and do help positive and beneficial things to happen;
- Sufism Reoriented is the source of the deepest, fullest, most real love I know; its presence in my life is absolutely necessary for me to continue to grow and thrive, perhaps partly because it 'walks' its 'talk';
- The things that Sufism Reoriented has put in place, from its beautiful and considerate-of-others physical design, to the TDMP, to some of the greenest efforts I've ever heard (like grass that supports autos), all exemplify and further the kind of efforts I'd learned Walnut Creek sought during the Golden Triangle growth phase;
- Religion is at the heart of our country's founding and soul; every effort ought to be made to give every kind of religion in our country 'a place' to be.

I moved in 1979 to Saranap from Chicago to learn about Sufism Reoriented. The more I learned, the more I came to love and respect its leaders. I lived in Walnut Creek till 2002 while working out of the Walnut Creek Post Office till 1997, and later worked for Pacific

Bell / SBC in San Ramon till 2002. I reluctantly moved from Walnut Creek to Washington DC in 2002 where I currently (live happily and) work to generally help oversee the US Department of Education's program compliance of Title IV student aid as it pertains to college and university audits and financial statements.

PEOPLE WE'VE BOTH SERVED WHO YOU MIGHT KNOW

As a Walnut Creek / Lafayette / Orinda / Rossmoor postal carrier and substitute supervisor from 1979 through 1997, I had ample opportunity to learn and know well the neighborhoods and people in the Saranap area. As a former Lafayette Mayor, you might know some of my former postal route patrons in the Happy Valley Road area: a realtor, Mrs. Lahey, whose dog 'Bo' kept me company during my lunch break outside her house at 3652 Happy Valley Road; a friendly construction worker, Bob Smith, and his family at 1224 Monticello Road; or Bill and Sally Houston at Floral Arts at 3584 Mt. Diablo.

With kind thanks for your time and consideration,
Sincerely,

Bill Herza

I ✓

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 8/23/11

Printed Name Robert Hess

Address: 654 Center St
Walnut Creek CA
94595

CONTRA COSTA
2011 AUG 23 A 11:46

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Rachelle Hill Date: 9/2/09

Printed name: Rachelle Hill

Business name: Contra Costa Hearing Aid Ctr., Inc

Address: 1196 Boulevard Way Ste 1
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Suzanne Hill Date: 12/8/2009

Printed Name
SUZANNE HILL

Address:
121 Turrini Court
Danville, CA 94526

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 9/18/09

Printed name: Jason M. Hiatt DPM

Business name: St. Francis Center for Sports Medicine

Address: 1777 Botelho Drive, Suite 110
Walnut Creek CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

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CONTRA COSTA

2009 APR -6 P 1:38

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Walnut Creek Manor
29 Mayhew Way
Walnut Creek,CA 94597

April 4, 2009

Ms.Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94533

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Bob Hippler

Bob Hippler

Walnut Creek Manor
29 Mayhew Way
Walnut Creek,Ca.94597

April 4, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine St.Rm.108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

This is a letter in support of the proposed Sanctuary of Sufism Reoriented in the immediate neighborhood where I lived from 1983 – 2002, when I retired to W.C.Manor.

I first became associated with Sufism Reoriented in 1966. From 1979-1982 I was the live-in caretaker at the Meher/White Pony Schools when they first located at the site on Leland Drive in Lafayette. I still volunteer help there as I am able. It has only been very recently that I have begun to appreciate the wonderful work they do.

Writing is not something I do as well as physical labor, but as someone who has worked on houses inside and out, since I was a child, I feel that this most beautiful sanctuary would not only be an outstanding addition to this neighborhood but to any neighborhood in this city,and I want to add my voice in its support.

Sincerely ,

Bob Hippler

(HD) 4/27/11

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Bill Hitchcock Date: 4/3/10

Address: 1370 Juanita Dr
Walnut Creek, CA
94595

Bill Hitchcock

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street
Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
08 JUL -3 AM 11:13
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Supervisor Uilkema

This letter expresses my support for the new sanctuary of Sufism Reoriented.

I may be in a unique position to offer a view of this project. Most members of Sufism Reoriented are professional sorts. A full education is stressed and common with the members for several reasons: 1) If one is to be of service to God in the world, one must be fully prepared; 2) Service is most generally associated with a surplus - of time, energy and material means.

I'm more of a razor's edge coal miner kinda guy. In my younger years I built concrete basements in Denver, Colorado. Upon moving here in 1981 (to join Sufism Reoriented), I found there was no need for a basement specialist. I joined my wife in a housecleaning business. By that I mean I cleaned houses. After our divorce, my wife went on to real estate and I continued the cleaning business.

So I've got the dirt on members of Sufism Reoriented. I can tell you there isn't any. I clean it. I clean for anyone, but most of my work is for members of Sufism Reoriented. It would seem that people who base their lives on a pursuit of harmony, beauty and joy, seek to find expressions of these in their surroundings, at a level they can afford. And they maintain it. So there isn't really much to clean with these people.! The new sanctuary is a way to anchor and express these pursuits in the broader community.

Sincerely,

John L Hobson 7/1/2008

John L Hobson
1183 Saranap Avenue #1
Walnut Creek, California
94595 925-935-2573

CC: Lashun Cross
Community Development Department

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Julia Hobson Date: 7/9/09

Printed Name Julia Hobson

Address: 550 Patterson Blvd.
Pleasant Hill, Ca. 94523

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Philip Hocking
1615 Manchester Ln. NW
Washington, DC 20011

Thursday, July 09, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94533

Dear Ms. Cross;

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for the new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Philip Hocking
Washington, DC

Philip Hocking
1615 Manchester Lane NW
Washington, DC 20011

Thursday, July 09, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uikema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94593

Dear Supervisor Uikema;

My name is Philip Hocking and I write from Washington, DC, where I have lived for the last 23 years. Prior to that, I was a long time resident of the Saranap, where I both owned and rented single-family homes. While there, I participated actively as a member of Sufism Reoriented. A good part of that participation saw me doing volunteer work at The Meher Schools, where I did maintenance and construction. I still belong to the organization, and have cherished memories of my 22 years in that community. I have many friends still living there and usually get a chance to visit at least once a year.

I am writing to urge your support of Sufism Reoriented's Land Use Application, now before the County. The project has aroused some concerns in the community which is not uncommon for proposals of this kind. I have read the brochure published by our group, and it seems that Sufism Reoriented has made a very substantial effort to address those concerns in a number of ways;

- Placing two-thirds of the building underground
- Allowing for an attractively landscaped surround that would be open to the public for quiet rest and renewal
- Using large flowering trees to effectively screen the building itself from view in most areas
- Maintaining an overall building-height that is well below the County's 35 foot limit
- Planning for environmentally sound building technologies and landscaping that is both energy-efficient and aesthetically unobtrusive

This project planning process has shown a remarkable degree of sensitivity to the surrounding neighborhood and its inhabitants, and is characteristic of Sufism Reoriented's approach to any such endeavor. Indeed, I believe most Saranap residents are happy about the proposed development.

For too long, the group has had to make do with barely adequate facilities. The proposed new building will allow members to engage in their devotional activities in a unified space. The location will also permit a continued close working relationship with The Meher Schools–one of our most successful and beneficial community services. Again, I ask for your favorable vote on this application.
I sincerely believe that the finished project will be an enhancement to the neighborhood as well as being the locus of positive and beneficial influences for the Saranap long into the future.

Respectfully,

Philip Hocking
Washington, DC

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

As a former student at the Meher Schools, I am writing this letter to express my support for the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek.

Name: Troy Hodges

Signature: Troy Hodges

Address: 80 Terrace Road
Walnut Creek CA 94597

cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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Joan Hodgkin
23 Peterson Place
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

June 11, 2009

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 95453

Dear Ms. Cross,

Enclosed is a copy of a letter I wrote to Supervisor Uilkema concerning the Sanctuary project in the Saranap area. I understand that a land use permit application has been filed.

I want you to have a copy it in case you are keeping track of how many are "For" and how many are "Against" the project.

Sincerely,

Joan Hodgkin

Joan Hodgkin
23 Peterson Pl.
Walnet Creek, CA 94595

June 11, 2009

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I support the sanctuary and gardens proposed by Sufism Reoriented to be developed in the Saranap area.

I am appalled at the misinformation the neighborhood group has dispensed throughout the Saranap. Their perceptions, often wrong, certainly managed to stir up controversy.

The Sanctuary will be an asset to the area. The buildings, designed by the nationally known architectural firm of Phillip Johnson/Alan Ritchie are creative and a joy to look at. The gardens designed by SWA will be beautiful and 'special.' and will be open to the public as a place for quiet contemplation. I much prefer the look of flowers and trees to the look of pick-up trucks and SUV's that clutter many of the streets of Saranap now.

The project will improve the area. The property around the existing Sufism Reoriented is rather marginal. The sanctuary plan will turn it into something beautiful.

I have lived in the Saranap for 29 years and love it. I feel lucky to have Sufism Reoriented as a neighbor. They are all about beauty, music, love and service. There are many things the group brings to us;

- The Meher School
- The White Pony school
- A "Green" building
- Two acres of garden for quiet contemplation
- Music and Theatre productions which are outstanding
- The list goes on....

The project will benefit Saranap and the members of Sufism Reoriented. I look forward to its completion.

Sincerely,

5 (12) 09/29/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Bernard A Hoehner Date: July 16, 2010

Printed Name Bernard A Hoehner, Jr.

Address: 60 Arends Lane
Walnut Creek CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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Kay Hogan
525 Camelback Rd.
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
(925) 676-3696
May 26, 2009

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

Dear Ms. Cross

I would like to recommend the building of the Sufi Sanctuary. I have seen the design which is beautiful with its parks and gardens. I have lived here since 1993 and I have always considered the Saranap area an eye sore. I think that this is the project that could not only beautify the area but also serve the community by the growth of the Meher School which I feel is a premier school in the area. Children from all religions and backgrounds have been enriched by this school. I have many friends who have sent their children to this school and I have the utmost respect their programs and teachers. It is exceptional. I cannot think of one negative in allowing this Sanctuary to enhance this area. I really look forward to spending time in the courtyards which will be open to the public.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Kay Hogan

Kay Hogan

Hilary H. Hogan
5 Iris Ln.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
917-747-5515

CONTRA COSTA

2009 APR 20 P 1:31

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

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

April 14, 2009

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I was born and raised in the Saranap. My family and friends have lived in the neighborhood for years and so it always has been and always will be my home.

From the time I was 4 years old until I was 16, my mom and I lived in an apartment on Saranap Ave, across the street from Hull's Mortuary and directly next to the pest exterminators. From there we moved only a half-mile away, to a home on Boulevard Way.

As a child, I was keenly aware of the "quirks" of our neighborhood. I was always thoughtful to avoid the strangers who would hang out smoking and drinking out front of the 7-11, and I was accustomed to seeing cop cars regularly patrolling our streets. As an adult, I now see my little nephews and nieces growing up nearby and I find myself happy and relieved to see that our neighborhood is steadily becoming safer and more welcoming. And it seems there are attractive new homes being built as well as growing interest among neighbors to fix up older homes and tidy gardens.

As a child, I attended the Meher School, which is supported by Sufism Reoriented. I appreciate the care with which they maintain the facility and grounds, and my childhood friends and I often reminisce upon our happy experiences with the faculty and staff and the positive influence the school has had on our lives.

I know there is some controversy surrounding the new building proposed by Sufism Reoriented and I want to express to you how much I am in support of their building project. I find their current space on White Horse Court just lovely The white walls and pretty lawn and plantings give such a lift to an otherwise run-down corner of the Saranap. And I would be happy to see the adjacent lot-- which has looked disheveled ever since I can remember-- be given a new and attractive purpose. That corner, where the bus stop is, has always been so barren that it leaves an unwelcoming impression when one passes by. I think it would add so much to the neighborhood to have a pretty space there. I also love that their plan includes an open garden and trees that can be enjoyed by everyone.

I have had positive experiences with Sufism Reoriented, and feel fortunate to have them in our neighborhood. So many of my friends' children have been delighted by the Christmas and Easter parties hosted by Sufism Reoriented. I whole-heartedly believe that any neighbors who contribute to a sense of community and service in our Saranap, can only benefit our burgeoning neighborhood. And any space that can contribute to the beauty and sense of community in our Saranap is, to me, most welcome.

Sincerely,

Hilary H Hogan

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June 4, 2008

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

JUN 6 PM 2:1
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Ms. Cross,

I have learned that Sufism Reoriented will be filing the land use application for its proposed new sanctuary soon. I am very much in favor of this project, and therefore am forwarding you the letter of support I sent to Supervisor Uilkema, for your records.

Sincerely yours,

Lynn Hogarth

Lynn Hogarth

16 CALVIN CT.
WALNUT CREEK, CA
94595

June 4, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street
Room 108A
Martinez, CA
94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

My name is Lynn Hogarth and I am a software development process consultant to AT&T in San Ramon. I am writing you to express my delighted support for the new Sufism Reoriented sanctuary that is planned for the Saranap. My husband and I live just a couple of blocks from the proposed site, and have for 26 years. We raised two children here, now grown; both attended the Meher Schools. Briefly, my reasons for supporting this project are:

Beauty. Looking at the proposed prayer hall I am reminded of a blend of the soaring spirituality of Canterbury Cathedral with the meditative serenity of a Japanese Zen reflecting pond. Such a wonderful building can only add to the peaceful surroundings we enjoy in the Saranap.

Environmental friendliness. In our household we recycle, compost our kitchen waste to fertilize the vegetable garden, and hang the laundry outside on the line. Given our long-standing "green" orientation, the grasspave parking lot, pervious concrete driveway, filtering of drainage water and other such features are very appealing.

Harmony with the neighborhood. It seems to me that the building style, which echoes the roundness of our lovely hills; the proposed park and landscaping, which will ensure a quiet and peaceful spot for years to come; and the traffic management plan to minimize automobile usage, all show a desire to blend with the surroundings and people in the best possible way.

Therefore, as my supervisor and thus my voice in the community, I hope you will share my support for this wonderful project.

Sincerely yours,

Lynn Hogarth

Lynn Hogarth
cc: Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

16 CALVIN CT.
WALNUT CREEK, CA
94595

5

CONTRA COSTA

08 SEP 25 PM 1:39

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

16 Calvin Court

Walnut Creek

CA 94595

Sept 22nd 2008

Ms Lashun Cross

Community Development Department

651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing

Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms Cross,

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of the planned Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary project.

Respectfully yours,

Peter Hogarth

Peter Hogarth

5

16 Calvin Court

Walnut Creek

CA 94595

Sept 22nd 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema

651 Pine Street, Room 108A

Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Gayle Uilkema,

I am writing in support of the new building proposal submitted by Sufism Reoriented. I am an active member of Sufism Reoriented.

I have been a homeowner in Saranap (no more than half a mile from the proposed site) for 26 years and so have noted how the neighborhood has changed over those years – from the slow deterioration of "Noah's Ark", a dilapidated boat left to rot on the corner of Boulevard Way and Juanita to the creation of very pretty single family homes in the under utilized area opposite Le Boulevard Apartments and the old market. Both of my children were students at The Meher Schools and I still do a volunteer cleaning job there on Saturday mornings though it has been many years since they were students there.

My career as a semiconductor IC technologist has kept my work in Silicon Valley for most of the last 29 years. My professional degree is a B.Sc. in Applied Chemistry from Kingston Polytechnic in England.

Despite relocation assistance offers to move to the San Jose area from Saranap, I have resisted moving from here. One of the chief reasons is that I have always treasured the special character of the Saranap neighborhood. I would not be in favor of any project that would impair the place where I live and intend to continue to live. Thank you for your consideration of the project.

Respectfully yours,

Peter Hogarth

Peter Hogarth

Cc: Ms Lashun Cross, Community Development Department

5 (H) 7/22/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Bobby Hogue Date: 6/14/10

Printed name: Bobby Hogue

Business name: Walking Company

Address: 1155 Broadway Plaza

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

CONTRA COSTA

2010 MAY 25 P 2:19

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: M Homa Date: 5-23-10

Printed Name: Mary Homayouni

Address: 148 Cottage Lane, Walnut Creek, CA, 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

SCIP 11/09/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
2010 OCT 27 P 1:49

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Derek Horton Date: AUG 27/10

Printed name: Derek Horton

Business name: Art Form Framing

Address: 1563 Botelho Dr. Walnut Creek CA 596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Cheryl A House Date: 7-5-11

Printed Name: Cheryl House

Address: 1172 Saranap Ave #4B
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
2011 JUL -6 A 11:42

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jean C Hoyt

Date: July 17, 2009

Printed Name Jean C Hoyt

Address: 3958 South Peardale Dr
Lafayette Ca. 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Ralph B. Hoyt Date: July 17, 2009

Printed Name
Ralph B. Hoyt

Address:
3958 South Pearadale Drive
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

7/3/09

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, North Wing
Martinez;, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufism reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Bob Holcomb

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -6 P 2:04
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

1305 Boulevard Way #202
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
July 2, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108 A
Martinez,CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema

I am writing in support of the proposed new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented. I am a homeowner at the Atrium Villas, and have lived in the immediate area for over 30 years. I have been an elementary school teacher, contractor and am now a design consultant for California Closets.

In my present occupation I have traveled extensively throughout the county making in-home consultations. As such, I am very familiar with many of the neighborhoods in Contra Costa. Some are attractive, some are not. Landscaping, open space, parks and good architecture - in my experience make neighborhoods nicer.

I welcome the changes that the proposed sanctuary will bring. Together, the remarkable structure and quality landscaping will transform that part of Boulevard Way. At present the central Saranap is rather dumpy. The proposed project will help pull up the energy and attractiveness of the whole area.

This project is not only worthy in its own right but it is the type of project that will have a positive influence on the whole area.

Sincerely,

Bob Holcomb

Cc: Lashun Cross, Community Development

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RINA CUSTIS
08 OCT 20 PM 1:24
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Julie Hassen Holcomb
1305 Boulevard Way, Unit 202
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

October 16, 2008

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I sent to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the building of a new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented. I wrote to Supervisor Uilkema expressing my support in May, 2008.

Sincerely,

Julie Hassen Holcomb

Julie Hassen Holcomb

Julie Hassen Holcomb
1305 Boulevard Way, Unit 202
Walnut Creek, Ca. 94595

May 23, 2008

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a member of Sufism Reoriented and I support of the building of a new sanctuary on Boulevard Way. I have lived in the Saranap area for 30 years. I bought my condominium seven years ago and I serve as vice-president of the homeowners' association at The Atrium Villas.

I have had a wide and varied career. I was the Department Chair for the Culinary Arts Department at Contra Costa College, I wrote cookbooks for the California Culinary Academy in San Francisco, and I was an event planner. Several years ago, I changed careers and became a third grade teacher. I was inspired to change careers as a direct result of my volunteer work at The Meher Schools. There, I witnessed how loving, positive interactions with children can profoundly change our world. I was inspired to make a career change and devote the rest of my life to working with children. I took what I learned from The Meher Schools, and I entered the public school system where I teach at Rancho Romero Elementary in Alamo.

I support the building of a new sanctuary. I believe that building a new church on Boulevard Way will enhance property values. As a board member of Atrium Villas, I understand how important property values are to everyone who lives in this neighborhood. A gorgeous building by the Philip Johnson/Alan Ritchie architectural firm is likely to raise property values and support their stability in the future.

As a long-time resident of the Saranap area, I always hoped that our neighborhood could be developed in a charming way. My teenage daughter and I often discuss what a thriving and beautiful commercial area could exist on the stretch of Boulevard Way from the freeway to the residential area if business owners were inspired to beautify their properties. I think that adding a graceful new church nestled in a park-like setting will go a long way to uplifting and beautifying our neighborhood . . . and perhaps lead to a revitalization of Boulevard Way.

Since many Saranap residents drive by the site on the way to work and errands, or pass the site on daily walks, I believe the beauty of the new sanctuary will be a lovely refreshing sight to all. I love living in the Saranap, and I have grown fond of our sweet neighborhood, and everyone who lives here. I look forward to continuing to live and worship here. I hope you will support Sufism Reoriented's application for a land use permit.

Julie Hassen Holcomb

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: C. E. Holit Date: 9/12/09

Printed Name C. E. Holit

Address: 1156 Bacon Way
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Gretel A. Holit Date: 9/12/09

Printed Name

Gretel A Holit

Address:

1156 Bacon Way
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 7/12/09

TODD HOLLENBERG
Address: 3490 MONROE AVE
LAFAYETTE CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 25 P 1:35

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Edwards S. Halls Hundnow Date: 8-7-09

Printed Name

EDWARD S. HALLS HUNDNOW

Address:

3158 MAYOLA CT
LAFAYETTE CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -7 P 1:48
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Alice F Holmes Date: July 5, 2009

Address: 1006 Windsor Dr.
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

+ S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 9/19/08

Printed Name

Greg Hourcaillou

Address:

11468 Winding Trail Ln.

Dublin, CA 94568

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Abby Howard Date: 10·9·09

Printed name: Abby Howard

Business name: Oak Park Convalescent Hospital

Address: 1625 Oak Park Blvd, Pleasant Hill

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2010 APR 13 P 1:34

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Lester Howard Date: 4-9-10

Printed name: Lester Howard

Business name: Action Video

Address: 2223 North Main
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

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CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 25 P 1:26

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Marcia Howard Date: 8/23/09

Printed Name ~~Neil~~ MARCIA HOWARD

Address: 961 Kelley Ct.
Lafc. Ca 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (H) 7/26/11

Rossmoor Pilgrim Congregational Church

United Church of Christ and National Association of Congregational Christian Churches

Mailing Address: 1001 Golden Rain Rd., Walnut Creek, CA 94595 (925) 287-1500

SERVICE EACH SUNDAY: 10:30 AM, VISTA ROOM, HILLSIDE

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JUL 23 P 1:30
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

PASTOR:
Rev. Robert E. Howell

CHURCH BOARD:
Pastor
Rev. Robert E. Howell
Moderator
Ruth Koehler
Secretary
Donna Clevenger
Treasurer
Tom Mesetz
Financial Secretary
Dolores Burris
Chair/Deacons
Dottie Howell

DEACONS:
Donna Clevenger
Jack Clevenger
Catherine Hamre
Carol Hartford
John Hartford
Alice Heuer
Dottie Howell
Lars Jacobsen
Betty Maynard
Don Maynard

INTERFAITH COUNCIL:
Bob Howell
Dolores Burris
Frank Ransome

USHERS:
Jack Clevenger
Don Maynard
Anders Schmidt

FLOWERS:
Virginia Lynch

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE:
Phyllis Fagent
Dottie Howell
Joyce Knowles
Betty Maynard

OUTREACH COMMITTEE:
Louise Drury
Phyllis Fagent
John Hartford
Betty Maynard
Frank Ransome

July 19, 2010

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Cty. Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

This letter is being written in long land from a vacation retreat. For some time I have been wanting to express my support for Safeway Rewinkel's proposed new campus in our neighborhood. As the pastor of a church in Rossmoor and a Rossmoor resident (2301 Pine Knoll Dr. #2), I have carefully examined the proposal. I have concluded that the proposal is sound. When the project is completed it will meet the expanding needs of this fine faith community and be an excellent neighborhood resource. The proposal is environmentally well conceived.

I have been impressed with the service mission of Safeway Rewinkel through the Meher School and other important ministries. They are worthy of your full support. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Howell, pastor
ROBERT E. HOWELL

cc: Mr. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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---COPY FOR MS. LASHUN CROSS---

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signature Rick Howell Date 6/16/09

Business name RE/MAX Allied Brokers

Address 2005 Mt. Diablo Blvd

Walnut Creek, Ca. 94596

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Nancy J. Neert

Date: July 17, 2009

Printed Name
Nancy Neert

Address:
3958 So. Pearlvale Dr.
Lafayette, Ca. 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Veronica Hsu Date: Oct. 20. 2009

Printed Name VERONICA HSU

Address: 1532 Canyonwood ct. #4
Walnut Creek, Ca 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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CONTRA COSTA

08 SEP 30 PM 1:00

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

September 29, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94533

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the planned Sufism Reoriented project.

Sincerely,

Charles Huddleston

Charles Huddleston

S

1305 Boulevard Way, #209
Walnut Creek, CA. 94595

September 29, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street
Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94533

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I strongly support the building of a new church and grounds by Sufism Reoriented in the Saranap area.

Ever since I've known this project was proposed, I have been keenly interested in its development. Having seen renderings of the sanctuary and surrounding landscaping, I enjoyed visualizing it in its setting. I was very impressed with its serene beauty and quiet presence in that location. Not surprisingly, I learned the structure was designed by the renowned architectural firm of Phillip Johnson/Alan Ritchie.

I have worked as a residential construction consultant and building designer for more than 35 years, and lived in this immediate area of Saranap for over 27 years. My wife and I own our home just a block away from where the new church will be built, and have seen many changes in this vicinity. This background has provided me with a marked interest in the growth of the community and the architectural integrity of new projects. I believe this new church will add vitality and vibrancy to our neighborhood, and envision it to be a very positive addition to our area. I look forward to its completion and its presence here.

Thank you for your continuing support for this development.

Sincerely,

Charles Huddleston

Charles Huddleston

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1305 Boulevard Way
Unit 209
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
08 SEP 15 PM 1:24
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

September 13, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine St., 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I have written to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the planned Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary project.

Sincerely,

Joyce Huddleston

Joyce Huddleston

1305 Boulevard Way
Unit 209
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

September 13, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street
Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing you in support of the new church as proposed by Sufism Reoriented. I am a member of Sufism Reoriented and know how much we need more space for our worship services and our programs. Neighbors will be able to visit the bookstore and enjoy the surrounding garden and lawn. Many members of Sufism Reoriented have a strong feeling of community and this new building will make a firm base for this part of our lives. . The building will add beauty to the area.

I have lived in the Saranap area since 1980 and have so enjoyed the quiet of the area and the friendly neighbors. I lived for 24 years as a renter and bought a condo in the Atrium Villas in 2004.

I now am on the Board of Directors for the AtriumVillas Homeowners' Association and so have an opportunity to visit with the other residents and hear their viewpoints on different issues. Several people have gone out of their way to tell me that they are very much in favor of the Sufism Reoriented building project. They feel the proposed building will enhance the area and will help increase property values.

I thank you for your support of this wondrous building project. Our community will be so enhanced by its beauty.

Sincerely,

Joyce Huddleston

✓Cc: Lashun Cross

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 APR 13 P 1:33

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Date April 10, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufism reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Gary Hudson

Your Name

April 10, 2009

Dear Supervisor
Uillkema

I I would like to say a few things in support of Sufism Reoriented and the new house of worship planned for the Saranap neighborhood.I moved to this area in 1976.One of the reasons I moved here was to teach Aikido in this area. I am one of the highest ranking Aikido instructors in the Bay Area and am directly under the direction of Koichi Tohei the founder of Ki Aikido I was very fortunate to be able to use a room at The Meher Schools. Over the years I have had many members of Sufism Reoriented as Aikido students.Aikido teaches love for, and protection of, all things...My Sufism Reoriented students were able to grasp these principles very well....I find these people to be of highest integrity and very willing to be of service to others....If Sufism Reoriented builds a new house of worship in the Saranap neighborhood I believe it would be a very big benefit to the area..

I hope you can support the project.

Sincerely,

Larry Hudson

Larry Hudson

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Robert H Hudziak Date: Aug 31 09

Printed Name: ROBERT H HUDZIAK

Address: 3370 Freeman Rd WC 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Birgit Huegli-Wood Date: 9/13/09

Printed Name: Birgit Huegli-Wood

Address: 65 Alta Hill Way
Walnut Creek CA 94024

Birgit Huegli Wood
65 Alta Hill Way
Walnut Creek, CA
94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cros

S ⓡ
11/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 11/19/10

Printed name: Joseph Huettl

Business name: Huettl Landscape Architecture

Address: 1295 Boulevard way, Walnut Creek 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S
11/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

CONTRA COSTA
30 NOV 14 P 12:00

Signed: Lorena Higuera Date: 30-10

Printed Name: Lorena Higuera

Address: 101 ROSE ST WALNUT CREEK CA 94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 19 P 1:40
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Katherine Hughes, Ph.D. Date: 17 August 09

Printed Name: Katherine Hughes, Ph.D.

Address: 2950 Camino Diablo #120
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 10/9/09

Printed name: Trish Hodey

Business name: Daydreams Massage Therapy @ Absolute Perfection Salon

Address: 1222 Blvd Way
W.C. CA. 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Anina Hutchison Date: 9/10/09

Printed name: Anina Hutchison

Business name: Body Aware Massage

Address: 3190 B
Old Tunnel Rd
Lafayette CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S HR 7/22/12

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 12 3 09

Printed name: Richard Hute

Business name: JIFFY LuBe

Address: 3363 MT Diablo Bv, 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed:

Date: 7/9/09

Printed Name:
Rose Huy

Address:
1315 El Curtola Blvd.
Lafayette CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Copy for Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in ~~Walnut Creek~~ Lafayette near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Mai Huynh Date: 7/9/09

Printed name: MAI HUYNH

Business name: Beauty for You

Address: 3561 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Lafayette, CA. 94549

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL 13 P 3:18
RECEIVED
COUNTY CLERK
MARTINEZ, CA

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5 06/15/10

CONTRA COSTA

2010 JUN -8 P 2:34

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: J. Hughey Date: 6/6/10

Printed Name JOAN HUGHEY

Address: 3155 Stanwood Ln
Lafayette Ca 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S
09/30/10

CONTRA COSTA
10 SEP 24 P 3:53

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 8/8/10

Printed Name: AL ICHIKAWA

Address: 800 S. BROADWAY SUITE 309
W. C., CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

I

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 8/20/11

Printed Name: Andrea Iglesias

Address: 60 Panoramic Way

CONTRA COSTA
2011 AUG 23 A 11:46

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S 6/3/10 R

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JUN -2 P 3:02
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 5/25/10

Printed name: John Ingram

Business name: Lafayette Auto Repair

Address: 3410 Mt Diablo Blvd, Lafayette

5

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL -1 PM 12:54

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

June 29, 2008

Matt Isaacs
141 Flora Ave. #2
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

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

Re: Letter to Supervisor Uilkema in Support of Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary

Dear Ms. Cross,

As I understand that the land use application for the Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary will soon come up for review, I'm forwarding the letter I wrote to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the project.

Sincerely,

Matt Isaacs

Matt Isaacs

June 30, 2008

Matt Isaacs
141 Flora Avenue, #2
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Supervisor Gail Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Re: Proposed Sufi Temple

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I'm writing as a very recent returnee to the Saranap neighborhood, as my family just moved into the Oakmont apartments, which are only a stone's throw from the proposed site of the new Sufism Reoriented sanctuary. I am excited about the project, and with this letter, offer my support for it.

I grew up in Walnut Creek and attended The Meher Schools in the first years of its inception. So I'm familiar with the area, having even delivered the San Francisco Examiner in the Saranap neighborhood, of which I still hold fond memories.

Little could I have imagined that two decades later I would be sending my children to my alma mater and working as a reporter myself, including writing for that same newspaper. Obviously I have roots here, and the school is of the utmost importance to me. I know well that physical proximity of the sanctuary is crucial for the ongoing success of The Meher Schools, an obvious reason for me to support it.

The beautiful new sanctuary with its spacious grounds will provide a lovely transition from the mixed use neighborhood where I live into the residential area. I am hopeful that the presence of such a building will lead to change and improvement in the mixed use area along Boulevard Way—anything to smooth out the hard edges. I would

love to see this little mixed use zone grow, perhaps as a busier commercial hub with sidewalks and foliage. This church seems an ideal start for something new, an example of forward-thinking toward which we all aspire.

Sincerely

Matt Isaacs

S/

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Division
651 Pine Street
4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
08 OCT 22 PM 1:10
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Ms. Cross,

Attached is a copy of the letter of support I have written to Supervisor Uilkema for the Sufism Reoriented land use proposal.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the numbers and locations listed below.

Respectfully,

Rick Isaacs, MSG, NHA
Administrator
Grove Street Extended Care & Living Center
1477 Grove St.
San Francisco, CA 94117
(415) 563-0565
ricki@nwbeccorp.com

Home:
914 Sousa Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94597
(925) 945-0427
(925) 899-9809 (cell)
raisaacs@astound.net

Monday
October 20, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108 – A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to support my church's proposal to build a new sanctuary in the Saranap District of Walnut Creek. I have been a Walnut Creek resident since 1977 and a member of Sufism Reoriented since 1971. My wife and I, between us, have a total of five children, and each of them has had the benefit of the education provided by The Meher Schools. We certainly feel, and have heard even from families who are not involved in Sufism Reoriented, that the upbringing the children acquire there is one of the best things we have given our kids. They have learned to be caring, hard-working, committed citizens and each in their own way is inspiring. Distributed among them now are five Master's degrees and one Doctorate is about to materialize. Two of them have returned to the neighborhood and one of those is rearing the next generation of Saranap residents.

I was involved in the early work that converted the old Iron Gate restaurant to our present sanctuary. I have watched over the years how the limitations of the present site have impeded our work. An important part of our worship involves art, theater, song and dance, and I anticipate a great release of creativity and joy in response to having a physical edifice designed to support those expressions of our faith.

I am especially appreciative of the unobtrusive, elegant design planned for the new building. I was very impressed that the interests of the neighborhood were considered in creating a beautiful sanctuary that does not dominate the surround, while discretely providing the space for our group to continue our work in the coming years.

Thank you for your attention to our project. I hope we may have your support in our aspiration to build our new center.

Respectfully,

Rick Isaacs

Rick Isaacs, MSG, NHA
Administrator
Grove Street Extended Care & Living Center

Home Address:
914 Sousa Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV 10 P 1:52

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 11/05/09

Printed name: Eve J. Istell

Business name: Eve Istell

Address: 3190 C Old Tunnel Rd.
Lafayette CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 9/20/09

Printed Name S. Ishii

Address: 1078 Leland Dr
Lafayette CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA

08 SEP 29 PM 1:52

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

September 25, 2008
80 Blade Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
652 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to you to let you know of my strong support for the proposed sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented.

As a former teacher at the Meher Schools and currently as a volunteer there, I have been associated with Sufism Reoriented since 1981. This group makes an invaluable commitment to serving the children of our community. My two children attended The Meher Schools and my family has lived in this neighborhood since 1985, both as renters and then as homeowners.

I have driven and walked down Boulevard Way for decades passing the aging homes and decaying boat on the corner where the new building is proposed. I feel that the new building will give a much needed facelift to this rundown corner of the Saranap neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Janet B Iwanaga

Janet Iwanaga, CFP

cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

S 1/22/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 11/13/09

Printed name: GARTH JACOBER

Business name: Mt Diablo Nursery

Address: 32 Mt Diablo Blvd
Lafayette CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

(S)
8/2/11

CONTRA COSTA

2011 AUG -1 P 1:25

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Bruce Jacobsen Date: 4/24/11

Printed Name: Bruce Jacobsen

Address: 448 Bridge Rd.
W.C., CA. 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

4/27/10 (A) S

CONTRA COSTA

2010 APR 16 P 2:40

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signature Jay William Jacobus Date 4-8-10

Business name Jay William Jacobus

Address 1225 Alpine Rd. #203

Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Dup. 5

CONTRA COSTA
2010 MAR -8 P 12: 27
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Lucinda Jackson
Craig C Hodges

Date: 3/6/10

Printed Name Lucinda Jackson
Craig C Hodges

Address: 80 Terrace Rd
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

It's a beautiful, non-intrusive facility. Our children went to Meher School for many years and we can vouch for the wonderful service this school brings to the community.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -2 P 3:14

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Eface (illegible) Date: 06.29.09.

Address: 1236. S Ville Way. WC 94595

E ~~Lorenk~~ JACOB

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 NOV 12 P 2:03

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Amanda Jacobo Date: 10/11/09

Address: 1366 Oakland Blvd #16
Walnut Creek CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed:

Date: 10/16/09

Printed Name
Cyndy Jacobsmeyer

Address:
2924 Miriana Cr
Walnut Creek Ca
94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 11/22/2009

Printed Name Richard M Jacobsmeyer

Address: 2924 Mt Elana Cir
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: M. Jamil Kazzaz Date: 20 Sept 2009

MUNIR JAMIL

Address:
21 Sandy lane
Walnut Creek CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5/27/08 5

To Lashun Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented will be filing a land use application for this Boulevard Way project. Enclosed please find a letter written in support of the project to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema. Please consider the support expressed in this letter as part of the neighborhood response to the application and project.

Sincerely,

David [illegible]

S

May 27, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am delighted to write this letter in support of the new sanctuary on Boulevard Way being proposed by Sufism Reoriented. I have come to learn more and more about the project through the printed materials I have been shown and through conversations with my neighbors. I find that my enthusiasm for the project increases with each new piece of information.

My wife Dana and I have owned a home on Kendall Court, near the proposed project, for the past 18 years. It has been a homey, comfortable neighborhood in which to raise our daughter Tanya (now 21), who attended the White Pony/Meher Schools, as well as WCI and Las Lomas. I've been fortunate also to be able to work out of my home office for much of that time as a fundraising and program development consultant to community-based non-profits, mostly in healthcare. As a matter of fact, a long-time client has been Brookside Community Health Center in San Pablo, which serves the northwest portion of your district. Through them I've had some peripheral contact with you and your office (the CDBG process, for one) and my impression has been that you are both even-handed and thorough in your approach, qualities I have come to appreciate very much in my interactions with elected officials.

Several aspects of this project stand out, in my mind. First, it will bring to life in a concrete way the qualities that distinguish our Sufi presence in our community. As one of my neighbors (himself not a Sufi) said, in talking about the project, "Sufis make great neighbors!" He expressed what other neighbors describe as well: whether it's as a neighbor, a tenant, a professional, a client or an elementary school teacher, members of our group bring an openness, a generosity of spirit and a willingness to do the "right" thing in a particular situation.

The environmental features of the project knock me out. I say this as someone who tries to be as environmentally conscious as possible but finds that the cost is sometimes daunting. The project utilizes some cutting-edge technology (the heating/cooling approach, the filtering of water runoff through pervious materials) that will probably be no big deal in 20 years, but right now is new, unfamiliar and more costly. I'm so glad we are willing to make this commitment and serve as a visible example for others to see.

But I think the most compelling aspect of the proposed new building is the beauty of the design itself. I'm familiar with the work of the Johnson/Ritchie firm, both from personal visits and photographs. In this type of project—a sanctuary space for a church or spiritual group—they have a rare gift for beauty, subtlety and evoking qualities that resonate with both the surroundings and higher values. From what I have seen of the renderings of this project, it seems to me that it will exemplify those qualities to a very high degree. In working on building projects for my clients I have often observed that the renderings of a proposed building rarely do justice to the finished product which, if well-designed and put together, is enough to take your

breath away when you finally see it. In this case I feel that the breathtaking quality is evident from the very beginning.

Many of us who live in the Contra Costa suburbs live here for the schools, the safety, the nurturing qualities of friendly streets and nearby green space. We've been fortunate in Walnut Creek and other communities where commercially-driven design has created an inviting, interesting environment that makes the downtown experience a pleasurable one. If we have the opportunity in addition to welcome a truly unique new structure into our county that embodies both beauty and function, then I'm all for it.

I urge you, your fellow supervisors and the county's community development department to consider these observations as part of your review process and to reach a favorable decision regarding their proposed project.

Thanks for your interest and attention.

Sincerely,

David Jamieson
1221 Kendall Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
(925)934-9267

cc: Lashun Cross, Community Development Department

6-22-

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Olivia Jamy Date: 10/12/2011

Address: 1172 Saranap Ave Apt 5B
W.C CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

5 (12)
11/29/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Sally Jay Date: 9/23/10

Printed name: Sally Jay

Business name: Optical Sunglass Affair

Address: 1509 Locust St Walnut Creek 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

Kirsten Jensen-Horne
1020 El Cerrito Blvd
Walnut Creek CA 94595

June 24, 2009

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

Sufism Reoriented has filed a land use permit application to build a new sanctuary on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek. I am writing in support of this project.

My husband and I have lived in the saranap neighborhood for just over 3 years now. Many of our neighbors are connected to Sufism Reoriented in some way: some teach or volunteer at the Meher School, some sing in the organizations choir, some are simply church members. What amazes me about this group of people is their quiet presence in the neighborhood and desire to help others.

Having attended a few choral performances at the current Sufism Reoriented center, I am aware that they do really need some additional space. Their proposed design is very environmentally friendly. The members of the organization care deeply about the earth and gardens and have graciously offered to have the gardens surrounding the new building be open to the public for quiet contemplation.

I know there are residents of the saranap area who are opposed to this building project for various reasons – and I respect their opinions. But I believe that our neighborhood would not have the same spirit without the presence of the Sufism Reoriented organization and I think giving them the opportunity to build an appropriate sanctuary for their activities in the neighborhood is the right thing to do.

Thanks for listening!

K Jensen Horne

Kirsten Jensen-Horne

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Lashun

S

Nathan Jensen-Horne
1022 El Curtola Blvd
Walnut Creek CA 94595

June 24, 2009

The Honorable Gayle B Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing in support of the proposed Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek. Having lived in the Saranap neighborhood for just over 3 years now, I've become aware of the many activities of Sufism Reoriented as an organization and the many contributions individual members of Sufism Reoriented make to the neighborhood.

As an organization, Sufism Reoriented runs the Meher School in the heart of the neighborhood. This school strives to achieve diversity unparalleled in the local public schools (ethnic, socio-economic, religious, etc) and offers a great education at a very low price. They are able to do this in part because so many of the members of Sufism Reoriented volunteer their time each day to help run the school. Sufism Reoriented also sponsors the annual Easter Egg hunt on their existing grounds for small children and their families from the school and saranap area.

Individuals from Sufism Reoriented are active on the Saranap Homeowners Association Board and have recently begun hosting children's clothing and toy exchanges 4 times a year, and are actively working on implementing a neighborhood program to help both young parents and the elderly living in our neighborhood.

The Sufism Reoriented organization and its members add so much to the quality of life here in the Saranap area that I must strongly support their need for and request to build a suitable "home"/sanctuary from which to base all of their activities.

Sincerely,

Nathan Jensen-Horne

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S 02/04/11 PC

CONTRA COSTA

2011 JAN 19 P 12: 24

DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of ~~Contra Costa~~ Alameda County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 1-15-11

Printed Name
Christopher Johnson

Business Address:
Christopher Johnson
Piano Service
PO Box 475
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (FD) 10/07/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 10/1/10

Printed name: DAVE JOHNSON

Business name: JOHNSON LYMAN ARCHITECTS

Address: 1375 LOCUST ST, #202 WALNUT CREEK, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

JASON JOHNSON

441 N. WILDWOOD
Hercules CA, 94547

CONTRA COSTA
2011 JUL 11 P 2:21
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

0/2

Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner
Community Conservation and Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94533-1229

July 23, 2009

Dear Ms. Cross:

We are writing in regards to the Saranap Neighborhood Sufism Reoriented Church proposed building project located ¼ mile from our residence. Even though we welcome the church and all churches in our neighborhood, we object to the design of the building for the reasons listed below.

I John Johnston have managed the Contra Costa Appliance store at 1100 Boulevard Way for the past 15 years. We lived in Fairfield for 7 years and I commuted into Walnut Creek. In February of this year we moved to the Saranap neighborhood to be closer to the store and prepare to someday purchase the store from the current owner. We had looked at the neighborhood for years and slowly fell in love with it because of its unique "rural country like" feel. We truly enjoy the rural setting yet we can drive 5 miles to "the city" to have some cheesecake. The neighborhood is truly a Gem and the Tapestry of Walnut Creek that gives the whole area interest.

We feel the large white fence and structure is too sterile for the neighborhood. The church is very white and we feel needs to compromise with our rural feel by creating a fence that will blend with the neighborhood. That may mean attaching wood siding, growing vines over a darker colored fence that will stay green all year long.

We think the Church is missing an opportunity to create a Green building and missing out on what that type of newer structure could do for our neighborhood. Green is very "in" and if we saw willingness on their part to consider these options we think the Saranap community would be more open to the project.

We know global warming is a reality. Paved surfaces such as the roof of the structure will attract sunlight and create heat. This heat will add to the global warming. Why not make the roof a green environment that will attract ducks and birds as they fly by? The light the roof will reflect during the day will also change the tone of the atmosphere on Boulevard Way.

The size of the structure will dwarf the neighborhood. We are concerned the building may become their central meeting place as their membership grows. Traffic will be impacted and the street already has a "Y" that is currently a dangerous curve on Kinney Drive. We know this personally as we drive it

everyday. A study needs to be done on what the membership will increase to in 5 to 10 years and a traffic impact study.

The Landscape needs more mature trees. If they wish to blend their fence into the surrounding they can plant more mature trees to cover the fence.

The drainage issues need to be addressed. This is a problem here and with all of the paved surfaces the runoff needs to be addressed. Hopefully the runoff could be utilized in a green sustainable fashion.

We haven't seen a sign posted in front of the Church notifying the neighborhood of the hearings. Why is that?

Thank you for your time in reading my concerns. I plan on attending the hearings and I hope I will meet you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Mr & Mrs John & Johnston

Cheryl Johnston
John Johnston

2729 Kinney Dr
Walnut Creek

945-95

COPY

Robert A. Johnson, M.D.
Terry Hogan Johnson, M. A.
5 Iris Lane
Walnut Creek, California 9459
925-932-8120

These owners need to be recorded in Const. Services.

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

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I had an especially memorable experience this morning, After it, I felt deeply thankful to you because your thoughtfulness was instrumental in its happening.

In January 2009, my husband, an oncologist at Kaiser Permanente, and I wrote you a letter in support of Sufism Reoriented's need for a larger building to house their activities. As residents of the Saranap area for nearly 25 and members of Sufism for more than 30, we knew how much Sufis had done to improve, beautify and serve the neighborhood.

You encouraged Sufis to share their proposed building plans with neighbors. Robert and I had positive relations with our neighbors, but some young couples were very reserved, so we didn't know them well. As we extended ourselves to these "shy" neighbors, we found them thankful to learn about the proposed building project, ask questions, review photos and materials, and they were especially appreciative of the opportunity to get to know us. At that time, we were the only Sufis living on Molly Way. Our neighbors started extending party and barbecue invitations to all the neighbors on our street. After my husband and I moved one street west, we remained close to our Molly Way neighbors, inviting their children to play with our grandchildren.

This morning, Juhee Kim pulled her car beside the sidewalk where I was walking. She and her young twin daughters and I had become close. She explained that she and her family would soon be moving to Korea. Her husband works for a large pharmaceutical company partly based in Korea and was now required to spend more than 60% of his time there. Getting out of the car, Juhee asked if she could embrace me. "I want you to know that although I have family in Korea who I will love to see, I am *really* going to miss this neighborhood. My family and I love living in this wonderful neighborhood and having such wonderful neighbors. Thank you." Two weeks prior, her husband, Paul, told us that such a move was imminent and that his twin daughters were really going to miss us. Our neighborhood had become a family.

Supervisor Uilkema, because of your thoughtful suggestion, we extended ourselves more broadly to neighbors and our circle of friends grew and our life is so very much sweeter and richer.

Thank you,

Terry Johnson

cc: Paul and Juhee Kim

S

4/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Carol L. Johnson Date: 4/27/10

Printed Name Carol L. Johnson

Address: 220 Pleasant View Dr.
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Robert A. Johnson, MD
138 Molly Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

May 8, 2008

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

Enclosed please find a copy of a letter I sent Supervisor Uilkema. Sufism Reoriented will soon file its land use application with the County. I learned that your work might be facilitated if you too received direct feedback from the neighbors. The enclosed letter was sent to Supervisor Uilkema, so you are more than welcome to share this with the County planning officials.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Johnson, MD

Robert A. Johnson, MD
158 Molly Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

May 8, 2008

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

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

My name is Dr. Robert A. Johnson, and I have lived in the Saranap community for almost 30 years. I am the former Chief of Oncology/Hematology and current Chief of Palliative Care at the Kaiser Permanente Medical Center in Walnut Creek. I am writing this letter in support of Sufism Reoriented's plan to build a new sanctuary.

Over the years of my residency here, I have noticed the Sufi Center is quietly nestled in this community. Rarely do I even see cars parked on the street next to their building. The most noticeable thing about them, which other neighbors also have noted, is that they seem to improve and beautify everything that they touch. I have had contact with them and understand their desire to continue this trend. They have designed a beautiful new building, that will sit off the road, is largely underground so that it is not imposing, and is full of progressive "green" concepts.

I personally am excited about this project and feel that it will benefit the community in the long run. It is my preference over the logical alternative of single family homes which tend to congest the neighborhood. My understanding is that churches improve the property values and decrease crime rates as a result of their presence.

On one final note, both of my children attended the Meher Schools and I currently have one grandchild there. My children's learning experience was so rich that they still feel it was an important experience in creating that broad stable foundation from which they effectively, honestly and lovingly approach life. I feel that we need more institutions like this in the world.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Johnson, MD

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Robert A. Johnson, M.D.
Terry Hogan Johnson, M. A.
138 Molly Way
Walnut Creek, California 94595
925-932-8120

May 8, 2008

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

Enclosed please find a copy of a letter I sent Supervisor Uilkema in January, 2008. I recently learned that Sufism Reoriented would soon file its land use application with the County. I learned that your work might be facilities if you too received direct feedback from the neighbors. The enclosed letter was hopefully already registered with Supervisor Uilkema, so you are more than welcome to share this with the County planning officials.

My husband and I truly feel our neighborhood has become more beautiful and comfortable to live in, thanks to people, especially the members of Sufism, who take particular care of their own and shared properties.

Sincerely yours,

Terry H. Johnson

Robert A. Johnson, M.D.
Terry Hogan Johnson, M. A.
138 Molly Way
Walnut Creek, California 94595
925-932-8120

January 16, 2008

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

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

My husband and I have lived, worked and raised our three daughters in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek for more than 20 years. We love this area and have been active participants in the community. My husband served for many years as the chief of Oncology at Kaiser Permanente in Walnut Creek and is now chief of Palliative Care, and I have taught elementary school and adult education in Walnut Creek and Lafayette schools since 1982.

As members of the Saranap Association, we periodically attend meetings as an adjunct to honoring our standard civic responsibilities. So, in addition to upholding our state and national voting responsibilities, we take our local government seriously. As a result, we have heard of and read about your dedicated work for our community. Thank you.

As close neighbors to Sufism Reoriented, Robert and I recently learned of the group's interest in building a church across the street from where we live. We are happy to support their building on those parcels of land. When we first moved to this area, nearly 25 years ago, much of Boulevard Way was more like a junkyard. I recall an abandoned boat that landscaped the front yard of property that is currently owned and attractively landscaped by members of Sufism.

Our immediate neighbors feel much as we do about Sufism erecting a church across the street. Still, we know that some Saranap neighbors are uncomfortable with the proposed new building. For that reason, we thought it might be helpful to share with you directly and in writing that we have been pleased and impressed by the positive improvements and changes in our residential area. The neighborhood looks more beautiful and feels safer and friendlier. We have been thankful to have the Sufis in the neighborhood and support their plans to build a church on the property they own in Saranap.

Sincerely yours,

S (H) 7/27/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 6/24/10

Printed name: Eric Johnson

Business name: Greenwheelin Scooters

Address: 1538 Newell Ave WC

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

Gateways
A Learning Center®
Formerly *Britannica Learning Center/The Reading Game*

June Johnston
Director

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUN 29 P 1:50
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

June Johnston
6-26-09

1870 Olympic Blvd. • Suite 203 • Walnut Creek, CA 95496 • 938-6181

4/20/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Janis A Jones Date: 4/16/10

Printed Name
Janis A. Jones

Address: 135 Valley Oaks Drive
Alamo, CA 94507

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Gabrielle Jones Date: 7/28/09

Printed Name Gabrielle Jones

Address: 3083 Bonish Creek Dr
Pittsburg, CA 94565

Cc Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 18 P 12:49
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, in Walnut Creek, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: Aug. 14/09

Address: 1111 Studebaker Rd
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S
+

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary. I am neutral.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: Sandy Jordan Date: 8/23/09

Printed Name: Sandy Jordan

Address: 2817 Kinney Drive
Walnut Creek CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S #2
11/08/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Karen Findley Judd

Date: 10/15/10

Printed Name Karen Findley Judd

Address:

151 Great Northern Place
Danville, CA 94526

2010 OCT 28 PM 12:46
CONTRA COSTA

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S
+

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Linda Judd Date: 8-5-09

Printed Name Linda Judd

Address: 156 Sylvan Rd.
Walnut Creek
CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

The sanctuary will benefit and improve our neighborhood. I look forward to enjoying the gardens and expect this proposed project will beautiful the undeveloped area.

Frederick Kadel
3549 Melody Drive
W.C. CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
2000 MAY 19 A 11:11
DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

KARIM KADRI

1180 Saranap #108
Walnut Creek CA
94595

May 7, 2008

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am writing to you to express my support for the Surfside Recreation Land Use Permit Application.

My family and I have been a part of the Meka School family for many years. Both of my daughters attended Meka Schools from preschool through 5th grade, and graduated in 2003 and 2006. They now attend OIS and Miramonte High School in Orinda.

Mrs. Ellen Evans and her faculty and staff at the Meka Schools are an incredible group of people who show their love and devotion daily. Please support their application for "in Sonoma". With thanks,

Catherine A. Kale

-15

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

HURRAY

Signed: Murray Kalish Date: 12/18/09

Business name: Kalish & Associates

Address: 1280 Boulevard Way #211
W.C. CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

January 23, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JAN 26 P 1:51

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms Cross,

I have learned that Sufism Reoriented has filed a land use application for a new church in the Saranap area of Contra Costa County. As I am an enthusiastic supporter of that application I would like to forward you my letter to Supervisor Uilkema. I sincerely hope this project is approved.

Respectfully,

Ellen Kalm

Ellen Kalm
2500 Lucy Lane # 309
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

S

CONTRA COSTA

2010 MAR -2 P 2:06

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident and business owner in Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 2/22/10

Printed Name
RICHARD O. KAMRATH, MD

Address: 2255 Ygnacio Valley Road #N
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

Dear Mr. Cross, 5/16/08

I am aware that Sufism Reoriented is about to file its land use application. I am forwarding to you a letter which I sent to Supervisor Uilkema expressing my support of this project.

Thank you,

Lynn Kaplan

Lynn K. Kaplan
115 Ponderosa Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Dear Supervisor Uilkema, 5/15/08

I am writing you because I want to convey support for the proposed new church in the Saranap area.

I am a retired educator who has owned a home and has lived in the Saranap neighborhood for 25 years. I worked over a 30 year period in the public schools, mostly in special education. I spent the last nine years working with children with autism. I began in the Mt. Diablo Unified School District, then went to Albany and finally to Fremont. I also worked at the local Meher School. While working at the Meher School, I was so grateful to enter a newly cleaned classroom at the beginning of each day, that when I moved on from teaching there, I offered to help clean the school. I have been doing just that for about 15 years now.

I am excited that such a beautiful building will grace the curve at Kinney Drive and Boulevard Way. What a bonus for our area that this lovely, unique building was designed by the world famous architectural firm of Philip Johnson Alan Ritchie. Anyone familiar with this renowned firm will be eager to watch the building being constructed and then see the finished product! Such careful attention is being paid to creating a "green" area by making the building energy efficient, the parking spaces and driveways pervious and then treating the water entering the storm drains so that the pollutants are removed. The proposed landscaping appears to add to the serenity of the area, including gardens, flowering trees, lawns and a fountain! The property will be kept in immaculate condition because the members of Sufism Reoriented are dedicated to maintaining and beautifying all spaces which they occupy.

I cannot help but feel that this new building and the landscaping around it will enhance the neighborhood, and impact the value of the surrounding properties in a positive manner.

Thank you for all the wonderful work you do for the county. I am hoping you find yourself in support of this project.

Sincerely,

Lynn K. Kaplan
115 Ponderosa Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

i Cohere

1220 Oakland Blvd., Suite 210
Walnut Creek, CA 94596
925-256-4343 ◆ fax: 925-256-4077

July 22, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Planner, Department of Conservation and Development
651 Pine St. 4th floor North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am aware that some of my neighbors oppose the new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented because they say that its white, curvilinear design is out of place in our neighborhood. While I respect the diversity of individual aesthetic tastes, it is clear to me that those who make these objections do not understand the religious significance of the sanctuary design and therefore may not be aware that their objections are expressive, albeit unintentionally, of religious bias.

My own sensitivity to these issues of unintended religious bias and discrimination harkens back to my doctoral studies in Christian Theology at Harvard University. In the process of writing my dissertation on the emergence of non-traditional spiritual faiths in America, I discovered numerous instances in which well-meaning and progressive individuals and groups dismissed or opposed central aspects of the spiritual faiths of others, not out of malice or deliberate narrow-mindedness, but because of unfamiliarity with the tenets, symbols, theology, culture and faith commitments of the adherents of non-traditional faiths.

From my perspective, I'm seeing a repeat of this unintentional religious bias in the opposition to the design elements of Sufism Reoriented's sanctuary.

Religious, or sacred, architecture is intended to represent and give physical form to the faith principles of a spiritual tradition. Churches, mosques, stupas, synagogues and temples each are designed to evoke for their congregants the fundamental truths or traditional elements of their respective faiths. For that reason, Christian churches have historically tended to be cruciform in shape and to include a steeple, a bell tower and a cross on their exterior. Synagogues, on the other hand, tend to be more eclectic in design, but almost always include a Star of David. Stupas, which are Buddhist sacred structures, also known as pagodas in East Asia, are constructed to represent the Buddha, crowned by a spire and sitting in a meditation posture on a throne.

When approaching the design of a church, synagogue, pagoda or other historically familiar faith-structure, neighbors would immediately recognize that certain design elements – such as the cross or the Star of David – hold deep religious significance for the congregation and, whether one shares that faith or not, are basically "off-limits" in evaluating the design. It is, of course, more difficult for neighbors who are not familiar with a non-traditional

faith to recognize and honor symbols which they do not themselves feel emotionally drawn to or indeed even recognize as being faith symbols.

As described by Sufism Reoriented, the architectural design of the surface portion of its sanctuary incorporates the following faith-elements:

- The color white: White represents both purity and inclusiveness, as white light includes all the colors of the rainbow.
- The curvilinear form of Meher Baba's emblem: The curvilinear form of the building mirrors the outline of the spiritual symbol of our founder, Meher Baba.
- The softly arching domes: The domes reflect the central principles of unity and inclusion in our faith and represent the spacious sacred space in the heart where we return for prayer and meditation.
- The unadorned sanctuary hall: The pristine circular, columned and unadorned sanctuary hall suggests peace and eternity, understood to be central attributes of God.

Because these elements represent faith-symbols with which Sufism Reoriented's neighbors are not familiar, it is understandable that they would look at them from a different perspective, comparing them to their own ranch houses, comparing them to religious structures with which they are familiar and even suggesting that the domes be painted another color. But, of course, that's no more appropriate a request than to ask a synagogue to replace the Star of David with a cross or with the design elements of a Buddhist stupa.

We live in a remarkable country in which citizens drawn to emerging religious practices are respected for their spiritual sincerity and individual devotion to their minority faiths. Because Sufism Reoriented does not proselytize, most of its neighbors have not had an opportunity until recently to be informed of the religious significance of the design of its sanctuary. Recognizing this, Sufism Reoriented last year began taking steps to remedy that lack of understanding among its neighbors, so hopefully this issue of the appropriateness of the design of the sanctuary will dissolve as neighbors reaffirm their understanding of the importance of protecting religious freedom in America.

It is also significant to note that even though the design of its sanctuary is a religious issue for Sufism Reoriented, in keeping with its history of harmonizing with the community and not seeking to impose its spirituality on others, it will be veiling the entire building from the view of others in the neighborhood through its extensive landscaping plan. Only those who choose to enter its grounds for quiet, prayer or meditation will see the building.

In light of all these considerations, I wish to be listed as supporting the sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented.

With best wishes,

Pascal Kaplan

Pascal Kaplan Ph.D.
CEO, iCohere, Inc.
Adjunct Professor, John F. Kennedy University

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Arnis Kapostins Date: 1/29/2010

Address:

Arnis Kapostins
5 Corte Del Contento
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (A)
11/29/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 9/30/10

Printed name: IKEVA KARADSOVA

Business name: LOFSTYLE INTERIORS

Address: 1511 LOCUST ST. W.C. 94596

CONTRA COSTA
10 OCT 22 A 11:59
[illegible]

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

101 Andrea Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

May 19, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented will soon be filing the land use application for a new sanctuary in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek. I wanted you to know of my support for this building project, and so am enclosing for you a copy of the letter I sent to Supervisor Uilkema expressing my support.

Thanks and regards,

Emily Karakashian

Emily Karakashian

May 18, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to express my support for the new sanctuary building Sufism Reoriented is proposing to build in the Saranap neighborhood. I am excited about the prospect of a beautifully designed and environmentally friendly church being built on Boulevard Way. I think it will beautify, uplift, and greatly improve that street which runs through the heart of the Saranap neighborhood.

I have been a Walnut Creek resident for 25 years, and spent the first 15 years living in the Saranap area. My husband and I bought our first home on Dewing Lane, and that is where our children spent most of their childhood. They attended the Meher Schools, just a short drive away, from the time they were in preschool until they graduated from fifth grade. We were deeply grateful to have that wonderful school, with its excellent daycare programs, available to us as working parents. When they were finishing elementary school we needed a larger home within walking distance of Walnut Creek Intermediate and Las Lomas High School, so we left the Saranp area to move to Andrea Drive, off San Miguel. But in a few years, when our children have finished college and we can live in a smaller home, we plan move back to the Saranap neighborhood. The health of that area is important to us.

The Saranap neighborhood is an interesting one, with its mixture of small businesses and cozy residential areas that extend out from Boulevard Way. But it always seemed like a forgotten and somewhat neglected part of Walnut Creek. Many properties in the area are fresh and new while others are old and in need of repair. The bend in the road where Boulevard Way intersects Kinney Drive is especially unpleasant. I used to drive by that property and wonder what it was. I couldn't quite figure it out, but I knew it was an eyesore and was concerned that it affected our property values. I often wished that Boulevard Way could be as beautiful as downtown Walnut Creek, with its tree-lined streets and colorful seasonal flowers planted along the sidewalks.

The plans I have seen for the new sanctuary are strikingly beautiful, and I think its presence will transform that corner of Boulevard Way and have an uplifting affect on the entire neighborhood. Because of its scale and design, the church will not impose itself on the neighborhood. Rather, it will offer a quiet reminder of the larger scope and purpose of our lives. The landscaping planned to border the property will make Boulevard Way as gracious and appealing as it name implies.

The "green" aspects of the sanctuary's design are especially exciting. I am familiar with the geo-exchange heating and cooling system that is proposed for the new church, because a similar one is used to heat the dormitories at our son's college in Maine. I've often wondered why we haven't seen it used locally. Now we will! The use of environmentally friendly pervious material is especially ingenious in creating a grassy parking area instead of the usual expanse of asphalt.

101 ANDREA DRIVE
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94596

Having this beautiful and earth-friendly church in the Saranap neighborhood will provide a center of stability, positive activity, and ongoing community service. I believe the new sanctuary will help revitalize the neighborhood, thereby improving property values and bringing renewed attention to this corner of Walnut Creek. Its timeless "green" design elements will serve as a model for new buildings throughout the Bay Area. I am pleased to support this new church for Sufism Reoriented and I hope you will support it, as well.

Sincerely,

Emily Karakashian

Emily Karakashian

5

101 Andrea Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94596
September 23, 2008

CONTRA COSTA
08 SEP 25 PM 1:38
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross

I have recently learned that Sufism Reoriented has filed its land use application. I am, therefore, enclosing a copy of a letter I am sending to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the planned Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary project.

Sincerely yours,

Gregory V. Karakashian

Gregory V. Karakashian

5

101 Andrea Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94596
September 23, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
652 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

As an area resident for over 34 years, I am writing to voice my support for the planned center of worship for Sufism Reoriented. In addition to the physical beauty and atmosphere of serenity that the structure will bring to the neighborhood, it will provide a valuable service to the community as the support center for the White Pony/Meher Schools. I would like to share with you a recent example of that service.

I have two sons, ages 21 and 19, who attended Meher Schools before going on to Walnut Creek Intermediary and Las Lomas High School. Due to exceptional preparation provided by Meher Schools, both boys excelled in public school, and have continued to do well at the college level. The Meher Schools experience, however, instilled in them a sense of service and caring that still directs their approach to life. This summer, we saw this in the work done by older son, Vince.

As a former student, and past staffer of summer school activities at Meher Schools, Vince was approached by the administration to help prepare a student with significant developmental and behavioral problems for entry into middle school in the fall. Working with psychologists, school administrators, and the summer drama program head, Vince took on the role of "behavioral coach", working exclusively one-on-one with the student all day for the duration of the summer program. By assisting the student in a documentary video project, and balancing kindness with firmness, Vince helped the student achieve significant behavioral improvement which would not have been possible otherwise. The student has gone on to middle school, and my son has experienced a deep sense of love and joy from service that was made possible by the school. As a parent, I am proud of his work, and am thankful for the opportunity provided by Meher Schools.

I fully support the building of a new center of worship for Sufism Reoriented since it will provide continued support and inspiration for service, as demonstrated by Meher Schools, that is a benefit to us all.

Sincerely yours,

Gregory V. Karakashian

Gregory V. Karakashian

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 24 PM 1:30
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 8·11·09

Printed name:

Business name:

Address:

SEAN A. KARIMIAN, D.D.S., INC.
1928 TICE VALLEY BLVD.
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Debra Karimzad Date: 1-29-10

Printed name: Debra Karimzad

Business name: Pony Tails

Address: 3413 Mt Diablo Blvd
Lafayette CA

S 6/15/10

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JUN -7 P 2:01
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 6/1/10

Printed Name TOM KARMONPHET TOM KARMONPHET

Address: 132 LANCE CT
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Jeanne Kassof
1336 Boulevard Way #303
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
April 15, 2009

CONTRA COSTA
2009 APR 20 P 1:31
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

This letter is in support of Sufism Reoriented's application to build a new sanctuary in the Saranap area of Contra Costa County.

Sufism Reoriented has been in its present building on Boulevard Way since 1975. I understand that there have been no complaints about Sufism Reoriented's presence or activities and none concerning traffic or parking in all those years. Now we are moving just one block away and look forward to maintaining the same presence in the neighborhood.

I have lived in rented apartments within a few blocks of our church since 1978. I now live in Le Boulevard Apartments, directly adjacent to the site for the new building. I am so excited to be able to be so close to this wonderful new building, the home of my worship and activity.

The proposed new building plans look like what I have read about Feng Shui, that is, it has almost no sharp corners. I understand that rounded corners are considered more aesthetically pleasing and more aligned to nature.

I have always been aware of the large Mortuary only two blocks to the west, and the Neptune Society two blocks to the south of our church building, and have always felt a balance in the neighborhood between the presence of these two symbols of death and that of our church that symbolizes the joy, love, service of life and the living. I know we contribute to an uplifting feeling in the neighborhood. I urge you to support this application.

Sincerely yours,
Jeanne Kassof

Jeanne Kassof

Cc La Libertad Crosse

SD
changed
6-22-11

Jeanne Kassof
458 Shaw Road
Walnut Creek, Ca 94597-2043

June 16, 2011

Gayle Uikema, Supervisor
651 Pine Street Room 108 A
Martinez 94553

Dear Ms. Uikema,

I sent in a letter in support of Sufism Reoriented at 1300 Boulevard Way, WC new sanctuary building.

But I have moved and still wish to be informed of meetings, etc regarding it.

My old address was:
1336 Boulevard Way
WC, Ca. 94595

My New address is:
458 Shaw Road
Walnut Creek, Ca. 94597

This would also be for Lashun Cross
I do not have her address.

Thank you very much for updating my address.

RECEIVED
JUN 17 2011
GAYLE B. UILKEMA

Sincerely,
Jeanne Kassof

Linda E. Katz, Ph.D., MFT
277 South Wildwood, Hercules, California 94547
510/724-3198 (voice) 510/724-3103 (fax) linda@creativegrowth.com (e-mail)

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March 15, 2009

CONTRA COSTA
2009 MAR 27 P 1:27
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Linda E. Katz, Ph.D.

Linda E. Katz, Ph.D., MFT
Founder & Co-Director of the Center for Creative Growth, a nonprofit counseling center serving the San Francisco Bay area since 1982

Linda E. Katz, Ph.D., MFT
277 South Wildwood, Hercules, California 94547
510/724-3198 (voice) 510/724-3103 (fax) linda@creativegrowth.com (e-mail)

March 15, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to express my full support for the proposed new church building for Sufism Reoriented.

I was a resident in one of the apartment buildings in the Saranap area from 1979-1990, and although I now own a home in Hercules, I am still a member of Sufism Reoriented. The proposed new church building would be of great help in supporting the work of our church. While its surface, ground level worship building is comparable to our current facility, the additional space – all underground – will support our various church activities and projects, many of which are service projects.

One of the basic tenets of our church is service to others and to our world. This is one of the primary reasons our church has included grass-pave in the plans for the new building. Although it much more costly than asphalt, it is a "green" product, helps to protect the water in our storm drain system, and also adds to the beauty of the proposed building site.

People who are drawn to Sufism Reoriented tend to have a natural inclination towards, and dedication to, being of service. Many of our members have been involved in creating important service projects in Contra Costa County and elsewhere. Hospice of Contra Costa County and the Contra Costa Rape Crisis Center are two such organizations. Building our new church building in the Saranap area ensures that this group of highly dedicated citizens continues to live in that area.

Thank you for your support of our new building and its proposed site on Boulevard Way.

Sincerely,

Linda E. Katz, Ph.D.

Linda E. Katz, Ph.D., MFT
Founder & Co-Director of the Center for Creative Growth, a nonprofit counseling center serving the San Francisco Bay area since 1982

cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Community Development

S
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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Lori Katzburg Date: 9-1-2009

Printed Name: Lori Katzburg

Address: 1204 Alpine Rd, #4
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 24 P 1:29
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 8/14/09

Printed name: Susan Kaufman

Business name:

Address: Lafayette Clinic of Oriental Medicine
3182 Old Tunnel Rd., Ste E
Lafayette, Ca 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Walid Kazak Date: 7/22/09

Printed name: WALID KAZAK

Business name: KAZAK ENTERPRISES INC.
DBA DIABLO MEDICAL SUPPLIES

Address:

1147 ALPINE RD.
WALNUT CREEK - CA. 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Lynne Keeler

Date: 8/24/09

Printed Name

Lynne Keeler

Address:

2424 Pine Knoll Dr.
Walnut Creek Ca 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 9-18-09

Printed name:

Business name: DR. RODERICK J. KEENER
OPTOMETRIST
1530 BONANZA ST.
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94596
PH. 925-934-3388

Address:

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -6 P 2:04

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: L Kelliher Lisa Kelliher Date: 6-29-09

Address: 61 Manzanita Ct
Walnut Creek CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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cc:

Dear Supervisor Uilkema, (Ms Loaheen Cross)

I am a resident of the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Michelle Keller
1183 Saranap Ave #13
Walnut Creek CA 94595
6/12/09

Support S+

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JAN 30 P 1:03

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Rosemary Kelso
3790 St. Peter Ct.
Concord CA 94518
January 27, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, North Wing
Martinez CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary. I have heard that the land use permit application has been filed.

Sincerely,

R. Kelso

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Geraldine A. Kennedy

40 CAROLYN CT
LAFAYETTE, CA
94549

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra ~~Costa~~ County and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

40 CAROLYN CT
LAFAYETTE, CA 94549

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG -4 P 12: 16
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: _____ Date: 10/10/09

Printed Name: J. HAMPTON KENNON

Address: 24 Alta Hill Way
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (4)
7/22/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 12-3-09

Printed name: Jessie Kent

Business name: Diablo smog test only

Address: 3364 Mt. Diablo blvd.
Lafayette CA. 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S 9/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 8/28/2010

Printed Name

JEFF KENT

Address:

1006 AMENO CT.
LAFAYETTE CA.
94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Lupe Kent
81 Carolyn Ct.
Lafayette, CA 94549

1608 Missouri
Washington, D. C. 20011
June 29, 2009

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for the new sanctuary, and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in SUPPORT of that application.

Sincerely,

Kevin Kentfield

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -2 P 3:14
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

1608 Missouri
Washington, D. C. 20011
June 27, 2009

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

My name is Kevin Kentfield, and I have been a member of Sufism Reoriented since 1971. My wife and I settled Walnut Creek in 1974 and bought our first home on Peterson Place in 1987. Most importantly, I had the great privilege to work at The Meher Schools from 1979-1996. During these 17 years, my two children went from the baby room at 12 months of age through the fifth grade. I moved to Washington, D. C. in the year 2000 and currently teach in a head start program for Montgomery County Public Schools in Maryland. I have taught in private and public school settings over the past 39 years.

By far the most important and exciting years of my teaching career were done at The Meher Schools. My children and I took part in the most amazing educational experience of our lives; that is, we participated in a remarkable school that was founded and run on the principles of love, harmony, beauty and service to others. I have worked at and visited many public and private schools on both coasts over the years, and the atmosphere of quiet service and dedication to the highest spiritual principles is truly unique at The Meher Schools.

My son Karim began singing and dancing in preschool, and by the fifth grade he had played the "Baker" in Sondheim's "Into the Woods" and "Lysander" in Shakespeare's "Midsummer Night's Dream." These plays were amazingly full productions with original dialogue, full costumes, sets, lighting, etc., all provided for by the members of Sufism Reoriented. I was always a puddle of joyous tears during these many plays and original musical dramas. Karim, who graduated from College Preparatory School in Oakland, UC Berkeley, and worked for Google for 6 years, just last month decided to return to Boalt Hall to study law. My daughter Miranda, who lives with her husband Jeremy Kershaw at Le Boulevard Apartments, received her PhD from UC Berkeley in French Literature last year. She began her singing career and learned to play the flute while at The Meher Schools and made all state band at Las Lomas. Naturally I am very proud of my two beautiful children. Most importantly, they are kind, considerate individuals who are dedicated to serving humanity. I mention the example of my own two children, yet I could easily tell you about hundreds of equally kind and successful Meher School graduates. When I visit the Meher School each spring, I am so touched to see many of my former students who have returned as teachers and administrators, several with their own children who now play amidst the mature redwood trees that I planted in the early 1980's!

I was recently looking at the brochure for the new sanctuary that Sufism Reoriented is planning to build. This project means the world to me for several reasons. First, the design and beauty of the building represent the deepest values of Sufism Reoriented. It is a sacred space that will exemplify all the same principles that are lived at The Meher Schools. Every detail of the design of this project has been carefully examined and lifted to the highest levels of simplicity, beauty and real harmony with the earth. The building also reflects our highest understanding of love for God and service to mankind. Just as The Meher Schools touched the hearts of thousands over the past 34 years, so will this building radiate profound love for God and offer a living center for many community service projects that will truly breathe new life into the community.

I thank you with all my heart for your sincere efforts to study and understand our project—one that means more to me than life itself. I know that you will follow your own deepest principles of love and service to the community in making your decision.

Sincerely,

Kevin Kentfield

Kevin Kentfield

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24 Peterson Place
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
May 26, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am a resident of the Saranap area and have learned that Sufism Reoriented will soon be filing a land use application for construction of a new sanctuary on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek. I would like to express my support for this project, and am forwarding a letter that I wrote to Supervisor Uilkema on the subject.

Sincerely yours,

Martha L. Kentfield

Martha L. Kentfield

24 Peterson Place
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
May 25, 2006

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am writing to express my support for the new sanctuary that Sufism Reoriented proposes to build on Boulevard Way in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek. I have been a homeowner in Saranap for the last twenty years and my two children attended the White Pony and Meher Schools from preschool through fifth grade. As an educator with over thirty-five years experience as a teacher and educational psychologist, I remain impressed by the quality of education and personal care provided to students at the school by members of Sufism. I have found that members of this group are dedicated to serving others and have a keen interest and involvement in the community at large. Many are employed in service-oriented professions such as education, medicine, and counseling. I have also noted the care that members of this group have provided in the maintenance and improvement of their own homes, thus maintaining and raising property values in the neighborhood.

I have reviewed the plans for the new church building, and have found them to be esthetically pleasing and carefully designed to have a positive environmental impact. I believe that this building, designed by the world famous firm of Philip Johnson/Alan Ritchie, will add beauty and character to the neighborhood. I believe current research indicates that the presence of a church in a residential neighborhood is a beneficial influence in raising the tenor of the community, reducing social ills, and raising property values. Having served as an educational psychologist in Walnut Creek over the last nineteen years, first in the Walnut Creek School District and currently at the Seven Hills School, I am keenly aware of the challenges facing our youth and the need for positive influences that will promote healthy choices. Therefore, I also support this project as an inspiring monument and center of worship that can have a positive impact on the youth of our community.

I urge you to support the construction of the proposed sanctuary. The members of Sufism Reoriented have made a substantial contribution to our community, and are entitled to exercise their right to religious expression in this beautiful new setting.

Sincerely yours,

Martha L. Kentfield

Martha L. Kentfield

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Miranda Kentfield
1336 Boulevard Way #301
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
February 24, 2008

LeShun Cross, Community Development Department
Contra Costa County
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am writing you as a Walnut Creek resident and graduate of the Meher Schools to express my support for the building project currently in development by Sufism Reoriented of Walnut Creek. I grew up in Walnut Creek and attended the Meher Schools from preschool through the fifth grade. My early childhood experiences there had a profound impact on my life, providing a loving, supportive environment in which cooperative learning and creativity were fostered and actively nurtured by the school's many wonderful teachers and administrators. Both of my parents were teachers when I was young, and we didn't have a lot of money. I was able to attend this excellent private school because they keep tuition costs very low, thanks to the low salaries that teachers at the school accept as an act of service to the community. The quality, low-cost education provided by the school is also supported by the volunteer efforts of many members of Sufism Reoriented, who give their time to clean and maintain the classrooms and gardens.

I have recently learned that Sufism is applying for a land use permit that is needed to construct a new building in the neighborhood adjacent to the school. The building in question will provide for the needs of members of the community who help to run the school and live nearby. Since the school has been an important part of my life, and I know that this building is essential to its continuation as a community service project and source of support for countless local children and parents, it seems very important that the permit in question be approved according to the design proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

Thus I am writing to express my strong support for this building project, and request your approval of the land use permit application. By serving the needs of members of Sufism, the building will make it possible for Sufism to remain in the neighborhood. By keeping Sufism nearby, the Meher Schools can continue to provide the unusually loving and supportive education that has personally touched my life and that continues to contribute so much to our local families. Thank you very much for your consideration!

Sincerely,

Miranda Kentfield

Miranda Kentfield

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CONTRA COSTA

2009 MAY 27 A 11: 5

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

May 19, 2009

Dear Ms. Cross,

Enclosed please find a copy of a letter to Supervisor Galye Uikema in support of Sufism Reoriented's Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary.

Sincerely,

Jeannie

Jeanne K. Kerr
P.O. Box 204
Walnut Creek, CA 94597
kerrjeanne@gmail.com
925-930-7187

Supervisor Gayle Uikema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

19 May 2009

Dear Supervisor Uikema,

As I voted this afternoon, I reaffirmed my belief in the democratic processes and my privilege to vote. I honor the privilege to form the policies which weave the fabric of my home. In the 1960's-1980's I worked for Contra Costa County in Social Service, Probation and Mental Health fields. I also volunteered for political campaigns and along with other concerned citizens, started and incorporated various non-profit organizations in the county. Two of the organizations; Contra Costa Children's Council (AKA Contra Costa Child Care Council) and International Child Resource Institute (ICRI's headquarters are now in Alameda County) are still going strong.

I lived out of State and out of Country for many years. Six years ago, after heading Child and Youth Programs for the US Army and US Air Force, I returned to this area and I now rent an apartment on Flora Ave. I returned to the area to be close to my spiritual community, Sufism Reoriented. Being part of Sufism Reoriented helps fill my "batteries", and by taking care of myself, it helps me be the best I can be.

The freedom to honor the spirit within me with the spiritual community of my choice is a gift. I am grateful to be part of our free nation, and have the privilege of this gift. I have a surplus, I care about my community, our community, and I back my commitments with actions.

I deeply support the proposal to build the new Sufism Reoriented sanctuary on Boulevard Way. I ask you to support this proposal which I believe supports the community you represent and increases resources to your constituency. The project is designed by a world renowned firm utilizing state of the art energy saving innovative concepts. I believe the sanctuary, if granted permission to be built, will bring acclaim to our community for the proposal's:

- cutting edge technology which preserves and honors the environment
- increased beautification of the area
- added community resource for everyone, not just members of Sufism Reoriented

Thank you for reading this letter and considering my request.

Most sincerely,

Jeanne

Jeanne K. Kerr
P.O. Box 204
Walnut Creek, CA 94597
kerrjeanne@gmail.com
925-930-7187

cc: Lashaun Cross, Community Development

5

1827 Newcastle Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
08 SEP -8 PM 1:23
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

September 5, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has recently filed its land use application. Please find enclosed a copy of my letter to Gayle Uilkema expressing my support of this application.

Sincerely,

David S. Kershaw

Dr. David S. Kershaw

1827 Newcastle Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

September 5, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Gayle,

I am writing to express my support for the new church Sufism Reoriented is proposing to build in Walnut Creek.

For 17 years I lived on Whyte Park Avenue in the Saranap during which time all three of my children attended The Meher Schools where they received a wonderful education.

On a recent vacation I had the pleasure of visiting Harvard's Dumbarton Oaks Pre-Columbian Museum in Washington DC. This gem of a building was designed by the same architectural firm that designed the proposed church in Saranap. Looking at the plans and renderings of the proposed sanctuary, I am delighted by how much it echoes this famous building, which I found so remarkably wonderful. I think that this church once built will be an architectural milestone that will be studied and emulated for years to come. How wonderful it would be to have a building of such distinction in Walnut Creek.

Sincerely,

Dr. David S. Kershaw

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Jeremy Kershaw
1336 Boulevard Way, Apt. 103
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
jeremy.kershaw@gmail.com

Monday, May 11th, 2009

Lashun Cross
Department of Conservation and Development
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

I enclose a copy of a letter I sent over a year ago to Supervisor Uilkema in support of Sufism Reoriented's new sanctuary. I am writing in the hope that you will register my support for the project and retain a copy for your records.

With thanks,

Jeremy Kershaw

CONTRA COSTA
2009 MAY 13 P 4:48
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Sunday, February 3, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
Contra Costa County, District 2
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I'm writing regarding Sufism Reoriented's plan for a new sanctuary. You will have heard many views and one more personal opinion may not be much use to you in deciding whether or not to approve their application for a land use permit. Still, I offer my own perspective for your consideration.

I was raised by participants in Sufism Reoriented. My parents have been members since the 1960s and I was educated at the Meher Schools from preschool through sixth grade (the Meher Schools is a remarkable private school located in Lafayette and supported largely through the volunteer efforts of members of Sufism Reoriented). I am now a member of Sufism Reoriented myself.

How can one quantify the value of an organization like Sufism Reoriented either to its members or to the community? One approach is to look at its impact both among its own membership and in the larger community. I tell you honestly: I know no other group of people more dedicated, warm-hearted, healthful and helpful than the members of Sufism Reoriented. They form a remarkable group that leavens the quality of life around them. They beautify their surroundings and bring an atmosphere of productive and open-hearted collaboration. They truly aspire to Sufism Reoriented's ideals of love, service and joyful praise, and to a remarkable degree they realize and spread them. Though they may not always be understood by those around them, their effect in the surrounding community is resoundingly positive.

If you've studied the plans you'll have seen that the proposed building is extraordinary both for its beauty and the care that was taken in planning parking, heating, drainage, etc. in ways that will interact harmoniously with the land. This building, the activities therein and the people whose lives center around it – all will benefit the larger community.

I close on a personal note: From birth I've benefitted from Sufism Reoriented. I was raised in a Sufi household, educated at a school founded and supported by Sufism and am now a participating member. The practical advantages have been many – strong family values, a superb education, exposure to and training in the arts, a positive orientation in life – but these pale before the chance I've had to see real love in circulation, real service in action and real praise in all its joyful exuberance. To encounter these ideals outside the realm of scriptures and platitudes is a great and transformative gift. Slowly they rub off on you, and I believe they rub off on the community as well.

In truth, it's my gratitude to Sufism that prompts me to write and ask you to factor in its impact on lives like mine when you weigh a decision that will affect its future.

With thanks for you time,

Jeremy Kershaw

☑ use Kershaw

AKA Kentfield

S

Miranda Kershaw
1336 Boulevard Way #103
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
October 13, 2008

MIRA LOMA
08 OCT 15 PM 1:16
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

LeShun Cross, Community Development Department
Contra Costa County
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am writing to express my support for the Sufism Reoriented land use permit application that was recently submitted to the county. Attached you will find a copy of the letter of support for this project that I sent to Supervisor Uilkema many months ago. Since I recently married and changed my name from Kentfield to Kershaw, my current letter reads Kershaw but the one I sent out was signed with my maiden name, Miranda Kentfield. Thank you very much for your consideration!

Sincerely,

Miranda Kershaw

Miranda Kershaw

Deleted Kentfield, Miranda

Miranda Kentfield AKA Kershaw
1336 Boulevard Way #301
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
February 24, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street
Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing you as a Walnut Creek resident and graduate of the Meher Schools to express my support for the building project currently in development by Sufism Reoriented of Walnut Creek. I grew up in Walnut Creek and attended the Meher Schools from preschool through the fifth grade. My early childhood experiences there had a profound impact on my life, providing a loving, supportive environment in which cooperative learning and creativity were fostered and actively nurtured by the school's many wonderful teachers and administrators. Both of my parents were teachers when I was young, and we didn't have a lot of money. I was able to attend this excellent private school because they keep tuition costs very low, thanks to the low salaries that teachers at the school accept as an act of service to the community. The quality, low-cost education provided by the school is also supported by the volunteer efforts of many members of Sufism Reoriented, who give their time to clean and maintain the classrooms and gardens.

I have recently learned that Sufism is applying for a land use permit that is needed to construct a new building in the neighborhood adjacent to the school. The building in question will provide for the needs of members of the community who help to run the school and live nearby. Since the school has been an important part of my life, and I know that this building is essential to its continuation as a community service project and source of support for countless local children and parents, it seems very important that the permit in question be approved according to the design proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

Thus I am writing to express my strong support for this building project, and request your approval of the land use permit application. By serving the needs of members of Sufism, the building will make it possible for Sufism to remain in the neighborhood. By keeping Sufism nearby, the Meher Schools can continue to provide the unusually loving and supportive education that has personally touched my life and that continues to contribute so much to our local families. Thank you very much for your consideration!

Sincerely,

Miranda Kentfield

Miranda Kentfield

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MIRA COSTA

08 OCT 16 PM 3:27

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

1827 Newcastle Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
October 14, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

Enclosed please find a copy of a letter I wrote to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the Sufism Reoriented land use permit application. I tried to reach you with a copy at the time I sent it but apparently it did not arrive. I hope this try will be more successful!

Sincerely,

Winifred Kershaw

Winifred Kershaw, M.A., CA Licensed M.F.T.

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1827 Newcastle Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
September 22, 2008

08 SEP 24 PM 2:02
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
652 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to you to let you know the importance of the proposed new sanctuary in my life.

I have been a member of Sufism Reoriented since 1967. My husband and I bought our first house in the Saranap in 1974 to be near the head of our church and were delighted when the current building at 1300 Boulevard Way was purchased for our place of worship. Our three children went to the White Pony/ Meher Schools. They attended the school in many different sites, including churches, before it found a permanent home at its current site and everyone could be in one place. At one point, I was daily delivering my three children to three different sites that were not close together. Why take so much trouble? Because the school was a fabulous chance for my children to develop the love of learning in an atmosphere of loving acceptance, free from coercion and fear of adults, learn sharing and to value all their fellow students. I have continued my association with The Meher Schools by leading the volunteer gardening team.

You may notice that my current address is not still in Saranap but is close by. We bought property on Castle Hill in 1988 and moved into our new home in 1991. I still am at the Sufi Center many times a week. I also have my psychotherapy practice at 1280 Boulevard Way where I have almost always had low-fee clients in my caseload. It's part of giving back.

This sanctuary is an offering of love from our hearts, executed with the greatest beauty and devotion we can summon. We have been saving money for it with pledges for years and I can't tell you of the great privilege I feel to be able to contribute to it and work for it. I hope the county will recognize this project as something special for our neighborhood. We have deep roots here and bring a lot of service and friendship to Saranap and the crowning gift will be this pristine and serene sanctuary!

Sincerely,

Winifred Kershaw

Winifred Kershaw, M.A., CA Licensed M.F.T.

Cc: Lashun Cross, Community Development

S
K

CONTRA COSTA
2009 OCT 13 P 2:03
DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Martha H. Kessler

Date: 10/11/09

Printed Name

Martha H. Kessler

Address:
1600 Rocksprings Pl
Walnut Creek
Ca 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 10/13/09

Printed Name

Tim Ketron

Address:

1528 Bonanza St.
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (H)
11/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Norma Khalil Date: 11-24-2010

Printed name: Norma Khalil

Business name: Caffe Panini

Address: 1333 North California Blvd #180 W.C.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 10/6/09

Printed Name: ARVIND KHANAL

Address: 2500 LUCY LANE #APT 304, Walnut Creek CA, 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (A)

11/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 10/8/10

Printed name: TSEWANG KHANGSAR

Business name: Little Tibet

Address: 1341E North Main ST. Walnut Creek 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Rana Kharouf Date: 10/4/09

Printed Name: Rana Kharouf

Address: 835 Juanita Dr. W.C, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 3.27.11

Printed Name: K. Michael King

Address: 2033 Olympic Blvd
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Sylvia King

Date: 7/1/09

Printed Name
Sylvia King

Address:
60 Arends Ln
WC 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV 18 P 1:36
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 11/13/09

Printed name:
Robert Kirchner

Business name:
CRESCO Equipment Rental

Address:
3380 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Lafayette, CA. 94549
925-284-4595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Royal Kirkland Date: 8/23/09

Printed Name Royal Kirkland

Address: 441 N. Willwood
Hercules CA 94547

94547

Royal Kirkland

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Brigitte R. Kirkpatrick
2480 Warren Road, Walnut Creek, CA 94596
925-708-7112 Cellular Phone email: brigitte.kirkpatrick@gmail.com

Lashun Cross
Contra Costa County
Community Development Dept.
651 Pine St. 4th. Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I wanted to share with you my earlier letter to Supervisor Uilkema regarding the Sufism Reoriented project. It is my understanding that Sufism Reoriented will soon file a land use application for this project.

Attached you will find my earlier letter of support addressed to Supervisor Uilkema.

Sincerely,

Brigitte R. Kirkpatrick

Brigitte R. Kirkpatrick
Brigitte.kirikpatrick@gmail.com, 925-708-7112

Brigitte R. Kirkpatrick
2480 Warren Road, Walnut Creek, CA 94596
925-708-7112 Cellular Phone email: brigitte.kirkpatrick@gmail.com

January 14, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street – Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553-1292

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I have recently come to know about a proposed building plan for property on Boulevard Way. I am currently renting a house at 2480 Warren Rd. where I live with my husband and another tenant. The new building site is actually located directly over our backyard fence.

We have lived at this house for just 6 months and have been residents of the Saranap area for over 20 years. During our walks through the neighborhoods we wondered many times:"When will this sad looking property be improved?"

Now, I am happy to find out that a beautiful new church is planned for the land. It proposes to feature so many "green" practices which sound very exciting. The most interesting thing to me is the plan to use an actual living lawn as a parking lot, with material underneath which cleans the run off water draining into the creek. I am especially delighted to know that a great deal of planting will be done on the property itself and along the street. It sounds beautiful. As a gardener I really appreciate flowers and trees as they lift the spirit of the neighborhood and provide for a healthier environment.

The idea of having most of the building underground sounds very positive because it keeps the overall new building with in the scale of the homes in the area instead of overpowering it as some of the very large multi-story buildings that have sprouted in Walnut Creek in recent years. The plan to build a quiet and submerged heat pump for heating and cooling sounds like something that will benefit the area and conserve energy, too.

It is my opinion that a new church for the Sufism Re-oriented group will benefit the immediate area by increased property values and the overall beautification of our greater community.

Sincerely,

Brigitte R. Kirkpatrick

Brigitte R. Kirkpatrick

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James C Kirkpatrick
2480 Warren Road, Walnut Creek, California 94595-1249

Lashun Cross
Contra Costa County
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street
4th floor – North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

In January of this year, I wrote a letter of support for a project near my home to Supervisor Uilkema. I've recently learned that Sufism Reoriented will soon be filing a land use application for this project. It seemed useful to let those of you in the planning department know of that support. I'm enclosing a copy of the letter to the Supervisor.

Sincerely,

James Kirkpatrick

Jim.kirkpatrick@gmail.com, (925) 997-4814

James C Kirkpatrick
2480 Warren Road, Walnut Creek, California 94595-1249

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I'm writing today about plans for a parcel of land on Boulevard Way in the Saranap area. The property is adjacent to the home that I rent with my wife Brigitte on Warren Road. While I recently moved in this past summer, I've lived in the Saranap area for more than 20 years. The proposed development would be on the other side of our back fence.

I'm a person who values conservation and environmental stewardship. I commute to my workplace in San Ramon by walking through the neighborhood to BART and then taking a bus to work. In temperate weather, I also try to bike to work 3 days a week. I am impressed with the attention to environmental concerns that the Sufism group and its architect have incorporated into the plan. The large amount of green space, plantings and lack of asphalt seem to me to be positive steps.

Water runoff is of significant concern in the neighborhood. Those of us who live on property lower than the site will benefit from the extensive engineering work. I am grateful that the plan takes the surrounding areas into consideration. Another concern is traffic. As I understand the use plans for the church it would appear that it should cause no increase in traffic and possibly may result in a decrease.

The design of the church is remarkable. While it is a large project, the visual impact on the neighborhood is very gentle. It seems to me that having a structure designed by Philip Johnson/Alan Ritchie is a major plus. As I walk the neighborhood, it seems to me that part of its charm is the diversity. However, there are some elements of that diversity that don't make positive contributions. I believe this project can only add to the charm and beauty of Saranap.

I would welcome this project to the neighborhood. The character of the area can only be lifted as a result.

Sincerely.

James Kirkpatrick

Jim.kirkpatrick@gmail.com, (925) 997-4814

S HR
11/29/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Brian Kirnse Date: 10/15/2010

Printed Name: BRIAN KIRNSE

Address: 17 CALVIN COURT
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
2010 OCT 26 P 2:41

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 8/4/09

Printed Name Eric Kjorlien

Address: 128 Belle Ave
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Janet Klasey

Date: 9-18-09

Printed Name

Janet Klasey

Address:

689 Center Ave
Martinez, CA 94553

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S08/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

2010 AUG 24 P 2:17
CONTRA COSTA

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Sally Klein Date: 8/11/10

Printed Name
Sally Klein

Address: 3401 Deer Ridge Drive
Danville, CA 94506

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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CONTRA COSTA

2011 JUL 10 P 3:11

DEVELOPMENT & CONSERVATION
DIVISION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Heidi Klinger Date: July 9, 2009

Address: 1172 Saranap Ave. 24B
Walnut Creek, Ca. 94595

I Love the idea of having a church in the neighborhood. I have Lived here 25 years and welcome the improvement this building would bring to this area.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA
08 JUN 23 PM 1:42
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Duncan Knowles
1318C Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA, USA 94595
Home (925) 937-2256 Cell (925) 899-1175 dmknowles@sbcglobal.net

June 18, 2008

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Lashun,

Enclosed is a letter I just sent to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of Sufism Reoriented's land use application that is to be filed soon.

I understand that you would value having a copy and I'm very glad to provide one.

With best wishes,

Duncan

S

128 Pioneer Avenue
Walnut Creek, CA 94597
September 30, 2008

08 OCT 17 PM 3:30
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I have enclosed a copy of the letter I sent to Supervisor Uilkema regarding the Sanctuary Project for Sufism Reoriented. I would be delighted if this project was approved and built in the Saranap neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Mary Beale Knowles

Mary Beale Knowles

128 Pioneer Avenue
Walnut Creek, CA 94597
September 30, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
652 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

This letter is in reference to the Sanctuary project for Sufism Reoriented. I am totally in favor of this project, knowing how run down this site has been for years and how delightful the new installation will be for the neighborhood for many generations to come. I moved into the Saranap area as a young wife in 1978 and started my first garden when my twins were born in 1980. They attended White Pony/Meher School and completed their lower education in Walnut Creek public schools, now working as professionals contributing to the community. My young grandchildren attend the White Pony School and I often return to the neighborhood where I lived as a homeowner for over 20 years. I love this family oriented, independent neighborhood where my kids swam for the Sun Valley Swim Team and their friends grew up. I want it to always be a vital neighborhood and I know that Sufism Reoriented supports the highest in family and community values. Their presence has been quiet but positive for many years and I would welcome a more beautiful and substantial building for their gatherings and activities. I would especially love to have easier access to their bookstore and to drive by the landscaped gardens as depicted in their neighborhood presentations.

I am the designer for Knowles & Murphy Landscape Design and Construction, a licensed business in Walnut Creek. My husband Roy Murphy and I started working together in the Saranap neighborhood and we have old friends and happy clients in the area. Many are members of Sufism Reoriented, for they truly appreciate a beautiful garden and are willing to make improvements to their property for the benefit of themselves and the neighborhood. We are always happy to revisit a garden made for members of Sufism Reoriented for they really maintain them with love. In some cases we have created a second garden for members who have moved on to Rossmoor, or created a landscape for grown children of members when they buy their first home in the area. My first home and garden on Newell Court has led to a wonderful career and a wide community involvement which currently also includes extensive work for St. Mary's Catholic Church on Mt. Diablo Boulevard.

I hope you will support this unusual project which will anchor a neighborhood already creative and diverse. I look forward to seeing the trees grow to a mature size, establishing a leafy bower along the curve of Boulevard Way. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mary Beale Knowles

Mary Beale Knowles

Cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

S
09/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 9/10/10

Printed Name

Scott Kath

Address:

1129 Glen Road
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

LC

S

Monika Kochowiec
2008 Hermine Avenue
Walnut Creek, CA 94553 96
May 19, 2008

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing you in support of the church to be built by Sufism Reoriented. I have been a teacher at The Meher Schools for thirty years. I love my work there because the school actually practices the ideal of serving others. My two children grew up in the school. One is now a lawyer and the other a physician. While I have, at one time or another, taught all the grades, I have been teaching kindergarten for the past twenty years.

When I saw the renderings of the sanctuary to be built my heart laughed and danced for delight. The soft domes looked so kind and reassuring. Paired with the joyful, sparkling fountain in front, I knew this is exactly the kind of pure beauty I try to instill in the children. We find these forms in the rounded shapes of blossoms and seed capsules in nature. It fills us with awe and enlivens us with happiness.

In my own backyard my husband and I have used only natural methods to improve the soil. I was so glad and grateful that new ways will be used to cool and heat the church building, that runoff water will be cleaned before entering the storm system and our lovely earth will be allowed to breathe and grow in the parking area.

I have been impressed by pictures of other sanctuaries the architectural firm of Philip Johnson/Alan Ritchie have built before and feel amazed and lucky that this firm is willing to be involved. What an opportunity to bring lofty beauty into physical form.

Sincerely,

Monika Kochowiec

Monika Kochowiec

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 4/10/11

Printed Name KELLY KODAMA KELLY KODAMA

Address: 1525 FAGES CT. WC, CA 94595 1925 FAGES CT WC 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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08 OCT 10 PM 12:23

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

October 8, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross

Cummunity Development Department

651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing

Martinez, CA 84553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the planned Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary project.

Sincerely,

Mildred L. Koffel

Mildred L. Koffel

5

1336 Boulevard Way # 308

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

September 24, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema

652 Pine Street, Room 108A

Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am so excited that that Sufism Reoriented filed its land use application for a beautiful new sanctuary to be constructed on Boulevard Way. I'd like to lend my support to that project.

I am a member of Sufism Reoriented and have lived in the neighborhood since 1983. I participate in many activities of Sufism, including volunteering at the Meher Schools.

I love living in the Saranap area where I am able to walk to the sanctuary and the school. Many companions are close by. This is a friendly, peaceful neighborhood. The addition of this exquisite sanctuary will be a blessing to our area and the realization of a fond dream for members of Sufism Reoriented in having a space that will house all our activities. The renderings show how wonderfully it will fit in with the surroundings. It is forward looking, taking into consideration every eco-friendly advantage.

I am very anxious to see this new structure added to our community.

Sincerely,

Mildred L. Koffel

Mildred L. Koffel

Cc: Lashun Cross, Community Development

3341 Tice Creek Drive, #7
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

February 19, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street,
4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufism reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supersivor Gayle Uilkena in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Jeff Kohl

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October 19, 2008

08 OCT 22 PM 1:10

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. LeShun Cross

Community Development Dept.

651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing

Martinez, Ca 94553

Dear Ms. Le Cross,

I am sending you this copy of a letter that I sent to Supervisor Uilkema previously. I don't know if you received a copy at that time and I want to make sure that you are able to include it in your files.

With thanks,

Susan Kohl

August 17, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Ullkema, District 2
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

Since I write and speak frequently about children –a column for Diablo magazine, Parenting Tips for The Meher Schools newsletter, books and articles for parents,, parenting segments on Channel 7's *View from the Bay* –I want to consider the proposed sanctuary on Boulevard Way from a rather unique perspective – the impact of the building on children, now and in generations to come. As preschool director at The Meher Schools, I have enjoyed relationships with hundreds, perhaps thousands of parents. One of our most cherished goals at The Meher Schools is to awaken children to the beneficence of beauty. We approach that high priority in many different ways – from creating beautiful gardens to employing artists from the community to teach in our elementary program.

I have been a Walnut Creek resident for 31 years, and though I now reside in Rossmoor, I did live in the Saranap area for ten years. Two of my grown children live there now. All of this led me to ask myself "What would it be like to grow up with an astoundingly beautiful building in our environment?"

As a teacher, author and lecturer about child development, I have observed that "what children see" in the world becomes part of their consciousness. Most of us remember that as children we thought of buildings, even houses, as having personalities. Some seemed happy and inviting, others a little imposing or dilapidated and lacking in care. Thinking about the childhood tendency to call an unfriendly neighborhood house "haunted" reminds of the developmental stage when children feel that buildings possess an "energy" that affects them. Many accounts of growing up in run-down neighborhoods express in hindsight children's consequent discouraged feelings about life. But what about the feelings of security and hope that inspiring buildings and places of beauty provide?

As a child I remember once or twice walking to San Francisco's St. Ignatius cathedral with my grandmother, anticipating the visual splendor and quality of stillness the building emanated. Driving by the building had the same peaceful effect. Though I couldn't have put my reaction into words, I felt tremendously inspired that a place built for the sheer effect of its beauty would exist in the midst of all the houses. Its golden columns seemed to shine a light of safety and benevolence on all who passed by.

When I looked at the website for SWA landscaping, I felt astonished thinking that children in our communitywould have frequent opportunities to pass by gardens of such simple but stunning design. I have a personal interest in these opportunities for children since both my grandchildren lives blocks from the proposed project and my daughter and son-in-law, who are planning to have children, live in the adjacent Le Boulevard complex

I can't help but think about the positive outcomes that having a church built by world class architects and landscapers will have on their neighborhood and on their growing sense of the world.

We reside in a backdrop of beauty in the Saranap, with our rolling hills and views of Mt. Diablo. However, much of the architecture children grow up with in the suburbs is happy but homogenous. In addition, increasingly, many of our buildings reflect busyness – department store shopping, grocery shopping, doing business. I treasured the childhood feelings I had about St. Ignatius as "a place apart" that encouraged delicate, even fleeting feelings of wonder about life.

My eight-year-old grandson has been to the current Sufi center twice –once for a Christmas concert and recently for a rehearsal of The Meher School's chorus before performing at Broadway Plaza and Union Square. At another time, he and I were looking at a painting of an anonymous beautiful golden building and I asked "Where do you think that building is? "Without a pause, he said, "It's the Sufi center."

Thank you for your interest in this project and for bringing a balanced, far-sided view to the application process.

Best regards,
Susie Kohl

Susie Kohl

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CONTRA COSTA

08 SEP 29 PM 1:52

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Leshun Cross
Community development Department
651 Pine St. 4th floor North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

I am sending a copy of the letter that I sent to Supervisor Uilkema about the Sufism Reoriented building project.

Thank you,
Susie Kohl
3341 Tice Creek #7
Walnut Creek, Ca

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 8/28/09

Printed name:

Business name: PETER E. KOMOR, D.D.S.
1928 Tice Valley Blvd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Address:

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5 6/15/10 (Hr)

CONTRA COSTA

2010 JUN 14 P 2:45

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed:

Date: 6/8/10

Printed Name
Maria Konstantin

Address:
4492 Snowberry Ct.
Concord, Ca. 94521

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

s 6/15/10 (4

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: _____ Date: 5-16-10

Printed Name: STAN KORICA

Address: 2414 WARRAN ROAD

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

.5 6/15/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: Nancy Korich Date: 5-16-10

Printed Name: NANCY KORICH

Address: 2414 WALKER ROAD

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (10)
08/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7-23-10

Printed name: Christine Korkos

Business name: Daskalos Men's Fashions

Address: 1243 Broadway Plaza
W.C. CA 94596

CONTRA COSTA
2010 AUG 24 P 2:18
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

I understand Sufism Reoriented will file its land use application soon, so I want to express my support by forwarding to you the letter I shared with Supervisor Uilkema.

Sincerely,

Armin Kraemer

Armin Kraemer
1336 Boulevard Way #111
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

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1336 Boulevard Way #111
Walnut Creek, CA, 94595

CONTRA COSTA
08 AUG -7 PM 12: 18
CONTRA COSTA CO CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Lashun Cross,

I understand Sufism Reoriented has filed its land use application and I wanted to indicate my support by sending to you a copy of a letter of support I sent to Supervisor Uilkema.

Thank you,

Shauna Kraemer

Shauna Kraemer

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Shannan Kral Date: 10/16/09

Printed Name SHANNAN KRAL

Address: 1667 NUALA ST.
CONCORD, CA 94518

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG -7 P 1:49

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Elizabeth Krenz Date: 8-4-09

Printed Name: ELIZABETH KRENZ

Address: 644 Center S
W.C. CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG -7 P 1:50
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: John L. Krenz Date: 08-04-09

Printed Name: JOHN L. KRENZ

Address: 644 - CENTER - ST.
WALNUT CREEK CA. 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: George M. Krivohlavek Date:

Printed Name GEOREE M. KRIVOHLAVEK

Address: 29 HONEY HILL R.
ORINDA, CA 94563

George M. Krivohlavek

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

8/2/11

CONTRA COSTA

2011 AUG -1 P 1:25

DEPT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 3/21/11

Printed Name: Ben Kronick

Address: 24 Iris Lane Walnut Creek ca 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 11/22/09

Printed Name: David Kuiken KUIKEN

Address: 3521 Melody Dr.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (PD) 07/1/10

CONTRA COSTA

2010 JUN 28 P 1:40

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Linda Kurihara Date: 6-22-2010

Printed Name LINDA LI KURIHARA

Address: 22 Camino Ct.
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 7/16/09

Printed name: Kari Pacheco

Business name: Pentalogix LLC

Address: 2960 Camino Diablo Ste 105
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

5 (#2)
08/04/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Wilfredo G. Paho Date: 9/27/09

Printed Name WILFREDO G. PAHO

Address: 1621 3RD AVE. WALNUT CREEK CA. 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (III) 7/22/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Kamal Pal Date: 11-25-09

Printed name: Kamal Pal

Business name: Svensen automotive

Address: 3297 Mount Diablo Blvd
Lafayette Ca 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

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CONTRA COSTA
08 AUG 14 AM 10:08
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

1277 Juanita Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94595-1024
August 12, 2008

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

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand you are in possession of a land use permit from Sufism Reoriented. I enclose a copy of letter sent to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of this request for land use permit.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Carol S. Palley

Carol S. Palley

1277 Juanita Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
August 9, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor:

I am writing to you in support of the proposed Sufism Reoriented sanctuary in the Saranap area. This building is profoundly important to my family and me.

I am the daughter and granddaughter of a minister. Faith was central in my life. My father was skilled in languages and read the Bible in Aramaic and Greek. It was magical for me. As he told me stories when I was a child, it seemed he knew Jesus personally. He would often point to a passage and show me how it had been mistranslated and tell me the real meaning. What resonated with me was that the life with God had to be lived each day, each moment, because in fact, He was with you all the time. When growing up I was also taught to stay informed about and involved in, my school, my town, and the politics of my state and nation.

As an adult, I feel lucky to have found Sufism Reoriented where the same values are practiced and honored. My experience in Sufism Reoriented has proved even richer as it adds sharing a long-standing community among members, a community with a sense of duty to serve the larger community in which we live. I have been a member of Sufism Reoriented since 1973 and a resident of Contra Costa County since 1975. The support for each other among the members of Sufism Reoriented is remarkable and even noted by my non-member parents. The love and acceptance I have found in this community has made me a stronger person and helped me to share compassion with families I come in contact with in my work and in the larger community.

My work as an adult has focused on drug abuse prevention, the health of families, and the education of children. I have worked at The Meher Schools since 1984, with brief stints away as I raised my own three children. My husband and I remain active members of the larger community and were

involved in the initial actions of the Saranap Community Association. We have been members off and on since and renewed our membership in the last year.

One of the unique aspects of The Meher Schools is how we accept and honor the individuality of each child. Over the years we have taken on many children that other schools found difficult and with compassion have been able to bring out the best in them. One family I remember came from a public school where they were told that their son had severe learning issues and would not likely succeed in school. In an accepting environment he excelled and is now a top student.

My life and family are here and I am so excited about the possibilities of this new sanctuary. It will bring to this community in physical form the incredible beauty of character that my husband and I have always experienced from the faith community of Sufism Reoriented. The Saranap deserves this beautiful oasis in our charming neighborhood. I cannot think of another building in this county that is as beautiful as this one will be. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Carol S. Palley

cc: Lashun Cross, Community Development Department

S

1277 Juanita Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
August 6, 2008

CONTRA COSTA
08 AUG -8 AM 11:40
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
652 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am writing in strong support of the planned new building of a church by Sufism Reoriented in what has been my neighborhood as a renter, then as a homeowner, over the past 34 years. No surprise, it is my church.

I am a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Kaiser employee. My wife and I are and have been members of the Saranap Community Association since before it changed its name. I have confidence, based on the plans that I have seen, that this sanctuary will be a beautiful addition to our neighborhood. Its landscaping and design seem harmonious with the surround and I welcome the refreshing change it will bring.

I have been associated with Sun Valley Pool and swim teams in the area and my three children have attended the White Pony/Meher Schools where their mother teaches science. It has been a great pleasure to talk with next door neighbors and others in the neighborhood who signed letters of support when I have approached them. Please know that the feelings on my block of Juanita Drive seem positive about this building project which will be around the corner and one block from where we live.

Sincerely yours,

Jonathan K. Palley

Jonathan K. Palley

Cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

8/6/2008

Lashun Cross
Community Development Dept.
651 Pine Street 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has filed its land use application with Contra Costa County.

I want to indicate my support by sending you a copy of a letter of support I sent to Supervisor Uilkema.

Thank you.

Jonathan K. Kelley

Miles Palley
1366 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA

2009 APR 20 P 1:31

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

April 15, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Lashun Cross:

I am writing to Supervisor Uilkema to express my strong support for the building project being undertaken by Sufism Reoriented. As a life-long Saranap resident, I know that they have applied for a land-use permit and ask that you register my support for its approval. I am enclosing a copy of my letter to Supervisor Uilkema with this note.

Sincerely,

Miles Palley

Miles Palley

Miles Palley
1366 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

April 15, 2009

Supervisory Gayle Uilkema
Contra Costa County, District 2
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

As a life-long resident of the Saranap neighborhood, it holds a very special place in my heart. I grew up on Juanita Drive and spent the first ten years of my life attending the Meher School. I also swam across the street from the Meher School at Sun Valley and later helped to lead that team as a coach for 7 summers. Especially through my coaching responsibilities, I have grown close with hundreds of Saranap residents. I am writing you to express my firm support for the building project Sufism Reoriented is planning in the neighborhood. The plan is beautiful, considerate, and will be a treasured addition to a long underutilized corner of Boulevard Way.

For the first ten years of my life, I benefited from the Meher School's approach to education. I was free to explore and develop my strengths, understand my weaknesses as challenges (not shortcomings), and appreciate the importance of compassion for my peers. This affirmative approach to education (and to life) left a permanent impression and has served me well ever since.

I have recently graduated from UC Riverside, with high honors and BA's in Philosophy and Psychology and this next fall I have plans to study law at UC Berkeley's Boalt Hall. The inquisitive and thoughtful nature encouraged at the Meher School has remained an instrumental element to my academic success. I have no doubts that my positive experience with the Meher School has been and continues to be repeated year after for thousands of students in our community.

Sufism's presence in the Saranap is a credit to this neighborhood's character. Their school serves children and parents alike with affordable, convenient, and top-notch care; and their new building will be an unobtrusive gem, that will enhance the neighborhood and Contra Costa in a number of ways I imagine you are already familiar with. If permitted to make the Saranap their permanent home, I know Sufism's service in the neighborhood will continue, as it has for decades, to enhance and brighten life here for many of its neighbors.

Sincerely,
Miles Palley
Miles Palley

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

July 8, 2009

Dear Ms. Cross,

We are writing to you as 25 year residents of the Saranap area in support of the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented. While we are not members of the Sufi community, we firmly believe that Sufism Reoriented has the same right to create a new place of worship in their (our) community as any other religious organization.

In our tenure as residents of the Saranap we have had many interactions with the Sufi community as neighbors, with our children attending the White Pony School, and raising our children with theirs. They are a gentle, non-proselytizing, committed member of our community, and the Saranap is a better place for their presence.

Just as their existing place of worship has had little to no impact on our community through the years, we trust that the architectural and site considerations that have been proposed will result in a similar outcome. Given Sufism Reoriented's long term positive influence on the Saranap community, your positive support of the proposed new sanctuary is respectfully requested.

Best Regards,

R.A. Panero

Robert A. Panero
#7 Evergreen Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CM Panero

Christine M. Panero

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -9 P 1:04
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Eric Papke Date: 09/16/2009

Printed name: Eric Papke

Business name: Image Excellence

Address: 1038-1040 Brown Ave.
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S TU
11/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 10/26/10

Printed name: Mike Park

Business name: Locust St Deli - Cafe

Address: 1552 Locust St. W.C.
W.C. CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
2011 NOV 22 PM 12:36

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: Robert A. Pargett Date: 9/5/09

Printed Name: ROBERT A PARGETT

Address: 2842 Acacia Rd W.C. 94595

Robert Pargett
2842 Acacia Rd

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

ROSE PLACE GARDEN DESIGN

40 Meek Place, Lafayette CA 94549 • Phone 925 323-7708 • carolynparker71@hotmail.com

CONTRA COSTA

08 OCT 15 PM 1:16

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

S

Ms. Lashun Cross
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

October 12, 2008

Dear Ms. Cross,

Enclosed is a copy of the letter that I wrote to Gail Uilkema, which details my support for the new sanctuary being built by Sufism Reoriented.

Respectfully,

Carolyn Parker

Carolyn Parker

ROSE PLACE GARDEN DESIGN

40 Meek Place, Lafayette CA 94549 • Phone 925 323-7708 • carolynparker71@hotmail.com

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553

February 21, 2008

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I've recently seen the plans for the new building complex Sufism Reoriented will be constructing in my neighborhood. I couldn't be happier.

I've lived across the street from the Meher School since 1984. The children at the school helped inspire me to grow a beautiful garden. I thought if they passed by pretty flowers on their way to school, it would leave a lasting impression. My garden went on to inspire me to write books about roses, and become a garden designer. I also write a monthly rose column in the Contra Costa Times.

It's exciting to imagine such a harmonious and elegant use of the three-acre parcel. I'm also happy that the Sufis have taken so much care in how the building impacts the immediate environment, as well as the earth. Their research into constructing the project as "green" as possible is commendable. I'm looking forward to seeing how it progresses.

I live only a stone's throw from the Hidden Oaks development. I'm especially relieved that the land the Sufis own will not be a developer's dream for financial glory.

I think the sanctuary planned will have a positive impact on the neighborhood and the surrounding community for years to come.

Respectfully,

Carolyn Parker

5

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL -7 PM 2:13

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am sending you a copy of the letter that I wrote to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the building project proposed by Sufism Reoriented. I hope it is helpful to you.

Sincerely,

Charles L. Parker

Charles L. Parker

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I would like to express my support of the proposed building project on Boulevard Way at Kinney Drive. I have rented for thirty years in the Saranap area. I consider this area to be home and value the stability of this neighborhood.

I am also a member of Sufism Reoriented. Our numbers do not increase much from year to year, but over the past decades, we have outgrown the building at 1300 Boulevard Way, which was too small to begin with. The new building would be a positive solution to this situation while beautifying a part of the neighborhood in need of a facelift.

I hope that you will give this project serious consideration. As you will see, the structure and surrounding grounds are designed to be beautifully unobtrusive, and yet one day will be an area landmark. I thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Charles L. Parker

cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

3 LC

June 4, 2008

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUN -9 PM 1:47

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of support for the proposed new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented. I have lived in the Saranap area for more than 25 years, the last 18 years on Island Court. My husband and I raised two children. They attended The Meher Schools, Walnut Creek Intermediate and now attend Las Lomas High School.

For five years I operated a speakers agency & event planning firm at 1308 Boulevard Way. For the last 8 years I have served as Development Director for The Wellness Community and the California Symphony. I recently accepted a new position as Director of Development for the National Fragile X Foundation located at 1615 Bonanza Street.

I have been involved with numerous business and civic organizations including the Walnut Creek Chamber of Commerce and I have been a member of the Contra Cost Council for more than 15 years. I support the Council's mission to preserve and promote the economic vitality and the quality of life of this wonderful community we live in. I have admired your dedication to this community and to these same, important issues.

I believe that this beautifully designed church will greatly enhance the character of our neighborhood and add to the quality of life in our Saranap community. Sufism Reoriented has been a wonderful and valued neighbor for more than 30 years and The Meher Schools is just one example of their commitment to our neighborhood. I have had the opportunity to talk with many of my neighbors and business associates about the proposed project and the response has been very favorable.

So I encourage you to support this wonderful project that creates a building with timeless beauty and something we can all feel proud is a part of our community. No one has been harmed by a beautiful building; in the long run everyone wins!

Sincerely,

Judith

Judith Parker
25 Island Court
Walnut Creek CA 94595
Cc Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, Ca 94553

10/24/08

S

CONTRA COSTA
08 OCT 27 PM 1:00
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

To Ms. Lashun Cross

I'm sending you a copy of the letter of support for the Sufism Reoriented Land use permit application

Gary Parker

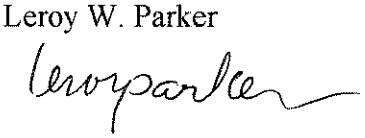
3144 Tice Creek Dr. #3
W.C. CA 94595

Hello Gayle,

I've been a home owner in the Saranap area for about 30 years. I have been an art professor at San Jose State University for 38 years. My art work and activities have been published many times in the Contra Costa Times, San Jose Mercury News, San Francisco Chronicle, Oakland Tribune and other publications. My wife, Carolyn, writes a monthly column on gardening for the Contra Costa Times. Everyone seems to love our garden at the corner of Leland Drive and Meek Place across from The Meher Schools, which features Carolyn's amazing roses.

We are members of Sufism Reoriented. We moved here years ago so that our daughters, now grown, could have a good environment for their education and we could be close to our sanctuary. They went to the White Pony/Meher Schools. As a beauty conscious artist I am very pleased and impressed with the new sanctuary design. I feel it will be a plus to the community. My father was a black Southern Baptist preacher and I grew up in his churches in various locations in the South. So this sanctuary of Sufism Reoriented where everyone, no matter what their religious orientation, is welcome; is not only beautiful to me in its exterior form but also in its interior form. All my best.

Leroy W. Parker



S 6/15/10

CONTRA COSTA

2010 JUN -9 P 2:14

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Karen R. Parkhurst

Date: 5/7/10

Printed Name
Karen R. Parkhurst

Address:
10 Green Valley Dr
Lafayette, Ca 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

S
X

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: Oct 29 '09

Printed name: ML Parr

Business name: ML Parr

Address: 2263 Blvd Cir #24
Walnut Creek CA 94596

CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV -2 P 2:34
CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

SH
9/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 9-10-10

Printed name: Homeira Pourshahmiri

Business name: Grate full hair

Address: 1889 N. Main St WC CA 94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: SP Date: 9/22/09

Printed Name Shahesta Parwak

Address: 1904 Yellowstone Ct
Antioch, CA 94509

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed:

Date: 24 Aug 09

Printed Name: J PASQUALE

Address: 1777 Tice Valley Blvd
Walnut Creek 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Cynthia A. Pastor, MFT

Psychotherapy Lic. # MFC 19888
Tel (925) 947-6853
1280 Boulevard Way Suite 212
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA

08 OCT 27 PM 12:59

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

S

October 23, 2008

Mr. Lashun Cross
Community Development Dept.
651 Pine Street 4th Fl. North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Mr. Cross,

I am enclosing a letter that I wrote to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented. I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application and I wanted you to have a copy of my letter for your records.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Pastor, MFT

Cynthia Pastor, MFT

Cynthia A. Pastor, MFT

Psychotherapy Lic. # MFC 19888
Tel (925) 947-6853
1280 Boulevard Way Suite 212
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

October 23, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to you as a professional who has been working in the Saranap for over 20 years, as well as a resident who lives within a couple of blocks of the proposed sanctuary site for Sufism Reoriented. I have also served Contra Costa County as a psychotherapist as part of the Aids Task Force (the name at inception about 25 years ago) where I worked with volunteers who served Aids patients. As part of this group I served on the Board and conducted an Aids support group in my office for over 8 years. My children were raised in the Saranap and they both attended Meher Schools from age 2 until they graduated from their 5th grade class. I have volunteered at Meher Schools office as well as participated on a cleaning team each week. As a consequence, I know The Meher Schools community very well. I have only the highest regard for the teachers' integrity and the level of excellence with which they conduct themselves. Everyday that they are with our children, they model through their actions the principles of cooperation, harmony and love, for each other, the children, and our precious planet. I know that our children absorb these ideals on a very deep level because they see them lived out in their daily lives at school.

I believe that the sanctuary that Sufism Reoriented is proposing to build embodies these qualities in physical form. The beauty of the building itself, as well as the effort to harmonize with the natural landscape and utilize many of the most advanced "green features" that are currently available, reflect the same principles shared within the Meher Schools community. I couldn't imagine a more positive presence in our neighborhood! What a loss it would be for the Saranap if we were to loose such fine neighbors and such a wonderful school! I can only imagine the lasting positive effect it would have to add this precious gem to our neighborhood, created by an architectural firm of world renown within a beautiful, quiet garden for all to enjoy. I urge you to support the building of Sufism Reoriented's beautiful sanctuary.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Pastor, MFT

DAVID B. PASTOR
ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR AT LAW

CONTRA COSTA
08 JUL -9 PM 1:16

1280 BOULEVARD WAY, SUITE 212
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94595-1102
(925) 932-3346 FAX (925) 932-9220

July 8, 2008

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4 th Floor
Martinez, CA 94553

Re Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary

Dear Ms. Cross:

I have learned that Sufism Reoriented filed its land use application and I wanted to express my support for the project by forwarding the letter I shared with Supervisor Uilkema.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions on this matter.

Very truly yours,

David B. Pastor

DBP:me

DAVID B. PASTOR
ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR AT LAW

1280 BOULEVARD WAY, SUITE 212
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94595-1102
(925) 932-3346 FAX (925) 932-9220

July 7, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Re: Sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I have lived and worked a half a block from the proposed site of the new sanctuary for 28 years. I have seen the beautiful materials about the new sanctuary that Sufism Reoriented would like to build down the street. I am delighted. I am struck by the simplicity and beauty of the building. The landscaped grounds and open space surrounding a place of worship emanate a feeling of peacefulness that will benefit the neighborhood. The design has a timeless elegance that is rare and will be a point of pride for all of us who live in the neighborhood. I often walk my dog in the neighborhood. Some areas have gone into disrepair. My sense is that when the new sanctuary is built the whole neighborhood will be uplifted both as people appreciate its beauty and are inspired to improve their property.

When I traveled in Europe in 1972 I noticed how nothing was wasted because they recycled everything. They were thinking green back then. From that time until now I have had a natural interest in living a green lifestyle. I am pleased to see that the new sanctuary will be one of the greenest buildings in the county. Some of the green features I have never heard of before. This shows me the care and effort Sufism Reoriented is going to, to see that the new sanctuary will be efficient as well as beautiful. Finding a way to successfully park on grass seems a perfect example.

I have voted for you both in this election and in the past elections when you were running for Supervisor. I just wanted to let you know how happy I am at the improvement this building will be for the neighborhood.

Very truly yours,

David B. Pastor

DBP:me

Cc. Ms. Cross

COPY

October 22, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine St. Room 108A
Martinez, Ca. 94553

Dear Ms. Uilkema

I am pleased to write that I strongly support the new sanctuary being built by Sufism Reoriented. I am a second year Diablo Valley College student and have lived in the Saranap on the same block, about five hundred yards from the proposed site, for almost twenty years now. I have benefited greatly from all the service and help that Sufism has given to the community. I attended the Meher Schools for nine years, from the time I turned two until I graduated when I was ten. It was an amazing experience and I learned many valuable lessons that have stayed with me for my entire life and have shaped me into trying to be a loving, giving, and motivated member of society. I was given a very deep understanding of life through the time and care that was given to me at the Meher Schools by all of the loving staff. I am forever grateful to Sufism for making me such a strong person through helping me to understand putting love and care into everything that I do.

I have seen the materials for the newly proposed sanctuary on Boulevard way and am highly impressed. I think that having a Sanctuary in the neighborhood will be a vast improvement. Its soft shape, and open park like setting looks like a joy to pass by on my way to school each morning and calming to pass on my way back in the evening.
I really sincerely hope that this sanctuary is built. The Saranap is such a great neighborhood to live in but I think that it lacks a central point of beauty that everyone can appreciate. The sanctuary will give everyone something to aspire to. Whether it be improving their own house or the whole community.

I am confident that Sufism Reoriented will do an excellent job making a beautiful and well cared for building with the same care, attention to detail, and understanding they gave to me during my time at the Meher Schools. I wish it were built already so I could enjoy it.

Sincerely,

Nathan Pastor

1312C Blvd Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

S

CONTRA COSTA
1336 Boulevard Way #205
Walnut Creek, CA. 94595

2010 JUN 16 PM 1:32

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross
County Planner
Community Development Department
651 Pine street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Lashun Cross:

I've learned that Sufism Reoriented will be filling its land use application soon and I wanted to express my support for the project by forwarding the letter I've sent to Supervisor Uilkema.

Respectfully,

Denagh Patrick

Denagh Patrick

1336 Boulevard Way #205
Walnut Creek, CA. 94595

June 12, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A.
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I'm writing about the proposed building of a church by Sufism Reoriented in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek.

Because I'm a member of Sufism Reoriented and a teacher at the Meher Schools I have lived in the Saranap area for over 26 years. I'm so thankful to be able to live in this community close to my place of worship and work.

I have sung with the Consortium of the Arts Chorus of Sufism Reoriented for many years. Within the past two years we have given concerts at Grace Cathedral and twice at Union Square in San Francisco. This lovely new building would give us a dedicated space for rehearsal. In our current building many different kinds of activities have to share the same space. It is exciting to think of the chorus being able to do more, better.

I know you care about your district and want what is best for all its residents! I hope you will agree that this is a beautiful, serene addition to the neighborhood!

Respectfully,

Denagh Patrick

Denagh Patrick

cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

3

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: L Patton Date: 9/29/09

Printed Name Laura Patton

Address: 330 Tahos Rd
Orinda CA 94563

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: John Patterson (John Patterson)

Date: 6-20-09

Address: 28 Acorn
W.C., CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (th) 10/07/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 9/26/10

Printed Name: MATTHEW PATTERSON

Address: 1381 JUANITA DR
WALNUT CREEK CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/31/09

Address: 1120 Boulevard way
walnut creek, CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S(H) 11/08/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: J Peabody Date: 10/20/2010

Printed Name

Janice Peabody

Address:

3419 Silver Maple Dr.
Danville, CA 94506

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

758 Charlton Dr
Pleasant Hill, CA.94523

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUN 30 P 12: 11

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

June 22, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA. 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Debra Pease, RN

758 Charlton Drive
Pleasant Hill, CA. 94523

June 22, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street. Room 108A
Martinez, CA. 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing in support of the sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented. I have been a member of Sufism Reoriented for over twenty years. Although I have been a homeowner in Pleasant Hill since 1988, I spend much time in the Saranap area, visiting friends, shopping, worshiping, seeing doctors and conducting other business. My children attended The Meher Schools from the time they were infants until they graduated in the fifth grade. The school provided an excellent education in a loving environment. Other programs that were offered, such as the breakfast program and the aftercare program provided an immeasurable service, since I was a single parent at the time, allowing my children to thrive while I worked as a registered nurse at a local hospital. I also volunteered at the school for a number of years and my children were members of the Sun Valley Pool swim team.

Sufism Reoriented has outgrown its current center, which was originally a restaurant and never meant to be a place of worship. In fact, it was never adequatefor the activities of Sufism Reoriented. The new church is beautiful, unimposing and green, in a park-like setting. It would improve this older neighborhood by making it more attractive. The proposed building would not increase traffic. The current center is only one block away and the membership will be the same. In fact, it will be less as Sufism Reoriented has instituted a walking and carpool plan that reduces traffic over past use. This structure would be a wonderful asset to the neighborhood.

Thank you for your support of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Debra Pease, RN

5

Daniela Penati
539 Churchill Downs Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

June 18th, 2008

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

LeShun Cross
Contra Costa County
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear LeShun Cross,

I sent you a letter regarding the MEHER SCHOOLS at 999 Leland Drive, Lafayette, circa two weeks ago, the jest of it being that in order for the school to remain viable, they need to have their sanctuary in the neighborhood. But land use permit applications are being denied to Sufism Reoriented.

The MEHER schools provide high quality childcare and elementary education at affordable tuition, to the Alameda and Contra Costa Counties since 1975. My three-year-old attends the school.

I never received a response. I'm assuming that despite this lack of response you are giving the matter its due consideration, bearing in mind that this is a fine, fine school providing an invaluable service to the community.

Sincerely,

Daniela Penati

Daniela Penati
539 Churchill Downs Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

08 JUN 17 AM 10:45
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

June 18th, 2008

LeShun Cross
Contra Costa County
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear LeShun Cross,

I sent you a letter regarding the MEHER SCHOOLS at 999 Leland Drive, Lafayette, circa two weeks ago, the jest of it being that in order for the school to remain viable, they need to have their sanctuary in the neighborhood. But land use permit applications are being denied to Sufism Reoriented.

The MEHER schools provide high quality childcare and elementary education at affordable tuition, to the Alameda and Contra Costa Counties since 1975. My three-year-old attends the school.

I never received a response. I'm assuming that despite this lack of response you are giving the matter its due consideration, bearing in mind that this is a fine, fine school providing an invaluable service to the community.

Sincerely,

Daniela Penati

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Copy FOR:
LASHUN CROSS

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signature Prasha Patel Date 7/15/09

Business name Diablo Mtn Inn

Address 2079 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Walnut Creek, CA 94596

3

CONTRA COSTA

2009 NOV 12 P 3:03

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: mpz
(Mike Pereira)
Address: 1362 OAKLAND BLVD
W.C.

Date: 11/1/09

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Valerie A. Pennebaker Date: 1/13/10

Printed Name Valerie A. Pennebaker

Address: 201 Canyon Creek Ct.
San Ramon, CA 94583

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

May 15, 2009
Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

As an alumnus of Meher Schools and the daughter of a member of Sufism Reoriented, I would like to recommend that you support the new sanctuary for Sufism.

I gained so many things from my experiences with the Sufis and the wonderful school. I was very shy as a child, and very sensitive – easily hurt. The loving and kind teachers drew me out and encouraged me, and soon I was confidently performing in plays and choral performances. I was a member of an acting troupe led by Sandra Starr, who made beautiful puppets and taught us to put on plays with them at public libraries and other venues. I was the female lead in *Aladdin and the Magic Lamp* performed at the Willows in Concord.

We also frequented the stage at the Sufi Center. Once I played Mary in a Christmas play, and had a role in *Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory.*

I was well prepared to go on to public schools and eventually received my MA in Social Ecology from U.C. Irvine.

In so many ways my life has been enriched and inspired by the work of Sufism Reoriented. You can be confident that they will always be a great asset to the neighborhood and community

Sincerely,

Cosima Perham

Cosima Perham
1620 Arkell Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

cc: Ms. LaShun Cross, Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 MAY -8 P 1:21
BOARD

5

July 1, 2008

NTRA COSTA
08 JUL -7 PM 2:13
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I've been a member of Sufism Reoriented since 1972. Before that, I was a seeker trying to live as Jesus taught and lived, and trying to understand the parables and others of his teachings. The teaching and guidance I have received as a member of Sufism Reoriented have given me much insight into these puzzles. It has provided superb role models for living the life that is pleasing to the Christ. Sufism Reoriented does not take away from a person's religion, but enhances it, strengthens one's commitment, and deepens one's understanding and appreciation. It also offers many opportunities for service to others.

My daughter attended The Meher Schools, and was greatly benefited by the experience. I also served for six years as secretary to the principal. It's a wonderful school.

We are so fortunate that such a famous architectural firm accepted our building project. I hope you will support it, too.

Sincerely,

Nancy Perham

Nancy Perham
1620 Arkell Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

P.S. I carpool to the Sufi Center.

cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

Lareen Fender's The Ballet School
1357 N Main St
Walnut Creek, CA 94596-4676

S
X

September 8, 2009

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

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am the manager and co owner of The Ballet School in Walnut Creek and have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented. I appreciate having received this information and am writing to let you know that I am in support of this building project.

Sincerely yours,

Jennifer Perry Perry

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

We have had so many students from Sufism, over the years!! We feel very honored to help in any way we can. Please consider this very seriously!!

March 12, 2009

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

2009 MAR 13 A 11:37
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT
CONTRA COSTA

Subject: Proposed Project of Sufism Reoriented to Build a New Sanctuary Across from the Intersection of Boulevard Way and Kinney Drive

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am a 30-year resident of Saranap. I support the continued existence of Sufism Reoriented in our community. I very much like the proposed design of the new building.

Having said that, I am opposed to the proposed location and I am opposed to the proposed parking and landscaping. I am also opposed to the application which would allow several residential lots to be combined into a single, larger lot.

The proposed sanctuary, were it closer to the existing sanctuary, would front on a 4-lane straight stretch of roadway. In my opinion, such a location is adequate for a building of this size. To place the proposed 66,000 square-foot sanctuary--near what is already a dangerous corner--is a disservice to the entire community. While certain mitigations could be implemented, I do not believe they could possibly be adequate given the size of what is proposed.

No variances should be granted for parking because the County's responsibility is to plan for the facility whoever is the user. Who is to say that occupant will always be Sufism Reoriented? There are many, many instances of churches being sold. The County must plan for the size of the proposed facility. This is why planning standards are created. And standards, such as for parking, need to be enforced by the County.

The seventy-two proposed parking spaces cannot possibly be adequate for a 66,000 square-foot facility. And, if parking were required for several hundred cars, or more, as this sized facility would require, then the amount of ingress and egress at this dangerous corner would be even worse.

The pavers proposed for the parking area are an interesting alternative. I do not believe them adequate for a facility of this size. County standards should prevail.

And, heritage-sized trees should not be removed from this site in my opinion.

Also, the Saranap neighborhood covets its rural nature. A 66,000 square-foot facility is out of scale for this specific location. People have a right to expect that only appropriately sized facilities will be allowed near single family homes. While churches are allowed in the R-10 zone, combining lots so that a huge facility can be built is not in

the best interest of the neighbors. This should not be allowed when other options are available. And, the combination of lots should not be allowed in light of the needed variances.

Finally, I request that the County mandate story poles for this project. Some of the drawings being used to promote the project are depicted from perspectives which do not adequately portray the dimensions involved.

Thank you for considering my opinions on this matter.

Sincerely,

Patricia R. Perry

Patricia R. Perry
M.C.P. and former A.I.C.P.
30 Meek Place
Lafayette, California 94549
925-944-9753

cc: Gayle B. Uilkema
Supervisor
Contra Costa County
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez CA 94553-1229

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -2 P 3:15

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

6/22/09

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of Sufism Reoriented's application for a Land Use Permit for their new sanctuary.

Sincerely,

Ellen Peskin

Ellen Peskin,
Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist

2925 Golden Rain Road, #4
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

July 22, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine St., Rm. 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing in support of Sufism Reoriented's proposed sanctuary.

After living in various places in the Bay Area for over forty years, I moved to Rossmoor 2 years ago to be closer to Sufism Reoriented.

I have seen the plans for the proposed new sanctuary and find them beautiful, inspiring and unique in the universal design and sensitivity to the environment.

I believe it will be a wonderful addition to the Saranap neighborhood while providing adequate and updated facilities for the various activities of Sufism Reoriented.

Sincerely,

Ellen Peskin

Ellen Peskin,
Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist

5 (HD) 08/04/11

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: _____ Date: 8/3/09

Printed Name: Robert Peters

Address: 111 Camino Posada
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Rev. Wenby Peters

Date: 10/2/09

Printed Name
Wenby Peters

Address:
140 Flora Ave #235
Walnut Creek CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Thomas E Peters

Date: Oct 17, 2009

Printed Name

Thomas E. Peters

Address:

909 Harbor View Dr
Martinez, CA 94553

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

08 OCT 20 PM 1:24

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

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790 El Verano Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

October 17, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine St., 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am enclosing a copy of the letter I wrote to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the proposed Sufism Reoriented church.

Sincerely,

Hana Peterson

Hana Peterson

790 El Verano Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

August 21, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

This is a letter of support for the proposed building of a church by Sufism Reoriented.

I am a member of Sufism Reoriented and I am the Office Manager of The Meher Schools.

When I imagine the proposed new structure in our future, I feel a kind of awe. The design is simply beautiful and I am so impressed with the environmentally healthy features it will offer. I love thinking of the chance to worship and attend chorus rehearsals and other programs in such a pristinely elegant building. The design not only inspires but lends support to the spirit of the principles of Sufism Reoriented and to its members in celebrating that spirit.

I believe that the proposed structure and its park-like surround would come to be seen by our neighborhood and city as a beautiful and inspiring asset.

Thank you for your dedication to our county and for your support of this project.

Yours sincerely,

Hana Peterson

Hana Peterson

Cc: Lashun Cross

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CONTRA COSTA

08 SEP 30 PM 1:00

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

790 El Verano Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

September 29, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine St., 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am enclosing a letter I have written to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the proposed Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary.

Sincerely,

Hana Peterson

Hana Peterson

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790 El Verano Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

September 29, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

This is a letter of support for the proposed building of a church by Sufism Reoriented.

I am a member of Sufism Reoriented and I am the Office Manager of The Meher Schools.

When I imagine the proposed new structure in our future, I feel a kind of awe. The design is simply beautiful and I am so impressed with the environmentally healthy features it will offer. I love thinking of the chance to worship and attend chorus rehearsals and other programs in such a pristinely elegant building. The design seems to not only inspire but to lend support to the spirit of the principles of Sufism Reoriented, and to its members in celebrating that spirit.

I believe that the proposed structure and its park-like surround would come to be seen by our neighborhood and city as a beautiful and inspiring asset.

Thank you for your dedication to our county and for your support of this project.

Yours sincerely,

Hana Peterson

CC: Lashun Cross
Development department

James W Peterson
790 El Verano Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

9-1

Dear Planner Cross,

I have learned that Sufism Reoriented has filed its land use application to build a new center. I wanted you to receive a copy of the letter I sent to Supervisor Uilkema.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

James Peterson

LC

S

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema

651 Pine Street,

Room 108A

Martinez, CA 94553

MIKA LOSIK

08 SEP -9 PM 1:13

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

August 21, 2008

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am writing to let you know my support for the new sanctuary of Sufism Reoriented in the Saranap neighborhood of Walnut Creek. I have owned my home near Indian Valley School since 1974 and have taught elementary school in Contra Costa since 1971. I have a masters degree in Curriculum and have authored the book THE SECRET LIFE OF KIDS and over a dozen magazine articles on educational topics. My latest article is called "Teaching World Religion in the Public Schools." Incidentally, I was also one of the four founding teachers of The Meher Schools elementary program in 1977. I currently teach K-1-2 at Canyon School.

As a member of Sufism Reoriented since 1970, I remember well acquiring the old Iron Gate Restaurant on Boulevard way. That building has been remodeled and updated several times, but is definitely too cramped for our current needs. I am so very proud of the amazing design of our new sanctuary from the New York architectural firm of Philip Johnson and Alan Ritchie.

The building is at once spectacularly beautiful and, with its unique, largely underground design, it is very unassuming as well. I think the building will lift the neighborhood and be a feather in the cap of the city of Walnut Creek as a whole. Also, finally Sufism Reoriented will have a home large enough to house our various needs. It will even include a fine bookstore which will be open to the public.

I know this proposed building is in your district, and I would respectfully urge you to support the project.

Sincerely,

James W. Peterson

James W. Peterson

790 El Verano Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

October 14, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine St., 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am enclosing a letter I have written to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the proposed Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary.

Sincerely,

James W. Peterson

James Peterson

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Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Raymond C Petersen.

181 El Dorado Rd
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

(2)
*7/18/11

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Kristine Rettersson Date: July 9.2011

Printed Name Kristine Rettersson

Address: 1371 Sunset Loop
Lafayette, CA · 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2011 JUL 12 A 11:11

S (A) 6/3/10

CONTRA COSTA

2010 JUN -2 P 3:02

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 5/14/10

Printed name: Kien Pham

Business name: Forever young -N- Skin Care

Address: 3409 Mt Diablo Blvd Ste

May 11, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

2009 MAY 13 P 4: 48

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA. 94553

Dr. Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufism reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Arlette Phillips

Arlette Phillips

4493 River Ash Ct.
Concord, CA. 94521
May 11, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I feel pleased to write you regarding Sufism Reoriented's application to erect a new house of worship. I am a participating member of Sufism Reoriented. I have seen the plans and heard about the care and work that has been taken to plan not only a beautiful and harmonious setting and building, but also a building and grounds that are environmentally conscious and green.

Great care has been taken to reflect our beliefs in the building and grounds. We hold dear the tenets of love, kindness, beauty, and humility. We are non-proselytizing and seek to be harmonious and non-obtrusive in our neighborhood. I feel this beautiful sanctuary will be a lovely addition to an area sadly lacking in a lovely place to walk, sit in peace, beauty and contemplation.

Please consider these details when making decisions about our sanctuary.
I look forward to perhaps meeting you some day and enjoying our lovely grounds together.

Sincerely,

Arlette Phillips

Arlette Phillips

Cc: Lashun Cross, Community Developement

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 8/30/09

Printed Name: Dallas Phillips

Address: 1277 el Curtola blvd.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

July 22, 2009

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am a former student of the Meher Schools and am writing this letter to express my strong support for the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek.

The four years I spent at the Meher Schools not only prepared me academically for the future, but also gave me confidence, compassion and an appreciation for the arts. I went on to receive my undergraduate degree at UC San Diego and an MBA from UC Berkeley. I now work for an international Fortune 100 Company and have 3 children of my own. I have never experienced such a loving, supportive learning environment as at the Meher Schools.

I urge you to approve the new sanctuary so that the Sufi Community (with its generous volunteers) can continue to support the Meher Schools. Such activity will only benefit the Saranap community and society as a whole. Sufism Reoriented has always acted in a respectful, low-key manner, and their physical presence will only enhance the area.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Meredith Phillips

Meredith Phillips
3127 Aaron Drive
Rocklin, CA 95765

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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June 29, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for a new sanctuary. I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of that application.

Respectfully,

Judy Phillips

Judy Phillips
Washington, DC
20011

5916 16TH ST N.W.

Enclosure

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -1 P 1:55
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

June 28, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

Do you remember a student in your Principles of Participatory Management class at John F. Kennedy University School of Business (spring 1990) who brazenly stood up and answered back when you were demonstrating a confrontational, in-your-face management style? That same student became so interested in the class that she asked you to sponsor her in an independent study unit on current, local trends in participative management. You graciously accepted and supported her (me) in that endeavor.

The principles we explored under your direction still inform my current work for the State Department in Washington, DC. After John F. Kennedy University, I followed with pleasure as your own career progressed from BART (was it?), to the Lafayette City Council, to Mayor, and then to County Supervisor.

The Saranap neighborhood was my home then (1983-2005). I still own a condominium on Boulevard Way. I chose to live there because Sufism Reoriented has played a vital and immeasurable role in my life for the past 40 years. Two of my children attended The Meher Schools where they received a well-rounded education and excellent preparation for life. Once they had grown, I had time to participate in regular, volunteer classroom cleaning teams at the school.

So I am an enthusiastic supporter of the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented. On a practical level, the property values in the area can only be enhanced by such a lovely building project.

On a more personal level, most of my family and many dear friends still live in northern California, and I visit whenever life permits. I especially look forward to visiting and worshipping in the new church. The design strikes me as an outer representation of the dearest place within my heart. And it seems ideally suited to praise and contemplation.

Thank you for your help and guidance in business management studies at JFKU. I wish you all the best.

Judy Phillips

Judy Phillips

Cc: Lashun Cross

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 14 P 1:42

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 8/9/09

Printed Name: Rusty Phillips

Address: 120 El Dorado Rd
Walnut Creek, CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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+

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 11/21/09

Printed Name: Susan Phillips

Address: 1277 El Curtola Blvd
Lafayette Ca 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

Nadya Phillips – Images
1295 Boulevard Way, Suite E
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

May 15, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am writing to express my enthusiasm for the new church building proposed by Sufism Reoriented to be located a block west of their current site.

I have been an artist since I decided that it was my vocation at the age of 14 when I was a student in the second class to graduate from Miramonte High School in Moraga. I went on to pursue undergraduate and graduate studies at UC Berkeley in the 1960's. In all the years since then, the quest for beauty has been a strong focus in my life. I have an art studio across the street from the current church building on Boulevard Way.

I have also lived in the Saranap area for many years and my husband and I purchased a condominium at 1305 Boulevard Way where we have lived for the last twelve years. Being so oriented towards aesthetics, I have often been bothered by the sometimes ramshackle appearance of the neighborhood; though I have noticed that the building and grounds of Sufism Reoriented have always been beautifully maintained. So it seems stupendous to me that we could have such an icon of beauty designed by someone like Alan Ritchie right here on Boulevard Way. The circular design for this proposed sanctuary reminds me of such classical buildings as the Pantheon in Rome or the Jefferson Memorial in Washington, DC – though of course it is on a much more modest scale more suited to our suburban environment. But what a gift! I think the tranquility embodied in this design will radiate out and lift our whole community to a new level.

Also of great concern to me are environmental issues related to the impact we humans are having on nature and on the other creatures with whom we share the planet. I am very impressed with the consideration that has been given to these

issues in the design for the new church and for its landscaping. Any plan that shows this kind of attention to its environmental impact would have my vote! I hope that you also will feel moved to support this splendid project.

Many thanks,

Hugh Phillips

cc: Ms Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

S

Phillips D. Phillips
1305 Boulevard Way, Apt. #115
Walnut Creek, CA 94595-1227
(925) 944-7140

May 21, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A,
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms Uilkema,

I base the following impassioned opinions on hard won experience: I am a retired educator and published poet/writer with a dual career in teaching (Master's degree in Creative Writing and Teaching Credential in English, K-12, from San Francisco State University) and also as an Employee Assistance Professional with the Depts. Of Defense, Community and Family Resource Centers (trained at the Academy of Health Sciences at Ft. Sam Houston, Texas) for counseling groups and individuals in mental-health healing of soldiers and civilians.

I am now 74 with at least one-half century in the world of work; and in the world of family have four children (2 sons and 2 daughters) and four grandchildren (3 boys and a girl). I have made my home in Pleasant Hill and Walnut Creek for the past 25 years, with 17 of those years in the Saranap district. My children have attended the White Pony/Meher Schools and gone on to WCI and Las Lomas H.S. and then into the U.C. system to graduate into professional careers.

One of my keen pleasures is to have been a volunteer for several years as a weekend custodian at the Meher School where the atmosphere of elegance and refinement produces a harmony which emanates from each classroom and the peace of which actually inspired several of my poems. This is the kind of energy I expect will pervade our community, as the Alan Ritchie architectural construction proceeds to produce the lovely new sanctuary and "green" grounds. Such architecture the poet-philosopher Goethe called, "Music in Space"!

I am delighted to be writing this letter to you in support of the proposed sanctuary project in our Saranap neighborhood where I own a condo with my wife on Boulevard Way. My interest in this elegant building and grounds, with its "green" features has a very specific, and personal focus for me: My belief—which is probably very obvious, but which I believe

important to underscore-- is that the improvement of our neighborhood will affect our children growing up here in very positive ways.

I believe the improvement in our neighborhood will have a very significant, healthful, deterrent effect against influences from the barrage of very negative media images skewing our young person's open and vulnerable imaginations. As youth's minds are full of wonder and a tendency toward the "good"the proposed sanctuary will encourage the children toward that "good", with its gentle and persuasive aesthetic. Our children who are challenged by the negative each day will have that burden lightened for them by the sight of the sanctuary and the high principles it represents.

The beauty and lovely orderliness of the sanctuary project, situated so strategically at the proposed corner, will enhance the entire neighborhood, eliciting greater pride in the entire surrounding community. I am convinced that there will be a positive impact not just for immediate area but also in a widening radius of well being. "Improve Saranap, improve the world!" I boldly muse; believing, that eventually, the parking lots of all our area schools will want to emulate the "green" parking lot of the new sanctuary.

You may detect that I am a poet who has a tendency toward lifting the spirits through acts of creativity; as the fine poet Keats put it, "Beauty is truth, truth beauty,--that is all Ye know on earth, and all ye need to know." Yet, in my poetic sense of our own day, I happen to believe we need to know a little more than Keats imagined; as we need to work more constructively toward a greater habitat of health as well as beauty-- which I take the new sanctuary's surround and environmentally beneficial life promoting clearance to be exemplary! —And that's the truth of it! Thank you Mr. Keats.

This "architectural music", as Goethe mentioned, flowing from the new sanctuary will certainly affect our young people as well as ourselves and match what my son Martyn said to me one day as we looked out over our neighborhood, "Dad, you've got to believe we live in one of the most beautiful valleys in the world." He opened my eyes more than Keats or Goethe ever could; and now, imagine, we have a chance to enhance that beauty!

Respectfully with warm regards,

cc: Ms. Lashun Cross

Paul Pho
2559 Doidge Avenue
Pinole, California 94504

June 25, 2009

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I recently learned that Sufism Reoriented is filing a land use application with the County. I heartily support their project, so I wrote Supervisor Uilkema. I learned that your work is aided if you too received direct feedback, so here is a copy of my letter:

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I recently learned of Sufism Reoriented's wish to use land on Boulevard Way to build a church. I have seen photos of their plans and been on the site where they would like to build. I support their plan and hope you will too. For the past five years, I have worked with and for members of Sufism. They care a great deal about beauty and enhancing the environment.

Thank you for respecting and considering my support of Sufism Reoriented's proposed building project.

Sincerely,

Pho Uu

Pho Uu

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -6 P 2:04
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Vanessa [illegible] Phots SHAFA Date: 6/21/09

illegible

Address:
1308 D Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

The green features of this building are a great example to any new buildings that will come to this area.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 MAY -1 P 12: 16

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

April 30, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

JCPiepergerdes

James C. Piepergerdes, M.D.

Laura

70 Island Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94959

94595

April 30, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing in support of Sufism Reoriented's plan to build a beautiful sanctuary for worship in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek.

I am a physician who purchased a home in Lafayette in 1976 and began a private practice in Otolaryngology (ENT) near John Muir Hospital in 1979. I moved to the Saranap area in 1981 and owned a home on Freeman Road. Several years later I purchased a condominium on Boulevard way, just next door to the current santuary of Sufism Reoriented.

As life circumstances unfolded I had an opportunity to move to the Washington, DC area in 1993. I practiced as an Otolaryngologist in the DC area until September 2008. Fortunately for me and my wife Laura, we were able to follow our dream of moving back to the Saranap to rejoin our many friends who are also members of Sufism Reoriented.

Laura and I specifically chose the Saranap area because of the plans of Sufism Reoriented to build a new sanctuary. We were fortunate to find a beautiful rental space on Island Court which is about 100 yards from the property where the new sanctuary is planned to be constructed. We are also excited about the possibility of purchasing a home nearby in the future.

Since returning to Walnut Creek, I have also enjoyed volunteering time at The Meher Schools which is less than a mile from our home. This has involved helping with maintenance and assisting the woodshop teacher help five and six year olds build step stools and bird houses. It is a pleasure to give back to the community and to The Meher Schools which my step children attended years ago.

I am now planning to return to private practice on a part time basis. I also look forward to participating in the building of the new sanctuary. It has been exciting to have followed the extensive and thorough preparation that has gone into the building plans. To have a house of worship which is so beautifully designed and with gardens for the public to also enjoy, will enhance the lives of members of Sufism Reoriented as well as the whole community. I totally support the plan for the building of this sanctuary. How soon can we get started?

Sincerely,

JCPiepergerdes

James C. Piepergerdes, M.D.

5

February 25, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Laura Piepergerdes

Laura Piepergerdes

February 25, 2008

Copy

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

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing this letter to express my support for the proposed building of a sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented.

My husband and I recently moved from the east coast to make our home in the Saranap community where we were previous home owners and renters for over 15 years. My husband is an ENT physician and plans to continue his medical practice in this area. I am employed at the AAA corporate office in San Francisco which plans to move its headquarters to Walnut Creek this fall.

We were motivated to relocate to the Saranap area for a number of important reasons. One, is to be close to our spiritual community and place of worship; another is that we recognized the opportunity and extraordinary privilege awaiting us to participate in and witness the building of our remarkable new sanctuary.

For us, this represents not only a continued lifetime of worship to support our inner development but also a lifetime of active involvement in the building of such a glorious structure to support and celebrate our total well being.

I thought you might like to know that my husband, Jim and I are in our early 60's. So we did not take lightly our decision to close our personal and professional lives on the east coast and return to the Saranap area. In fact, it was probably one of the most important decisions of our lives since we also took in consideration where we would like to retire and live out the rest of our lives.

So here we are in a fresh new start, happily situated on Island Court, fully engaged in our professional and spiritual endeavors and thrilled about what lies ahead.

And from my view point I believe that our beautiful sanctuary is a grand evolutionary step forward toward positive change in our lovely Saranap community – not only for us soon to be seniors but for our grandchildren and great grandchildren to come.

Best regards,

Laura Piepergerdes

cc: Lashun Cross

Community Development Department

5

June 13, 2009

The Honorable Gayle B. Uikema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uikema,

I write in support of the pending application for a land use permit by Sufism Reoriented. I am a long-time property owner in the immediate area of the proposed new sanctuary (24 Alta Hill Way for 20 years); I have studied carefully the proposed plans; I am very impressed with the care and consideration demonstrated by the applicants and I enthusiastically endorse their proposal. I think the new Sanctuary will be a beautiful addition to the neighborhood and that the proposed gardens and park will enhance the value of my property!

When you consider the proposal for the new Sanctuary, I hope you will also consider that the applicants have tried to meet any concerns addressed by some neighbors, and the result is a more beautiful area around Boulevard Way.

Thank you for your attention and consideration of this issue.

Respectfully,

Robert C. Pierce, Ph.D.
24 Alta Hill Way,
Walnut Creek, CA

Cc: LaShun Cross

5

July 24, 2008

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL 25 PM 1:14

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Ms. Cross,

I just learned that Sufism Reoriented has recently filed its land use application and I want to express my support. So I am forwarding a copy of my letter to Supervisor Uilkema.

Thank you,
Ann Pinkas

90 ISLAND CT.
W.C. CA 94595

July 24, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A.
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am writing a short note about the proposed church of Sufism Reoriented. My first husband and I lived on El Curtola Blvd. beginning in 1981. We raised our children in that home. They both attended the White Pony School; and later attended Los Lomas. My present husband and I have lived on Island Ct., right off Warren Road since 1994. I am a teacher at the White Pony-Meher Schools. I started out as a volunteer, and then became a full-time teacher in 1983. I am still working there full-time. My first grandchild, who also lives in the Saranap, is attending pre-school at the White Pony.

My husband and I love the Saranap area and wish to live here for the rest of our lives. I have seen the proposed plans for the new church of Sufism Reoriented. I feel that it will be a beautiful addition to our neighborhood. I do hope that you will give your support for this project.

I sometimes have watched you on channel 26 when you have discussed various projects. I have been impressed with your thoughtfulness, attention and care. I feel that you and the board of supervisors have always been thoughtful about what projects will enhance our County. I feel that the church building proposed by Sufism Reoriented will be a success story for our Saranap.

Thankyou for your thought on this project.

Sincerely,

Ann Pinkas

Cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

S

Catherine Pinkas
1305 Boulevard Way #316
Walnut Creek, Ca. 94595
925-708-0447

CONTRA COSTA
08 SEP -9 PM 1:13
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, Ca. 94553

Dear Supervisor Uikema,

I am writing about the church planned by Sufism Reoriented, which will be located about a half block from my condominium on Boulevard Way. I have seen the design plans and I want to endorse this beautifully designed project as a valuable addition to our neighborhood.

I am especially struck with the "green" features that will be implemented in the building. I helped cofound the Green Team at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory over 15 years ago, and I currently serve on the Green Building Team for Habitat for Humanity East Bay. I am currently teaching a course called "Green Business Practices" which I have written for the small business community. As you can see I am a strong believer in incorporating green building practices, and I endorse Sufism Reoriented's plans to integrate the best of environmentally sensitive technology in their building and parking accommodations. I hope it will serve as a model for development in our area in the future.

Catherine Pinkas

Cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

I understand Sufism Reoriented has filed their land use permit application & I support this application.

S

CONTRA COSTA
08 OCT 14 PM 3:21
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Catherine Pinkas
1305 Boulevard Way #316
Walnut Creek, Ca. 94595
925-708-0447

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, Ca. 94553

Dear Supervisor Uikema,

I am writing about the church planned by Sufism Reoriented, which will be located about a half block from my condo. I have seen the design plans and I want to endorse this project as a valuable addition to our neighborhood.

The building is a beautiful design and I am especially struck with the "green" features that will be implemented in the building. I helped cofound the Green Team at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory over 15 years ago and I currently serve on the Green Building Team for Habitat for Humanity East Bay. I am currently teaching a course called "Green Business Practices" which I have written for the small business community. As you can see I am a strong believer in incorporating green building practices and I endorse Sufism's plans to integrate the best of technology in their building and parking accommodations. I hope it will serve as a model for development in our area in the future.

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

Catherine Pinkas

Cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

duplicate

S

Dear County Planner Cross, May 15, 2008

I am sending a copy of my letter to Supervisor Uilekma, regarding Sufism Reoriented building plan in the Saranap area, for which a land use application is needed and will soon be filed.
This is to express my support for the building project.

Thank you,

Giora Pinkas

Giora Pinkas,

The Alexander Educational Center
2727 College Ave. Berkeley, Ca 94705
phone : 925-933-0602
info@alexandertechnique.org
www.alexandertechnique.org

Dear Supervisor Uilekma, May 15, 2008

I have recently seen material pertaining to a plan to build a church in the Saranap area – about a block from where I live (I rent at 90 Island court). I am a long time resident of Walnut Creek, where I owned a house at 1901 Newell Ave. from 1978 to 1986.

I would like to state from the outset that I find myself in support of this building project.

Background information might serve to explain my point of view:
I was born (1938) and raised in Israel, where I was a scout leader, youth-club organizer and a physical-ed teacher. I was planning to get a degree in psychology, but because of a most helpful personal experience with the Alexander Technique, I traveled to London and embarked on a four year study of this method, qualifying in 1967. Among those to whom I had pleasure to introduce the Technique to was David Ben Gurion, the Israel prime minister and the violinist Isaac stern.

This is form of psycho-physical re-education, endorsed by Nobel laureates (medicine), educators, artists and psychologists. It is being taught in universities, music and drama schools as well as in pain-clinics and hospitals.
Based on the notion that the physical body reflects our thoughts, feelings and states of mind, it treats the body as a fine instrument whose use needs to be refined and adapted to changing conditions.
People who benefit from this work range from those suffering from tension, backaches, posture and movements problems, as well as confidence and self-

esteem issues. They appreciate the fact that they are not only feeling better, but also learning tools for self care! It is equally useful for children and seniors. Taking an AT lesson can be likened to getting a gentle tune-up - it is easy on mind and body and can be put to use in the classroom, on stage, office, gym or garden.

In 1974 I co-founded the first 3-year Teacher-Training course of The Alexander Technique in this country. Later I was invited to establish two such courses in Europe. I guest-teach, lecture and consult internationally.

Education, as you can see, has been my great passion as well as my profession for my entire adult life. Helping to raise the level of education is very important to me.
So when my wife and I discovered the White Pony school 32 years ago, we considered ourselves lucky. We recognized at once a unique quality and loving atmosphere so vital to children's learning and well being.
Our three children graduated from the school (Daniel, our youngest, is about to receive a doctorate from Stanford!).

From my perspective the White Pony school is simply exceptional: the spirit of service to the whole community, the diversity of students, the low cost, the skill and dedication of the teachers – all exemplary! I would not be surprised to find it serving as a model in child education for generation to come.

I understand that it is important that the new sanctuary be close to the White Pony, so that the members of Sufism Reoriented can continue the support necessary to the success of the school. I therefore put my whole-hearted support behind this project. And by the way, it being "green" and esthetically pleasing can only help this neglected part of our neighborhood.

Sincerely yours,

Giora Pinkas

Giora Pinkas

2363 Boulevard Circle, Suite 24
Walnut Creek, Ca 94595
April 27, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, Ca 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing you regarding the building of a new sanctuary for members of Sufism Reoriented living in the Saranap. I have lived in the neighborhood on and off for almost 23 years, and have had my hairstyling business on Boulevard Circle for the past 12 years. I have a strong sentimental feeling about this neighborhood, and a sense of loyalty to the many residents that have supported my business.

I have overheard and participated in many discussions of the merits of this addition to the neighborhood. I found a great deal of enthusiasm for the project, even from those who expressed an initial concern over the temporary disturbance any construction project would necessarily create.

One of my primary reasons for support of this project is the amazing good fortune of Walnut Creek getting a building from the architectural firm Phillip Johnson/Allan Ritchey. Years ago, on a trip to Washington D.C., I visited a friend who was working at Dumbarton Oaks. It was on a walk through those beautiful gardens that I first saw the jewel of a building that Phillip Johnson had created, the Pre-Columbian Art Museum. It immediately became one of my favorite places. Dumbarton Oaks is also located in a residential area, yet somehow feels unimposing, and with its gardens, a real place apart.

I am wholeheartedly expressing my support for the Sufism Reoriented Church.

Sincerely,

Yonatan Pinkas

Cc: Lashun Cross, Community Development

Iay 14, 2004

CONTRA COSTA

2004 MAY 15 P 1:44

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am in support of the Land Use Permit Application submitted by Sufism Reoriented and have enclosed a copy of the letter I have written to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in that regard.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cherie Plumlee

'herie Plumlee

5

1384 Boulevard Way #107
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Mary 14, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a member of Sufism Reoriented writing in support of the construction of our new Sanctuary.

Living on Boulevard Way since 1984 has been a wonderful experience for me, my husband and two children. The close proximity to our current church has been a delightful convenience. I'm concerned that if the new sanctuary were built elsewhere we would feel compelled to move to be near our church. I don't want to leave this area. I love it.

A bit about myself: since 2003 I have been a teacher and also head of the computer department at the California School of Professional Fabric Design in Berkeley. It's a job I love--helping my students develop and express their creativity in ways they had never believed possible and prepare them for fulfilling jobs they had only dreamed of having. Volunteering at the Meher Schools in the library is a joy to me. I also clean there as a substitute in the evenings or on weekends. I do volunteer work for Sufism Reoriented at the center on various projects. On my summer vacations I've traveled to India 7 times in the last 9 years to work at the Meher Baba Pilgrim Center on their photo archives team to repair/reconstruct old photos getting them ready for print and/or publication, and taught others how to do the same. I also tutor friends and members of the community here, who come to me needing help with various computer art programs.

By now I'm sure you are well versed in all of the statistics regarding the building of the new sanctuary and have heard many positive and negative views on its creation from all sides. So, I am going to focus on what I, personally, am most interested in and that is the dear, loving community of friends and companions that are members of Sufism Reoriented, how we have served the area, and how much we wish to stay.

I joined Sufism in 1980 and have seen, since then, how we as individuals and a community have learned to live and work together for common community, city and more widespread goals. Most of the congregation is comprised of people in service-oriented professions. I'd like to take a moment to describe what I understand service-oriented means to me from my own understanding as a member of Sufism Reoriented. True service is selfless. It means setting myself (my personal agendas) aside in an effort to serve in as many ways as possible, as fully and completely, purely, and lovingly as possible. Sufism teaches us that we must learn to see each being on earth as Divine, and know that as we serve all of life, we are serving God--directly. Our goal is to learn to serve God by serving others.

In our congregation we have doctors, nurses, psychologists, therapists and health care specialists, who all work for the health and well being of others. Teachers abound! Elementary and middle schools, high schools and adult education are served happily by members of our congregation who

inspire learning in a wide variety of subjects. Our beautiful earth is served by our landscape artists and architects, all of whom are deeply committed to sustaining and enhancing its beauty in environmentally friendly ways, and thus improve not only the beauty of the area but inspire a deeper appreciation for the earth itself in others. We have many musicians, artists, and performers who in their professions seek to perfect their art for the enjoyment of others. Many of our retired individuals volunteer for the community and also city-wide. It seems that there must not be many areas of work/expertise which aren't represented within our group.

Most near and dear to my heart is the joyful service we provide the Saranap and our neighbors. Last month the members of Sufism Reoriented prepared a neighborhood children's party at our parsonage at White Horse Court to celebrate spring. I witnessed the deep commitment of our members to serve our Saranap neighbors and other guests in delightful, happy ways. Walking with their parents onto the premises, children's eyes lit up as they saw many decorated tables prepared for face painting, puppet making, flower basket arranging and other fun activities. There was an Easter egg hunt, puppet show and games appropriately suited for different age groups. Delicious snacks and the makings for a nourishing and delicious lunch with desserts for after the games were in abundance. As I watched my companions serve the children and their parents, I was struck by the selflessness evident in their actions and communications towards all attendees. I remember hoping that I was doing as well as many of them were in serving those who came. The party was a big success. I wish more neighbors had had the time to attend. The Children's Spring Party has been going on now for many years and will, I hope, for many more.

Many in our group volunteered to work with the Saranap Community Association to put on a Free Children's Boutique for the Saranap area and surrounds. Literally, anyone who showed up at the door was welcomed. The abundance of clothes, games, toys and books which had been gathered was remarkable and great attention had been given to the quality and cleanliness of all donations. The volunteers happily served refreshments and helped as needed. The delight on the childrens' and parents' faces as they saw items they needed (perhaps believing it wasn't possible to own on their budgets) made available to them for free was very moving. A third Free Children's Boutique will be May 17th and a fourth is planned for autumn.

Thank you so much, Supervisor Uilkema, for reading this long letter through to the end. I don't know how I can express to you the deep love I have for our community and the loving thankfulness I feel to the Saranap area and to Walnut Creek for "hosting" our group for so many years. I truly hope it will be many, many more.

Sincerely,

Cherie Plumlee

Cherie Plumlee

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1305 Boulevard Way #107
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
June 2, 2008

Dear Ms. Cross,

It is my understanding that Sufism Reoriented will soon be filing a land use application. In support of that application, please find enclosed a copy of a letter I sent to Supervisor Uilkema expressing my support for their proposed building project.

Sincerely,
Craig Plumlee

Craig Plumlee

1305 Boulevard Way #107
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
May 26, 2008

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter whose purpose is to convey to you my support of Sufism Reoriented's building proposal in the Saranap area on Boulevard Way.

My wife and I have lived at our current address (across the street and a few buildings away from the proposed site) for 25 years and as homeowners care about the safety, security and character of our neighborhood. An area becomes run-down when people stop caring about their neighborhood, and the less they care, the worse it gets and the worse it gets, the less they care. Having a church nearby that is well-maintained and aesthetically pleasing would do much to set a standard for the area not only in property maintenance, but also in terms of behavior. I think people tend to be on their best behavior when in or around a church, even if the church is not of their own religion. I noticed this in myself when I visited St. Peters Basilica and the Sistine chapel in Italy even though I'm not a member of the Catholic Church.

Although I have a master's degree in public health from U.C. Berkeley, I've worked as a software engineer for nearly 20 years. And as an engineer, I was especially impressed to learn of the innovative technology that is planned for the building. The impact of this technology on the environment is twofold; first, it will conserve limited resources such as water and energy. But second, and just as important, is the impact on the immediate environment that this innovative technology will have. As I understand, most of the building will be underground and along with a system that allows parking on grass without damaging it, the surroundings would be more like a park than a large area of asphalt. Also, the building will take advantage of the constant underground temperature to heat and cool, thus eliminating noisy and unsightly methods of heating and cooling commonly in use, while at the same time conserving energy. I think it is important to support these innovative technologies since it sets a precedent for other builders to adopt, ultimately lowering costs and making their use more common, which benefits everyone.

I know I would be very proud to have such an innovative and attractive building in the neighborhood; it would be like owning a very beautiful and valuable piece of art. I can't help but believe that such a unique building would create a sense of pride and community among the residents of the Saranap area and may have other benefits that I haven't even thought of as well.

Again thank you for your time and attention.

With best regards,

Craig Plumlee

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: H. Podesta

Date: 7-18-09

Address: #336 Nilda Way
Walnut Creek, CA

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

3

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed:

Deborah Pogacar

Date:

10/16/09

Printed Name

Deborah Pogacar

Address:

957 Dewing Ave.
Lafayette, CA
94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 OCT 26 P 2:07
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Andrew P. Pojman

Date: 10/22/09

Printed Name Andrew P. Pojman

Address: 166 Glen Ct
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Mala Polyzos

Date: 10-13-07

Printed Name MALA POLYZOS

Address: 957 Dewing Ave
Laf. CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

October 20, 2008

CONTRA COSTA
08 OCT 21 PM 1:08
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufism reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Mari Pongkhamsing

1336 Boulevard Way #104
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
October 20, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine St. Rm. 108A
Martinez, CA 94533

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to you to show my support for the new church proposed by Sufism Reoriented. I grew up in the Saranap neighborhood and returned about four and a half years ago when I moved to Le Boulevard Apartments with my husband.

As a child I attended The Meher Schools. My experiences there inspired in me a life-long love of learning. After I graduated, I missed the school's supportive atmosphere and as a sophomore in high school I obtained a work permit so that I could help out every day after school in The Meher Schools' kindergarten daycare program. I continued to work at the school, as I was able, while I went to college and then graduate school. I am currently working as a librarian at St. Perpetua School in Lafayette. I believe all the years I spent associated with The Meher Schools helped me to be a better educator. As you know the proximity of the new sanctuary to The Meher Schools is critical for its continuance.

As a member of Sufism Reoriented I spend a few hours each week volunteering in the garden at the parsonage. Because I only have a small balcony at my apartment I enjoy the opportunity to work outdoors in a beautiful setting. I know that the new building will be surrounded by a beautiful, well-tended garden and I can't wait to spend time caring for it.

I know the new building will greatly enhance the neighborhood's beauty and character.

Sincerely,

Mari Pongkhamsing

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Zena Potash Date: 10/30/09

Printed name: ZENA POTASH

Business name: ZENA POTASH

Address: 2930 CAMINO DIABLO, SUITE 200
Walnut Creek, Ca 94597.

S (12)
09/01/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jeanette Ponce Date: 7/23/10

Printed name: Jeanette Ponce

Business name: Victoria's Secret

Address: 1821 Broadway Plaza Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5

June 29, 2009

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

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has filed a land use permit application for their new sanctuary project. I am attaching a letter of support for the project which I sent to County Supervisor Gayle Uilkema.

Sincerely,

Phokham Pongkhamsing
1336 Boulevard Way #104
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
(925) 256-6793

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUN 30 P 12: 12
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

June 29, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94533

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to express my support for Sufism Reoriented's new sanctuary. I've lived at 1336 Boulevard Way, adjacent to the proposed site of the project, for the past five years. Though I'm not a member of Sufism Reoriented many of my neighbors are and I believe that their proposals (such as the parking plan) will be honored. I believe the new building has the potential to impact the neighborhood in significantly positive ways. It will beautify the neighborhood and provide a much needed community garden for everyone to enjoy. I don't see any negative aspects to this project and I support it wholeheartedly.

Sincerely,

Phokham Pongkhamsing
1336 Boulevard Way #104
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
(925) 256-6793

Cc: Lashun Cross, Community Development

S (HR) 10/07/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner, or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 10.1.10

Printed Name: Vesselin Popov

Business Name: Vesi PAIR Design

Address: 1601 N. MAIN STR #206 WALNUT CREEK CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Smriti Poudyal

Date: Nov. 8th 2009.

Printed Name: SMRITI POUDYAL

Address: 2500 Lucy Lane # 304,
Walnut Creek, CA 94595.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

+5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 10/06/09

Printed Name: SAMEER POUDYAL

Address: 2500 Lucy Ln
Apt #304
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7.19.09

Printed Name JENNIFER PRICE

Address: 3920 SOUTH PEARDALE DRIVE,
LAFAYETTE, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

t

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Cynthia J. Price

Date: 10/9/09

Printed Name

Cynthia J. Price

Address:

909 Harbor View Dr.
Martinez, CA 94553

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

August 18, 2008

CONTRA COSTA

08 AUG 20 PM 1:20

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I have learned the Sufism Reoriented has filed its land use application and I wish to support the application by forwarding a letter to you that I sent Supervisor Uilkema.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Proctor

Patricia A. Proctor

August 18, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am writing to share my excitement with you about the proposed building of a church for Sufism Reoriented in your district.

As a member of Sufism Reoriented, I am thrilled we are hoping to build a tasteful, carefully planned building that will add character to the Saranap neighborhood. On a practical level, I am looking forward to the expanded space of the new building as I do volunteer secretarial work in cramped, multi-layered, shared space of our current building. The new building will provide much needed work space.

I lived at 1305 Boulevard Way, across the street from the current Sufism Reoriented building, for almost 10 years – from 1984 to 1994. During that time I raised my two children and grew to love the Saranap neighborhood. I feel the proposed building, with its graceful design by the Philip Johnson/Alan Ritchie architectural firm, will enhance the neighborhood and will make a beautiful and lingering impression on all who see it.

Since 1994, my husband and I have resided at 1667 Geary Road in Walnut Creek. Because I live four miles from the Sufism Reoriented building, I voluntarily participate in the car pool plan to limit traffic in the neighborhood. I will continue to car pool to the new sanctuary and I feel participating in this simple demonstration helps to show that, along with the members of Sufism Reoriented, I am committed to the neighborhood my sanctuary will occupy.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Proctor

Cc: Lashun Cross
Community Development Department

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Robert Proctor Date: 6/21/2009

Address: 1667 Geary Rd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jennifer Proctor Date: 6/21/2009

Address: 1544 Bailey Rd. #38
Concord, CA 94521

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

+ 5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: Dorothy Protop Date: 9/24/09

Printed Name: Dorothy Protop

Address: 640 Carter St
Walnut Creek CA
94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUN -2 A 11:35

May 26, 2009

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

Dear Ms. Cross,

For your information, I am enclosing a copy of my letter of support to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema for the proposed Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary Projet at Boulevard Way and Kinney Drive.

I understand that the land use permit application has been filed.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Sandra Pyer

Sandra Pyer

May 26, 2009

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Uilkema,

I am writing this letter to support the proposed sanctuary in the Saranap neighborhood on Boulevard Way and Kinney Drive.

Though I am not an active member of Sufism Reoriented, I have been aware, for the past fifteen years, of the numerous benefits the group has contributed to the Saranap community. Most notable are the Meher Schools. Upon entering the facility, one is immediately aware of the care and love that surrounds the children and that their well-being is the priority of the entire staff.

In my experience, sensitivity to a beautiful environment and neighborhood integrity are a hallmark of Sufism Reoriented. I am confident the new sanctuary and grounds will prove to enhance not only the quality of the neighborhood but, will also benefit individuals as they enjoy the beauty of the park and gardens which will be available to the local residents.

I strongly urge approval of the Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary Project.

Your thoughtful consideration is much appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Sandra Pyer

Sandra Pyer
3355 Rossmoor Pky #7
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

5

Ron J. Salazar
525 Camelback Rd.
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
(925) 255-3088
May 26, 2009

CONTRA COSTA
2009 MAY 29 P 1:10
CLERK OF THE BOARD

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

Dear Ms. La Shun Cross,

I would like to support the building of the Sufi Sanctuary. I have seen the design of the Sanctuary, which I consider a well conceive piece of architecture. I am stunted that there is any issue in enriching this area of Walnut Creek, which this beautiful piece of architecture would achieve. Aside from the building, the landscaping and courtyard, which they are willing to open to the public is gracious and generous. One of the things I like about living in this area is the diversity and open mindedness of the people who live and work here. I would be disappointed if there is any discrimination in helping to provide more worship space for this group. The children that I have had contact with from the Meher School have been impressive and I support the school as an area gem. I hope that this building will come to our area soon. I look forward to the improvement.

Sincerely,

Ron Salazar

Ron J. Salazar

S 15
9/20/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Ammar Qoubaitary Date: 9/12/10

Printed Name Ammar Qoubaitary

Address: 1945 Warmsprings ct
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 NOV -5 P 2:22

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: Kelly J. Q

Date: 11/1/09

Printed Name: KELLY J. QUINN

Address: 2715 ACACIA RD.
WALNUT CREEK, CA.
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (7a)
9/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA

10 SEP 23 P 12:38

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Azar M. Rad Date: 9/9/10

Printed name: AZARMIDOKHT RAD

Business name: Grateful Hair

Address: 1389 N Main St WC 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S 11/30/10 LC

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA

10 OCT 20 P 1:32

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 10/15/10

Printed name: Afsaneh Rahani AFSANEH=AMY RAHANI

Business name: Walnut Creek Florist

Address: 1668 Locust ST Walnut Creek CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S (#2)
11/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Mazyar Rahim Date: 11/17/10

Printed name: Mazyar Rahim

Business name: Bijan Restaurant

Address: 1690 Locust St, WC

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Serena Rain Date: 8.13.09

Printed Name Serena Rain

Address: 2648. W. Newell Ave
Walnut Creek CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV -4 P 1:16

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 10/21/09

Printed name: JOE RAJESH

Business name: A-1 BRAKE & TIRE

Address: 2008 MT. DIABLO BOULEVARD, WALNUT CREEK CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Roslyn Raley Date: 6-28-09

Address: 245 Bridgeside Circle
Danville CA 94506

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -2 P 3: 15
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

S
t

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Ethar Ramatoka Date: Sept. 20, 2009

Address: 3786 VIA GRANADA
MORAGA, Ca. 94556

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Renee' Ramig Date: 4/7/10

Printed Name Renee' Ramig

Address: 2278 St George Dr.
Concord CA 94520

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 10 P 1:31

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jesus Ramirez

Date: 8/1/2009

Printed Name

Address: 1414 Oakland Blvd, #2

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: JRamirez

Date: 01-23-10

Printed Name
JORGE RAMIREZ

Address:
226 - SUMMERFIELD DR
BAY POINT CA.
94565

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 10 P 1:31

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 8/01/09

Printed Name: Miguel A Ramirez

Address: 1414 OAKLAND Blvd #2

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

JULY 4, 2009

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

8 OLDE CREEK PL.
LAFAYETTE, CA 94549

RONALD RAMIREZ

cc: Ms. Lasher Crosser

5

September 5, 2008

RIPA COUNTY
08 SEP -9 PM 1:14
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

Enclosed is a letter addressed to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the proposed new construction of a Sanctuary planned by Sufism Reoriented. I recently became aware that Sufism Reoriented filed its land use application and wholeheartedly agree with this initiative.

Sincerely,

Ruben J. Ramirez

65 Island Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Enclosure

October 15, 2008

MIRA COSTA

08 OCT 17 PM 1:30

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

5

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

Enclosed is a letter addressed to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the proposed new construction of a Sanctuary planned by Sufism Reoriented. I recently became aware that Sufism Reoriented filed its land use application and wholeheartedly agree with this initiative.

Sincerely,

Ruben J. Ramirez

65 Island Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Enclosure

September 5, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I write in support for the proposed construction of a new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented.

For over twenty-five years I have resided in the Saranap neighborhood and Lafayette proper and have been a supporter of your campaigns for election as Supervisor for District 2. I respectively ask you to carry my support forward by earnestly and enthusiastically advocating approval of this construction project that will surely beautify the neighborhood and increase the safety in our neighborhood.

In particular, the intersection of Boulevard Way and Kinney Drive is presently difficult to negotiate during rush hours. When traveling up Boulevard Way and planning to make a left turn on to Kinney Drive the view of on-coming traffic is presently restricted to a short distance. It so happens, the sight lines in this intersection will be improved as a result of construction.

Thank you for your favorable consideration on behalf of the proposed new construction and for your years of dedicated service to our community.

Sincerely,

Ruben J. Ramirez

65 Island Court
Walnut Creek, 94595

cc: Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

June 29, 2009
Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Application for our new sanctuary. I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,
Kay Ramsdell
Kay Ramsdell

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -1 P 1:55
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

June 23, 2009
Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108 A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Uilkema:
I am a member of Sufism Reoriented, and am writing to share my perspective on why a new sanctuary is so sorely needed by our community. My home is at 914 Sousa Drive in Walnut Creek, and I have lived in this city for 25 years, commuting to UCSF Medical Center for my work as a neonatal nurse practitioner.
The building currently used by Sufism Reoriented was purchased approximately 30 years ago, and prior to our arrival was occupied by a restaurant and club. The structure was not created to be a place of worship, and Sufism Reoriented has struggled for 3 decades to adapt the structure to meet the needs of a spiritual community. Of course, a church is at its heart the members themselves and not the building, and we have filled our home with loving care. Yet, despite our best creative efforts, the limitations of our current building cripple our efforts by confining us to rooms and spaces not structured with the needs of a church in mind.
We would also so love to finally have a place of worship that is inherently inspiring, in its lovely design that seeks to evoke God's beauty. We have waited a very long time for this precious opportunity.
Thank you for listening to our concerns and aspirations.

Sincerely,
Kay Ramsdell
Kay Ramsdell

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Victor Rangel
81 Carolyn Court
Lafayette CA 94549

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG -4 P 12: 16
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 9-20-09

Printed Name Bruce Lawson

Address: 61 Park Ave Walnut Creek 94595.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

COPY FOR MS. LASHUN CROSS

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner in Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signature _____ Date 6-9-09

Business name Cosmoprof

Address 2400 Olympic Blvd
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

(illegible)
RAS AS

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed:

Date: 9-12-09

Printed Name
Debbie Ratcliff

Address:
1225 Tulane Dr.
Walnut Creek, Ca
94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: William Ratcliff Date: 9/12/09

Printed Name
WILLIAM RATCLIFF

Address:
1225 TULANE DR.
WALNUT CREEK, CA. 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

I

CONTRA COSTA
2011 AUG 15 P 12: 21

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Deborah Arlen

Date: 8 · 6 · 2011

Printed Name

DEBORAH ARLAWSON

Address:

61 PARK AVE
WC CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/11/09

Address: 1235 South Villaway
Walnut Creek, CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL 11 P 2:27
RECEIVED

S' 7/22/10
(H)

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Ken U. Raymond Date: 5/4/10

Printed name: Ken U. Raymond

Business name: Sur La Table

Address: 1211 Broadway Plaza
W.C., CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 MAY -1 P 12: 16

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

9/26/09

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Paul Reber

Paul Reber

948 Leroy Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
652 Pine St, Room 108A
Martinez, Ca 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

This letter is being written in support of the proposed church of Sufism Reoriented. I have been a volunteer at The Meher Schools for the past two years. This experience and association with Sufism Reoriented has been an enriching and highly rewarding experience for me. I have lived and worked in this area since 1969 with three optical offices until 2000. I purchased my home here in 1985.

When I saw the photos of the new church Sufism Reoriented is proposing, I was very excited about the prospect of this beautiful structure in the Boulevard Way area and the start of upgrading this older neighborhood in my wonderful city of Walnut Creek. Since the building will have "green" construction, no asphalt, geo-exchange heat and air, and professional landscaping, the new architecturally designed sanctuary will be an environmental asset as well as a beautiful and tasteful addition to the entire neighborhood.

Walnut Creek has been, and is, a very special place for me and my family. I feel strongly that this structure will enhance an area of the city that seems to have been forgotten.

Paul Reber

Paul Reber R.D.O.
Registered Dispensing Optician

5 (42) 7/1/10

CONTRA COSTA

2010 JUN 23 P 2:48

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that ~~I sup~~port this building project.

Signed: Robert Recher Date: 2/14/2010

Printed Name: Robert Recher, LEED AP

Address: 1341 Juanita Dr.
Walnut Creek, CA

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

May 30, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufism Reoriented will be filing its land use application soon. I would like to express my support for this project by sending you a copy of the letter which I sent to Supervisor Uilkema.

Sincerely,

Ann M Reed

Ann M. Reed
1305 Boulevard Way #102
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

May 25, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am writing to you to express my support for Sufism Reoriented to build their proposed sanctuary on Boulevard Way, in the Saranap area.

My hope for this project to become a reality is based on two points of view: one as a resident of the Saranap for almost 30 years, and the other as a member of Sufism Reoriented.

I moved to the Saranap area in 1979 in order to be near the current center for Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way. A couple years later, my husband and I were married in our sweet, little house on Juanita Drive, where we lived for 25 years and raised our daughter. After my husband passed away, my daughter (currently a senior at Acalanes High School) and I moved to a condo just across the street from Sufism's current site and close to the proposed site. Both of us are very happy that we were able to remain in the Saranap area, just a few blocks from our old street. We have always loved this area - for its beauty, quiet, peacefulness, friendly people, and relative safety. Another wonderful feature for us, was the Meher Schools, right in our neighborhood, where our daughter attended preschool through fifth grade. I couldn't think of a better setting for our family.

On one of my daily walks through the neighborhood recently, I was trying to imagine, as a resident, what this neighborhood might be like without Sufism Reoriented's center and its members. I couldn't. It seems to me that having the hub of Sufism Reoriented here has only helped to create the wonderful atmosphere of peace and beauty in the area nearby. As members of Sufism Reoriented we strive to beautify our surroundings, harmonize with those around us, serve others, and act honestly and responsibly in our daily lives.

I also have tried to visualize the new, very beautiful sanctuary, surrounded by gardens, trees and flowers. It seems that, with all it's thoughtfully designed features, nothing could be more lovely in that spot. And with no increase in noise, traffic, or population, it's presence would preserve a place of quiet and beauty in the neighborhood. I think that once it has been built, the residents of the Saranp area will be very happy to have such a beautiful and carefully created addition to their surroundings.

As a member of Sufism Reoriented and a teacher at the Meher Schools, it seems essential to me that our sanctuary be situated close to the school. We teachers receive so much support from the members of Sufism Reoriented in terms of volunteer services - help in the classroom, cleaning the school, maintaining the grounds and building, making teaching supplies - so much that we could never do on our own - to help provide the children with a more creative, nurtured, rich, and happy environment.

All in all, I see the new sanctuary as a positive addition to the Saranap area, and I hope to see it come to fruition in the not too distant future.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of our project.

Sincerely,

Ann M Reed

Ann M. Reed
1305 Boulevard Way #102
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

5

MARIN CO...
08 OCT 16 PM 3:27
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

10/14/08

To Lashun Cross,

I'm sending you a copy of my letter of support for the Sufism Reoriented land use permit application.

It was indicated that you may not have actually received it.

Thanks,

Michael Rohe

1384 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

July 17, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine St. Rm. 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to you to show you my 100% support for the proposed church for Sufism Reoriented.

I am a member of Sufism Reoriented and a resident of the Saranap neighborhood, where I have been living since 2002. In fact I *live in* one of the homes planned for removal in order to construct the new church.

I love this neighborhood, and spend a lot of time taking walks and bicycling around the various streets of this neighborhood. After seeing the plans and painted renderings of what the new church will look like, my first thoughts were, "I can't wait!" The design is beautiful, and especially with the landscaping, I certainly think it will look better than the empty lot and old fence that is there now!

Looking into the project more carefully, I was delighted to discover that it includes "grasspave" which uses grass as a parking lot—that's a winner of an idea. It will be beautiful and is eco-friendly. I was also pleased to see that such a large building will mostly be underground, and that the remaining visible portion has elegant curves and friendly colors. My father is an architect and my grandfather was a landscape architect, so I grew up with a sensitivity to beautiful homes and gardens. I can't wait to show my 81-year old father the new church once it is completed.
Without going into further detail, as I'm sure you know them all, I'm impressed to the point of tearful joy. I've never heard of any project that was *this* thoughtful—have you?

Also, what helps to make the Saranap so special are the *residents*. Many of them are also members of the group. These are amazing folks—they are law-abiding, service loving, beautification-aspiring citizens. If the new church needs to be built in a distant location, I foresee a not-so-gradual exodus of members of Sufism Reoriented leaving the neighborhood without such caring and thoughtful people.

Building the church will strengthen and beautify the Saranap for years to come.

Sincerely,

Michael Rehl

Michael Rehl, D.C.

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/15/09

Printed Name: Jill L Reich

Address: 11 Ellery Court
Walnut Creek, CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

June 4, 2008

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Lashun Cross,

I have learned that Sufism Reoriented will be filing its land use application in the near future. In support of that proposal, I'm forwarding you a copy of a support letter I wrote to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Barbara Reif

Barbara Reif

June 3, 2008

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

As a member of your constituency, I'd like to lend my support to the new sanctuary being proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

Forty years ago, as an undergraduate at UC Berkeley in 1968, I became a member of Sufism Reoriented. In those early days, members from around the Bay Area carpooled or took public transportation to attend meetings in our rented space in San Francisco, at the corner of Sutter and Van Ness, in the building that now houses the Regency Theaters.

In 1975, when Sufism Reoriented purchased the Iron Gate Restaurant at 1300 Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek, many of us followed, shifting our residences to this side of the Caldecott Tunnel, and our life as a community in Contra Costa began. My trek took me first to Danville and then to Walnut Creek, where I have resided since 1979, mostly in the Saranap area. A few years ago I remarried and moved to beautiful Rossmoor. I love it there, but I miss the community I found in the Saranap.

As you know, the Saranap has always had a distinct personality. For over 30 years, Sufism Reoriented has been part of shaping that personality. From its arrival, Sufism Reoriented began improving the value of its property. It cleaned and lightened the old dark interior of its building. In 1981, the members expanded the building and gave it a total makeover. The current building is cleaned and maintained daily, all done by our volunteers – an attitude of care and respect that we extend to our own homes and to the neighborhood as a whole. Not surprisingly, property values in the neighborhood have increased steadily over the years, and with it, a growing sense of safety and community.

From 1992 through July 2003, I lived in the Oakmont Apartments on Flora Avenue at Boulevard Way. I used to love taking late night walks around the neighborhood, seldom needing to worry about my safety. Even with the 7-Eleven at the corner (whose most recent owners immediately gave it a fresh paint job to make it shine), the neighborhood has been relatively free of disturbance.

Our community supports its local businesses and has recently attracted back a former popular business: Frank's Auto Service. Originally called Leo Frank's, it was a popular gas and service station on the now-empty lot at the corner of Saranap and Boulevard Way. Around 1982, Leo's two sons took over the business and moved it to the corner of Tice Valley and Olympic. You might know it as the station that had the vintage gas pumps out front. After 26 years, to celebrate 50 years in business, they moved it back to 1255 Boulevard Way this spring, to the commercial plaza across from the 7-Eleven one block from its original location.

Many members of Sufism Reoriented have been long-time patrons. On the three occasions I've talked with Dave Frank at his new location, he's mentioned people in Sufism Reoriented whose cars he's recently serviced. This name-dropping seemed aimed not to impress me but to convey the easy affinity he feels toward the members of our group and his identification with the neighborhood. He's very proud of his new facility because (as advertised in ValuePac and the Rossmoor News) it's clean, light, and spacious. He knows what the standards of this neighborhood are! He also sends a personalized thank you note each time I take my car to him.

Last week I told Dave about the mechanic I used when I worked in San Ramon. When I said I liked the mechanic and his team because they were honest and dealt with customers from their heart, Dave quickly replied, "*We're* heart people, too!" As if to say: "See, I belong in this neighborhood!"

Not only have I been surrounded by friendly businesses, I've also been blessed to be able to work for local businesses that have extremely positive reputations. For the past seven years, I've split my time doing technical editing for TechProse in Lafayette (I'm sure you know Meryl Natchez and her fabulous organization) and performing software testing and documentation for the Kaplan Consulting Group, right here in the neighborhood. Both of these businesses are committed to the highest professional and ethical principles, principles consistent with those of Sufism Reoriented.

For 30 years, the Walnut Creek area has been my home, and I have seen the area transform. For 40 years, I have witnessed Sufism Reoriented's dedication to beauty and service to others and its positive impact on the community. The proposed new sanctuary is an integral and logical next step in the ongoing transformation of the Saranap. This project has deep personal significance for me. Yet it also extends beyond the personal to the greater enhancement of the neighborhood and the residents and businesses it attracts. Its elegant design, cutting edge environmental features, and its outreach to the neighborhood is raising the bar for future development and community growth. Its presence will quietly project an atmosphere of harmony and unity. It is a project which I believe you and your constituents can be proud to support.

Thank you, Supervisor Uilkema, for your time, and for your dedication to public service.

Appreciatively,

Barbara Reif

1532 Canyonwood Court, #2
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
July 22, 2008

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street 4th Floor-North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

It's come to my attention that the Sufism Reoriented group has recently filed its land use application. I want to express my support of that application. Enclosed is a copy of a letter I am sending to Supervisor Uilkema.

Sincerely,

Max Reif

1532 Canyonwood Court, #2
Walnut Creek, CA 94594
July 19, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing you as a participating member of Sufism Reoriented which is seeking to erect a new house of worship in the Saranap neighborhood. I am also a teacher at the nearby Meher Schools. I now live, in Rossmoor, and formerly resided in the Saranap neighborhood itself.

I think that the neighborhood at large will benefit greatly from the new building. I've seen the plans, the painted renderings and the computer-generated renderings, and I believe most people in the neighborhood will be *proud* to host such a building, designed by one of the most renowned architectural firms in the world. It is utterly beautiful, and completely universal in design! Also, the building is being designed not to be obtrusive, but to take its place on the land as something of a hidden treasure.

Neighborhoods and houses of worship have always gone together, not only in America, but in most nations and cultures. The majority of the members of Sufism Reoriented have made their homes in the Saranap neighborhood for many years now, and it is only fitting that the sanctuary of this non-proselytizing, service-oriented group should be where the members live.

I thank you for listening, and look forward to watching the beautiful structure rise in the coming years.

Sincerely,

Max Reif

Cc: Lashun Cross, Community Development

5 (TP)
2/15/11

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Pamela W. Reiney Date: Jan. 25, 2011

REINEY

Printed Name

Address:
1818 Coulter Pine Ct.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 MAR 30 P 3:21
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

March 27, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new church and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Susan Reiter

Susan E. Reiter

March 27, 2009

1348 Running Springs Rd., #6
Walnut Creek, CA, 94595

Supervisor Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Rm. 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

I am writing you to show my strong support for the proposed building of a new house of worship by Sufism Reoriented in the Saranap neighborhood. I resided in Saranap for more than thirty years until I recently moved to Rossmoor. I raised a son in the Saranap where he attended the Meher Schools. In the evenings I volunteered as part of the cleaning crew at the school.

As a parent who benefited from the Meher Schools, I would like to see our church built in the same neighborhood as the volunteer help from members of Sufism Reoriented is critical to the welfare of the school. I also feel the neighborhood will benefit from the new building. I have seen the building plans and landscaping renderings and feel that the neighboring residents would enjoy the harmonious blending of the grounds with the neighborhood and take pride that such a building graces their neighborhood.

One of the many features I like about the building is the "green" features that have been build into it. F(ne the parking lot being made of pervious materials, mostly grass, was most exciting and forward thinking.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration regarding the building of this church.

Sincerely yours

Susan E. Reiter

Susan E. Reiter

Cc: Lashun, County Planner

S 02/04/11 (#2)

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 11/09/10

Printed name: ROBERT WALKER

Business name: RELAX THE BACK

Address: 1501-B N. CALIFORNIA BLVD. WALNUT CREEK 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

Lillian G. Remer
1206 Juanita Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94595-1025

8

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL 22 PM 1:18

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

July 18, 2008

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

Enclosed for your information is a copy of a letter I am sending to my supervisor, Gayle Uilkema. I wanted you to know that I am a resident of the Saranap area and strongly support the new sanctuary Sufism Reoriented proposes to build at the corner of Boulevard Way near Kinney Drive. I disagree with the views of the president of our neighborhood association.

Sincerely,

Lillian G. Remer

Enc: letter sent to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema

Lillian G. Remer
1206 Juanita Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94595-1025

S

July 18, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Gayle,

As a Scouter I have had the pleasure of meeting you frequently at Eagle Courts. My interest today is not Scouting, but to write to you as my Supervisor to support the new sanctuary Sufism Reoriented proposes to build at the corner of Boulevard Way near Kinney Drive in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek.

My new home on Juanita Drive is within the 300 feet notification circle of the proposed project and I feel that the beautiful design and park-like setting will contribute to the peaceful charm of our neighborhood. However, when I moved into my new home I joined the Saranap Community Association and was surprised by the negative sentiments expressed in their newsletter and on their website by the board of the association. I hope you realize that these opinions might not be representative of the residents of the Saranap, and that they are definitely not representative of my views.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

Lillian G. Remer

CC: Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

S

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL 22 PM 1:19

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

July 21, 2008

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Lashun Cross,

I learned that Sufism Reoriented recently filed a land use application for its new sanctuary, and I wanted to show my support by forwarding a copy of a letter that was sent to Supervisor Uilkema.

Sincerely,

Norman Remer

1366 Blvd. Way
W.C. CA 94595

July 21, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to show my enthusiastic support of Sufism Reoriented's proposed sanctuary project. Contra Costa County has been my lifelong home, and for the last eight years I have lived on Boulevard Way. For the last year and a half I have been renting part of a house that sits on the site of the proposed sanctuary at 1366 Boulevard Way. I adore this house but look forward with glee to the day it is removed in order to build Sufism Reoriented's beautiful sanctuary.

After looking at plans of the proposed building I have to say that I've never seen a more graceful structure. I was immediately struck by how the building's gentle, curvilinear forms draw the eye back to the natural surroundings: the earth, the surrounding hills, and the sky. This harmonious quality reminds me of the Miwok indians who once lived in this area. I've always loved the natural beauty of Contra Costa County, and am ecstatic about the possibility of such a beautiful structure being built here.

Sincerely,

Norman Remer

cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Patrick Lemer Date: 6·26·2009

Address: 1580 A Whitman Rd.
Concord, CA 94518

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -1 P 1:55
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

S

X

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 09/12/09

Printed Name: Cari Renz

Address: 1305 Boulevard Way #103
Walnut Creek CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Nancy M. Repp Nancy M. Repp

Date: 7/1/09

Address:
1521 Sunset Loop
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -6 P 2:04
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

5/12/10 (D) S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 11·15·09

Address: 2680 W. Newell Ave

M. Reynolds
~~Beverly Gregory~~
W.C. CA 94595-1512

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV -5 P 2:40

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: Nov. 15, 2009

Address: 2680 W. Newell Ave.
Walnut Creek, CA. 94595

[illegible]

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Kim Reynolds

Date: 9/11/09

Printed Name: Kim Reynolds

Address:
30 Lily Ct.
Walnut Creek

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 PD
09/01/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Nahid Rezai Date: 8/13/010

Printed name: NAHID REZAI

Business name: Accent European Kitch.

Address: 1571 Botelho Dr. W.C CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

RITCHEY CONSULTING, INC.

Wendy L. Ritchey, Ph.D. • Clinical Psychologist • California License Psy 8589

CONTRA COSTA
08 OCT 15 PM 1:17
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

5

October 13, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am enclosing a letter of support for Sufism Reoriented's building project that I wrote to Supervisor Uilkema in April.

I understand that the land use permit application has been filed and want to make sure that you count me among the many Saranap residents and business owners who are very much in favor of this project.

I look forward to showing my support at the hearing and at any public meetings that might be held.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Wendy L. Ritchey, Ph.D.

1280 Boulevard Way, Suite 201 · Walnut Creek, CA 94595
925.938.7511 Fax 925.938.7692 · www.WendyRitchey.com · DrWLR@WendyRitchey.com

5
(4)
5/13/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Michael Roberto Date: 5/3/10

Printed Name Michael Roberto

Address: 1178 Walnut Ave #4
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 OCT 29 P 1:11

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Nancy Rivara Date: 10/24/09

Printed Name NANCY RIVARA

Address: 3047 Woodside Meadows Rd.
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Victoria Rivera Date: 9/30/09

Printed name: Victoria Rivera

Business name: Victoria Rivera MA, MFT
Counseling and Psychotherapy

Address: 2940 Camino Diablo Suite 200
Walnut Creek, Ca 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S TR
09/01/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA. 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner, or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I am writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Susan Rizer Date: 8.19.10

Printed name: Susan Rizer

Business name: Sasa

Address: 1432 N. Main St.
W.C. Ca.

S

Copy: To LaShem Cross

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Peggie Rizzo
328 Constance Pl.
Moraga CA 94556

Peggie Rizzo

5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -7 P 1:48

DEPARTMENTAL CLASSIFICATION
AND DISTRIBUTION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jack H. Robcke Robcke Date: 6-28-2009

Address: 72 Grandview Pl.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

RECEIVED
JAN 26 2009
GAYLE B. UILKEMA

Duplicate S

January 25, 2009

By FAX: 925-335-1076 (original by mail)

COPY

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am writing again in strong support of the Sufism Reoriented sanctuary that has been proposed to be built in my neighborhood. Again, I am not a member of the Sufi congregation and, though I am writing as a private citizen, I feel again that I should disclose that I am employed as the Finance Manager for First 5 Contra Costa Children and Families Commission, a special district of Contra Costa County.

I have recently read some of the opposition being raised to the Sufi sanctuary by the "SOS group", and to respond to some of the claims made, I would like to emphatically state the following:

1. Sufism Reoriented, as agreed to by all, is well within the zoning laws to build a sanctuary that corresponds to their faith. I believe their faith rights also include the color of the building & walls. Working with the neighbors does not mean they should have to give up key symbols of their faith.
2. I often walk in the evenings around the neighborhood. On Friday and Sunday evenings the Sufis are out in many dozens, if not hundreds - **walking** - to their services. It has been clear to me for a couple of years now that the number of cars along the street has noticeably diminished. In fact, at times I have wondered if their services have been cancelled due to the lack of traffic and parked cars.

   Moreover, the claim that *"a lot of new traffic"* will occur when Sufi-owned buildings are sold just seems incorrect – does it not just mean that existing lease payments go to a new landlord? The Sufis selling their buildings will not create additional tenants. The one building that perhaps will bring a bit of new traffic into the area is only the current Sufi center - and that property has existing off street parking lot for about 25 vehicles. That simply is not very many cars.
3. Though several are perhaps classifiable as heritage trees, it is not as if the trees that will be removed are old growth redwoods or historical landmarks. The planting of many new trees will mask the sanctuary in short order. The idea proposed in one letter that was apparently sent into the county - that the Sufis might be ruining "the neighbor's existing trees and narrow driveway" - seems distorted and absurd: **the Sufis** are "the neighbor" who owns those trees and that driveway.
4. Regarding the request for story poles: The sanctuary will be veiled by trees within a few years – so why should the Sufis put up poles, at their expense, to show what it might look like for the two or three years while the trees fill in?
5. Allowing a height variance has precedence per the folks on Warren Rd. with a 35' roof. Yes, it is 33.5' above ground for the largest dome as proposed, but it is only that tall for a small area of the building. The nearby Le Boulevard apartments are 31' high and its total height-mass is far larger than the sanctuary - and little has been done to mask its impact on the skyline. It's my understanding that no SCA or neighborhood opposition was made to either of these buildings. When combining all of the data, I now feel that there is some blatant bias going on here against the Sufis' symbols of faith, in part reflected by the repeated statement that the design "*just does not fit in*". If the Sufis had put a Christian cross on top of the building, would "*it just does not fit in*" be a main complaint?

   Support for my opinion that there is religious bias is in fact coming from the SOS group themselves on a website they created. For instance, in one weekly update, someone directly infers that Sufis are "***children***" and "***little devils***". First, the term *devil* is offensive to many and is what I have heard some use to describe Islamic terrorists. Second, Sufis are not "*little devils*" whose design just does not "*fit in*" – they are tax paying adult Americans whose faith simply has a different symbolism.
6. The SOS group seems now to have made a turn towards inducing fear through misinformation.

To illustrate by items posted on their website: first, someone stated that the building will be "*270' above sea level*" – but since when does height *above sea level* matter if one is making the argument that height will impact enjoyment of the stars from *ground level* – particularly when the stargazers themselves are 240+ feet above sea level?

Second, another statement made is that the sanctuary will be "*a 54 foot high (over 34 feet of it above grade) 66,000 square foot two-story building*" which imparts the idea that all 66,000 sf will be visible at 34' high – but the truth is that only about 20,000 sf of the building will be visible, with an average building height of about 17.5' – and most of it will be masked by trees.

Third, SOS claims that over 3,400 dump truck loads will be needed for moving excavation fill. In reality, the typical size of truck used on such projects is much larger by volume and would result in a load number of perhaps half or less of what they have claimed – this I know because my father was a building contractor – and I did the math.

So, given the odd and misleading claims the SOS group is making, ***just exactly who is on a campaign to spread misinformation?***

7. Further, apparently to ensure that only a certain view of the situation is presented to you – *with seven different examples,* the SOS group is recommending specific language that folks put into their letters to you, Ms. Cross, and Ms. Kutsuris. They are also asking for multiple letters and phone calls to be made. In stark contrast, no one asked me to write or to call you, though I recently signed a petition of support. The information the Sufis have presented has not been shown to be dishonest by anyone – and as I said in my letters of December 2, 2008 to Ms. Cross and to you, I believe that the Sufis are being honest - in high contrast to SOS, a group that lacks due process and transparency. I now add that, in my personal opinion, at least some members of SOS are religiously biased, misrepresent data, and use distortion to induce fear.
8. Finally, in response to a model letter the SOS leadership has asked people to use, the idea that the neighborhood is somehow "*quaint*" (or *old-fashioned*) is clearly contraindicated by the fact that there are multi-family units and business property within a football field's length of the sanctuary.

   Further, within ¼ mile of the sanctuary property, this "*quaint neighborhood*" includes a 7-11 convenience store, a large automotive repair shop, retail stores, hair salons, an H&R Block tax office, a thriving deli/coffee shop, a live theater house, and a PG&E payment center. One simply cannot legitimately call this section of Saranap "*quaint*". In fact, the location of the sanctuary, as someone put it at the November SCA meeting, may in fact act as a transitional property from the commercial to the residential - and that seems like a realistic representation of the landscape to me.

In sum, I strongly support this building being approved <u>as designed</u>. Not only does this situation appear to be a simple case of supporting property ownership rights, but I feel it is now clearly about American citizens understanding that our Constitution was written to support **<u>all</u>** faiths - not just religions with sanctuaries that are slant roofed, have a cross on top, and are wooden in color.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. Please notify me of any and all meetings regarding this project. My personal email is **robinson.bridget1@gmail.com** should this be an easier way to notify me. Please call me should you have any questions at 925-935-9482.

Sincerely,

Bridget E. Robinson

Bridget E. Robinson
P.O. Box 4125, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

By FAX: 925-335-1076 (copy by mail)

December 2, 2008

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

As a resident of Saranap, I am writing in support of the Sufism Reoriented plan for a new center in the Saranap neighborhood. I am not a member of Sufism Reoriented's congregation, but like many people who both oppose and support the plan, I have friends in the congregation and I have attended several public events at the current Sufi center. The events were nicely done and they were not peculiar in any way. I am not happy with a thing or two that a couple of them said at the Saranap Community Association meeting on Nov. 13, but overall I feel the sanctuary will highly benefit the neighborhood and I feel the Sufis are acting openly and honestly in this matter.

I feel I should disclose that I work as the Finance Manager for the First 5 Children and Families Commission and so I am employed by a special district of Contra Costa County. I offer this letter, however, as a private citizen who feels that transparency and following long-established organizational procedures for democratic voting is key to the credibility of an organization purporting to represent any potentially affected constituency and thereby carrying any substantive weight in any county decision.

After looking at more information about what occurred around the July 10 meeting of the Saranap Community Association (SCA), it seems clear that the Sufis are really getting a bad rap about supposedly "taking over" the SCA. I feel strongly that you and the county planning department need to hear a fresh view of that situation in some detail from someone who lives in the neighborhood and who was not at all involved in the board transition.

To start, since when does seven board members resigning in protest of not being the majority constitute a takeover by the others left on the board? It's my understanding that one or more of the old board were simply to become alternates, and instead of being willing to go along with the democratic decision made by the membership of SCA, they quit and started their own group. In my view, the old board members abandonment of a democratic organization to start a supposedly independent organization is the primary misleading claim occurring in this situation. Where I come from, leaving because one did not get their way and starting one's own club is generally called "sour grapes".

This nation was founded in part on the principle of due process, something that was not being offered by the SCA's prior leadership in addressing the sanctuary. And quite honestly, because I know a few Sufis who live in my building fairly well, in my experience Sufis do not misrepresent why they do things. In my experience, if they tell you they joined so that a fair process would be undertaken to evaluate the plan on its merits, then in my opinion, they are telling the truth. I have been told that telling the truth is a core principle in Sufism Reoriented, and it is one that anyone who knows them can attest to.

So, even if one can understand why the old board felt overwhelmed by the presence of far more people than they expected showing up at the meeting on July 10, the Sufis by all accounts followed the SCA bylaws – and have stated that they did so only to ensure a fairer process would be followed. As far as I can tell, they did so in response to the prior president of the SCA leading a campaign to seriously deviate the SCA from its long-established procedures when evaluating a project. The SCA protocol is to wait until plans come in and then evaluate a project. To compare it with my workplace, what they did was tantamount to abandoning the Brown Act and having the Commission vote on a large program without any public input – something that I can say would never happen at First 5. I know it would not be tolerated at the Board of Supervisors either.

So, because I am now looking at the buildings around here in a different way, one of my main questions is: did the SCA oppose the Le Boulevard apartments project on the property next to the Sufi sanctuary property? Did that builder voluntarily put up trees so we would not have to look at it if we did not want to? Did that builder put aside extra space and a reflecting pool so that we could take some time off in a nice contemplative area? Not even close! Le Boulevard is positioned only about 30 feet from the road, its door is gated and, in my opinion, the whole building is very ugly.

If any building in the neighborhood should have received the level of opposition the Sufi building is getting, in my opinion, it should have been that one. I have heard of nothing that would make me think there was any opposition by the SCA to that building going up. So, why is the Sufi building receiving this level of opposition? I am left to wonder if it is not perhaps something about the different tenets of faith, and that, if true, would be flat out unconscionable as a reason for opposition, separation of church and state and all that. A few years of seeing a dome while the trees fill in is not that big a hassle – just blink your eyes a little while driving by – because honestly, that's when all but a very few people would see it: only when they are driving by. If they dislike it, there are other ways to get where one wishes to go around here than to go past the intersection of Boulevard Way and Kinney Drive.

To me, the SCA board conflict has been totally overblown. The Sufis own the property, it's zoned to accept a church, and the plans call for replacing a few not very large trees with many more. It seems to me they are well within their property rights to move forward with the project in spite of the opposition of a small group. Further, the SCA remains an organization based on people following bylaws, voting democratically, and representing diverse interests. Not all SCA board members are members of Sufism Reoriented and I fully believe the new board when they say that there is openness for anyone to become involved and be appointed to the board. In spite of the conflict, I recently joined the SCA in part because I believe that - no matter what - the current SCA board members will follow the established rules of the organization. I simply cannot say that about any group the old board members might be putting together.

Also, with the new SCA, I believe there is finally an organization emerging in my neighborhood that offers the opportunity to perform some community service. The old SCA did not offer that. For instance, the SCA is putting on a clothing and toy exchange on December 13th – and to my knowledge nothing like that was sponsored by the old SCA. Amongst other things, there are also plans to help the elderly – which I think is needed in this kind of "it takes a village" world and that did not happen with the old SCA. So, given this commitment of service to the Saranap community, I can think of no legitimate reason why anyone should really be upset with a few changed faces on the SCA board who were properly elected to their positions.

In sum, there are a lot of ways in which Sufism Reoriented benefits the neighborhood, including the way their volunteer labor keeps the Meher Schools inexpensive and the clean up they did on the poorly kept properties they bought, but I am fairly sure you already know about such things. So I say: let them build their sanctuary in a way that corresponds to the symbols of their faith and please take a hard look at the evidence about what happened with the SCA should this be a conflict that is influencing your decision making – the information was eye-opening to me and I feel sure it will be for you.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

P.O. Box 4125
W.C. CA 94596

Bridget E. Robinson

Bridget E. Robinson

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I ~~support this~~ building project.
I DON'T HAVE ANY OBJECTIONS TO THIS BUILDING PROJECT.

Signed: Date:

Printed Name
SCOTT ROBERTS

Address:
2532 Lucy Ln
WALNUT CREEK,

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

COUNTY CLERK
2011 DEC 19 P 12:55

Tom & Sally Roberts
1653 Del Monte Way
Moraga, CA 94556

Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner
Community Development Division
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor N-Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

July 26, 2009

Dear Ms. Cross,

We have been residents of Contra Costa County for 25 years. We have reviewed the information about the building proposed by Sufism Reoriented. Although we are not a part of the Sufism community, we have friends and acquaintances who are affiliated with the center. We support this building project. It will enhance the neighborhood and provide an architecturally beautiful sanctuary and grounds.

Please support this project.

Sincerely,

Tom Roberts
Sally A Roberts
Tom and Sally Roberts

8

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

4

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jeanne Robertson Date: 7-27-09

Printed name: JEANNE ROBERTSON

Business name: Jeanne Robertson, Registered Electrolysis

Address: 2960 Camino Diablo, #200 WC CA 94597

2009 AUG 27 A 10:11
RECEIVED
COUNTY CLERK

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: _____ Date: 9-20

Printed Name: Michael Robertson

Address: 111 Park Ave W.C.

Michael.Robertson@Apple.com

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S(+)
10/08/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 9-26-10

Printed Name: GEOFFREY L. ROBINSON

Address: 1012 EL CURTOLA BLVD
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

6-18-09

5

COPY

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Margaret R. Robinson
(Margaret R. Robinson)
2523-D Lucy Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

RECEIVED
JUN 19 2009
GAYLE B. UILKEMA

6-18-09

Attn: Ms. Kashun Cross, Planner

Ms. Cross,

I am sending you a copy of my letter to Gayle B. Uilkema which is in reference to the proposed Sufi sanctuary.

Just the beauty and design alone would bring a significant value to our neighborhood. And although I have not met all of the people in Sufism Reoriented, the ones that I have met are very nice. They are also concerned with the keeping our neighborhood safe.

Any questions, please feel free to contact me anytime.

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: F Rocha Date: 9/23/09

Printed name: ~~FEDL~~ FELY ROCHA

Business name: Marie Beauty Salon

Address: 1806 Tice Valley Blvd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S 7/22/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Eloise H. Rodgers

Date: 6/29/10

Printed Name
Eloise H. Rodgers

Address:
1583 Pebblebrook Ct.
Walnut Creek, Ca 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

+ 5

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 25 P 1:36
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 8/4/09

Address: 2308 SAN JUAN AVE
WALNUT CREEK, CA
94597

Justin Rodgers

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

May 16, 2008

To: LeShun Cross, Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

From: Paula Roemer DDS and Family
1010 Vaca Creek Road
Martinez, CA 94553

Re: Support for the New Sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am surely grateful to have this opportunity to write to you. I am certain that you have the same concerns as I do about the importance of education in our community as well as the concerns of working mothers. The Meher Schools provides quality, affordable education and care for many of our children in this community.

I am a practicing dentist in Walnut Creek. My husband John and I have raised three sons since 1990 in Contra Costa County. We took great care in educating them as we feel strongly that our children are our contribution to society and the future world. We now have a daughter Jewel, attending the Meher School at the Kindergarten level.

In all my experience I have never seen a more wonderful place for children to learn and grow than at the Meher School. In the confines of an old public school, they have created beautiful gardens, play havens and sanctuaries for fantasy and active play for the children. Their classrooms are immaculate and full of activity and learning. Last night's homework Jewel was happily editing sentences, as a kindergartener.

Because of their convenient extended hours both early and late, I no longer have the stress I once had in the past being on time picking Jewel up or getting to work on time. She LOVES going to school and being there as late as possible. We all know this feeling to be a good sign. The children are happy and never out of sorts when I drop off, pick up or visit my daughter at school.

I do hope that with some of this insight you might heartily support the relocation of Sufism Reoriented so that our community might continue to have affordable, quality education and care for our children, and that our world might flourish with the graduates of this wonderful educational program.

Very Sincerely Yours,

Paula

Paula Roemer DDS
cc: Ellen Evans

(925) 937-2100
301 Lennon Lane, Suite 101, Walnut Creek (Shadelands), CA 94598 • SmileWalnutCreek.com

5 (H)
11/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner, or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 8/27/10

Printed Name: Debbie Rogers

Business Name: NORF LONDON.

Address: 1341 N. Main St #H
Walnut Creek CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (H) 09/15/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 9/3/10

Printed Name: Tanya Rogow

Address: 50 Blade Wy
Walnut Creek, CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

4/27/10 (4) S

CONTRA COSTA
2010 APR 21 P 12:53

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Suz Date: 3/28/10

Printed Name Suzanne Rogge

Address:
1116 Baron Way
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Alex Rogers Date: 22/12/09

Printed Name:

Address: 1251 el Curtola
lafayette

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 2.14.10

Printed Name: Jennifer Rogers

Address: 2664 W Newell Ave.
Walnut Creek, CA

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

6.16.08

S

Leshun Cross, Community Development Department
Contra Costa County
651 Pine St, 4th fl, North Wing
Martinez CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
08 AUG -4 PM 1:55
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Leshun Cross – sorry

Dear ~~Supervisor Uilkema,~~

I am writing to ask that you support the new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented. Please approve the land use permit application and design as submitted. We are parents that have sent our children to Meher School for thirteen years. The Sufi community is a real benefit to the entire community.

Thanks for your consideration,

16 Lakeview [illegible] 94556

Jim Rogers

Janet Rogers

S r

January 25, 2009

By FAX: 925-335-1299 (original by mail)

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JAN 26 P 12:31
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Ms. Kutsuris:

I am writing in **strong support** of the Sufism Reoriented sanctuary that has been proposed to be built in my neighborhood. I am not a member of the Sufi congregation and, though I am writing as a private citizen, I feel I should disclose that I am employed as the Finance Manager for First 5 Contra Costa Children and Families Commission, a special district of Contra Costa County.

I have recently read some of the opposition being raised to the Sufi sanctuary by the "SOS group", and to respond to some of the claims made, I would like to emphatically state the following:

1. Sufism Reoriented, as agreed to by all, is well within the zoning laws to build a sanctuary that corresponds to their faith. I believe their faith rights also include the color of the building & walls. Working with the neighbors does not mean they should have to give up key symbols of their faith.
2. I often walk in the evenings around the neighborhood. On Friday and Sunday evenings the Sufis are out in many dozens, if not hundreds - **walking** - to their services. It has been clear to me for a couple of years now that the number of cars along the street has noticeably diminished. In fact, at times I have wondered if their services have been cancelled due to the lack of traffic and parked cars.

   Moreover, the claim that *"a lot of new traffic"* will occur when Sufi-owned buildings are sold just seems incorrect – does it not just mean that existing lease payments go to a new landlord? The Sufis selling their buildings will not create additional tenants. The one building that perhaps will bring a bit of new traffic into the area is only the current Sufi center - and that property has existing off street parking lot for about 25 vehicles. That simply is not very many cars.
3. Though several are perhaps classifiable as heritage trees, it is not as if the trees that will be removed are old growth redwoods or historical landmarks. The planting of many new trees will mask the sanctuary in short order. The idea proposed in one letter that was apparently sent into the county - that the Sufis might be ruining "the neighbor's existing trees and narrow driveway" - seems distorted and absurd: **the Sufis** are "the neighbor" who owns those trees and that driveway.
4. Regarding the request for story poles: The sanctuary will be veiled by trees within a few years – so why should the Sufis put up poles, at their expense, to show what it might look like for the two or three years while the trees fill in?
5. Allowing a height variance has precedence per the folks on Warren Rd. with a 35' roof. Yes, it is 33.5' above ground for the largest dome as proposed, but it is only that tall for a small area of the building. The nearby Le Boulevard apartments are 31' high and its total height-mass is far larger than the sanctuary - and little has been done to mask its impact on the skyline. It's my understanding that no SCA or neighborhood opposition was made to either of these buildings. When combining all of the data, I now feel that there is some blatant bias going on here against the Sufis' symbols of faith, in part reflected by the repeated statement that the design "*just does not fit in*". If the Sufis had put a Christian cross on top of the building, would "*it just does not fit in*" be a main complaint?

   Support for my opinion that there is religious bias is in fact coming from the SOS group themselves on a website they created. For instance, in one weekly update, someone directly infers that Sufis are "***children***" and "***little devils***". First, the term *devil* is offensive to many and is what I have heard some use to describe Islamic terrorists. Second, Sufis are not "*little devils*" whose design just does not "*fit in*" – they are tax paying adult Americans whose faith simply has a different symbolism.
6. The SOS group seems now to have made a turn towards inducing fear through misinformation.

To illustrate by items posted on their website: first, someone stated that the building will be "*270' above sea level*" – but since when does height *above sea level* matter if one is making the argument that height will impact enjoyment of the stars from *ground level* – particularly when the stargazers themselves are 240+ feet above sea level?

Second, another statement made is that the sanctuary will be "*a 54 foot high (over 34 feet of it above grade) 66,000 square foot two-story building*" which imparts the idea that all 66,000 sf will be visible at 34' high – but the truth is that only about 20,000 sf of the building will be visible, with an average building height of about 17.5' – and most of it will be masked by trees.

Third, SOS claims that over 3,400 dump truck loads will be needed for moving excavation fill. In reality, the typical size of truck used on such projects is much larger by volume and would result in a load number of perhaps half or less of what they have claimed – this I know because my father was a building contractor – and I did the math.

So, given the odd and misleading claims the SOS group is making, ***just exactly who is on a campaign to spread misinformation?***

7. Further, apparently to ensure that only a certain view of the situation is presented to you – *with seven different examples,* the SOS group is recommending specific language that folks put into their letters to you, Sup. Uilkema, and Ms. Cross. They are also asking for multiple letters and phone calls to be made. In stark contrast, no one asked me to write or to call you, though I recently signed a petition of support. The information the Sufis have presented has not been shown to be dishonest by anyone – and as I said in my letter of December 2, 2008 to Sup. Uilkema and Ms. Cross, I believe that the Sufis are being honest - in high contrast to SOS, a group that lacks due process and transparency. I now add that, in my personal opinion, at least some members of SOS are religiously biased, misrepresent data, and use distortion to induce fear.
8. Finally, in response to a model letter the SOS leadership has asked people to use, the idea that the neighborhood is somehow "*quaint*" (or *old-fashioned*) is clearly contraindicated by the fact that there are multi-family units and business property within a football field's length of the sanctuary.

   Further, within ¼ mile of the sanctuary property, this "*quaint neighborhood*" includes a 7-11 convenience store, a large automotive repair shop, retail stores, hair salons, an H&R Block tax office, a thriving deli/coffee shop, a live theater house, and a PG&E payment center. One simply cannot legitimately call this section of Saranap "*quaint*". In fact, the location of the sanctuary, as someone put it at the November SCA meeting, may in fact act as a transitional property from the commercial to the residential - and that seems like a realistic representation of the landscape to me.

In sum, I strongly support this building being approved as designed. Not only does this situation appear to be a simple case of supporting property ownership rights, but I feel it is now clearly about American citizens understanding that our Constitution was written to support **all** faiths - not just religions with sanctuaries that are slant roofed, have a cross on top, and are wooden in color.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. Please notify me of any and all meetings regarding this project. My personal email is **robinson.bridget1@gmail.com** should this be an easier way to notify me. Please call me should you have any questions at 925-935-9482.

Sincerely,

Bridget E. Robinson

Bridget E. Robinson
P.O. Box 4125, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Kathy Rogers
1496 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
(925) 939-3157

Sept. 1, 2008

CONTRA COSTA
08 SEP -3 PM 1:57
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I'm writing to let you know of my concern over, and opposition to, the Sufism Reoriented project in our quiet little Saranap area. You have been so supportive in the past (I've had the opportunity to interact with you over various projects in our little community, before being displaced as a Board Member at the last General Meeting).At that General Meeting in August, over 100 "new" members surged in, paid their dues, and took advantage of a by-law statement that allowed anyone having "an interest in Saranap" to be a voting member. Both husband and wife signed up separately, and wrote in Sufi members to constitute the Board membership. So just be forewarned that SCA is no longer reflective of the community's viewpoint—its intent is to push this Sufi project through, and there is no concern for the mission statement that pledges to preserve the semi-rural, quaint little residential neighborhood that we find so charming. The composition of the Saranap Community Association (SCA) is now 8 Sufis and 3 non-Sufis. It is now the Sufi Community Association.

As I went through the "new" members' addresses, I found that two-thirds of the home addresses were not in the Saranap, and were certainly not within walking distance of the current sanctuary. There will be traffic and parking issues, especially now that Pascal Kaplan, one of their higher-ups, has confirmed at a recent Sufi neighborhood meeting that this project is to serve as the world headquarters of Sufism Reoriented.

A city planner friend of ours gives perspective to this project: The ENTIRE block of buildings at Broadway Plaza containing David M Brian's, Gap for Kids, Baby Gap, Swarovski, Betsey Johnson, Sur La Table, PLUS the PF Chang's building, PLUS the Chico building--- is smaller than the proposed 66,000 sq. ft. domed structure! And the stores are only 23-36 feet high. I am not opposed to the religion—I am opposed to ANY structure of this size in our cozy little area. And there is a plan to encircle this monstrosity, all 3.5 acres of it , with a white concrete wall. It is exclusionary, and aesthetically horrifying to contemplate. This is not a community church that welcomes all comers, by the way. Non-Sufi people have never been embraced by this organization until the campaign for support was launched. Nor were they at all interested in the Saranap Community Association until they realized that the Association would oppose their huge structure.

Why not work with their existing structure? The Sufis could easily expand and modify the sanctuary to provide for a larger congregation—although their membership is only reported to be 350 people. I cannot believe that 66,000 square feet is necessary because they have 100 people in their choir, which is the disingenuous reasoning put forth at a recent neighborhood meeting held at the church during the Q and A period.

It should also be noted that a church and all of its properties don't pay taxes. I know that the City of Walnut Creek very much desires the money generated by the proposed Neiman Marcus store downtown. The residences that the Sufis swallowed up don't pay taxes and won't help finance our community. The corporate/church ownership of previously taxed residences actually represent a tax drain.

Thank you very much for your attention to this matter. The Sufis are very well-organized and financed, but the majority of the neighborhood will be weighing in on this project, too.

Sincerely,

Kathy Rogers

Kathy Rogers and family

Cc: Ms. LaShun Cross, Community Conservation and Development, 651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, Martinez, 94553

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Donna W. Rolls Date: 07-06-2009

Printed Name
DONNA W. ROLLS

Address:
3341 Tice Creek Dr. #6
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

3

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jennifer Roney Date: 9/6/09

Printed Name: Jennifer Roney

Address: 2523 Lucy ln #A
Walnut Creek CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Phyllis E. Ronhaar

Date: Jan. 27, 2010

Printed Name

Phyllis E. Ronhaar

Address:

2630 Biscay Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 11/26/2009

Printed name: Rori Roth

Business name: Roth law office

Address: 1870 olympic Blvd Walnut creek CA- 94596
1870 OLYMPIC BLVD #115 W.C.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

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CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 24 P 1:30

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 8-6-09

Printed Name: DONALD W ROSE

Address: Harlequin Gardens & Nursery
1660- TICE VALLEY BLVD
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5
11/29/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 10/11/10

Printed name: Sherry L Rose

Business name: American Express Travel

Address: 1645 Mt. Diablo Blvd Walnut Creek CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine St. Rm. 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

3/13/2009

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

My name is Suzanne Rose; I live at 1339 Boulevard Way, next door to the land where Sufism Reoriented would like to build a new sanctuary. I have lived and worked in this area for over twenty years. I love it here and would like to be able to spend my later years continuing to attend and participate in the activities at my spiritual center adjacent to my home. The Meher Schools where I work, serves and benefits the children and families of the entire community, I believe that the school demonstrates the care and concern of the quality of any project we embrace. It is really unparallel, particularly for a project as important to us as our new Sanctuary. We have hired one of the best and most renowned architects on our nation to design the structure, with plans to landscape in the most eco-friendly way possible. Sufism's consideration of and good will towards our neighbors has been extraordinary. I can not imagine that our efforts and our proven track record of harmony and good results over a thirty year period would not be welcomed in the neighborhood especially during such an economically difficult time as we are currently in. In my opinion if we had to leave the neighborhood in order to have our spiritual Center because of unwarranted fears, it would be a travesty as much for the larger community as it would be for us.

Thank you for your careful consideration.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Rose

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 MAR 16 P 1:49

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

3/13/2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the planned Sufism Rioriented Sanctuary project.

Sincerely,

Sue Rose

Suzanne Rose
1336 Blvd. Wy.#209
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Christina L Rosefield Date: 1/3/10

Printed Name: CHRISTINA L ROSEFIELD

Address: 3182 CONDIT Rd
LAFAYETTE CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 10 P 1:31

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 8-Aug-09

Triston J. Rosenberger

Printed Name

Triston J. Rosenberger

Address:

1268 Skycrest Dr. #3
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

141 Flora Ave Apt 56
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
March 24, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine St. Rm 108A
Martinez,Ca 94553

I am writing you in support of the proposal by Sufism Reoriented to build a new sanctuary.

I am a participating member of the Sufism Reoriented community and have lived next door to our current center in a rented apartment for the last 18 years. This is within walking distance of the proposed site of the new church. I worked as a substitute teacher at the White Pony from 1992-1997 and presently volunteer at the school on cleaning teams. For the past 12 years I have been employed as a technician by ATT in San Ramon.

Harmony is fundamental to Sufism Reoriented's understanding of life. This harmony extends to one's physical surrounds and often manifests itself as beauty. I believe the proposed building is consistent with these principles. Beautiful in its simplicity, unimposing - in its size, it will provide a needed brightening of our neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Hugh E. Rosenthal

Cc : Ms. Lashun Cross, Community Development

CONTRA COSTA
2009 MAR 26 P 12: 57
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

March 24, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, Ca 94553

Dear Ms Cross:

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Hugh E Rosenthal

S

Sara Rosnow
1101 Stanley Dollar Drive, #1
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
2009 APR 28 P 1:19
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross
Dept. of Conservation and Development
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94595

Dear Ms. Cross,

I wish to express my support for Sufism Reoriented's application for a land use permit. I am doing so by enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sara Rosnow

Sara Rosnow

1101 Stanley Dollar Drive #1
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
April 14, 2009

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I wish to express my very strong support for the proposed new Sufism Reoriented sanctuary. I have been a member for the past 26 years. I lived in the Saranap during that time, until I moved to Rossmoor one year ago.

Please let me share with you the extraordinary experience in my life that brought me to Sufism Reoriented. I am an 84 year old Holocaust survivor. I came ot the United States in 1950. This was my first encounter with civilized, normal life. I felt like a stranger, alienated and lonely. Although physically satisfied with ample food, clothing and shelter, I found myself unable to enjoy what I had. I was constantly yearning for something I could not find until I found Sufism Reoriented. Suddenly I found myself in a very warm, friendly, supportive environment, which I very much appreciate and love.

Also, I very much appreciate the contributions The Meher Schools is making. My granddaughter graduated from The Meher Schools. When asked by her intermediate school teacher, "what is the most valued human characteristic?" she answered, "honesty."

It is my sincere belief that the proposed new Sufism Reoriented sanctuary will be a very definite enhancement to the Saranap neighborhood. I thank you for a favorable consideration for this project.

Sincerely,

Sara Rosnow

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CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 19 P 1:40

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 08-16-09

Address: 3183 Old Tunnel Rd.
Lafayette, CA 94549

David W. Roudebush

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S
+

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Nancy Rowe

Date: 11-20-09

Printed Name
NANCY ROWE

Address:
911 ULFINIAN WY
Martinez CA 94553

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Becky Royeton
10 Sally Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
(925)457-3701

S

May 16, 2008

Ms. Leshun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am writing to convey my support for the new Sanctuary to be built by Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way. My reasons for supporting this project are many.

I have lived in Walnut Creek for 21 years and in that time I have seen the city change tremendously and redefine itself from a sleepy suburb to a shopping and cultural center of the area. As a resident of the Saranap area, I feel that the beautiful building will generally enhance the neighborhood and become a landmark that helps define our area as a vital part of the revisioning of Walnut Creek as a destination.

The renown of the architect, the beauty of the design and the "green features" of the building alone are enough to compel me toward supporting this project wholeheartedly. However, my connections to the project go beyond this.

I am also the Vice Principal of the Meher Schools. In this role, I am intimately acquainted with the fact that the school depends on the volunteer help of members of Sufism Reoriented who live in the neighborhood. Our goal at the school is to provide an outstanding learning environment to a wide range of students from the community. To do this, the voluntary services of members of Sufism Reoriented are indispensable. In order for our school to continue to offer this service to children and their families, we need to be able to live in close proximity to our place of worship. Our current center has never really been large enough for our group's activities. The new building will provide adequate room and therefore cement our relationship to this area and allow us to continue to provide this vital service to our community for years to come.

In addition to working at the school, I also have three children who currently attend the Meher Schools. As a parent, I can attest to the wonderful environment and sense of community created at the school. My sisters both attended school here in the 1980s and my children have had many of the same teachers that they had, sometimes even in the same classroom! I have been constantly impressed by the teachers' dedication and their ability to create a learning environment that is both fun and academically rigorous. My children all have very different learning styles and it has been a joy to observe how flexible the teachers have been and how they have customized their teaching to best fit each child's needs.

We have been so impressed by the loving and enthusiastic support our parents have expressed for our new Sanctuary. I urge you to do all you can to support the building project as it navigates the application process.

Sincerely,

Becky Royeton

Becky Royeton, M.Ed.

THE MEHER SCHOOLS

Wednesday Messages

May 7, 2008 ☙ www.meherschools.org

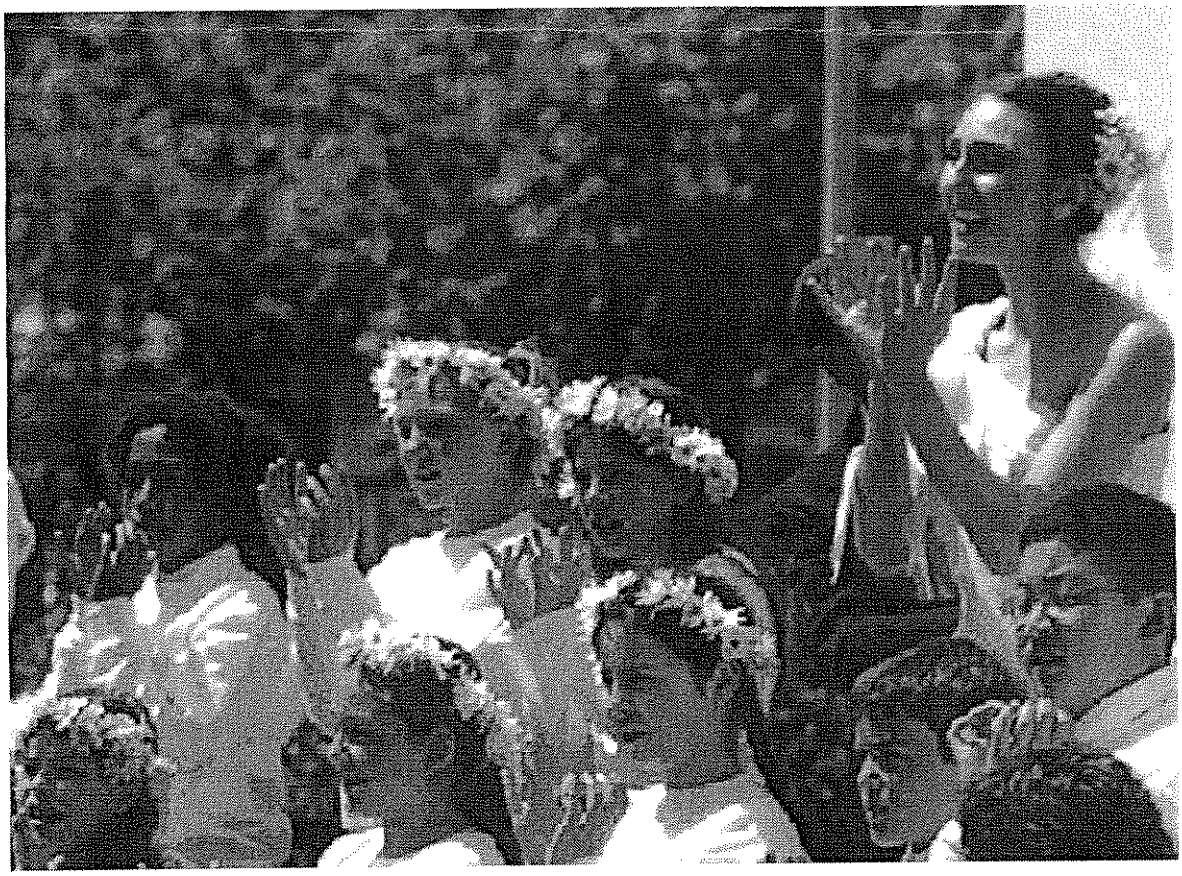
Calendar Note: May 26 is a holiday

Memorial Day will be observed this year on Monday, May 26. There will be no school or daycare that day.

Special card for a special person

If you haven't signed a card for Patricia O'Leary, our art card volunteer who recently underwent surgery, please consider taking a couple minutes to stop by the Office and do so. It would mean a lot to her—and us!

Awakening Hearts in San Francisco



The Meher School's Grades 2–5 Children's Chorus joined soloist Hilary Hogan (shown here) and the Consortium of the Arts Chorus Sunday in two performances of the concert "Love Takes Root" on San Francisco's Union Square.

Tips for Parents by Susie Kohl

Responding to Aggression

NONE OF US LIKES to hear about our child's transgressions, especially if the misbehavior involves aggression. For example, when someone says, "Your child threw a ball into someone's face today," it's hard to know what to say. Should we advocate for our child—"He didn't sleep last night"—or promise to punish him when he gets home? Actually, I suggest asking some helpful questions: "Is the other person hurt?" "How did she feel afterward?" "Did you help her feel better?" Our natural angst at receiving negative feedback about our child can make us forget about the victim. However, putting intensity into concern for the child's who's been hurt is the first step at bringing the situation back into balance.

Of course, young children are just learning to control their impulses to grab toys or push someone down. Developing the ability to be gentle and ask for what they need takes consistent time and of reinforcement from adults. Since so many situations have mitigating circumstances—"He teased me so I kicked him" "She said I can't come to her birthday party so I hit her"—responding to aggression between siblings or students at school can be tricky. We want children to feel safe enough to talk honestly and not being punitive encourages them to speak freely. We acknowledge emotional hurts and coach children to react positively the next time: "I know you felt bad when she teased you, but could you tell her that rather than kicking?" Be reassured that we aren't missing the fact that your child has a point of view and that his intentions are not bad. However, there is danger in over-understanding a child's point of view if we appear to excuse or overlook aggression.

We often talk with parents about the fact that when children go through phases of aggression, they are tired or stressed. Sometimes children go through times when they come to school angry and upset. That's why we are always eager to hear about changes in your child's life, so we can offer special support. Scheduling happy times alone with your child often alleviates their feelings of distress.

Please don't let conversations about these issues embarrass or distress you. We live in a better age when parents and teachers learn more fully to walk in each other's shoes.

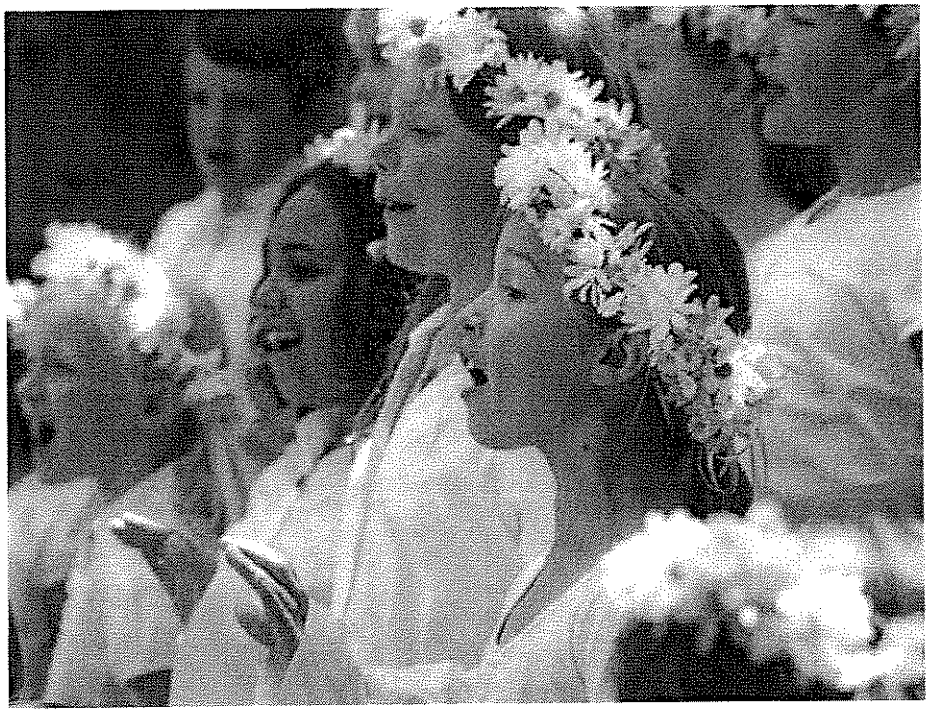
Elementary School

K–5 June Daycare Registration Underway, Closes May 14

Daycare will be offered for elementary students during the week between the end of the elementary school year and the beginning of the first summer session, June 16–20. Hours will be the same as when school is in session, 7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. The cost is $120 for the week for as much or as little time as you wish to use. Children must be pre-registered to participate.

There will be no daycare or programs between Monday, June 23 and Monday, June 30. Summer Fun Session I begins on Tuesday, July 1, the drama program July 7. There will be no school or daycare on Friday, July 4. Registration for summer programs and daycare ended last month.

Attachment: Registration form. Forms and payment are due in the Office by **next Wednesday, May 14**. No applications will be accepted after that date. No refunds will be given after **May 26**.

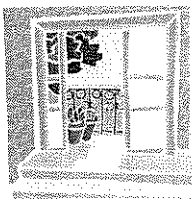


Saturday Afternoon on Broadway Plaza

Our Grades 2–5 Chorus entertained shoppers at Broadway Plaza in Walnut Creek Saturday with two performances of a special spring concert. This is the third spring in a row that our chorus has appeared at Broadway Plaza.

Bulletin Board

Teacher needs a temporary home



One of our teachers is looking for a temporary new home for up to six months. An in-law unit, cottage, or room with an outside entrance would be ideal. Please leave a note with Hana in the Office if you have or know of possibilities. Thank you very much.

Ballroom dancing for children?

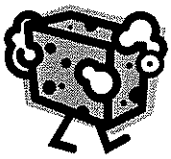
Genesis Ballroom Dance Studio in San Francisco is considering opening a location in the Walnut Creek/Lafayette area if enough people are interested. This studio focuses on dances for children four and up—salsa, samba, cha cha, waltz, foxtrot, and others. Teachers include winners of the *Dance with the Stars* TV show and major international competitions. If you think you might be interested in enrolling your child, e-mail Lydia at *lavramenko@yahoo.com*, noting his or her gender and age. (Check out the studio at *www.genesisdancesport.com.*)

Tahoe/Donner cabin for rent

One of our families is offering their three-bedroom, three-bath cabin near Donner Lake for rent. It's located within five minutes of the lake, a swim and tennis club, golf, an equestrian center, and historic downtown Truckee and is 25 minutes from Lake Tahoe's North Shore. It rents for $135 a night plus a $90 cleaning fee—that's cheaper than a hotel, with all the amenities of home. Contact Alisa at 788-3909 or *alisa.oliver@lfg.com* for availability.

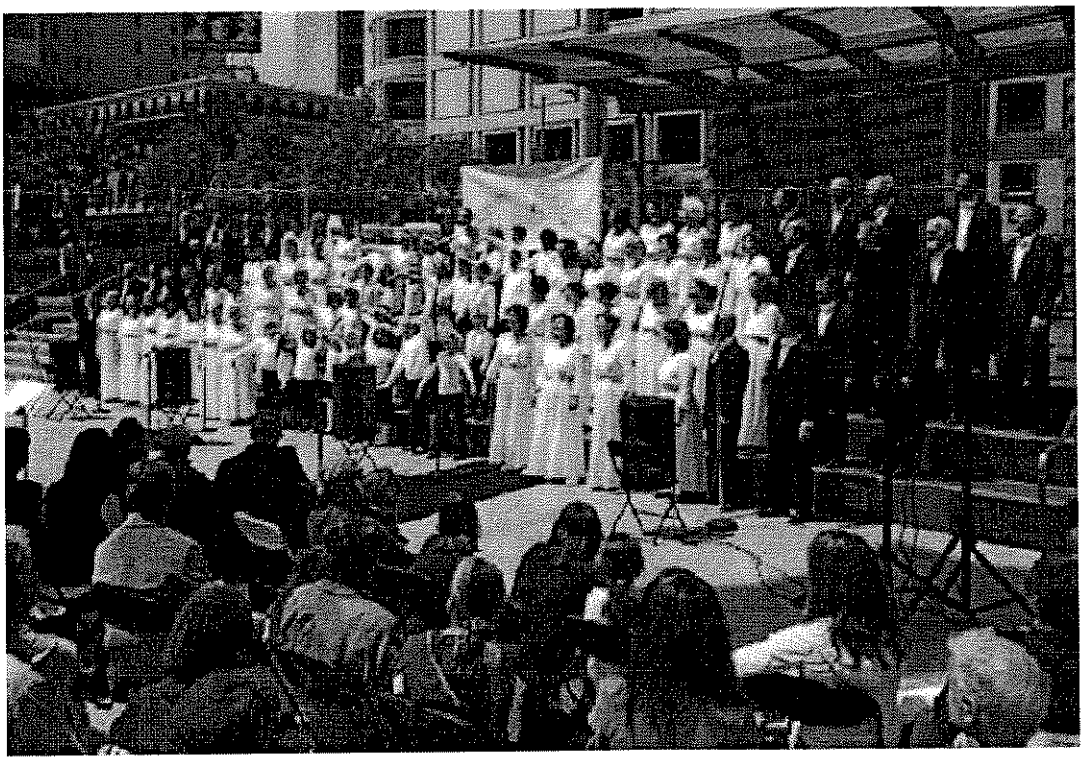
Need help getting fit?

A Meher School mom is offering individual and small-group personal training sessions in your home. Wednesday morning and early-afternoon time slots are available. For information call Lisa at 943-2199.



A special project this weekend

Our monthly special projects crew will meet **this Saturday**, May 10, from 8:30 to 10. We will be washing cots. We meet outside Tim's shop on Tier 2. Any and all are welcome!



The Meher School Grades 2–5 Chorus is flanked by the Consortium of the Arts Chorus Sunday at one of their two Union Square performances. Hundreds of shoppers and tourists joined Meher Schools and Sufism Reoriented families for 40 minutes of uplifting music under a bright springtime sun.

Photos by Jim Kirkpatrick. Clip art © 2008 by Microsoft Corp.

ID 5
11/2
1

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 10/25/10

Printed Name
Chad Runyon

Address:
1157 River Rock Lane
Danville, CA 94526

CONTRA COSTA
2010 NOV -2 A 11:51
TRANSMITTED FOR RECORDING
AND ENTRY

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Adriana S. Russell Date: 7/9/09

Business name: Adriana S. Russell MFT

Address: 2910 Camino Diablo Suite 200 Walnut Creek CA 94597

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL 13 P 3:49
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5 t

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:

As the public review entity for our Saranap Community, I hope the County is strongly recommending Sufism Reoriented look at alternative design options so that the proposed Sanctuary development is more compatible with the neighborhood. The proposed stark-white building design, with its multiple domes that loom over the surrounding homes, is in sharp contrast to the character of the neighborhood. Also, the proposed landscape plan, that calls for the total removal of the existing trees and incorporates unnatural planting schemes of regimented, uniform patterns, does a poor job at blending with the surrounding residential landscapes.

Neighbors have attended some of the Sufism Reoriented meetings and have been disappointed by their strict adherence to one design. There are many places of worship that blend successfully with the surrounding neighborhoods and it seems reasonable for Sufism Reoriented to be willing to adjust their current design plans to address the many concerns that have been put forth by the neighbors.

I also think it would be useful to have Sufism Reoriented put up "story poles" so county staff and Saranap community members can clearly see the impacts of the proposed dome heights on the neighborhood.

Please keep me informed of all public hearings that pertain to this project.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Russell

Jennifer Russell
178 Kendall 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

S

Gina Rutenberg
2332 Warren Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
08 JUL 15 AM 10: 16
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

July 14, 2008

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear M. Cross:

I learned that Sufism Reoriented filed a land use application recently. I want to express my support for the project by forwarding the letter I sent to Supervisor Uilkema.

Thank you,

Gina Rutenberg

Gina Rutenberg

Enclosure

Gina Rutenberg
2332 Warren Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

July 14, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Uilkema:

I recently became aware of a new building project in my neighborhood. It involves a new building for Sufism Reoriented. All that I've seen regarding the project seems like it will be a wonderful addition to the neighborhood. I was glad to hear that the overall height of the building won't exceed the surrounding structures. The landscaping will look beautiful, a real upgrade to the way the neighborhood has looked for years!

I have lived in my home for 34 years. My children attended St. Mary's elementary school and later, Carondelet and DeLaSalle high schools. I am a homeowner who cares very much about my neighborhood. I appreciate how well the current building is maintained, especially the landscaping. I've always thought it was a great improvement to the Boulevard Way corridor. I can only imagine how the new building will enhance and improve the neighborhood.

I was also very happy to hear that the new construction will be "green." Just like our new library in Walnut Creek, I strongly believe that all new construction should be "green" in Contra Costa County.

Thank you so much for your time, as well as your service to all of us!

Sincerely,

Gina Rutenberg

CC: Lashun Cross

5

August 31, 2008

CONTRA COSTA

08 SEP -4 PM 1:17

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms Lashum Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms Cross:

I have learned that Sufism Reoriented has filed its land use application. I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the planned Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary project.

Sincerely,

Mischa Rutenberg

Mischa Rutenberg

Mischa Rutenberg
2332 Warren Rd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
08 OCT 15 PM 1:17
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

5

October 13, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

Enclosed you will find a copy of a letter of support for the Sufism Reoriented land use permit application that I sent to Supervisor Uilkema.

Sincerely,

Mischa Rutenberg

Mischa Rutenberg

Mischa Rutenberg
2332 Warren Rd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

August 21, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street
Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms Uilkema,

After I finished my tour of duty with the US Army, my wife and I looked around to see where the best place to settle and raise our family would be. We chose Walnut Creek, and we have lived here in the Saranap area in the same house for the last 34 years. Our children went to school here. After studying and living in other parts of the world, our children have returned here. So you see we love it here.

I am a jewelry designer whose work is collected internationally. I am also a member of ASCAP as a professional composer and musician. I mention this to illustrate that I care a great deal about design, beauty and harmony.

I live very close to the site for the new Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary on Boulevard Way. I am writing in support of this project. I have looked at the proposed plans and marvel at both the beauty and "green" sensitivity of the design. It will be a great addition to this neighborhood I have cherished and lived in for most of my life.

Sincerely,

Mischa Rutenberg

5

Ms Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94552

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUN 30 P 12: 11

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dar Ms. Cross,

Please find attached a letter to Supervisor Uikema in support of Sufism Reoriented Land Use Permit Application for their new Sanctuary. I am enclosing a copy of the letter of support.

Sincerely,

Gary W. Rutkin
5908 16th Street NW
Washington, DC 20011

Supervisor Gayle Uikema
651 Pine Street Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uikema,

I am writing in support of the planned church sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented.

I lived in the Seranap area from 1974 - 1996. I worked for the Contra Costa County Office of Education and as such was the County Superintendent of Schools education representative to the County's Juvenile Systems Advisory Group, Family Policy Academy, Family Preservation and Service Integration Advisory Team – activities supported by the County Board of Supervisors.

My reason for writing to you is because of my experience in getting to know members of the Sufism Reoriented community as neighbors, parents (children at Walnut Creek Intermediate and Las Lomas) and friends. I also got to know many of them through the White Pony School in Lafayette. My primary role for the County Office of Education was as a special education specialist placing children throughout the County. The White Pony School housed one of the County's classes for children with multiple disabilities. In an era before such children and classes were required to be fully included in public schools, the staff at the school fully integrated the children into the life of the campus. Following a visit to the class and school by Joe Ovick, the then Director of Special Education before he became the County Superintendent of Schools, he remarked to me, "what a wonderful place for children to learn and grow".

It was my experience in getting to know the people behind the school as well as my neighbors who are members of Sufism Reoriented that I reach out to you in support of their new church building. They shared brochures with renderings of the proposed structure which to my eyes are visually stunning. As a Washington D.C. resident, I have observed that new and bright architectural ideas are met with small, but strong opposition that threaten independent-minded public officials with election fallout if their position is not supported. However, these projects *do* move forward and are the pride of residents and admired by countless visitors. In years to come, I hope you will have the opportunity to look back with pride for supporting this welcoming church and the joy that the life-space brings to their community, the Saranap and Contra Costa.

Sincerely,

Gary W. Rutkin
5908 16th Street NW
Washington DC 20011

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL 15 P 2:16
DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION

July 5, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am a former resident of Walnut Creek having lived in the Saranap for many years before moving to Washington, DC. I am now a Federal employee working for the Office of Personnel Management as a Group Manager for government-wide human resource strategy. I maintain strong ties to the Saranap community, regularly visiting my son who lives there still, as well as a wide group of companions associated with Sufism Reoriented. I have seen the recent brochures about the new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented and feel compelled to write you with my complete endorsement for this beautiful proposal.

I live on 16th Street in Washington, a street that begins in front of the White House and runs through the middle of the city. 16th Street has many churches and places of worship representing a wide range of religions and spiritual communities as well as lovely homes and multi-family dwellings. It is a wonderful example of a harmonious mix of residential and uniquely designed places of worship.

When I saw the brochures of the sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented, I was touched by the thoughtful care to design this extremely beautiful building incorporating concerns for the neighbors and the environment. The building is built low, with much of it underground. The structure itself has a harmonious flow that blends in so nicely with the rolling hills in the area. The landscaping will provide flowers and green trees which should flourish in the California environment and will certainly improve the current view of those who pass by. The building incorporates the best thinking in green technology, showing care for the environment. When I saw these pictures, I thought "what is there not to love?" I recognize that some in the area wish the Saranap to remain as it is. But in my life I have learned that little stays the way it is and flourishes. I think the residents of the Saranap would agree that they do not wish for their community to stagnate. The sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented provides a wonderful opportunity to use the land in a restful, low impact, and pleasing way. I ask that you and others consider these points as you move the plans of Sufism Reoriented forward.

I'd like to mention that my two children were fortunate enough to go to the White Pony and Meher Schools. Both Eve and Colin are now grown and professionals in their own line of work. They often reminisce about their early years at the Meher Schools and agree that the approach to learning, living, and loving others was a fundamental foundation of who they are today – people I greatly admire, even if I am their mother. The Meher Schools are extrinsically linked with Sufism Reoriented since the most of the teachers and staff, not to mention the many

volunteers who keep the school in tip-top shape, are members of the group and live nearby. They are dedicated community citizens who are certainly an asset to the Saranap.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts and offer my unequivocal support for the building for Sufism Reoriented.

Sincerely,

Judith Rutkin
5908 16th Street NW
Washington, DC 20011
202-441-8390

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

5

February 18, 2008

LeShun Cross
Re: Sufism Reoriented Land Use Permit Application
Community Development Department
Contra Costa County
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am writing to express my strong support of the sanctuary Sufism Reoriented wishes to build in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek. I attended The Meher Schools from pre-school through fifth grade, and feel very privileged to have received my early education there. I am now pursuing a J.D. at Hastings College of the Law, and also have my Masters in English literature. The wonderful teachers at the Meher Schools nurtured my writing abilities and helped lay the foundation for my later pursuits in college, graduate school, and law school. The continued viability of the Meher Schools is very important to me.

I also write as a long-term Walnut Creek resident. Although I currently reside in Oakland, I intend to return to Walnut Creek in the near future. I believe the new building will greatly enhance the Saranap neighborhood, and Walnut Creek in general.

Thank you for reading this. I hope you will approve the land use permit application and the beautiful building design.

Sincerely,

Josh Rutkin

257 Vernon St.
Oakland, Ca 94610

S

CONTRA COSTA

08 SEP 17 PM 1:08

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

9/15/08

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the planned Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary project.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Rutkin

CONTRA COSTA

08 OCT 15 PM 1:17

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

S

Dear Ms. Lashun Cross,

I am sending you a copy of a letter of support for the Sufism Reoriented land use permit application that was sent to Supervisor Uilkema.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Rutkin

Phyllis Rutkin

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am wholeheartedly in favor of the new environmentally friendly sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented. As a homeowner in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek for more than twenty years, I have always appreciated the diversity of this neighborhood. This diversity creates a feeling of possibility for different approaches to life. This seems especially important during the period of time in which we are currently living of rapid population growth. It makes it possible to welcome and support this new sanctuary from a group that offers so much to the community.

I think the presence of a new house of worship is a welcome balance to the area particularly since the Saranap has no places of worship. As a public school teacher who has worked in Contra Costa County for over twenty years, and as a parent of a son that graduated from The Meher Schools, I feel I know well the positive aspects that would come from having this new sanctuary in the Saranap area. Once again, I wish to state that I am strongly in favor of this proposal, which will add unparalleled charm and beauty to the neighborhood.

Sincerely

Phyllis Rutkin

627 N Villa Way
W.C. Ca 94595

CC: Lashun Cross, County Planner

CONTRA COSTA

JUL 28 P 1:01

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/26/11

Printed Name: Robert Rutkowski

Address: 1172 saranap ave
walnut creek, ca. 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: N Rozal

Date: 1/22/10

Printed Name
Nanci Rozal

Address:
711 Picnic Lane
Walnut Creek CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

Mary Jane Ryan
15 Lily Ct.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

June 11, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross

Comm Conserv & Dev Dept.

651 Pine St. 4th Floor-N. Wing

Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am a resident of the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented and know the details about the controversy. I am writing to let you know I fully support this building project.

Thank you,
Mary Jane Ryan

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Margie Ryerson, MFT Date: 9/23/09

Printed Name Margie Ryerson, MFT

Address: 38 Quail Ct. #100
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL 23 P 12:16
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Svend S Ryge

Date: July 18 2009

Printed Name
SVEND S RYGE

Address: 3929 S PEARDALE DR.
LAFAYETTE CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Judy Ryker Date: 11/02/09

Printed Name Judy Ryker

Address:

1038 Camino Verde Cir.
W. C., Ca. 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5
1

CONTRA COSTA
2009 OCT -5 P 12:02
DEPUTY CLERK

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Frank Ryken Date: 11/02/09

Printed Name Frank Ryken

Address: 1038 Camino Verde Cir.
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Jason Saffer, MA, MFT
277 South Wildwood, Hercules, California 94547
510/724-3198 (voice) 510/724-3103 (fax) jasons@creativegrowth.com

CONTRA COSTA
08 OCT 15 PM 1:17
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

October 13, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am enclosing a copy of a letter of support (originally sent to Supervisor Uilkema on August 22, 2008) for the Sufism Reoriented land use permit.

Sincerely,

Jason Saffer, MA, MFT

Jason Saffer, MA, MFT
277 South Wildwood, Hercules, California 94547
510/724-3198 (voice) 510/724-3103 (fax) jasons@creativegrowth.com

August 22, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am delighted to write you this letter in support of the new building proposed by Sufism Reoriented for the Saranap area. It's been my pleasure to participate as an active member of Sufism Reoriented since 1982. The new proposed sanctuary will be a lovely and wholesome addition to the area, emanating beauty for many generations to come.

There is so much of a positive nature that can be listed that this proposed place of worship embodies, I could go on for pages! But, for the sake of brevity, and since I presume you are receiving many letters and expressions of support, I'll just say that this tasteful and unimposing building will add so much to the neighborhood and to the lives of the members of Sufism Reoriented, all of whom are dedicated to serving their neighbors, friends, families, and larger community. I know that the planners and builders have made great efforts to design this new building to blend well with the surrounding community and the earth as a whole.

I was so pleased to learn recently that the Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County has voiced enthusiastic support for this new sanctuary and have commented that the plan "is aesthetically beautiful as well as respectful of neighbors...The efforts of this group to be friendly and considerate are astoundingly complete...." How wonderful that this council, composed of more than 100 congregations and organizations from a wide range of faiths, can so wholeheartedly see the value of this proposed project.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for taking the time to read my heartfelt letter of support.

Sincerely,

Jason Saffer, MA, MFT

cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

Jason Saffer, MA, MFT
277 South Wildwood, Hercules, California 94547
510/724-3198 (voice) 510/724-3103 (fax) jasons@creativegrowth.com

08 SEP -3 PM 1:10
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

August 22, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the planned Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary project

Sincerely,

Jason Saffer, MA, MFT

S (H) 09/01/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 7/23/10

Printed name: Victoria Saint-Louis

Business name: Arden B

Address: 1275 Broadway, Plaza, W.C., CA 94596

Cc: Ms Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: W R Singh

Date: July 4, 2009

Address:
1056 Roderick Ct
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 10/9/09

Printed name: IAN SALALA

Business name: PLEASANT HILL MANOR

Address: 40 BOND RD PLEASANT HILL CA 94523

Dr. Mimi's Audiology Clinic

"Our Services Put a Smile on Your Face"

Mimi T. Salamat
Ph.D., CCC-A, FAAA
Clinical Audiologist

1200 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
(925) 937-4455
Fax (925) 937-4456
Dr.Mimi@YourHearingDoc.com
www.YourHearingDoc.com

****

November 9, 2009

CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV 12 P 2:03

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema:

I am writing this letter in support of the Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary. I believe the architectural design and the open garden for quiet contemplation will add to the beauty and value of the neighborhood residences and businesses around the area.

As far as I know, Sufism Reoriented Philosophy encourages peace, harmony, and integrity in every aspect of the lives of their members and these are values that need to be exercised more in the society. I would appreciate your favorable attention to this matter. You are welcome to contact me if you need further information.

Sincerely,

Mimi T. Salamat, Ph.D.

Mimi T. Salamat, Ph.D., CCC-A, FAAA
Clinical Audiologist

cc: Ms Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Community Development Division

S

1759 Tice Valley Boulevard
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

2009 FEB 19 P 1:11
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

February 17, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Department of Conservation and Development
651 Pine Street
2nd Floor North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-0095

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of Sufism Reoriented's application.

Sincerely,

Collene Salazar

Collene Salazar

1759 Tice Valley Blvd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

February 17, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street
Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I'm writing to let you know of my support for the proposed new Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary which is to be built on Boulevard Way in the Saranap neighborhood of Walnut Creek.

I have been a resident of the Saranap area for over 25 years and have lived in my present home on Tice Valley Boulevard for the past 10 years. As a member of Sufism Reoriented, I look forward to finally having a building that can support all our activities. I know that much time and effort has been given to making sure this building, with its surrounding two landscaped acres, will be a welcome addition to the neighborhood. Another aspect of this project that excites me is that it will truly be one of the most environmentally responsible properties in Contra Costa.

I welcome your consideration and support for this project.

Sincerely,

Collene Salazar

Collene Salazar

cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

S

August 12, 2008

CONTRA COSTA

08 AUG 20 PM 1:20

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, Ca 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing this letter to express my support for the proposed new building by Sufism Reoriented.

For over thirty years, I have been a Saranap resident. I currently own a condominium very near the proposed building site.

As a general building contractor, I have worked on many residences and commercial properties in the Saranap area. I have seen the community change over the years and feel this new project would be an asset and welcome addition to our community. Additionally, as a member of Sufism Reoriented, I have had the pleasure of lending my building skills to remodeling work done by Sufism Reoriented, particularly the expansion of the existing building in 1980. I have been impressed by the care, attention to detail and the high standards of construction insisted upon by Sufism Reoriented. I know this will continue with respect to the new sanctuary and means the building will be of the highest quality.

I hope that the planning commission will approve of this carefully conceived and beautifully designed building and grounds.

Sincerely,
Jerry Salazar
1308B Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

Rev. Dr. David Sammons
829 Hutchinson Rd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94598
david.sammons@sbcglobal.net
925.933.6254

cc: Lesher Cross

June 16, 2009

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

As a long time member of the clergy here in Contra Costa County I write you in support of the proposal of Sufism Reoriented to construct a new facility for their community in the unincorporated area of Walnut Creek known as Saranap.

I have known members of this religious community for the many years they have lived and worshipped near where they propose to build their facilities. They have been good neighbors and valued members of the broader religious community.

My own congregation, the Mt. Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church went through a process similar to the one that Sufism Reoriented has gone through when we constructed a new sanctuary and then fellowship hall. I must say, Sufism Reoriented has done even more than we did to communicate with and meet the demands of its neighbors – that is, meet the demands of all but those who want them to abandon their plans.

For years I have driven by the place where this group now meets and wouldn't even know they worshipped where they do unless someone had told me. The site where they plan to build will have the same feel and, in fact, will enhance the appearance of the neighborhood. The group has developed an excellent plan – one that should be a model for others to follow.

Yours,

David Sammons

Rev. Dr. David Sammons
Minister Emeritus, Mt. Diablo UU Church
Visiting Professor of UU Heritage and Ministry
Starr King School for the Ministry.

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: THOMAS JUPILLE Date: 7/14/2009

Business name: LC RESOURCES, INC.

Address: 1295-F BOULEVARD WAY
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595

THOMAS JUPILLE

2009 JUL 15 P 1:24
CONTRA COSTA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 7/13/09

Printed name: Beth Samuelson

Business name: Student Organizational Services

Address: 2940 Camino Diablo WC

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL 15 P 2:16
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT

S
t

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date:

Katherine Sanders 15 December 2009

Printed Name

Katherine Sanders

Address:
76 La Cuesta Rd
Orinda, CA 94563

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV 10 P 1:51
DEPT OF CONSERVATION

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 11/3/09

Printed name: RANDY J. SANDLIN

Business name: LAFAYETTE AUTO BODY

Address: 3291 MT. DIABLO BLVD.
LAFAYETTE, CA. 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 8-23-09

Address:
402 Buttercup La
Pleasant Hill, CA
94523

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7-17-09

Printed name: Enika Santiago

Business name: Enika Santiago

Address: 279 Riverside Dr
Bay Point.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S (H) 6/3/10

CONTRA COSTA

2010 MAY 25 P 2:19

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 5/23/10

Printed Name: SHERVIN SARBAZ

Address: 2237 San Miguel drive, walnut creek, CA, 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

April 15 2009

CONTRA COSTA

2009 APR 20 P 1:31

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

Enclosed please find a copy of my letter to Supervisor Gail Uilkema in support of the Land Use Permit Application submitted by Sufism reoriented.

Sincerely,

June Sardella

June Sardella

85 Island Ct.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
April 15, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

My husband and I have lived and worked in your district since 1970. We started our family in Martinez where my husband attended John F Kennedy University and I worked as a Dental Assistant and preschool volunteer. In 1982 we were able to buy our current home at 85 Island Court in the Saranap. We are thrilled that our home will be less than a block from the proposed new Sufi Sanctuary! We have shared pictures of the plans with our two sons and they were very pleased and impressed with the new design.

My husband is a MFT Psychotherapist and I am a retired School Teacher. He started his career in the psych department at the County Hospital, doing intake interviews. I always referred to this job as being in the "trenches" or "front line duty". Next we shared being House Parents at a treatment facility for juvenile wards of the Court. Thus, we are very aware of how much depends upon county approval to survive. We have supported you over the years because of your dedicated hard work for the betterment of our county. I urge you to approve the land use permit for Sufism Reoriented's new sanctuary.

The new sanctuary will be a huge stride forward for our neighborhood with its' graceful beauty, refreshing garden setting and state of the art "green" features.

Thank you for your time and service to Contra Costa County.
Sincerely,

June Sardella

June Sardella

Cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

S

May 28, 2008

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA. 94553

Dear County Planner Cross,

I have learned that Sufism Reoriented will be filing its land use application soon and I wanted to express my support for the project by forwarding the letter I shared with Supervisor Uilkema.

Thank you,
Sincerely,

Steve Sardella

Steve Sardella
85 Island Ct.
Walnut Creek, CA. 94595

May 21, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA. 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema

My wife and I have owned a home at 85 Island Ct. in the Saranap area for over 25 years. We raised two children here who went to local schools. As a family we participated fully in the Sun Valley swim team. My wife taught at the Meher School for 20 years, and I am a practicing Marriage & Family Therapist in the neighborhood, and a university professor at JFKU. I have counseled and helped many families living in this area.

My wife, June and I are also members of Sufism Reoriented, and I wanted to tell you about why I think you should support our project to build a new sanctuary one block west of our existing church.

I walk the neighborhood most mornings for exercise, and the corner of Boulevard way and Kinney Drive is not only dangerous to pedestrians and traffic, it has fallen in disrepair and has not kept up with some of the new additions that truly upgrade the neighborhood. I believe that the presence of a low profile, beautifully designed church, nestled in a glen of trees in a park like atmosphere would greatly enhance this rundown property. I also think that the landscape design would improve the site lines of that corner as well.

Supervisor, because our church has been located in the Saranap for more than 30 years, and is the only church in this neighborhood, I feel that our presence, has significantly helped reduce crime, drug and alcohol abuse, and other social ills in this neighborhood area. In our community outreach, one of our neighbors put it quite succinctly; "I feel safer knowing that your church is in our neighborhood".

And finally, I think this new house of worship, that is designed by the world famous architectural firm of Philip Johnson/Alan Ritchie, will greatly enhance the character of the Saranap neighborhood, and become a point of community pride, and that the

experience of living in the Saranap will reflect the peace, harmony and beauty of the sanctuary for years to come.

Supervisor, thank you so much for taking the time in your busy schedule to read my letter, and I do hope that you will be able to support this worthwhile project.

Sincerely,

Steve Sardella

Steve Sardella
85 Island Ct.
Walnut Creek, CA. 94595

cc: Lashun Cross

S

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, north wing
Martinez, Ca. 94553

CONTRA COSTA
JUN 11 PM 1:35
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Ms Cross,

Recently I have learned that Sufism Reoriented will be filing its land use application soon. I wanted to express my support for the project by forwarding the letter I sent to Supervisor Uilkema.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Allan Saviskas
1195 Saranap Av. #15
Walnut Creek, Ca. 94595

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Rm. 108A
Martinez, Ca. 94553

Dear Supervisor,

My name is Allan Saviskas. I am writing this letter to voice my support for the building project of Sufism Reoriented. I have lived in the Saranap area since 1978 both as a homeowner and a renter. I am a member of the Saranap Community Organization.

I have watched this neighborhood change over the years. I lived on Lucy Lane when the Diablo View condos were built. That was an improvement to the neighborhood. My neighbor on Lucy Lane was Erwin White. His acreage became the Laurel Oaks housing project. That was a great improvement over the state of Mr. White's property when he lived there.

I have seen the plans for the new church to be built on Boulevard Way. I believe that this project will also greatly improve the character of the neighborhood. It seems that everything Sufism Reoriented has done in the neighborhood has been of the highest quality. The Meher Schools are a good example. All five of my grown children attended the Meher Schools. The education offered there is excellent.

I have no doubt that the building will have a long term positive impact on my neighborhood. Over the years I have appreciated your leadership on the Board of Supervisors. My votes for you reflect that. I hope that you support this additional upgrade to our neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Allan Saviskas
1195 Saranap Av. #15
Walnut Creek, Ca. 94595

cc. Lashun Cross

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Cheryl Savstrom Date: 01/03/10

Printed Name: CHERYL SAVSTROM

Address: 189 Saranap Ave
Walnut Creek CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

July 26, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross

Community Development Division

651 Pine Street, 4th Floor North Wing

Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am a 17 year resident of Saranap, writing a letter of support for the Sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented. I am also a doctor, Chairman of Radiology at John Muir Medical Center for the past 10 years.

I live across the street from the Meher School on Leland Drive and have found the Sufis to be considerate and responsible neighbors. My neighbors' children have attended the school and based on that recommendation I sent our girls there also. The education was outstanding.

The sanctuary is sited along the route I regularly use to walk or bicycle into Walnut Creek and so I attended an informational community meeting that the Sufis advertised. I was very impressed with the harmony of the architect's design with the community setting and also the many advanced ecological features of the design. The Sufis have obviously taken an amazing level of care in planning this Sanctuary.

Even though I am not a Sufi, I believe that his will make Saranap an even nicer place to live and I am strongly supporting their proposal. Please call me for any questions 925-788-8907.

Yours truly,

Robert M. Schick, MD

1020 Leland Drive

Lafayette, CA 94549

S

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL 21 PM 1:27

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Friday, July 18, 2008

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms Cross,

Enclosed please find a copy of a letter I've sent to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema supporting the Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary proposal. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Frank E. Schoolmaster

Frank E. Schoolmaster

Encl: one letter

Friday, July 18, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I'm writing you to express my support for Sufism Reoriented's sanctuary to be built on Boulevard Way in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek. Although my wife and I currently live in Rossmoor, until recently we lived on Lucy Lane for 18 and a half years. We've been residents of Contra Costa County for nearly 40 years. We've been members of Sufism Reoriented for 27 years. My wife and I were police officers in Contra Costa County for many years. For the past 16 years, I've been both an elementary teacher and Pre-K teacher at The Meher Schools in Lafayette.

I believe the sanctuary will greatly enhance the neighborhood's appearance. The architectural drawings and computer images show an elegant yet simple structure which finishes a corner which for years has been, in my opinion, a blight on the neighborhood. Further, the proposed structure and grounds will be earth-friendly—using the latest "green" technologies which will minimally impact the neighborhood and environs. Please count me among those who greatly support the Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary.

Sincerely yours,

Frank E. Schoolmaster

Cc: Lashun Cross, Community Development Department

S

Eric and Nil Schaps
914 Kelley Court
Lafayette CA 94549

February 17, 2008

LeShun Cross
Community Development Department
Contra Costa County
4th floor, north wing
551 Pine Street
Martinez CA 94553

Re; Sufism Reoriented Land Use Permit Application

Dear Mr. Cross

This is to indicate our support for the building planned by Sufism Reoriented for construction on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek. All of our children attended the elementary school run by the Sufism group and we know them to be a great asset to our neighborhood. They are exceptionally caring and responsible people, and we hope you will help to facilitate their building project.

Thank you,

Dr. Eric Schaps

Mrs. Nil Schaps

5

Annette Schmidt

1236 Arkell Rd.

Walnut Creek, CA 94598

June 7, 2009

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

Dear Ms. Cross:

Attached is a letter that I sent to Supervisor Uilkema. My letter is written in support of the building project for a new Sanctuary for the Sufism Reoriented Church. I have reviewed the plans and find them to be very unobtrusive and to be a beautiful addition to the City of Walnut Creek.

Thank you for your support of this project.

Sincerely yours,

Annette Schmidt

Annette Schmidt

Walnut Creek resident for 11 years

Annette Schmidt

1236 Arkell Rd.

Walnut Creek, CA 94598

June 7, 2009

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am writing in support of the plans that the Sufism Reoriented Church has to build a new Sanctuary. I have reviewed the plans and feel that the building and the surrounding grounds would be a very positive addition to Walnut Creek.

I am not a member of the Sufism Reoriented congregation and do not live in the immediate neighborhood. However, I have lived in Walnut Creek for 11 years and have found that our Sufi neighbors and their congregation have been a source of service for Walnut Creek. The new Sanctuary and its grounds are beautifully designed and will improve the neighborhood. Its green design and unobtrusive, yet beautiful, upgrade will be noticeably better for all of Walnut Creek.

I hope you will chose to support this project.

Sincerely yours,

Annette Schmidt

Annette Schmidt

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Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

May 24, 2008

Dear Ms. Cross,

It has been brought to my attention that Sufism Reoriented will be filing a land use application soon for the construction of a new sanctuary. I wish to express my support for this project and am attaching a letter I am sending to Supervisor Uilkema.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Marie Schoolmaster

Marie Schoolmaster

May 24, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street
Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to encourage your support for the church that Sufism Reoriented is proposing to construct at the intersection of Boulevard Way and Kinney Drive in Walnut Creek.

My husband and I currently live in Rossmoor, but until recently, we owned a home in the Saranap area for 18 years. We are both employed as teachers at the Meher Schools in Lafayette, and three of our grandchildren very happily attended that school. As you probably know, the Meher Schools are sponsored by Sufism Reoriented.

To give you a little bit of personal background, I was employed as a Juvenile Bureau detective for the Concord Police Dept. from 1972 to 1992. In that position, I was assigned full-time to the investigation of child abuse cases. During my employment with the City of Concord, I served on a number of non-profit boards, including The Family Stress Center, The Child and Family Therapy Center and The Child Abuse Prevention Council. I also served on the Contra Costa County Child Death Review Team.

In 1994, I accepted a teaching position with the Meher Schools, and I have been employed there since that time. I greatly respect the school's philosophy and their loving support for each individual student. As a former child abuse investigator, I can appreciate the fact that children who are raised in an atmosphere of love and respect carry those gifts with them into adulthood and offer them back to the world.

I strongly recognize the importance of the school as a resource in the community, and I can't imagine how it would survive without the volunteer help it now receives from members of Sufism Reoriented. The cost of attending the school would greatly increase in the absence of their generous

assistance. I attribute the fact that we have so many willing volunteers to the fact that most of them live in the immediate neighborhood. Many of them moved there to be close to their place of worship, and I hope they will be allowed to build their new sanctuary in the same area. Having seen the plans for the new building, I think it would greatly enhance the area where it is to be built and would most likely raise property values.

Very sincerely yours,

Marie Schoolmaster

cc: Lashun Cross

Ronald H. Schmidt, Ph.D.
1236 Arkell Rd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

June 7, 2009

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

Dear Ms. Cross:

Attached is a letter that I sent to Supervisor Uilkema. My letter is written in support of the building project for a new Sanctuary for the Sufism Reoriented Church. I have reviewed the plans and find them to be very unobtrusive and to be a beautiful addition to the City of Walnut Creek.

Thank you for your support of this project.

Sincerely yours,

Ronald H. Schmidt, Ph.D.

Ronald H. Schmidt, Ph.D.
1236 Arkell Rd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

June 7, 2009

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am writing in support of the plans that the Sufism Reoriented Church has to build a new Sanctuary. I have reviewed the plans and feel that the building and the surrounding grounds would be a very positive addition to Walnut Creek.

I am not a member of the Sufism Reoriented congregation and do not live in the immediate neighborhood. However, I have lived in Walnut Creek for 11 years and have found that our Sufi neighbors and their congregation have been a source of service for Walnut Creek. The new Sanctuary and its grounds are beautifully designed and will improve the neighborhood. Its green design and unobtrusive, yet beautiful, upgrade will be noticeably better for all of Walnut Creek.

I hope you will choose to support this project.

Sincerely yours,

Ronald H. Schmidt, Ph.D.

Copy for Ms. Lashun Cross

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signature Shirley Schmitz Date June 12, 2009

Business name Shirley Schmitz or Hairstyles by Shirley

Address 1954 Tice Valley Blvd.
Walnut Creek CA. 94596

5

3146 Windsor Ct
Lafayette, CA 94549

June 10, 2009

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

Dear Ms. Cross,

For your information, I have attached the letter I wrote to Ms. Gayle Uilkema in support of the new sanctuary planned by Sufism Reoriented on property they own on Boulevard Way in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek. I understand that the land use permit application for this project has been filed with the county.

Sincerely,

Diane Schreiber

Diane Schreiber

3146 Windsor Ct
Lafayette, CA 94549

June 10, 2009

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94549

Dear Ms. Uilkema,

I am writing this letter in support of the new sanctuary planned by Sufism Reoriented on property they own on Boulevard Way in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek. I know there are people in the neighborhood opposed to the new building, but with the proposed landscaping and the opening of the gardens to the public, I believe it will be an enhancement to the neighborhood. From the beginning, it has seemed to me that Sufism Reoriented has gone out of its way to inform the community about the project and has made changes to the plan, where possible, to meet the concerns of neighbors.

I also want to mention the Meher School and what a wonderful job it has done in educating children in the area. I have friends who send their children to the school who can't rave enough about it.

I hope you will support Sufism Reoriented's bid to provide their members with a new, expanded, green facility.

Sincerely,

Diane Schreiber

Diane Schreiber

cc: Ms Lashun Cross, Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 19 P 1:40

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: MD Date: 8-12-09

Printed Name: Michael J. Schwab MD Schwab

Address: 1844 San Miguel Dr. Ste 110
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

3

2430 Warren Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

May 6, 2008

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

I have learned that Sufism Reoriented is about to file its land use application, and I would like to share my letter of support of this project , already sent to Supervisor Uilkema in January, with the county planning officials.

Sincerely

Bernard Schwartz

2430 Warren Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

January 15, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to you in support of a proposed project adjacent to my residence in Walnut Creek. I am a retired instructor of Physics who taught in the Peralta College District for 30 years, and have owned my home at 2430 Warren Road for 34 years.

Recently I attended a presentation of the plan for a new building for Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way, and I must say that I was very impressed with this project in many ways. The architects have made every effort to create a building that not only harmonizes with the surrounding neighborhood but is also a very beautiful addition to its environment. The fact that a large part of the building would be underground so as to not create an imposing outline really impressed me, as did the use of materials that would create a "green" building and parking lot. In addition, my understanding that the majority of the members live within walking distance and are committed to walking to services and functions to be held in their new building, rain or shine, would create very little traffic impact at any time. In short, I feel that the approval of this project and its subsequent construction would greatly enhance this neighborhood and not only preserve but increase the surrounding property values. I thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Bernard Schwartz

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUN 30 P 12: 12

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jill Schi

Date: 6/24/09

Jill Schwinn

Address: 2169 Hillside Ave
Walnut Creek CA 94597

I have lived in Walnut Creek my whole life. I have lived close to Sufism Reoriented for years and am supportive of all their endeavors.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 NOV -3 P 2:37

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Pamela Seawell Date: 10/30/2009

Printed Name PAMELA J. SEAWELL

Address:

3701 SERRANO ST
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

October 3, 2008

CONTRA COSTA
08 OCT -7 PM 1:17
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Victor Seckeler

Victor Seckeler

5

1300 Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
October 3, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Uilkema,

I am writing to ask your support for the new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented that we are proposing to build in the Saranap neighborhood in Walnut Creek. Building a church, a place of worship, in one's own neighborhood, is a most natural inclination. It is included within the zoning for residential neighborhoods. The zoning for residential neighborhoods is based on the simple fact that people like to build their houses of worship close to where they live – they don't like to travel far from their homes to worship. It is a simple and natural fact of life and so the law has been structured to accommodate it. That is all we are asking to be allowed to do.

I have lived in the Saranap for about 25 years. I have worked as a staff member of Sufism Reoriented during all of that time. I am one of the small paid staff of Sufism who have the privilege of not only having our worship centered in Sufism Reoriented, but who also have the boon of being able to devote our adult working lives to fully support its purposes as well. One of my main areas of work has been devoted to the technical services that support the performing arts aspects of our worship. That means that these days I am very involved with theater and video work, and over the years I have also had the satisfaction and fun of consulting and helping out with video work at the nearby Meher Schools as well.

I am excited with the prospect of our finally being able to build a structure that is both beautiful and functional and can support the full extent of our activities in the neighborhood where most of our members reside. So many of the technical aspects of our work have been so scattered due to lack of space that I greatly anticipate the new building, a building that will also add an element of harmony and serenity for all other residents of the Saranap area.

I ask that you support us in our wish.

Thank you sincerely,

Victor Seckeler

Victor Seckeler

cc: Lashun Cross, Community Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jane Sedley Date: 7/19/09

Printed Name: Jane Sedley

Address: 1260 El Cartola Blvd
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -7 P 1:47

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Mark Sedley Date: 7/5/09

Address: 1260 EL CURTOLA
LAFAYETTE

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S
+

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Leslie Segal Date: 1/10/10

Printed Name Leslie Segal

Address: 2180 Geary Rd #36
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 9/30/09

Printed Name
JANE STEVENS SEGAL

Address:
1532 CANYONWOOD CT, #3
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
08 OCT 14 PM 1:16
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

5

Jeanette Segal
1336 Boulevard Way # 310
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

October 12, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Lashun Cross,

Please find enclosed a copy of a letter of support for the Sufism Reoriented land use permit application that was sent to Supervisor Uilkema.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Jeanette Segal

Jeanette Segal

Jeanette Segal
1336 Boulevard Way # 310
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

July 23, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I have lived and worked in the Saranap area for the past 19 years. As an RN Case Manager for Kaiser Hospice Home Care, Martinez and Walnut Creek, I frequently visit patients in their homes in the Saranap area. I feel privileged to be a neighbor and participant of Sufism Reoriented and for the past two years have lived in an apartment adjacent to their proposed new sanctuary site. I wish to share my stalwart support for the building of a new sanctuary in the Saranap area as proposed by Sufism Reoriented. I feel certain beyond a doubt that the proposed sanctuary and grounds will enhance and upgrade the neighborhood and be an outward reflection of the principles of beauty and harmony that members of Sufism Reoriented strive to live by and share with the larger community.

I hope you share my joy in anticipation of the positive changes this endeavor promises to bring to our community.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Segal

Jeanette Segal

c.c. LashunCross, County Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 9/25/09

Printed name: Michael Self

Business name: CompuMart

Address: 1149 Alpine Rd
Walnut Creek CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

3

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Vera Selig

Date: October 16, 2009

Printed Name

Vera Selig

Address:

46 Underhill Rd.
Orinda, California
94563

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (H) 11/29/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 10/17/2010

Printed Name: DAVID SELLE

Address:

288 KINNEVAR

WALNUT CR, CA 94595

NOV -9 P 12:13
CONTRA COSTA

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (H)
8/16/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Dr George Selleck Date: 8/6/2010

Printed Name Dr. George Selleck

Address: 726 Live Oak Lane
Pinole, CA 94564

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

July 22, 2009

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Sincerely,

Kathy Senti

Kathy Senti
Marriage Family Therapist Intern
2099 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite 202
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

Nancy Shafa
1308D Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
08 OCT 23 PM 1:20
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

October 21, 2008

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms Cross:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I am sending to Supervisor Uilkema. My letter is in support of the Sufism Reoriented Land Use Permit application.

Sincerely,

Nancy Shafa

Nancy Shafa

Nancy Shafa
1308D Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

October 21, 2008

Dear Supervisor Uilkema

As a resident of the Saranap neighborhood and long time resident of Walnut Creek, I am writing in support of the Land Use Permit Application by Sufism Reoriented to build a new sanctuary to replace its current building.

I love the Saranap neighborhood and am so pleased that Sufism Reoriented is planning to build such a beautiful building, which will offer a sense of tranquil peace. Sufism Reoriented will finally have adequate facilities to house its many activities. Currently, my husband and I offer our home for a Sunday youth group which will eventually move to the new sanctuary.

I mentioned that I love the Saranap. I have fond memories as a young teen in 1963 attending dances at the "Holy Ghost Hall" at 1300 Boulevard Way where the current Sufism Reoriented sanctuary is now located. I have lived in the Saranap for a total of about 25 years. My three children attended the White Pony/Meher Schools a combined 28 years, receiving an excellent education nurturing their bodies, minds and hearts. I have had the happy opportunity to volunteer as a parent and work in the preschool and elementary school over the years.

The building of the new sanctuary will be an answer to a prayer which started when I was sixteen. I recall visiting different churches in Walnut Creek as a high school student and Walnut Creek resident, hoping to find a place of worship which would resonate with my feeling for God. The new Sufism Reoriented sanctuary is the answer to my prayer. It means so much for the new sanctuary to be located in the neighborhood where many of its members reside and volunteer in many different capacities at the sanctuary and at The Meher Schools.

As a homeowner and resident of the Saranap, I am very pleased with the timeless beauty of the new building, its gentle curves harmonizing with the shapes of the surrounding hills. I have been impressed with how the plans have developed with such consideration for the neighbors' concerns. I think it is a plus that the proposed building will reserve over two acres of beautiful park-like grounds, land that otherwise could be developed as densely placed two story homes. The natural beauty of the new building and the landscaped grounds will uplift the neighborhood morally and spiritually.

Thank you for your consideration. Please support the approval of the Land Use Applicaton for the new Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary.

Sincerely,

Nancy Shafa

Nancy Shafa, MS, RD, CDE
Certified Diabetes Educator and
Registered Dietitian for Kaiser Permanente

S

Farhad Shafa, PhD
1308, Apt. D, Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
08 SEP 23 PM 1:48
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

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am writing to thank you for your admirable efforts with our community and to express my enthusiastic support for the new building that Sufism Reoriented is proposing to build in the Saranap area. I am also including my note to Supervisor Uilkema on this topic for your information. Please find it enclosed

With warm regards,
Farhad Shafa
Farhad Shafa, PhD

5

Farhad Shafa, PhD
1308, Apt. D, Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA

08 OCT 17 PM 1:30

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

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am writing to thank you for your admirable efforts with our community and to express my enthusiastic support for the new building that Sufism Reoriented is proposing to build in the Saranap area. I am also including my note to Supervisor Uilkema on this topic for your information. Please find it enclosed

With warm regards,

Farhad Shafa, PhD

Farhad Shafa

Farhad Shafa, PhD
1308, Apt. D, Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors,
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to thank you for your continued interest in our community and to share with you my enthusiastic support for the new building that Sufism Reoriented is proposing to build in the Saranap area.

My wife and I live on Boulevard Way, about a block or so away from the site of the proposed building. Our three children all graduated from The Meher Schools, run by Sufism Reoriented, and we have both worked and volunteered at the school. I believe that the new building will bring charm, beauty and serenity to the neighborhood. It will not only enhance our immediate neighborhood, but will be a welcome asset for Walnut Creek as a whole.

Sincerely,

Farhad Shafa

Farhad Shafa, PhD

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

Merwan Shafa
1308D Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

October 21, 2008

CONTRA COSTA

2009 MAY -6 P 1:37

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms Cross:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I am sending to Supervisor Uilkema. My letter is in support of the Sufism Reoriented Land Use Permit application.

Sincerely,

Merwan Shafa

Merwan Shafa

Merwan Shafa
1308D Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

October 21, 2008

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing in support of the Land Use Permit Application by Sufism Reoriented to build a new sanctuary to replace its current building.

I have spent 9 of the 18 years of my life living here in the saranap, and I am one of the many lucky individuals who have benefited from the excellent education offered by the Meher Schools run by Sufism reoriented. Over the years I have become increasingly fond of the saranap area, and I am somewhat sad that I will be leaving it to advance my education once I graduate from the nearby Acalanes High School. Over the past year I have personally become involved in some of the activities run by Sufism Reoriented, and have found my life greatly enriched. I have given you this brief background so you can understand where I am coming from in my support of the building.

Although I love the saranap, the area has always lacked a place of quiet and peace geared toward adults, and I feel that the building will fill this void with its beautiful gardens and landscaping. Additionally, the lot intended for the new center is currently occupied by a tall home with a somewhat unpleasant fence along the road. The corner has sometimes felt uninviting, but I think that the new tree line and white curved fence that are part of the building plan will help to alleviate this problem.

As a participant in activities of Sufism Reoriented I can tell you that the current location is inadequate, as scheduling and space requirements for activities are often not met. I know multiple people who regularly host meetings and groups in their own homes, selflessly inconveniencing themselves because the current location of Sufism Reoriented is inadequate.

I have seen many pictures of what the building will look like, and I cannot help but think how much the neighborhood could benefit from such a beautiful structure with such plentiful gardens. I sincerely hope that you decide to approve the Land Use Permit Application because I truly think that the building will benefit the neighborhood, and I would love nothing more than to see it when I return home after I finish college.

Sincerely,

Merwan Shafa

Merwan Shafa

15

Dup

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: S Shah Date: 7/9/09

Printed Name: Shachi Shah

Address: 124, Molly Way
Walnut Creek CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL 14 P 2:27
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

5 FE
11/29/10

2010 OCT 27 P 1:49

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner, or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Shawn Shamloo Date: 9/9/10

Printed Name: SHAWN SHAMLOO

Business Name: COPYMAT

Address: 1655 N. Main St., Ste 106, W.C., CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Michael Sharapata Date: 7/16/2011

Printed Name: Michael Sharapata

Address: 72 Del Hambre Circle

CONTRA COSTA
2011 AUG 23 A 11:44

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

I

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Michael Sharapata Date: 7/16/2011

Printed Name: Michael Sharapata

Address: 66 Del Hambre circle

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2011 AUG 23 A 11:14

I ✓

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Lori Sharapata Date: 7/13/2011

Printed Name: Lori Sharapata

Address: 72 Del Hambre Circle
66 Del Hambre Circle
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
2011 JUL 23 A 11:14

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Joyce Shaw Date: 11/11/09

Printed name:
Joyce Shaw

Business name: T.L.C. HAIRCARE

Address:
3359 Mt Diablo Blvd.
Lafayette, CA. 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

Gil Shepard MFT
P. O. Box 2462
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
gilshep@pacbell.net

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

March 12, 2009

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing you as a member of Sufism Reoriented to support our proposed church in the Saranap neighborhood. I am a licensed Marriage Family and Child Therapist with my office at Execucenter, a half a mile from the Meher Schools. I have volunteered at this school for cleaning, general maintenance, and painting for 25 years. Currently I live in Rossmoor, but for about 20 years I lived in the apartment complex at 1172 Saranap.

Many members of Sufism Reoriented volunteer in the community. I have been a Board Member of Senior Outreach Services, a member of the County Area Agency on Aging, evaluating senior needs, I have taught in senior facilities throughout the County, and I have volunteered as a therapist for Fresh Start, a respite center for the homeless at St. Paul's Church on Trinity Ave.

The proposed building will be a beautiful addition to the Saranap area, especially on the corner where it is to be built. When I lived at the apartment complex, the area was not prime, with the smell of marijuana drifting into my apartment, rowdy parties going until 1 or 2 a.m., trucks unloading materials at 2 or 3 a.m. and strangers dumping garbage in the dumpster in the parking lot of the businesses on the other side of my fence, often at 5 a.m. This is all changing for it seems the influence of Sufism's love of beauty is contagious.

This building will be beautiful and uplifting, as well as incorporating state of the art environmental features. In my experience when something beautiful develops out of a blighted area, surrounding neighbors begin to beautify their homes also. As a truly "green' building it will be an example for the County of saving energy, conserving water and going beautiful without being intrusive.

Sincerely,

Gil Shepard

S

Gil Shepard MFT
P. O. Box 2462
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
gilshep@pacbell.net

CONTRA COSTA
2009 MAR 16 P 1:50
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

March 12, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the planned Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary project.

Sincerely,

Gil Shepard
2665 Pine Knoll Drive, #12
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

31 Manzanita Ct.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
March 31, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

2009 APR -9 A 11: 30

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Supervisor Gayle Uikema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94533

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Sufism Reoriented sanctuary project. I grew up in the Saranap area and went to school at The Meher schools. My mother was a member of Sufism Reoriented and my father was not. After leaving The Meher Schools I went on to some very prestigious private schools on the East Coast, but none of them even began to approach the atmosphere of love, beauty, and harmony that is the standard at The Meher Schools. I can't possibly express the gratitude I feel for my time there.

Since the Sufis don't proselytize, and in fact do not assume that even their own children will be interested in their path, it was quite natural for me to go out in the world and lead a full life until the time came when I felt myself drawn to explore Sufism Reoriented in my own life. Now I am a member of Sufism Reoriented, married to a man of strong Christian faith, a homeowner in the Saranap, and send my own child to The Meher Schools. Even though my husband's faith is not identical to ours, he has been welcomed and embraced by our community, and never once been encouraged to believe differently than he already does.

What I'm trying to convey is that Sufism Reoriented is not looking to grow in numbers or to recruit anyone, as they realize that this path is a personal one. However, what they are looking to do is to bring the same kind of love, harmony, and beauty that they infuse The Meher Schools with into not only their own homes, and neighborhood, and places of business, but in fact *everywhere they go.*

In truth, at the heart of nearly all our teachings is the simple message to be more loving in everything we do. Being a part of this group has profoundly changed me; it has helped me to become less selfish and critical, and more tolerant, giving, self-sacrificing, thoughtful, and kind – not to mention happier and lighter! I just can't help but believe with all my heart that a group that can accomplish this is a blessing for any neighborhood.

Finally, I would like to add that to my eye (and I am a trained artist and a designer by profession) the Sanctuary, as designed, is exceedingly beautiful, and I believe that it will be a treasured landmark for many years to come.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this letter,

Mani Sheriar

Mani Sheriar

✓ Cc: Lashun Cross, Community Development

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 18 P 12:48

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 8/16/09

Printed Name: Eric Shaw

Address:
7 Wide Creek place
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

+ S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 3/8/10

Printed name:
Lynn Davilla Shields, PhD

Business name:
Lynn Davilla Shields, PhD

Address:
3468 Mt. Diablo Blvd., PhD
Lafayette, CA 94549

CONTRA COSTA
2010 MAR 10 P 1:18
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S EW
11/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 11/12/2010

Printed name: Irvin S. Shiffman

Business name: Shiffman Accountancy Corp

Address: 1777 Botelho Drive #345
W.C. 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 11/12/2010

Printed name: Irvin S. Shiffman

Business name: Shiffman Accountancy Corp

Address: 1777 Botelho Drive #345

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S
(#) 11/29/1

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 8/14/10

Printed Name
Shawna Stripley

Address:
1570 Boulevard ~~Blvd~~ Way
CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

1111 University Blvd. West, #113
Silver Spring, MD 20902

June 29, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for a new sanctuary in Walnut Creek, and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of that application.

With regards,

Randa Shockley

Randa Shockley

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -1 P 1:56
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

1111 University Blvd. West, #113
Silver Spring, MD 20902

June 25, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I was recently shown a color brochure of Sufism Reoriented's proposed sanctuary in Walnut Creek, and I strongly support plans to build this graceful church with its lovely two acre garden.

I moved to D.C./Maryland a few years ago after spending most of my life in Walnut Creek, living in condominiums on Boulevard Way and Saranap Ave. My current job as vice president/communications manager with Bank of America's Corporate Communications department has permitted me to work 100% from a home office. I feel fortunate to live within walking distance of a lovely park, where I can slip away for peaceful contemplation and quiet reflection.

As you can imagine, the Saranap area holds a very special place in my heart. I still have many friends and family who live there. The thought of their being able to use the beautiful public garden around Sufism Reoriented's planned sanctuary, along with other neighbors, makes me so happy. I'd always wished that the paved and empty lots in the area would be replaced with something more uplifting -- green grass, trees, a garden. I never imagined that such a wish might someday come true. Selfishly, it will give me one more thing to look forward to during regular visits to Walnut Creek.

I hope you lend your support to this exceptional building whose exquisite architecture and landscape designs seem to serve no other purpose than to beautify, uplift, and harmonize with adjacent structures and surroundings.

With regards,

Randa Shockley

Randa Shockley

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Community Development Department

5

Allen Shulakoff
149 Molly Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
July 1, 2008

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Rm. 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I feel so very fortunate that Sufism Reoriented is proposing to build our new church directly across the street from where I live. I have a two-year lease as a renter of this property, which I moved into in March, but I've been a resident of Contra Costa County since 1968. I've seen sketches of the building and grounds. How gorgeous, and how exciting that the center of my life will be right across the street from me!

I am on the faculty of Diablo Valley College where I have taught English and English as a Second Language since 1990 (M.A. from San Francisco State). I have a good friend who teaches kindergarten at The Meher Schools. About seven years ago, I got the idea of how much fun it would be to read stories to children. I have a very sweet dog, a German Shepard, Maggie. It seemed like a winning combination to bring her along to add a positive dog experience for the children along with the story reading. Well, I did. The children seemed to love the stories and Maggie performed brilliantly. I have been doing this year after year ever since. (I'm attaching a list of the books I've used in case you have children or grandchildren or are generally interested. It's the result of perusing hundreds and hundreds of books to find ones that match some of the ideals of The Meher Schools like friendship, cooperation, honesty, and diversity.)

That's really all I wanted to relate. I wanted to share with you how positively I feel about Sufism Reoriented, The Meher Schools, and the plan to erect a building of such beauty directly across the street from my house. Thank you so much for your time.

With best wishes,
Yours truly,

Allen Shulakoff

Allen Shulakoff

cc: Lashum Cross

BOOKS TO READ TO THE CHILDREN
AT THE MEHER SCHOOLS

1. Heart of a Tiger, Marsha Diane Arnold
2. Officer Buckle and Gloria, Peggy Rathmann
3. The Giant Ball of String
4 The Brothers' Promise, Frances Harber
5. The Purple Coat, Amy Hest
6. Pipaluk and the Whales, John Himmelman
7. The Grizzly Sisters
8. I Want a Dog, Dayal Kaur Khalsa
9. The Cow Who Wouldn't Come Down, Paul Brett Johnson
10. The Three Little Dinosauers, Jim Harris
11. Bubba, the Cowboy Prince, Helen Ketteman
12. Jack and the Beanstalk, Steven Kellogg
13. Gruntle Piggle Takes Off, Jean Little
14. Tacky and the Emperor, Helen Lester
15. The Great Pig Escape, Eileen Christelow
16. Sylvester and the Magic Pebble, William Steig
17. Doctor Desoto, William Steig
18. Doctor DeSoto in Africa, William Steig
19. The Amazing Bone, William Steig
20. Brave Irene, William Steig
21. Caleb and Kate, William Steig
22. Mirette on the High Wire, Emily Arnold McCully
23 Starring Mirette & Bellini, Emily Arnold McCully
24. Badger's New House, Robin Muller
25. Mouton's Impossible Dream, Anik McGrory
26. Tinker and Tom and the Star Baby, David McPhail
27. Popcorn at the Palace, Emily Arnold McCully
28. Huge Harold, Bill Peet
29. Chester, the Worldly Pig, Bill Peet
30. The Story of the Tooth Fairy, Tom Paxton
31. The Giant Carrot, Jan Peck
32. Toads and Diamonds, Charlotte Huck
33. Rumplestiltskin's Daughter, Diane Stanley
34. A Story, A Story, Gail Haley
35. The Little Lame Prince, Rosemary Wells
36. Bunny Tails, Barbara Brenner et al.
37. The little Fir Tree, Margaret Wise Brown

Dear Ms. Cross,

Enclosed is a copy of a letter supporting the recent application of Sufism Reoriented for a land use permit to build a new sanctuary.

Thank You

5+

COPY

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JAN 14 P 12: 40

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Charles and Wanda Shulak
100 Leeward Place
Pittsburg, CA 94565
January 9, 2009

The Honorable Gayle Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Rm. 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

We recently heard of the new sanctuary in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek being planned by Sufism Reoriented and got to see some of the sketches of the building. It looks to be a beautiful addition to the neighborhood, and we would like to go on record as being in strong support of this project.

With best wishes,
Yours truly,

Charles D. Shulak and Wanda Shulak

Charles D Shulak Wanda Shulak

5 (TD) 5/12/10

CONTRA COSTA

2010 MAY -5 P 3:07

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Ed Sias

Date: 5/3/10

Printed Name

Ed Sias

Address:

925 Willow St.
Mtz. Ca 94553

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (12)
11/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jessica Siegel Date: 10/20/10

Printed name: Jessica Siegel

Business name: Harps Etc.

Address: 1601 N. Main St #100, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

20 Garden Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

March 12, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uikema
651 Pine St., Rm. 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uikema,

I am sending you this letter in support of the proposed sanctuary of Sufism Reoriented.

My husband and I have lived in the Saranap area since 1985 first as renters and since 1991 as homeowners. I actually met my husband of 24 years walking down Boulevard Way. We live a 2-minute walk from the proposed sanctuary. I have a Master's Degree in Gerontology and currently work as a teacher for older adults, visiting nursing homes, assisted living units, Alzheimer's facilities, and a respite center.

I adore the Saranap neighborhood. What I love most is seeing the wonderful Mt. Diablo every day; being able to walk into downtown Walnut Creek; enjoying the lovely gardens in the neighborhood during our walks, and stopping for a chat with our neighbors and friends. I come from Germany, have lived in the US since 1981 (I am a proud citizen) and find that this area has a European quality of life.

Much of my European experience has been visiting and enjoying innovative and delightful architectures. When I first saw the plans of this sanctuary I was moved by the loveliness of the sacred space inside, a place so peaceful and inspiring. Further, I thought how wonderful it would be to have so attractive a-building so close to where we live. Its organic structure so beautifully harmonizes with the hills in the background, and promises to become a beloved sight.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Monika Siegel

Monika Siegel

Cc: Lashun Cross, Community Development

S

20 Garden Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
2009 MAR 16 P 1:50
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

March 12, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

Enclosed is a copy of a support letter I sent to Supervisor Gayle Uikema regarding the proposed construction of a new sanctuary by Sufism Reoriented.

Sincerely,

Monika Siegel

Monika Siegel

Date: May 2, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, Ca. 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 MAY -4 P 2:12
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am aware that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Mary Cloudtree Silver

2163 Whyte Park
Walnut Creek, Ca. 94595

May 2, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room108A
Martinez, Ca. 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkeman,

The Saranap neighborhood is truly a quaint and lovely community where my two children were born, attended The Meher Schools, celebrated block parties, created vegetable gardens and swam in our neighbor's pool on hot summer nights. When we bought our first home in 1980 our joy was not in any way deterred by the creek floodwaters that threaten to wash away our back yard. In our second home on Whyte Park, our neighbors are also delightful and friendly.

By profession I am an Art Teacher and an Artist so I often work on projects that enhances the beauty of various spaces. This new sanctuary of Sufism Reoriented promises to be a real jewel in the Saranap Community. I understand that the gardens will be about two acres and open to neighbors to enjoy. I love the design of the building as well as the many "green" features.

American architecture is often exciting and adventurous in its' approach to define space and create a new idea. This Church design has captured the sense of a sanctuary sweetly placed in an elegantly lesigned garden. I have visited many of the great churches in America as well as abroad. This Church captures the light and beauty of California bringing it into a circular space where all are welcome. I support this project and hope this treasure becomes a part of our Saranap Community.

Sincerely,

Mary Cloudtree Silver

Cc: Lashun Cross, Community Development

S+

Raymond G. Silver

2163 WHYTE PARK AVE.
WALNUT CREEK, CA. 94595
Office: (510) 506-3883
E-Mail: www.raysilverinsur@aol.com

CONTRA COSTA
2009 FEB -2 P 1:32
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

January 24, 2009

Ms. LASHUN CROSS, PLANNER
COMMUNITY CONSERVATION and DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
651 PINE STREET, 4th Floor-North Wing
MARTINEZ, CA. 94553

Dear Ms. Lashun Cross,

I am writing this letter to address my support of the proposed Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary in the Saranap area even though I follow a different belief.

I have been a resident of the Saranap area for over 16 years and believe that this proposed Sanctuary would only be a positive addition to my community.

The plans are taking an unsightly area and improving it with a beautiful structure and landscaping.

I do not believe that this addition would make any additional impact on traffic or congestion from the information I have studied.

A Sufism Sanctuary has been in the Saranap area long before I moved and in my opinion has not impacted or disrupted the life style of the area and the new structure will be so much more appealing than the present one.

Sincerely,

Raymond G. Silver

S
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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 8/14/09

Printed name: Doug Simon

Business name: Beyond Bodywork

Address: 3184 Old Tunnel Rd - E
Laf - 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL 14 P 3:35

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Israel Shankel Simmons Date: 07-11-09

Joann McGinnis

Address: 2538 Lucy Lane. WC. 94595

Joann McGinnis

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 PM
9/30/10

CONTRA COSTA

09 SEP 24 P 3:53

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 9-5-10

Address: 2144 Wyte Park Ave

SueAnn Shurtliffe

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S 9/20/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: _____ Date: 9-5-10

Printed Name: Sue Ann Shurtliff

Address: 2144 Whyte PARK AVE

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Mohinder Singh Date: August 21, 2009

Business name: LAW OFFICE MOHINDER SINGH

Address: 1415 OAKLAND Blvd, Suite 219
WALNUT CREEK CA 94596

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 27 A 10:11
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

51

Dear Ms. Lashun Cross,

I am a resident of the Saranap area and I have received information about the sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Cathy Sizeler

Cathyann Sizeler

I have been a resident of Lafayette for 31 yrs. and Sufi building project is another step towards equality and peace

Cathyann Sizeler
3172 Bradena Lane
Lafayette Ca. 94549

CONTRA COSTA
2011 JUL -3 A 11:59

Sanford (Sandy) Skaggs, Bingham McCutchen LLP
PO Box V,1333 No. Calif. Blvd. Walnut Creek, CA 94595
925 975-5310 direct fax 925 975-5194
Assistant: Migget Weber 925 975-5332;
migget.weber@bingham.com

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Bob Drake/CD/CCC
12/12/2007 05:11 PM

To Aruna Bhat@CCC
cc Lashun Cross@CCC
bcc
Subject Karl Wandry Wishes to Review Application when Filed
Fw: Sufism Reoriented

Aruna,

FYI,

I got a call from Karl on a business matter. He has been contacted by some of the neighbors of this site who are concerned with what is being proposed, and indicated that he plans on visiting us in the next couple of days to look at any application we may have.

As far as I can tell, no application has as yet been filed. I am pretty sure that Karl does not know Lashun; so if I am not in when he comes by, I intend to suggest that he try to meet initially with you.

Bob

----- Forwarded by Bob Drake/CD/CCC on 12/12/2007 05:01 PM -----

Catherine Kutsuris/CD/CCC
12/11/2007 11:48 AM

To Aruna Bhat/CD/CCC@CCC
cc Bob Drake/CD/CCC@CCC
Subject Re: Fw: Sufism Reoriented

Aruna Bhat/CD/CCC

Thanks

Aruna Bhat/CD/CCC
12/11/2007 09:27 AM

To Catherine Kutsuris/CD/CCC@CCC
cc Bob Drake/CD/CCC@CCC
Subject Re: Fw: Sufism Reoriented

Lashun was in the meeting with Sandy Skaggs a few weeks ago and also worked on the variance application for the project earlier. I was going to assign the project to her.

Thanks

Aruna

Catherine Kutsuris/CD/CCC

Catherine Kutsuris/CD/CCC

To Aruna Bhat/CD/CCC@CCC, Bob Drake/CD/CCC@CCC

12/11/2007 09:24 AM

cc

Subject Fw: Sufism Reoriented

----- Forwarded by Catherine Kutsuris/CD/CCC on 12/11/2007 09:23 AM -----

I'm not sure to whom this project will be assigned; thought you should see the background.

Please let me know who is taking it and when it comes in.

Thanks

CK

Dennis Barry/CD/CCC

12/10/2007 04:16 PM

To "Skaggs, Sandy" <s.skaggs@bingham.com>

cc

Subject Re: Sufism Reoriented

You may submit any environmental information you find appropiate, in whatever form you like. (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15063(e)) However, we have not found the tactic of reviewing a draft IS submitted by applicants to be a particularly efficient use of resources in the past. We are, however, happy to allow an applicant to review a draft of an initial study we have conducted, or contracted for preparation, in order to determine that it is a). factually correct and b) the applicant is provided an opportunity to modify the project, if need be, to eliminate the potential for significant effects, if feasible. This would make the document a public record, subject to disclosure under the Public Records Act. Your suggested approach has proven more costly in the past, both in terms of time needed and staff costs.

Dennis M. Barry, AICP
Community Development Director
Contra Costa County
925.335.1276

"Skaggs, Sandy" <s.skaggs@bingham.com>

"Skaggs, Sandy" <s.skaggs@bingham.com>

12/10/2007 11:47 AM

To "Dennis Barry" <dbarr@cd.cccounty.us>

cc

Subject Sufism Reoriented

We have not yet filed.
When we do, could we take a cut at a draft of the Initial Study for CDD review and use to the extent it deems appropriate?

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Stephen T. Skerda Date: 08/27/09

Printed name: Stephen T. Skerda

Business name: Skerda Chiropractic

Address: 1431 Oakland Blvd. #100
W.C., Ca. 94596

5

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, California

Dear Lashun Cross,

Please find enclosed a copy of my letter to Supervisor Uilkema. In recently learning in the Saranap in Walnut Creek that Sufism Reoriented will be filing its land use application, I want to put forth my support for this church project by sending on my letter to Supervisor Uilkema.

Thank you,

Julia Skiff
1310 D Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, California
94595

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108 A
Martinez, CA
94553

Dear Ms. Uilkema,

It's nice to write to the person whose name I have seen on cheery posters in the neighborhood of the Saranap over the years.

I've been a resident in the Saranap since 1983 and my profession is as a violinist with the San Francisco Opera Orchestra. I've been a supporter of the arts programs at the White Pony and Meher Schools, and The San Francisco Opera in-school programs regularly bring enrichment to the school.

As a result of Sufism Reoriented's active involvement with the arts, I have watched as plans for their new church have developed and been gladdened by a standard of intriguing artistic attention. Recently I received an envelope of materials about the church that describes many interesting features of the building. After 25 years here, I find myself in complete support of this and am very impressed with the architect they have chosen. I also have developed a sense of trust that details will be handled with a thoughtful support to the integrity of the Saranap's future.

My husband and I own our home near where the church will be and as homeowners we are happy to be part of and appreciate the neighborhood, and we support the new growth of this kind.

With Thanks for Your attention,
Julia Skiff

Julia Skiff
1310 D Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA.
94595

S
duplicate

May 26, 2009

CONTRA COSTA
2009 MAY 28 P 1:11
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, Ca 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

This neighbor, Lisa Tichenor, reviewed our materials for the Sanctuary which Sufism Reoriented hopes to build and wrote a note on the back of a sheet we had. Attached is a copy of the note.

Sincerely,

Robin and John Skiff
2515 Lucy Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Lashun Cross
Community Development Department

Dear County Supervisors,

I am a neighbor in Saranap and Realtor. I do not oppose this project INFACT am in favor of A place of worship in our area. The plans appear lovely And I encourage you to consider this plan.

Sincerely,

Lisa Tichenor
2681 W. Newell Ave
WC, 94595
285-1093

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -7 P 1:48

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Susan L Skiff

Signed: Susan L Skiff Date: 7/3/09

Address: 1692 Oak Park Blvd
Pleasant Hill, Ca
94523

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

July 18, 2008

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL 21 PM 1:27

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, Ca 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to urge your support for the new sanctuary which Sufism Reoriented hopes to build in the Saranap Area. I was born at the Kaiser hospital in Walnut Creek 54 years ago and have spent my entire life connected to this area. As a child I attended Unitarian Sunday school in the old red brick Highland building off of Boulevard Way. For the last 35 years I've been a member of Sufism Reoriented just down the street from my old Sunday school and I now live in the Saranap.

I've seen many changes as I've watched the Walnut Creek area grow up. It fills me with joy to picture a beautiful sanctuary designed by a world renowned firm right here in the Saranap. I can't think of anything which this area needed more. I am convinced that the proposed sanctuary with its green features, its open space, and its lovely design will lift up the whole area. Please support this important asset to the county.

Sincerely,

John Skiff
2515 Lucy Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Lashun Cross
Community Development Department

Date: September 1, 2008

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To: Lashun Cross, County Planner

From: Robin Skiff

Re: Please See Attached Copy

I learned that Sufism Reoriented had filed its land use application and I wanted to support the application, so I am forwarding a copy of the letter sent to Supervisor Uilkema.

5

CONTRA COSTA

08 SEP -5 AM 10: 14

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

September 1, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am writing today to ask for your support for the new Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary in the Saranap area. The neighborhood along Boulevard Way has been somewhat rundown and neglected for a number of years now. The lovely new sanctuary would create a beautifully landscaped park-like setting that would greatly enhance the overall appearance of Boulevard Way and uplift the tone of the neighborhood.

I bought my home here five years ago in order to live within walking distance of Sufism Reoriented's current building. I live just a few short blocks from the site of our new sanctuary. Living close to everything helps a great deal, as it allows me to have time in my busy life to provide volunteer support for Sufism Reoriented and The Meher Schools. It would be costly and time consuming if I were forced to move elsewhere because Sufism had to build it's new sanctuary outside of the area. This project is so important. It will benefit the Saranap community as a whole, as well as the many people like me who must live near the new sanctuary.

Sincerely,

Robin Skiff
2515 Lucy Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

October 14, 2008

CONTRA COSTA

08 OCT 17 PM 1:30

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

Enclosed please find a copy of my letter of support for the Sufism Reoriented's land use permit application that was sent to Supervisor Uilkema back in August. I hope you will acknowledge having received a copy of my letter.

Sincerely,

Robin Skiff

Robin Skiff

enclosure

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August 16, 2008

MIRA COSTA

08 AUG 19 PM 1:12

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms Cross,

I have recently learned the good news that Sufism Reoriented has filed a land use application for a new church in the Saranap area of Contra Costa County. In support of the application I would like to forward you a recent letter to I sent to Supervisor Uilkema. As a resident of the Saranap I look forward to this new addition to our community and I sincerely hope this application is approved.

Respectfully,

Peter M. Skiff

August 12, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am pleased with this opportunity to write and express to you my wholehearted support for the proposed building of a church by Sufism Reoriented in the Saranap area of Contra Costa County. I have long association with Contra Costa County and this area. I grew up in Pleasant Hill and actually attended Sunday School in the Saranap in the Highland Building, just off Boulevard Way, which was used by the Mount Diablo Unitarian Church at the time. I work locally as a Software Engineer for the Wildpackets company at their headquarters at the corner of Treat Boulevard and Oak Road in Walnut Creek. I moved into the Saranap 30 years ago. Now, my wife and I own a home quite close to the proposed church on Boulevard Way.

As I enjoy taking walks through this neighborhood it gives me delight to envision the new facility as I come to the corner of Boulevard Way and Kinney Drive. I have seen the drawings of this building with its gentle domes, its reflecting pool, and its trees, so I am able to visualize this lovely sight.

Frankly, I cannot imagine anything at all that would be a greater enhancement to the Saranap community and to the Walnut Creek area generally than such an aesthetically beautiful addition with careful regard for the environment. As a long time resident of the Walnut Creek area I do hope to see this new building as a new part of my neighborhood, and I hope you will lend your generous support!

Sincerely,

Peter M. Skiff

Peter M. Skiff

cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 12/5/09

Printed Name: MELVIE SELFTON

Address: 1251 EL CERRITO BLVD

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL 14 P 2:30
DEVELOPMENT COORDINATION AND REVIEW

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7-12-09

Address: Sherilynn Smart
20 Ruth Ct
Lafayette CA 94549

Cc: LaShun Cross, County Planner

S

08 DEC -1 PM 2:16
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

JoAnn Smejkal
139 Ponderosa Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

November 26, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am sending a letter of support to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema regarding the submitted Land Use Permit Application from Sufism reoriented for their new sanctuary. Enclosed is a copy of the letter.

Sincerely,
JoAnn Smejkal

JoAnn Smejkal
139 Ponderosa Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

November 26, 2008
Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
652 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing in support of the building proposed by Sufism Reoriented..

My family moved to Walnut Creek from Concord in 1965. I have lived in Walnut Creek for 43 years, in the Saranap for 6 years. I love the Saranap. I live with my best friend and her husband on Ponderosa Lane. Her parents still live in the house she grew up in a few streets down.

I am a teacher at The Meher Schools, and I've lived within a mile of the Saranap for 12 years. In these twelve years I have always been a renter and have found that members of Sufism Reoriented have a very good reputation with landlords around here. I know of several landlords that want to rent only to members of Sufism Reoriented because they know the home or apartment will be kept clean and in good repair and the tenant will be reliable financially.

The area where the proposed church would be is an area begging for loving attention as I see it. The members of Sufism Reoriented have made beautiful their nearby Meher Schools. I feel sure the church would be even more so.

Sincerely, JoAnn Smejkal

Cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

2/24/09 KSmith 5/(2)

The Honorable Gayle Uilkema

We are writing to support the new Sanctuary project of Sufism Reoriented. Their school (Meher School) & community greatly enhance our neighborhood. They are great neighbors with a civic service orientation.

Kathleen Smith

& D. Alex. Froum

2725 Kinney Dr
Walnut Creek CA
94595

PS- We are looking forward to having a park-like garden walking distance from our house!

S
4

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Alida Smit Date: November 30, 2009

Printed Name Alida Smit

Address: 3400 Springhill Rd.
Lafayette, CA
94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7-24-09

Business name: REI PROPERTIES, INC.

Address: 1283 BOULEVARD WAY

Bradley Smith

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

Michael Smith
2248 Washington Avenue, #201
Silver Spring, MD 20910

2009 JUL 22 A 11:48

July 16, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine St. 4th Floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am enclosing a copy my letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the church Sufism Reoriented wishes to build in Walnut Creek.

Sincerely,

Michael Smith

Michael Smith

2248 Washington Ave. 201
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Michael Smith
2248 Washington Avenue, #201
Silver Spring, MD 20910

July 16, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine St., Rm. 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am writing to express my support for the new church Sufism Reoriented wants to build on Boulevard Way. I lived in the Saranap for 25 years and still own a home at the corner of Lucy Lane and Saranap. As a member of Sufism Reoriented, I volunteered at the Meher Schools for most of the time I lived there, sweeping the floors and cleaning the bathrooms one night a week. I now live in Washington, DC, where I work at the United States Department of Agriculture.

Sufism Reoriented brings a ray of God's Light into the Saranap. Its members strive to help others in any way they can, believing that God lives in every heart. Its presence lifts the Saranap, and all of Walnut Creek, by providing a channel for God's love into its midst. The effect the members have had on the neighborhood in the 35 years they have been there has been nothing except beneficent.

The church they want to build will be a beautiful and uplifting addition to the neighborhood. Like the members of Sufism Reoriented, it will be low-key and unobtrusive, yet open and welcoming to all. The work that will be carried out there—worship services, support of The Meher Schools, music, theater, and a bookstore, all dedicated to God and his love—will be a conduit for His Grace into the heart of Walnut Creek and a bright light in the neighborhood.

I hope you understand that this church can bring only good to the Saranap and its residents, most of who support it and look forward to its presence.

Cordially,

Michael Smith

5

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUN 16 PM 1:32

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Date: June 13, 2008

To: Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Copy: Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a member of Sufism Reoriented and a long time resident of your district in Contra Costa County. I've owned my home in the Saranap Area for over 17 years and before that, I rented an apartment on Boulevard Way. For many years, my professional work was located in Contra Costa County and I had the good fortune to be able to ride my bicycle from home to work along the Iron Horse Trail. I am one of the people who live close to the center, and therefore able to walk or ride my bicycle to the center for gatherings and various other activities. Because of this, I am keenly aware of the physical appearance of the Saranap Area and hold high interest in its beauty.

I carry my love of the outdoors with me whenever I go to the center to help with the gardening. Our gardens are very limited at the current center but we do the best we can with the space we have. The current parsonage at White Horse Court has beautiful landscaping more along the lines of our proposed building.

I look forward to the new sanctuary, in part, because it will be a beautiful church surrounded by lovely landscape. We gardeners will find much joy in working with the roses, the lawns and other landscape plants which will create the park like setting planned for the new church. The entire Saranap area will be enhanced by the presence of such a setting on Boulevard Way. Outside of White Horse Court, there is nothing like it in the area today.

Sincerely,

Casandra Smith

21 Camino Pablo Ct.
W. Cr. Ca 94595

Eleanor R. Smith
1305 Boulevard Way, #114
Walnut Creek, CA 9459
March 25, 2009

CONTRA COSTA
2009 MAR 26 P 12: 57
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Division
651 Pine Street, 4th Fl, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am enclosing a copy of my letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of Sufism Reoriented's sanctuary project for your record also.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Smith

Eleanor Smith

Eleanor R. Smith
1305 Boulevard Way, #114
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
March 25, 2009

The Honorable Gayle Uilkema
Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Uilkema,

I am an 80+ year old woman, associated with Sufism Reoriented for more than 50 years. I moved into the Saranap in 1975 when Sufism purchased the Iron Gate restaurant property at 1300 Boulevard Way.

Sufism is the most important part of my life, teaching the life of love, harmony and beauty. Religions are all of the same source and hopefully will some day unveil the unity of humanity and the joy of life for all. There is no proselytizing. We try to live what we believe--and if one is attracted to our life he is welcome to be a friend. We also praise and thank God in prayer, song and art.

For many years we have tried to find a location to erect a sanctuary, hidden in a garden space in which we may study, practice, rehearse, and praise God in one beautiful place. At last I think we have found it. I hope you can help us to begin.

Thank you for any help you can give.

Sincerely.

Eleanor Smith

Eleanor Smith

Patricia Adams Smith
2248 Washington Ave, #201
Silver Spring, MD 20910

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -8 A 11:51
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

July 4, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for the new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Patricia Smith

Patricia Smith

Patricia Adams Smith
2248 Washington Ave, #201
Silver Spring, MD 20910

July 4, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I would like to express my support for the building plans for a new church for Sufism Reoriented in the Saranap area. I believe that the new structure and grounds will be a profound improvement to the neighborhood and provide a lovely, small-park atmosphere.

I am very familiar with the Saranap area. I moved from the East Coast to Walnut Creek in 1984, and settled in the Saranap. I raised my son there and he attended The Meher Schools, and I volunteered hours at the school. He then attended Walnut Creek Intermediate and Las Lomas. I rented for many years and then purchased a condo, all within the Saranap. After 17 years, I moved back to the East Coast but still own a rental condo in the Saranap. I joined the Saranap Community Association to stay involved with the community, and I visit friends and my son (still a CA resident) each year.

The brochure that I read about the sanctuary contained a description of the proposed changes to the neighborhood. The blocks along Boulevard Way that will be affected by the building plans have been in a run-down condition for many years. From a homeowner's perspective, the proposed landscaping will lift that area visually and can only improve property values, a welcome thought during this economic downturn. From an aesthetic perspective, I love the interweaving of small parks and planted areas throughout Walnut Creek and Lafayette, and look forward to seeing a small park in the Saranap. Also, the church building will be low enough to provide a clear view from the street of Mount Diablo – a view I always love to see. I appreciate Sufism Reoriented's attention to environmental aspects, as well.

Please accept my support for Sufism Reoriented to build a new church that will meet both their needs and those of the neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Patricia Smith

Patricia Smith

S (FR)
11/29/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner, or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 10/21/10

Printed Name: RYAN SMITH

Business Name: DiMaggio's Barber Shop

Address: 1379 N. Main St. W.C.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

LC

S

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
JUN 12 PM 1:27
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing about the new sanctuary Sufism Reoriented wishes to build on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek.

I have been a member of Sufism Reoriented since 1972. I have lived in the Saranap since1976. I have worked more than 25 years as a manager and executive for corporations in San Francisco and Oakland and now own and operate my own landscaping business, Stonesmith, Inc., here in Walnut Creek.

When Sufism Reoriented moved our center from San Francisco to Walnut Creek, our members lived all over the Bay Area. I had lived in Menlo Park and San Rafael. Gradually, almost all of us moved to the Saranap to be close to the Sufism Reoriented location at 1300 Boulevard Way. We bought homes, started businesses, established the Meher Schools, and generally became solid citizens of Walnut Creek. Members of Sufism Reoriented are teachers, gardeners, artists, poets, builders, businessmen and women, doctors, nurses, psychologists, techies, and so forth. We are encouraged, and I think everyone tries very hard every day, to spread as much love, light, harmony, and beauty as we can in our community. Our church provides a foundation for everything we do.

We need a new building, where we can consolidate all of our activities and that is physically close to The Meher Schools in order to continue this work. The beautiful building that is planned will exemplify and enhance the work that our members try to do.

So for our sake, and I believe the sake of the neighborhood, I urge you to support our proposal. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tom Smith
27 Camino Posada Ct.

Copy: Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Graham Smithwick
1157 Singingwood Court #7
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA

April 16, 2009

2009 APR 17 P 12:41

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Re: Sufism Reoriented \ Application for land use permit

Dear Ms Cross:

Enclosed is a copy of my letter of *support* for Sufism Reoriented's application for a land use permit

Thank you for your courtesy,

Graham Smithwick, CPCU

Graham Smithwick
1157 Singingwood Court #7
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

April 16, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I support Sufism Reoriented's application for a land use permit to build a new sanctuary. I am a member of Sufism Reoriented. I have lived and worked in and around the Saranap community since 1976 as a renter, homeowner, contractor, school volunteer and more recently as a member of the Saranap Community Association.

After retiring to Rossmoor in 2007, I have often rediscovered a sense of relaxation where buildings are surrounded by a park-like atmosphere. From the plans I have seen, this new church design offers spiritually significant architecture within a park-like landscape. I believe it should add to the welcoming environment of the neighborhood. It also looks to be an outstanding example of just how architecture and landscape can be inspiring and inviting without either aspect overawing the other or the surrounding neighborhood.

It would be hard to imagine a building plan more thoughtfully placed to fit within its community. I hope you agree.

Sincerely,

Graham Smithwick, CPCU

cc: Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

543 Jacaranda Street
Brentwood CA, 94513

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -7 P 1:47

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

July 5, 2009

Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, Ca 94553

Dear Madam:

It has come to my attention that there is some controversy surrounding the building of a new structure for worship for the Sufi Order in Walnut Creek, and I felt it was important write and express my support for the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard way.

Both of my parents are Sufi's, and my two younger sisters and I are former students of The Meher Schools. As adults we have chosen not to become Sufi's, but look back with great fondness on our time there. The Meher School offered me a gentle loving haven in which to begin my academic career, and fostered my earliest scientific endeavors, despite our family's lack of funds. I believe that a fundamental supporting component of the school will be lost if the Sufi's that volunteer their services to it become unable to do so, due to the increased distance between the school and a worship site that is not local. This seems a likely outcome if they are not allowed to build locally on the property they own.

I think that it would be a great loss to that area of Walnut Creek if the school was no longer able to operate. I must also note that the debate seems to surround the question "Is the design visually obtrusive?" and when looking at the architects drawings, it is not. I am concerned that because opponents to the plan continue to champion that it really is, despite what the actual blueprints show, this may actually be a matter of religious intolerance. If this is the case, the community at large stands to lose an amazing resource, in a time that is sadly perilous for public school funding. This gift of time and energy which is given gladly by a group whose central tenant is "service towards others," may be lost, due to the intolerance of a vocal few.

Sincerely,

Salustra Smithwick Urbin
Biomedical Scientist,
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

October 15, 2008

5

08 OCT 16 PM 3:27

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross

651 Pine Street

4th floor, North Wing

Martinez, California 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am sending you a copy of a letter of support for the Sufism Reoriented land use permit application that was sent to Supervisor Uilkema.

Sincerely,

Virginia Smithwick

Virginia Smithwick

1336 Blvd. Way #209

Walnut Creek, California 94595

October 15, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema

651 Pine Street

Room 108 A

Martinez, California 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

As a long time resident of Saranap and Springbrook Road, both owning and renting for 30 years, and as a member of Sufism Reoriented foe 38 years, I am delighted to offer my support to this lovely building project, which will enrich the neighborhood in so many ways.

I was the very first teacher of The Meher Schools, when it began in one room of a small church in Lafayette. I have appreciated over the years all I learned in my 7 years there. I've used the values and the methods developed there in my 11 years teaching Special Education in the public schools. The continued presence of The Meher Schools seems so important to parents and the community. The continued presence of the school requires proximity to the Sufism Reoriented sanctuary.

The building will add to the good character of the neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Virginia Smithwick

1336 Blvd. Way #209

Walnut Creek, California 94595

cc. Lashun Cross

November 21, 2008

COPY

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Uilkema,

I would like to weigh in with enthusiastic support for the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented. As a member of this religious organization, which supports both spiritual and educational growth and development, I have been fortunate to live in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek for over 26 years.

In 1979, as a single mother and an associate professor of sociology at a large Minnesota state university, I moved my family from the mid west to Walnut Creek in order to study the teachings of Meher Baba as framed by Sufism Reoriented. Since then, my career continued in California as a sociologist and director of many large scale national and state evaluation research projects, both for federal and state agencies. My career culminated as a research sociologist at UC Berkeley, from which I have retired.

One of my children attended The Meher Schools, and I have been serving there as a cleaning team captain since 1982. My children graduated from Los Lomas and Acalanes high schools. In 1983 I moved from a house on Kinney Drive into a condominium at the Atrium Villas of Walnut Creek, where I have been an owner since 1985. This home is conveniently located near our existing center and directly across the street from our proposed new sanctuary. Such proximity has enabled a full participation in the religious and educational functions of our Sufi organization.

Perhaps more than in other parishes, the lives of members of Sufism Reoriented revolve around religious studies, activities, and the spiritual community. It is therefore even more essential that we live in proximity to our place of worship. As time goes by and the prices and challenges of ground transportation increase, it is likely to become even more important to live nearby. This means that if we are not able to locate our sanctuary in the Saranap, it is probable that many of us would have to move away, causing a huge and expensive disruption of many lives, including mine, and leaving a large gap in the surrounding community, which may not even be able to support the continuation of The Meher Schools.

We are fortunate that the current laws support the location of a house of worship in residential neighborhoods like ours. I appreciate your consideration of these concerns and hope that you are able to support our new building at its proposed location in the Saranap.

Sincerely,

Barbara Snow

Barbara West Snow, PhD
Constituent

1305 Blvd Way #111
W.C. CA 94595

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May 25, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I learned that Sufism Reoriented will soon be filing its land use application and I wanted to express my support for that project by forwarding to you the letter I sent to Supervisor Uilkema.

Sincerely,

Diane Snow

Diane Snow

May 25, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I would like to share with you my pleasure in the plan for a beautiful addition to our neighborhood in the Saranap area – the new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented. I have lived in this area as a renter since 1974; first on Tice Valley Boulevard where the helpful facility called Byron Park is now located; then in the Oakmont apartments, next, for a time in the apartments at the corner of Saranap and Lucy Lane, and since 1987 I have resided at our center at 1300 Boulevard Way. My delight in this new building is many-fold, but not least among them is the general uplift in tone to our vicinity that it can afford. Though one may not be actively *aware* of the boon that is returned to a community through fine design in its built environment – the beauty of form, of material, line, rhythm, the thoughtful balancing of the complex variety of functions all serving their individual roles in concert, together, as an harmonious unity – I feel keenly that this carries an unquantifiable quality of nourishment, both for those who live there, and for all who pass through.

My education centers on the arts and environmental design (I received my masters degree in Architecture from U.C. Berkeley in the early 1980s) and at that time, I became appreciative of the work of the world-class architectural firm of Phillip Johnson/Alan Ritchie. It is this firm that has done the architectural design for that building. Awesome! And the landscape planning is being done by the SWA group, a landscape architecture firm that is also considered a world leader in its field. Even more awesome!

When I was in architecture school, I was at first bemused, and then amused to hear the story of how a portion of the Parisian population responded to the plans for the Eiffel Tower . . . Despite having unanimously won a design competition comprised of 700 entries, the Eiffel Tower was a not accepted by all, at first, and engendered some strong reactions. These were thusly expressed *"we, the writers, painters, sculptors, architects and lovers of the beauty of Paris, do protest with all our vigour and all our indignation, in the name of French taste and endangered French art and history, against the useless and monstrous Eiffel Tower."*

New structures can seem unfamiliar; perhaps because at first, they are. After just a little while, they become as a quiet, well-loved friend one is happy to encounter along one's comings and goings. It has been my experience that a beautiful building can serve a community by constantly sharing its grace and harmony with its surrounds, and lift the tone up in a gentle and enduring way. As a long-term resident of this area, and on behalf of those who will continue for years and years to come to enjoy the vicinity of Walnut Creek in general, and the locale we live in, the Saranap, having such a beautiful work of architecture and landscape design seems something wonderful to embrace.

Sincerely,

Diane Snow

Diane Snow

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CONTRA COSTA

08 OCT 28 PM 12: 17

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

10/27/2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of the letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

George Snow

1305 Boulevard Way, # 111
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
October 27, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

This letter is one of support for the new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented in Walnut Creek. I am a member of Sufism and have been an owner resident in the Saranap area for the past 15 years. I currently live at the Atrium Villas just down the street from the proposed building site.

I'm very delighted to have the opportunity soon to worship in a beautiful new church; one that will further anchor in the surrounding community a loving atmosphere.

When I was a boy I enjoyed travelling to my father's boyhood home to visit my grandmother, aunts, uncles, and lots of cousins. Their home was directly behind one of only two churches in the small town just south of Chicago. The community was close, and nearly everyone knew everyone else, neighbor helped neighbor, and you could see that they actively tried to live the principles taught in the church. I learned that this is one way a community breathes: the first breath taken in church, and only after that breathed in and out in homes, yards, and businesses in the neighborhood, until each heart glows with love for others. After my grandfather passed away, my grandmother lived on in the old house all alone. Visiting one day, I was concerned that she might get lonely being by herself, but I was charmed and reassured by the constant flow of friends and family that came and went from the church, stopping to visit with her, or to bring her a home-cooked treat. I loved the community and the way so many friends and neighbors were caring, could be counted on to lend a hand and show their love.

As our Saranap neighborhood grows and changes, I feel this same kind of wonderful atmosphere growing here too, I'm sure the new Sufism Reoriented sanctuary will anchor this love and extend it in ever more positive ways.

I support this new building project, and I ask you to consider supporting it too.

Sincerely,

George Snow

cc: Lashun Cross; Community Development Department

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Mike Date: 08/29/09

Printed Name: Michael Soan

Address: 2322 Warren Rd.
W.C. CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 14 P 1:43
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: Eun Soan Date: 8/9/09

Printed Name: Eun Soan

Address: 2322 warren road.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

1615 Manchester Lane, NW
Washington, DC 20011

June 27, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for the new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Ruth Sobel

Ruth Sobel

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -1 P 1:55
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

1615 Manchester Lane, NW
Washington, DC 20011

June 27, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I recently had an occasion to read a beautiful brochure on the proposed Sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented located on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek. While I currently live in Washington, DC this drew my interest as a former resident of the Saranap community where I resided for more than ten years. During my residency in the Saranap I was an active real estate broker and was very familiar with that community, its property values and its appeal to clientele.

As you may know the Saranap is an area that possesses the potential to be a jewel. However, its quiet country-like atmosphere is somewhat mixed in its appeal as you may find a charming well maintained home next to rundown and neglected property. One has the feeling that you would love to be able to lift the atmosphere so all can share in the potential charm of this neighborhood.

I believe that the Sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented could do just that. Being two-thirds underground, this structure designed by one of America's leading architectural firms, Philip Johnson/Alan Ritchie, fits beautifully into the environment in an unimposing manner. The graceful design of the building, mostly veiled from the street, proposed two-acre gardens open to the public and new vistas of Mt. Diablo would make an inspiring contribution towards revitalization of this neighborhood.

As a businesswoman, I am also greatly impressed with the thoughtfulness shown by Sufism Reoriented in its careful planning regarding the overall impact on the environment, reduction of external noise, traffic management and the lack of variances required to accomplish their purpose. As such, I offer my full support to this project and look forward to visiting some time in the future to enjoy its beauty.

Sincerely yours,

Ruth Sobel

Ruth Sobel

Cc: Lashun Cross, Community Development

5 ® 5/10/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 4/30/10

Business name: Marty Sochet Licensed Marital Therapist

Address: 3249 Mt. Diablo Blvd #210
Lafayette CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S (H)
11/09/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
2010 OCT 27 P 1:49

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 08-26-10

Printed name: Amir Sohi

Business name: Pomegranate

Address: 1369-B N-main ST W.C. CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S ⊗

+

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: _____ Date: 8/29/09

Printed Name: Kevin Sou

✓ Address: 7 Blade Ct. Walnut Creek CA 94595

Kevin Sou

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (H) 06/23/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2010 JUN 22 P 12:49
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Glenn H Spoerl Date: 6/14/10

Printed name: GLENN H. SPOERL

Business name: CLYDE EQUIPT. CO.

Address: 3470 MT DIABLO Ste A120
LAF. CA ~~94556~~ 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

STEPHEN S. SPRAITZAR
95 ISLAND COURT
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595
PH: (925) 934-4116

June 1, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I have recently learned that in the near future, Sufism Reoriented will be filing its land use application for its proposed sanctuary. I am enclosing a copy of a letter that I have forwarded to Supervisor Uilkema which expresses my support for this project.

Sincerely,

Stephen S. Spraitzar

Stephen S. Spraitzar

STEPHEN S. SPRAITZAR
95 ISLAND COURT
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595
PH: (925) 934-4116

June 1, 2008

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

Dear Ms. Uilkema:

I am writing to you about the proposal of Sufism Reoriented to build a sanctuary on Boulevard Way near the intersection with Kinney Drive. I would like to express my warm support for this project.

I have been living in the Saranap area (at 95 Island Court) for about 25 years. Prior to that, I lived in Lafayette. For over 30 years, I have been working as an attorney for a small law firm in San Francisco that specializes in the practice of customs, tariffs, and international trade law. We provide a wide range of legal services relating to customs issues on imported products. This has required a fair amount of traveling. Because the work is intense, during my travels I try to seek out calming and beautiful locations near my hotels I find that quiet, harmonious, and beautiful locations can be very restorative, especially after traveling on an airplane for most of the day. When I had an opportunity to see the new church proposed by Sufism Reoriented, I immediately felt it would create just that quiet, and inspiring space I so enjoy.

I recently received a brochure on the sanctuary, and I would like to register my support for this project. The picture of the proposed building is graceful and its design seems to fit in with its surroundings, a concept that I heartily welcome. As you can tell from my comments above harmony is very important to me.

Moreover, I think that the proposed sanctuary would uplift the tenor of the neighborhood. The section of Boulevard Way from Mt. Diablo Boulevard to Kinney is a rag tag area of structures, consisting of stores, shops, apartment complexes, and light industrial buildings.

Having such a beautiful building on Boulevard Way would definitely set a new tone for the neighborhood and might inspire those in the nearby area to also upgrade the appearance of their buildings and improve their landscaping.

From what I have read, the proposed landscaping sounds lovely, and is far better than anything on Boulevard Way at the present time. I think that those who walk or drive by the proposed sanctuary would be uplifted by the landscaping alone, just as strolling through a beautiful garden can so readily refresh one's spirits.

Finally, I am glad to hear that the proposed sanctuary will be incorporating energy saving concepts and using recycled materials. "Green" principles need to be a part of new construction from now on, and I'm happy to hear that Sufism Reoriented is embracing these principles.

In summary, I think that the sanctuary being proposed by Sufism Reoriented would be a credit to the entire Saranap.

Sincerely,

Stephen S. Spraitzar

Stephen S. Spraitzar

{SSS2357.DOC;1}

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
Contra Costa County, District 2
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553

August 15, 2009

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 18 P 12:49

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am writing this letter to extend my full support for the proposed sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented. I lived on Westminster Place in the Saranap neighborhood from 1992 to 1999 and my family and I moved back to the neighborhood last year. I attended the Meher Schools and now attend San Francisco City College pursuing a degree in forensics.

Growing up in a neighborhood in which you can walk to your school and in which your teachers live is a truly unique and enjoyable experience. My family is from India and my grandparents would often say that Saranap had the same intimate neighborhood feel as their small community in India. The sanctuary was, is and will continue to be a beautiful, peaceful retreat in our neighborhood. I have seen the plans and fully support what is being proposed. In addition to adding a beautiful structure in our neighborhood, Sufism Reoriented will also be improving the currently unsafe intersection of Boulevard Way and Kinney Drive which is long overdue.

Please allow the sanctuary to be built in the proposed location. I know many, many people who attend the sanctuary and they are well respected members of our community. Members of Sufism Reoriented also give so much back to the Saranap community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Vikram Ojas Srivatsa
1330 Juanita Drive
Walnut Creek CA 94595

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
Contra Costa County, District 2
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553

August 15, 2009

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am writing this letter to extend my full support for the proposed sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented. I lived on Westminster Place in the Saranap neighborhood from 1992 to 1999 and my family and I moved back to the neighborhood last year. I attended the Meher School and gained so much from that wonderful nurturing environment. I now attend UC Davis and plan to become a journalist.

My earliest memories of our wonderful neighborhood include greeting my teachers on the way to school as they walked to the school from the sanctuary or their homes. It made me feel safe and like I belonged to the community. It is very rare these days to find a school that is truly local, i.e., where the students, teachers and administrators live close by and are invested in the neighborhood.

Please allow the sanctuary to be built in the proposed location so that the school can continue to be close to the sanctuary. I have seen the plans and they show a building that is not tall or imposing and property that is beautifully landscaped. The people who attend the sanctuary live in the neighborhood and they are my neighbors and friends.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

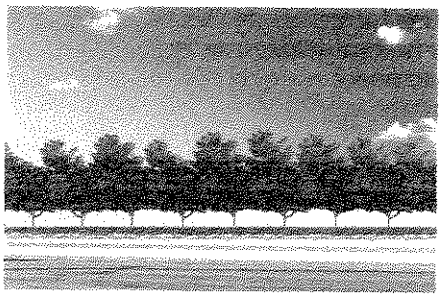
Arjun Ram Srivatsa
1330 Juanita Drive
Walnut Creek CA 94595

Letter of Community Support

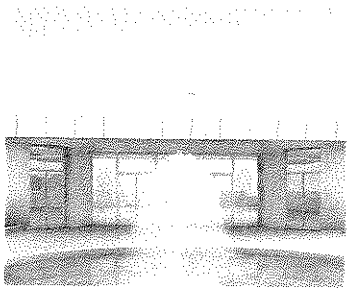
Proposed Sanctuary

To the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors:

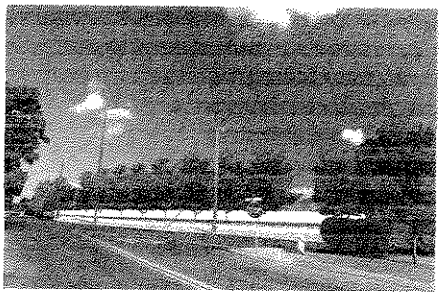
We are former students of the Meher Schools and understand that Sufism Reoriented is applying to the County for a land use permit to build a new sanctuary on Boulevard Way, a depiction of which is included below. We want you to know we support the project and ask that you consider our voices in approving it. Thank you.



View of new sanctuary from Boulevard Way



Close-up view of entrance (unlandscaped)



View of new sanctuary from corner of Kinney Drive and Boulevard Way

Printed Name & Signature	Address	Saranap Resident?
1. ARJUN SRIVATSA	1330 Juanita Drive	✓
	Walnut Creek CA 94595	
2. VIKRAM SRIVATSA		✓
	Same	
3.		

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 OCT 27 P 1:54

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Ann F Staley Date: 10/25/09

Printed Name Ann F Staley

Address: 2609 Golden Rain Rd #2
Walnut Creek CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Mariaela Stand

Date: 9/27/07

Printed Name: Mariaela Stand

Address: 1305 Boulevard Way #106
Walnut Creek Ca 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: J.M. Standley

Date: 9/15/09

Printed Name

J.M. STANDLEY

Address:

2508 TICE CREEK DR.
WALNUT CREEK, CA. 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Copy by:
Computer Club
of Rossmoor

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Shirley K. Stanfill Date: 11. 3. 09

Printed Name

Shirley K. Stanfill

Address:

40 Foster St. #3
Mtz. Ca. 94553

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

1

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Betty Stanford Date: 8-14-11

Printed Name: Betty Stanford

Address: 11 Freeman Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
2011 AUG 24 P 12:10

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

✓ I

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: John Stanford Date: 8-14-11

Printed Name John Stanford

Address: 11 Freeman Road
Walnut Creek, CA
94595

CONTRA COSTA
2011 AUG 24 P 12:11

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2010 AUG 19 P 2:04
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Marsha Stark Date: August 1, 2010

Printed Name: Marsha Stark

Address:
1024 Buchan Drive
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

LTN S 11/29

CONTRA COSTA
2010 AUG 19 P 2:04
DEPARTMENT OF CONSULTATION
AND PLANNING

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: August 5 2010

Printed Name
ROBERT T. STAPER

Address:
1024 Buchanan Dr.
LAFAYETTE CA. 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: D. Stefanakis Date: 7/15/2009

DAMIAN STEFANAKIS
Address: 140 FLORA AVE #131
WALNUT CREEK
CA 94595.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Dan Steckbeck

Date: 9-2-09

Printed Name

Daniel Steckbeck

Address:

532 Adirondack Way
Walnut Creek, Ca
94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Judith Steckbeck Date: 9/02/09

Printed Name Judith Steckbeck

Address: 532 Adirondack Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (H) 7/22/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 5/12/10

Printed name: Alysa Stefani

Business name: Betsy Johnson

Address: 1198 Broadway Plaza

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S (R) 11/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
10 OCT 20 P 1:32
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 10/15/10

Printed name: Alan J. Sternberg ALAN STERNBERG

Business name: Law Offices of Alan J. Sternberg

Address: 1777 Botelho Drive #345
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Anne L Stevenson Date: 11/23/09

Printed Name Anne Stevenson

Address:

22 Tudor Ct
Alamo, Ca 94507

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Amy Stoehr Date: 10-6-09

Printed Name: Amy Stoehr

Address: 77 Carolyn Ct.
Lafayette, CA.
94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jennifer Strohmeyer

Date: 2-21-10

Printed Name
Jennifer Strohmeyer

Address:
3535 Herman Dr.
Lafayette CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 10-16-09

Printed Name Leslie M. Sturtz

Address: 485 Muller Rd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Brian Suguro Date: 9/13/09

Address:
1301 Dewing Lane
Walnut Creek CA 94595

✓ Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 NOV -4 P 1:16

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 11-3-09

Business name: Olympic Plaza Dental

Address: 1901 Olympic Blvd #105
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: Tim Sutliff Date: 12.27.09

Printed Name: TIM SUTLIFF

Address: 120 SEQUOIA AVE.
W.C. 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

Dear Ms LaShun Cross

I've written to our county supervisor, Ms Vilkena, and also wanted to let you know of my support. I'm just learning about our neighborhood, SARANAP, into which I moved in June. I know change is hard but I urge you to support the Sufi sanctuary project. I fear that some people are critical beyond merit.

I think the Sufi sanctuary project has been thoughtfully conceived and will enhance our community.

Thank you. Sincerely, May Staunton
2433 Warren Ro

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Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Paul Stierwalt

Paul Stierwalt
1347 El Centro Blvd
Lafayette, Ca

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUN 30 P 12: 12
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

cc Lashun Cross

5

DIANA ST. JAMES
1133 ROCKLEDGE LANE # 4
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: Proposed site of Sufism Reoriented church on Boulevard Way

Dear County Planner,

Please refer to the enclosed letter to Gayle Uilkema which voices my support of the church that Sufism Reoriented is planning to build. I have learned that the land use application will be filed soon and I wanted you to know of my support for this very worthy endeavor.

If there is anything that you can to do see that the building of this proposed church is facilitated I would be very appreciative.

Sincerely,

Diana St. James, MBA, PMP

Attachment: Letter to Gayle Uilkema, Supervisor

DIANA ST. JAMES
1133 ROCKLEDGE LANE # 4
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595

May 14, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: Proposed site of Sufism Reoriented church on Boulevard Way

Dear Ms. Uilkema,

Since I retired earlier this year I have had the delight of discovering that I have both time and energy to become more politically aware and to actively express my opinion.

Although I currently live in Rossmoor, both I and a member of my family have been residents of the Saranap area for many years.

When I first moved into 1035 Juanita Road (in Saranap) I was hoping that it would be an "upgrading" neighborhood. The people in the house next door (the original owners) had done no renovations or maintenance to their house and their backyard had been used as a dump. In fact I didn't realize until years later when they cleared their yard that it was several feet lower than mine since their trash was level with my six foot fence. Over the years that I lived there it pleased me to see people take an interest in their property and improve it.

Recently it was brought to my attention that Sufism Reoriented is going to build a church on a corner of land that was on my commute route. Some of that corner used to house a construction yard with dirty trucks and equipment. I remember each day as I headed off to work what an eyesore I had to pass. It is a shame that such a strategically placed piece of land in what is mostly a residential area would be fouled with grease and oil from heavy construction. Older, not particularly attractive, houses are also on that land.

I had the pleasure of seeing what is being proposed for that parcel. Since I always considered Kinney Drive as the entry to the part of Saranap in which I lived, this proposed upgrade will beautify and clearly improve the appearance of that much traveled corner. As you leave Kinney Drive not only will you see beautiful landscaping but you will be able to see Mt. Diablo – what a joyful way to start the day!

If there is anything that you can do to see that the construction of the proposed church is facilitated I would be very appreciative.

Sincerely,

Diana St. James, MBA, PMP

CC: County Planner, Lashun Cross

5 R
09/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 8/22/10

Printed Name: Angela Starbuck

Address: 50 Manzanita Ct
LOC CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St. Room 108A
Martinez, Ca 94553

June 15, 2009

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I live in an apartment building on Saranap Ave., not far from where Sufism Reoriented hopes to build a new sanctuary. From what I have read of the plans, the building and grounds would be a real improvement to my immediate neighborhood which is mostly characterized by apartment and commercial buildings. It would be pleasant to peer through the trees at some really lovely architecture and to be able to walk in the gardens, which I'm informed would be open to the public. There isn't anything else like that nearby, so I really hope you will support the project when it comes before the authorities for approval.

Sincerely,

Rose Stevan

Rose Stevan
1772 Saranap Ave.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

1827 Newcastle Ct.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

March 11, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
652 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA
94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing in hearty support of Sufism Reoriented's proposed sanctuary in Walnut Creek.

I am a civil servant like you so I can appreciate the weight of responsibility in making the best choice for those whom you represent. I have masters degrees in engineering (MS) and Energy and Resources (MA) from the University of California, Berkeley that have served me well in my role at the California Public Utilities Commission. I work in the area of renewable energy policy, so I was very pleased to learn of the many "green" features of the proposed sanctuary.

I spent my first fifteen years of life living in the Saranap. During this time, I attended The Meher Schools. It was the only time in my life when I was truly disappointed to miss a day on campus. I have longed to return to the Saranap for years. When my husband and I were looking to buy our first home in 2001, we found our finances would not allow us to purchase in the Saranap. We are hopeful that our dream of owning a home in the Saranap will come true this year as we have sold our home in Pleasant Hill and are living with my parents in order to save. We look forward to the day when we can send our children to The Meher Schools and they can safely and easily walk or bike from our home.

I have known members of Sufism Reoriented for many years. I think they have contributed greatly to their local community, especially through The Meher Schools. I would be very sorry to see so many wonderful people uprooted, should their sanctuary need to be constructed outside of the Saranap.

I think that Sufism Reoriented's new sanctuary will be a blessing to the community.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Stoltzfus

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 MAR 16 P 1:50

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

March 11, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the planned Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary project.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Stoltzfus

Elizabeth Stoltzfus
1827 Newcastle Ct.
Walnut Creek, CA
94595

5 C#
9/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner, or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 9/24/10

Printed Name: Kevin Sooms

Business Name: Allstate Insurance

Address: 1375 Locust St 204
Walnut Creek CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL 14 P 2:27

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 7-11-09

Printed Name: AMUEL STRATZ

Address: 156 PANORAMIC WAY WALNUT CR
CA. 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Copy for Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner.

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/3/09

Business name: Doris Suzuki Hairdresser

Address: 1954 Tice Valley Blvd.
Walnut Creek, CA. 94595

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -7 P 1:47
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7-2-11

Printed Name: David Swartz

Address: 78 Grandview Place
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
2011 JUL -6 A 11:42

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5/22/09

5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 MAY 28 P 1:11

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

- E. Sweeling

Elizabeth Sweeling
(neighbor)

cc: Ms. Lashun Cross

5

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 12 P 12:12
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Dear LaShun,

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 significants numbers of undecided or unaware people. The story poles will serve to show everyone the size, scale and height of the proposed structure and it 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 loose 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

J KW
08/04/1

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Joanna M Sykes

Date: June 15, 2010

Printed Name
Joanna M. Sykes

Address:
129 El Toyonal
Orinda, Ca., 94563

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

4

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: M. Tabrizi Date: 9/19/09

Printed name: Mehdi Tabrizi

Business name: Vogue Cleaners

Address: 1552 Newell Ave.
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room108A.
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
08 JUL 29 PM 2:18
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Susanna Tacker
2533D Lucy Lane
Walnut Creek
CA 94595

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to let you know that I am very supportive of and excited by the prospect of the new building proposed by Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way. I believe this project will be a tremendous asset to the neighborhood bringing grace, elegance and peace to all around.

I am a member of Sufism Reoriented and, since 2000, have been a homeowner and resident in the Lucy Lane Condos, very close to the site of the new Sanctuary. I so look forward to participating in the many activities of the group in such a beautiful building in such a lovely setting. I sense that the activities of the group will flood out into the community more fully from this building and will uplift the neighborhood.

I hope you approve the project.

Yours Sincerely,

Susanna Tacker

cc: Lashun Cross
Community Development Department

LC
S

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL -1 PM 1:44

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

July 10, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing this letter in support of the sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

My wife and I purchased a residence in Saranap 8 years ago and before that we rented within Saranap for 12 years prior to our purchase. Our current home is within blocks of the proposed site.

My thoughts are that the design and green attributes of this Philip Johnson / Alan Ritchie project are a "world class" undertaking and that it would be a "gold standard" of construction anywhere it was located. . The building is beautiful. It is designed to be unobtrusive. The building is dedicated to principles of human growth and higher knowing. The fact that it is proposed for the Saranap area represents significant growth of the most desirable kind.

Sincerely,

Tim Tacker
2533 D Lucy Lane
Walnut Creek, CA
94595

cc. Ms. Lashun Cross, County Planner

Mt. Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church

September 11, 2009

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

We are writing to express our support for the proposed new Sanctuary of the Sufism Reoriented religious community in the Saranap area of Contra Costa County. We are clergy members serving as Co-Ministers of the Mt. Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church in Walnut Creek.

When we were called last summer from our previous congregation in Virginia to serve this church, we were delighted to find that they have been able in recent years to construct a beautiful Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall, the latter completed just last January. We know very well how important it is for religious communities to be able to build houses of worship that accommodate the needs of their congregation, reflect the tenets of their faith, and allow them to serve as a resource to the wider community. The plans for the Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary reflect all of those values.

The building and grounds as they have been proposed will enhance the both the appearance and the quality of life in their neighborhood, with improvements to street-level views and drivers' sight-lines. The modern Sanctuary building is quite beautiful and has been carefully designed to minimize intrusiveness; the grounds will offer community space and the enlarged school will be a community resource. The fact that 85% of the congregation's members live in the affected neighborhood will certainly encourage them to act as diligent stewards of both community and property values.

We are especially impressed with the efforts the Sufism Reoriented members have made to consider and respond to the concerns of their neighbors. The plan they offer and the process by which it has been created seems to represent a very respectful application of the principle that congregations have a right to use land zoned R-10 for religious buildings, with explicit County permission and with considerable deference to local sensitivities as well as local restrictions.

We sincerely hope you will support this new Sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented.

Sincerely,

Revs. Leslie and David Takahashi Morris, Co-Ministers

cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner
Community Conservation & Development Dept.
651 Pine St., 4th Floor—North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

The Revs. Leslie & David Takahashi Morris, *Co-Ministers* • Heather Sawyers, *Director, Religious Education* • Suzan Lawrence, *Church Administrator*
55 Eckley Lane • Walnut Creek, CA 94596
925/934-3135 • Fax 925/ 934-3136
www.mduuc.org

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: D Tam Date: 8/29/09

Printed Name David Tam

Address: 339 N. Wildwood
Hercules, CA 94547

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

4

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed:

Date: 8/24/09

Printed Name

Linda Tam

Address:

339 North Wildwood
Hercules, CA 94547

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 OCT 27 P 1:54

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Timothy Tam

Date: 10/24/09

Printed Name TIMOTHY TAM

Address: 300 3RD AVE S
PLEASANT HILL CA, 94523

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Joseph Tambornino
2812 Kinney Drive
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

October 19, 2009

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE Saranap Sufi Sanctuary

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area interested in supporting the proposed, new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented. I am not a Sufi, nor is my background from that tradition. My interest in encouraging development of the new sanctuary stems from a desire to: 1) support the architectural enhancement of the neighborhood; 2) support those developments, both locally and beyond, that will further our understanding, tolerance, and appreciation for responsible cultural and spiritual traditions, regardless of origin. I support these efforts because they improve both our neighborhood and our community.

I believe that the proposed Sufi Sanctuary will be an improvement to our community for both of the reasons stated above and urge you to back its application for permit.

Sincerely Yours,

Joseph Tambornino

cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Miguel Tapia
General Manager
1255 S. California Blvd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94596
925 279 2286 T
925 279 2237 F
925 698 8563 C
walnutcreek@habitburger.cor
habitburger.com

The Habit BURGER GRILL
There's no substitute for quality!

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 2/14/11

Printed name: Miguel Tapia

Business name: The Habit Burger Grill

Address: 1255 S. California Blvd.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5/12/10

CONTRA COSTA
2010 MAY -5 P 2:00

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Andrea Tasik Date: 5/2/10

Printed Name: Andrea Tasik

Address: 1217 Juanita Dr.
WC. CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 12/27 [illegible]

Printed Name: Janessa Totten

Address: 721 Hilton Road, Walnut Creek, CA [illegible]595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: M Tavares Date: 9/23/09

Printed name: Marie Tavares

Business name: Marie's Beauty Salon

Address: 1806 Tice Valley Blvd.
Walnut Creek, CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5

CONTRA COSTA

08 OCT 15 PM 1:17

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

October 13, 2008

Ms. Lashum Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I'm enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the planned Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary project.

Sincerely,

Douglas Taylor

October 13, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I've recently read an article about the new California Academy of Sciences building. It is being dubbed the most ambitious green building imaginable, with its living roof and natural blending with the surrounding woods. I thought how wonderful to be in a state that is the forefront of such wondrous designs that are one with the environment. I recently saw the proposal, and design, for the new Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary that is to be located on Boulevard Way. It is so remarkably one with the environment. Beauty and calmness just poured from the pictures. The amount of care and planning it must have taken to become one with the natural environment is truly amazing. The view of looking at Mt. Diablo past the domed roof, which is barely perceptible, is brilliant.

I recently retired from the U.S. Army after 21 years of service and settled in the Saranap area in 2006. I saw many beautiful places of worship during my travels. It is nice to come back and have one as beautiful as this in my own back yard. I would greatly urge your support for the beauty it will bring to the area and the example it will set for environmental awareness.

Sincerely,

Doug Taylor

Cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

James H. Taylor
5912 16th St. NW
Washington, DC 20011

July 15, 2009

Ms Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine St, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms Cross,

Regarding the Land Use Permit Application that Sufism Reoriented has submitted for the new sanctuary, I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of that application.

Very Sincerely,

James H. Taylor

James H. Taylor
5912 16th St. NW
Washington, DC 20011

July 15, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Rm. 108A
Martinez, Calif. 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

As a former long-time resident of the Saranap, I feel it important that you know of my wholehearted support for the new church proposed by Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way.

Though I live now on the East Coast, Contra Costa County was my first home in the late 1940s, and years later I raised my own family on Dewing Lane, in Walnut Creek's Saranap. During those years, I managed local retail businesses, and in addition to many fond memories, I still have numerous friends and family in the area. My mother lives near Mt. Diablo Boulevard, and I have frequent occasions to visit Walnut Creek and the Saranap in particular.

While the homes in the Saranap can possess considerable charm, the area as a whole has always seemed to me a bit neglected. So it was a happy surprise to learn that the firm of Johnson/Ritchie was retained to design the sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented – right in my old backyard, so to say.

Johnson/Ritchie is one of the preeminent architectural designers of our time. Their buildings and churches are considered landmarks in the field, displaying a sense of timeless beauty, often graced with a serene, quiet grandeur. I have seen the drawings for the Sufism Reoriented church, and I think we have here a rare chance for uplifting the entire tone of the Saranap.

I hope you will consider strongly the great benefit that this beautiful proposed building will confer on the Saranap, certainly for many, many years to come.

Very Sincerely,

James H. Taylor

October 13, 2008

CONTRA COSTA

08 OCT 15 PM 1:17

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

5

Ms. Lashum Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I'm enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the planned Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary project.

Sincerely,

Lilianna Taylor

Lilianna Taylor

October 13, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I've been renting in the Saranap area for nearly 20 years. I'm appreciative of its quiet atmosphere, and I hope some day to own a house there. I enjoy strolling in this friendly neighborhood and catching a glimpse of majestic Mt. Diablo from various places.

The drawings showing the proposed architectural design for the new sanctuary make me so happy! This buildings' gentle form and its harmonious relationship with the environment is unsurpassed! It's beautifully landscaped surroundings not only add beauty and lightness to this neighborhood, but also offers to anyone walking down Kinney Road towards Boulevard Way one more opportunity to see that majestic mountain—a view that is currently obstructed! The thoughtfulness for the environment, neighbors, and for the neighborhood with which this sanctuary has been planned, highlights Sufism Reoriented's dedication to service. I'm so grateful that this land is in their hands!

I hope you share some of my enthusiasm for this amazing project, that will beautify and add value to the Saranap neighborhood, and that you will support its development!

Sincerely,

Lillianna Taylor

Cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

Sharon Taylor
5912 – 16th St., NW
Washington, DC, 20011

August 25, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has applied for a Land Use Permit. Enclosed is my letter to Supervisor Uilkema supporting that application.

Sincerely,

Sharon Taylor

Sharon Taylor

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Irena Tchertkov Date: 09/11/09

Printed Name IRENA TCHERTKOV

Address: 1789 Tice Valley Blvd
WC 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 09/11/09

Printed Name Igor Tchertkov

Address: 1789 Tice Valley Blvd
WC 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (4)
02/04/11

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 08/27/10

Printed name: Domenico Testa TESTA

Business name: Caffe delle Stelle

Address: 1532 North Main St
Walnut Creek CA 94596

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Glenn Thomas Date: 2-20-10

Address:
1025 Juanita Drive
WC, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 2/2/10

Printed Name Patricia Anne Thomas

Address: 1101 Grandview Ave.
Martinez, CA 94553

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

February 4th, 2008

To whom It may concern:

This is a letter of support for the Sufism Reoriented Land Use Permit Application. I have lived on 71 Carolyn Ct. for 12 years. My street is one block from the Meher school. Both of my daughters attended the Meher school. My youngest daughter attended the school from 2 to 11. While I am not part of Sufi Reoriented, I strongly support the efforts of the group.

The Meher school is staffed by a group of individuals that are highly committed to the students, school and community. My daughters say that they learned not only academics but the importance of respecting all individuals. While the Meher school does not in any way promote their religion (in fact I did not know it was a Sufi school until a year or so after my youngest daughter was in pre-school), they utilize some of the principles that are important in their faith, like compassion, trust and respect. The students have adults at the Meher school that feel in some way like extended family.

In conclusion, the school and the Sufi residents are an important part of the Saranap area. Their influence has enriched my family's lives. I urge you to please help them to meet their goals with the land use permit.

Thank you,

Teri Thompson
71 Carolyn Ct.
Lafayette, CA
94549
(925) 518-9938

S 5/4

CONTRA COSTA

2010 MAY -3 P 1:57

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Allison Thomason Date: 4/24/10

Printed Name Allison Thomason

Address: 1141 Bacon Way
Lafayette 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 ~~4~~
09/15/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed:

Date: 9/6/10

Printed Name
Teri Thompson

Address:
71 Carolyn Ct
Lafayette CA
94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

To: The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

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

CONTRA COSTA
2009 MAY 19 A 11:11
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
& DEVELOPMENT

From: Stephen Thomson
1213 Clover Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

May 16, 2009

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

RE: Sufism Reoriented's Planning Application for a Sanctuary on Boulevard Way, Walnut Creek.

As a fulltime resident in the neighborhood of the planned development I would like to add my support for this project.

I believe that once completed the new sanctuary will add a high quality development and aesthetically pleasing oasis in what is otherwise a rather unappealing environment. I am particularly pleased about the planned park and gardens that will be open to the public. Although not a park in the traditional sense, the sanctuary grounds will add a facility that is completely lacking in the neighborhood at present.

In my view, the project should be welcomed and encouraged by all the community. It will bring continued support and enrichment to the neighborhood for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Stephen Thomson

5 CR
6/3/10

CONTRA COSTA

2010 MAY 26 P 2:35

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Mary K. Threlkel Date: 5/24/10

Printed Name: MARY K. THRELKEL

Address: 3468 MT. DIABLO BLVD. B201
LAFAYETTE, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Laurel Thurgood Date: 8/23/09

Printed Name Laurel Thurgood

Address: 338 N. Wildwood
Hercules, CA 94547

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

Dear County Supervisors,

I am a neighbor in the Saranap and Realtor. I do not oppose this project, in fact, I am in favor of a place of worship in our area.

The plans appear lovely and I encourage you to consider this plan.

Sincerely,

Lisa Tichenor
2681 W. Newell Avenue
Walnut Creek, 94595
925-285-1093

Lisa Tichenor

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 18 P 12:09

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible]

Date: 8/14/09

Printed Name [illegible] TISCARENO TISCARENO

Address:

317 WARWICKSTLE CT.

MARTINEZ CA. 94553

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 9/3/09

Printed Name Avis Ann Tierney

Address:
2015 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

Toni M. Tischler, BS; MS
5 Via Barcelona
Moraga, CA 94556

June 5, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Toni M. Tischler, BS; MS

Toni M. Tischler, BS; MS
5 Via Barcelona
Moraga, CA 94556

June 5, 2009
Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Rm. 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing this letter in support of the proposed sanctuary to be built for Sufism Reoriented. I would like to share with you from personal experiences some of the many reasons I would like to see this proposed sanctuary erected.

I have been a member of Sufism Reoriented for approximately twenty three years. As a mother and a teacher I explored the principals and philosophy of Sufism Reoriented through reading and working at the school that has been provided for the Saranap Community and for many other areas in the vicinity. I found the staff to be a combination of members of Sufism Reoriented and members of other religious affiliations. All seemed to embody the same qualities- service to others, acceptance of all ideals and values, consideration, thoughtfulness and above all an immensely strong love for all living beings.

During the twenty three years I have been a member of Sufism Reoriented I have lost my son, adopted a child and lost my husband. The immeasurable love, care, and concern the members of Sufism Reoriented showered on me left me feeling totally able to cope with the vast growth opportunities I have been given. They have consistently lifted my spirits, showed me the path to learning through love and given me more support, encouragement and assistance than I could ever have imagined.

My daughter, who is now nineteen years old, went to the White Pony/Meher School from three years old until she was ten. What a joyous experience it was for her as well as my husband and me. To know she was in a safe and caring atmosphere allowed us both to go to work knowing she was in excellent hands and in the best place possible.

As an environmental education teacher, I was truly impressed with the environmental considerations that have been taken to make this a very "green" building. It is a model building from an environmental perspective- such as having most of the building being placed below grade level, pervious materials to prevent polluting the storm drain system, the "geo-exchange" system and so much more offers such a positive presence for all in the neighborhood to admire and emulate. What a wonderful place to share with our children- a beautiful dome structure enhanced with green lawns, trees and gardens.

The last point I would like to share with you is that I have lived in Moraga for seventeen years and I am one of your constituents. I have been to one of your talks in Moraga, donated to your campaign and voted for you. Thank you for your interest in our sanctuary.

Sincerely,

Toni M. Tischler, BS; MS.

Toni M. Tischler, BS; MS

CC: Ms Lashun Cross, Community Development Dept.

56 101

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jill M Tompkins

Date: 05/09/10

Printed Name
Jill M Tompkins

Address:
3424 Freeman Rd
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S 6/15/10 CM

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Craig M Tompkins Date: 05/09/10

Printed Name: Craig M Tompkins

Address: 3424 Freeman Rd
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -2 P 3:14

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: (illegible) GEORGE E. TOSUN Date: 6-30-09

Address: 1611 S. VILLA WAY, WC CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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June 11, 2009

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Fred Toth
3154 Windsor Ct
Lafayette CA 94549

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Nick Townsend

Date: 07/14/05

Address: 1172 Saranap Ave 346

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JAN -4 P 3:02
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Janet Traenkner

Date: 12/8/09

Printed Name
Janet Traenkner

Address:
26 Corte Aires
Moraga, CA 94556

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Andrei Tkachuk Date: 7/17/11

Printed Name: Andrei Tkachuk

Address: 2523A Lucy Ln
Walnut Creek, Ca 94595

CONTRA COSTA
2011 AUG 23 A 11:46

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Copy for Ms. Lashun Cross

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signature Diana Tran illegible Date June 13 2009

Business name Beauty & Barber Shop

Address 1954 Tice Valley Blvd
Walnut Creek ca 94596

Train

5

CONTRA COSTA
08 OCT 17 PM 1:30
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

To: Ms. Lashun Cross

Here is a copy of a letter I sent to you and to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the land use application filed by Sufism Reoriented for the construction of their new church building.

Respectfully,

Rev. Sally Train

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

October 14, 2008

Dear Ms. Lashun,

Greetings!

Allow me to introduce myself. I am a retired minister, ordained in the United Church of Christ. My seven year old daughter attends The Meher Schools.
The purpose of this letter is to urge you to support the new church Sufism Reoriented is hoping to build in the Saranap neighborhood of Walnut Creek.

As a resident and homeowner in Walnut Creek, I support the project because it will be a beautiful building and garden. Such an improvement will be a great asset to the neighborhood.

As a mother of a Meher Schools student I support the project because it will provide the teachers with a beautiful spiritual center near the school. I am very impressed with the quality of teachers at The Meher Schools. Their loving attention and care is profoundly nurturing to the children in their classes. It is obvious that the spiritual values of their faith inform, support, and shape their teaching methods. It is clear that they, in turn, are supported, nourished, and taught by the classes, worship, and activities associated with their church. I wish to support them in building a sanctuary to fit their needs so that they can continue to do their work with our children in such a grace-filled manner.

As an ordained minister I support the project because I believe that worship, meditation, and spiritual training are the foundations of a joyful, productive, and ethical life. In fact worship is the primary purpose of our lives. I therefore support the construction of such a lovely building dedicated to the worship of God and the nurturing of love among humanity.

Respectfully,

Rev. Sally Train

Rev. Sally Train

CONTRA COSTA

08 OCT -2 PM 1:02

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

SALLY TRAIN

1398 Candelero Drive
Walnut Creek, Ca 94598
Phone (925) 944-9706

September 30, 2008

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street
4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, Ca 94553

Dear Lashun Cross,

Greetings! Allow me to introduce myself. I am a retired minister, ordained in the United Church of Christ. My seven year old daughter attends The Meher Schools.

The purpose of this letter is to urge you to support the new church Sufism Reoriented is hoping to build in the Saranap neighborhood of Walnut Creek.

As a resident and homeowner in Walnut Creek, I support the project because it will be a beautiful building and garden. Such an improvement will be a great asset to the neighborhood.

As a mother of a Meher Schools student I support the project because it will provide the teachers with a beautiful spiritual center near the school. I am very impressed with the quality of teachers at The Meher Schools. Their loving attention and care is profoundly nurturing to the children in their classes. It is obvious that the spiritual values of their faith inform, support, and shape their teaching methods. It is clear that they, in turn, are supported, nourished, and taught by the classes, worship, and activities associated with their church. I wish to support them in building a sanctuary to fit their needs so that they can continue to do their work with our children in such a grace-filled manner.

As an ordained minister I support the project because I believe that worship, meditation, and spiritual training are the foundations of a joyful, productive, and ethical life. In fact worship is the primary purpose of our lives. I therefore support the construction of such a lovely building dedicated to the worship of God and the nurturing of love among humanity.

Respectfully,

Rev. Sally Train

Rev. Sally Train

5 DY 11/29/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 3/14/10

Tan Tran
Printed name:

PHO' Saigon, Vietnamese Restaurant
Business name:

1560 Newell Ave. Walnut Creek, CA 94596
Address:

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5 P
11/29/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: Karen Trestrail Date: 7/30/10

Printed Name: Karen Trestrail

Address: 1260 Clover Lane, W.C. 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Copy to Ms. Leshin Cross, Planner

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

KEVIN TRIPLETT
170 SEQUOIA AVE
WALNUT CREEK CA
94595

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -7 P 1:41
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 3/9/10

Business name: Nick's Barber Shop

Address: 3502 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Ste E
Lafayette, CA 94549

CONTRA COSTA
2010 MAR 10 P 1:18
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Zoe Trujillo Date: 9/19/2009

Printed Name ZOE TRUJILLO

Address: 1725 Springbrook Rd
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

HC S 11/29/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2010 AUG 24 P 2:13
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 8/10/10

Printed name: KEVIN TRUONG

Business name: BLUSH Yogurt

Address: 1345 NEWELL LN 94568

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CONTRA COSTA

2009 NOV -5 P 2:22

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 11/4/09

Printed Name
BEYENESH TSEGHAI

Address:
1700 Botelho Dr. #1125
Walnut Creek, CA. 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

T

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 9-22-09

Printed Name
Theresa Tsingis, DCMS

Address:
89 Davis Rd #180
Orinda CA 94563

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

October 6, 2009

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

In light of the construction proposal, I am writing this letter in support of The Meher Schools and their aims.

My time as a student of The Meher Schools was one of the most joyful, foundational experiences of my childhood. Not only did they provide knowledge, but they imparted values and life skills that remain an enduring thread in my life.

Through kind, encouraging words and thoughtful discernment, the teachers of The Meher Schools help each student be open to their own uniqueness and appreciate the uniqueness of others. Individual activities such as poetry writing and crafting offer opportunities for exploration and personal reflection. Through group singing and performance in plays, students recognize their interconnectedness and develop the ability to attune to others in compassionate ways.

The hallmark of The Meher Schools is that it provides an open and accepting environment in which students can grow in their individual talents and also develop empathic connections with others and a sense of a responsibility to a larger society. I am in full support of sustaining this community that inspires students to find a fuller potential in themselves and their relationships with this world.

Sincerely,

Remi Tsukamoto

Remi Tsukamoto

cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Community Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 10/8/08

Printed Name ANGELA TU

Address: 2021 Ygnacio Valley Rd. Bldg D-1
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 9/2/09

Printed name: JADE TUCZYNSKI

Business name: Sacred Circles Healing Arts

Address: 2910 Camino Diablo Blvd #210
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 11 P 1:19

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Travis K. Tunney

Date: 8-9-09

Address:
3424 Freeman rd
Walnut Creek CA 94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S
+

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Tara Turk Date: 12/5/09

Printed Name: Tara Turk

Address:
62 Palana Ct.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Catherine Anna Ulmer
1305 Boulevard Way #207
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

May 17, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented will be filing its land use application. I am in support of this project and would like you to have a copy of my letter of support that I sent to Supervisor Uilkema.

Thank you,

Katie Ulmer

Catherine (Katie) Ulmer

Catherine Anna Ulmer
1305 Boulevard Way # 207
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
(925) 937-7710

May 17, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street
Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to you concerning the plans of Sufism Reoriented to build a new church on Boulevard Way. I have recently received information about this project. The site is just half a block up from my condominium.

My husband and I have lived in the Saranap for 29 years. While raising our daughter we lived in several houses in the Saranap until she went off to college. We delighted in the Saranap neighborhood and felt lucky indeed to send our daughter to the Meher Schools for her elementary education. When she graduated from college we purchased an Atrium Villa condominium but alas, it was across from the Super Liquors grocery store and a nail salon. For a long time a large sign showing a manicured hand greeted us as we exited our building. We tried to ignore the downside of the street and focused on making our condo the "little jewel box" we had always wanted to prepare for our retirement years. But the neighborhood on Boulevard Way is less than scenic. There is a decided "tacky commercial" feel to this street situated near the freeway entrance. Many nearby houses and yards are neglected, and a nearby apartment building is reputed to house drug dealers. We were shocked to learn a few years ago, that a house of prostitution was located directly across from us on the site of the Super Liquors until it was raided. Since then the building was bought by Sufism Reoriented, and now young men on motorcycles no longer congregate in the parking lot to drink beer. Also the front of the property is now kept clean. We have had a car stolen

from our parking lot only to recover it several weeks later. Recently there was a tragic murder several blocks away.

The prospect of a "designer church" (Philip Johnson/ Alan Ritchie Architectural firm) existing just one block up from us is a joyous, refreshing promise of beauty and a decided beneficial influence. I have seen the plans and it is the image of peace and tranquility surrounded by a garden designed by the internationally famous firm of SWA. The gardens alone will be spectacular. As for the building, I have seen the museum in Georgetown in Washington D.C. that the principal architect's firm designed at Dumbarton Oaks and it is a gem. It too is set amidst a beautiful garden and I see similarities in both curvilinear designs. What an outstanding addition to our street.

Neighbors will surely enjoy strolling through the gardens and visiting the bookstore and know I will enjoy passing it each day on my way to work as a teacher at the Meher Schools preschool, The White Pony, where I have worked for the last 8 years.

Thank you for considering the interests of this small, local community of citizens, interested in the improvement of our neighborhood. It makes me pause to consider that wherever a place of worship springs up, we have the happy chance to experience the principle upon which our nation was founded; namely the right to exercise religious freedom. This church appears to be a quiet expression of love, harmony and beauty!

Sincerely,

Katie Ulmer

Katie Ulmer

S

CONTRA COSTA

08 JUL -9 PM 1:16

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Jerrold C. Ulmer
Atrium Villa's
1305 Boulevard Way
Number 207
Walnut Creek, Calif.
94595

June 29, 2008

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

As a resident of the Saranap neighborhood, and a member of Sufism Reoriented, I would like to express my support for the proposed new sanctuary.

I am president of the Board of Directors of the Atrium Villa's Homeowners' Association, a fifty unit condo association. It is located on Boulevard Way less than a block from the proposed site. My wife and I have owned our condominium for 12 years, and have lived in the Saranap area for over 30 years. My wife works at The Meher Schools as a preschool teacher, and my daughter, a graduate of The Meher Schools, is an elementary teacher there. She and her husband also live in the Saranap area. I am employed by the University of California San Francisco as a Disability Analyst.

As you can see, we have deep roots as a family in the neighborhood, and I feel a responsibility to the condominium association concerning the neighborhood. I believe that the new building will bring charm, beauty and serenity to our neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Jerrold Ulmer

cc. Lashum Cross
Community Development Dept.

S

CONTRA COSTA

08 AUG 20 PM 1:20

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

1336 Boulevard Way #300
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

8/19/2008

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Lashun Cross,

I learned that Sufism Reoriented has filed a land use application. In support of that application I am forwarding the letter I sent to Supervisor Uilkema.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Arlene Unamun

Arlene Unamun

1336 Boulevard Way, #300
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

August 19, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing in regards to the sanctuary being proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I have been a resident of the Saranap area for the last 28 years, both as a homeowner and currently, as a renter at Le Boulevard Apartments. I moved here specifically to be near my spiritual community, Sufism Reoriented. I have enjoyed this neighborhood and my widowed mother, a city girl who joined me, came to love this area as well.

I have witnessed many beautifying changes in the Saranap. When I first moved to Le Boulevard Apartments there was an unattractive, noisy parking lot for paving equipment located in our "back yard". Now our view is a lovely park like setting called White Horse Court, which holds Easter parties for neighboring families. I am well aware of our need for a larger space to include our activities under one roof. For 20 years I have been a volunteer in the Searchlight Bookstore, now located in nearby rental space. It is inadequate to display all our books, music and artwork. In the future perhaps the bookstore can be incorporated into more spacious quarters in our new building where it will be more accessible to the public.

I am very grateful to be able to live in such a beautiful, peaceful area and thank you for your support in this incredible endeavor.

Sincerely,

Arlene Unamun

Arlene Unamun

cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

S (H2) 11/4/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: Lynnette Underwood Date: 7/25/10

Printed Name: LYNNETTE UNDERWOOD

Address: 540 Lily WALNUT CREEK CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA 10 OCT 2 P 2:

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 8/28/09

Printed Name: Marc Usatin MD

Address: 440 Bridge Rd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (H)
7/7/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 6/24/10

Printed name: Alvaro Valencia

Business name: KFC

Address: 1275 S California

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

I ✓

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Luke van der Westhuizen Date: 8/14/2011

Printed Name: Calvin

Address: 14 Calvin Ct
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
2011 AUG 23 A 11:16

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

I ✓

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 8/14/11

Printed Name Summer van der Westhuyzen

Address: 14 Calvin Ct. W.C., CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
AM AUG 23 A 11:11
[illegible]

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

(+) 5/12/10
S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: John L Van Landingham

Date: 5/2/10

Printed Name
John L. Van Landingham

Address:
1469 Carleton ~~Dr~~ St.
Concord, CA 94518

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S ✓
Q
4/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: susan VanLandingham

Date: 4/24/2010

Printed Name
Susan VanLandingham

Address:
1469 Carleton Dr. Concord, CA 94518

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 2/21/11

Printed Name: JOSHUA VAN OTEN

Address: 2460 WARREN RD.
WALNUT CREEK, CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 7/26/09

Printed Name: Jennifer Van Pelt

Address: 1195 Saranap Ave #12
Walnut Creek CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (HP) 09/

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner, or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 9/10/10

Printed Name: JESSICA D. VATTUONE

Business Name: ASPIRE CAPITAL MGMT.

Address: 1535 MAIN ST.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (H) 09/30/

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner, or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 9/10/10

Printed Name: Evan C. Vatterano

Business Name: Aspire Cap Mgmt.

Address: 1535 N. Main St.
Walnut Creek CA

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Linden Van Wert-Weisberg Date: 2-19-10

Printed Name Linden Van Wert-Weisberg

Address: 2648 Cherry Lane
Walnut Creek CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S (4)
11/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Elizabeth Vieira Date: 10/8/10

Printed Name
Elizabeth Vieira

Address:
1320 Alma Ave. C213
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: RVV Date: 11-18-09

Printed name: Robert Vennes

Business name: Swan Pools

Address: 1295 Blvd Way Ste C
Walnut Creek, CA

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

July 1, 2009

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -8 A 11:52
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for the new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Brigit Venza

Brigit Venza

1612 Massachusetts Ave N.W.
Washington DC 20011

July 1, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine St. Rm. 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to you in support of the proposed sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented.

I currently work as a neurologist in southern Maryland, but I have strong and affectionate ties to the Saranap neighborhood. I grew up in the Saranap and now frequently visit my mother who lives there. I also owned a condominium across the street from the proposed building site before leaving Walnut Creek to go to medical school.

I believe this building will do much to uplift the surrounding neighborhood. It has been designed to be beautiful but unobtrusive, both visually and also to the environment. Sufism Reoriented plans to open the gardens to all neighbors for quiet contemplation which I feel reflects their inclusive spirit. I have been fortunate to have grown up with parents who are part of this church and know the care and love that is put into all endeavors undertaken.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,

Brigit Venza

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Betty S Vodzak J.D.S.

Date: 9/15/09

Printed Name
Betty S. Vodzak

Address:
895 Moraga Rd. #1
Lafayette, Ca. 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (HO) 08/08/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jason Vor Date: 7-18-10

Printed Name JASON VORHAVER

Address: 1242 SUNSET LOOP, LAFAYETTE, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (10)
08/04/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Kimberly Vorhauer Date: 7/18/10

Printed Name KIMBERLY VORHAUER

Address: 1242 SUNSET LOOP
LAFAYETTE, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5(H) 1/22/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 11/13/09

Printed name: VIVAN VU

Business name: LAFAYETTE NAILS

Address: 3322 Mt. Diablo blvd #G
Lafayette, Ca 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 8/22/09

Printed Name LES & JOYCE WADE

Address: 1242 SUNSET LOOP
LAFAYETTE, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -7 P 1:46

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Cathleen A Washcams
84 Blade Way
W.C. 94595

C.C. Ms Lashun Gross
Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Heather Wadsworth Date: 11/21/09

Printed Name: Heather Wadsworth

Address: 11 Boulevard Ct.
Walnut Creek

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Joy M Wagner

Date: June 30, 2009

Address: 1500 Pursorn Lane
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2001 JUL 16 P 1:25

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Tom P Wagner Date: 6/30/9

Address: 1500 PURSON LANE
LAFAYETTE, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

✓ 4/15/10

CONTRA COSTA

2010 APR 14 P 1:10

DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: J A Wahed

Date: April 13, 2010

Printed Name
JOSEPH WAHED

Address:
102 Brookline St.
Moraga,
Ca. 94556

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

4/27/10 (A) S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Kathi Waked

Date: April 12, 2010

Printed Name Kathi Waked

Address: 102 Brookline St
Moraga Ca 94556

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

(2)
6-22-11

CONTRA CO
'11 JUN 13

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

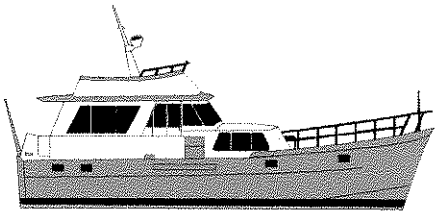
I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Leslie Wall Date: 6/4/11

Printed Name: Leslie Wall

Address: 2850 Kinney Dr
Walnut Creek, 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner



CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG -7 P 1:50
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Melvin N. Wall
1809 Golden Rain Rd., #7
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
925-935-9311
Cell 925-708-3753

August 4, 2009

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

Dear Ms. Uilkema:

I am writing to ask for your support to approve the Sufism Reoriented Land Use Permit currently before the board.

Before I go into the details of my support of this action, let me reintroduce myself to you. You and I have met on a few occasions in my previous capacity as a member of the Rossmoor First Walnut Creek Mutual Board of Directors. Those meetings were regarding mutual loans and emergency preparedness. Since that time, my leadership role in Rossmoor has changed. I am now a new member of the Golden Rain Foundation Board of Directors.

In my 7 years as a volunteer leader in Rossmoor, I have been keenly aware of our surrounding neighborhoods. I have noted the efforts by spiritual organizations to improve our area and offer services and support to our Rossmoor Community. For example, I personally know that there are many members of Sufism Reoriented who live in and enjoy our community. Further, I believe our Jewish community should also get support for improvements they are planning just outside of Rossmoor. I feel our neighborhoods reflect who we are and should be in tune with keeping up with growth and improvement for all.

Although I am not a member of the Sufi community, I have a number of acquaintances from this group. Also, I have talked to many Rossmoor residents who have told me of the wonderful community involvement of Sufism Reoriented, especially the nearby White Pony preschool and Meher grammar school. They have described this small private school as one of most respected in the Lamorinda area. The Sufi community is one of the most unique spiritual groups I have ever encountered. They advocate and follow the principles of love for all and respect of everyone's beliefs.

As to the opposition to this project, we must understand that change is a fact of life and in the long run is good and often needed. I doubt one can successfully describe this older county neighborhood as a"semi-rural" area. On the other hand, I do not believe the building of this complex is a significant area encroachment or will change the overall opinion of the desirability

of the greater neighborhood area, However, I do believe the project's surrounding neighborhood will benefit from this project. This is especially significant when one considers how much of the facility will be built below grade and is very architecturally pleasing. Further, the plans add to the natural look by incorporating beautiful landscaping and improving site lines for a most dangerous curve on Boulevard Way adjacent to the property. This bad section of road would not change should the plan be disapproved and the existing old buildings, vegetation and fences remain. I truly believe this traffic improvement will benefit my Rossmoor constituents who often travel along Boulevard Way.

I contend that having a spiritual organization located in any neighborhood would be a significant asset. A church sure beats homes that are not well maintained and an aging infrastructure.

Again, I want to stress that my experience with this spiritual community is based upon personal experience with wonderful people who believe in caring for their neighbors and fellow man. You need only to look at the past 30 years of their existence a mere block away from the proposed new center. It is my opinion that spiritual organizations contribute to a better community and improve any local neighborhood.

Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me should you have questions or concerns.

Best regards,

Melvin N. Wall

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner
Community Development Division
651 Pine St. 4th floor - North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

S

CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV -5 P 2:22
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: _____ Date: 11/1/09

Printed Name: SUSAN WALL

Address: 681 Center St.
Walnut Creek, CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Scott Wallace

173 Flora Avenue
Walnut Creek, CA 94595-1226

08 OCT 15 PM 1:16
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

October 13, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms Cross,

Attached, for your information, is a copy of a letter I wrote to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of Sufism Reoriented's land use application for its new sanctuary on Boulevard Way.

Sincerely,

Scott Wallace

H: 925.946.9664 C: 925.212.9588 ❖ *e-mail.scottw@gmail.com*

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Donald J Walsh
DONALD J. WALSH

443 N Wildwood
Pinecrest CA 94549

5

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Helen R. Walsh

Helen R. WALSH

443 N Wildwood
Pleasanton CA 94566

5 5/10/10

CONTRA COSTA

2010 MAY -5 P 12:36

BY

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Catherine Wang Date: 5/5/10

Printed Name Catherine Wang WANG

Address: 1560 Arbutus Dr.
1560 Arbutus Drive
Walnut Creek CA 94595
arbutus

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date:

Printed Name
Yan Wang

Address:
181 Mesa Ct
Hercules, CA 94547

the architecture is so beautiful.
I am sure it's benefit to the community.

Yan

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Kirk G. Ward

Signed: [signature]

Date: 10/15/09

Business name:
WDC CORP

Address:
WDC CORP
1889 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite 200
Walnut Creek, CA 94596-4409

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

1305 Boulevard Way #306
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Catherine Warren
Catherine Warren

CONTRA COSTA
2001 JUN 29 P 1:50
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

S

1184 Dewing Ln.

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
08 OCT 15 PM 1:16
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

October 13, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross

Community Development Department

651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, north wing

Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross

Enclosed you will find a copy of my letter of support for the Sufism Reoriented sanctuary in Walnut Creek that I sent to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema. I understand that you appreciate a copy of these letters so as to file them with the application.

Sincerely,

Fred E. Warren

1184 Dewing Ln.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
October 3, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I wish to write to you today to express my strong support for the proposed Sufism Reoriented sanctuary to be built in the Saranap neighborhood of Walnut Creek.

Around 1984 I moved to the Saranap with my first wife and two small children to be near the current Sufism Reoriented sanctuary and The Meher Schools. Both of my children attended the school and I began to volunteer an hour a week of my time to help clean the school. My children are now grown adults in their 20's and 30's, but I still continue to help clean the school as I feel it makes a great contribution to our community. My work as a senior IT Manager at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory requires a long commute, but my house on Dewing Lane and my strong connection to Sufism Reoriented keep me in the Saranap. Being close to The Meher Schools also allows me to continue to volunteer my time.

I recall that when Sufism Reoriented first purchased its current building it represented an improved space, but still not large enough. I worked as a volunteer electrician's helper when the building was expanded, but even when the expansion was finished it was still not enough space – just the most that the lot would accommodate. When I heard that the group was to build a new sanctuary that would finally have enough space for all activities, I was very gratified that a long held goal was finally coming to fruition. I was not prepared for the actual building. When the architectural drawings and site plan were unveiled, I was overwhelmed by the grace, beauty and harmony of the building and grounds. To have something of such a caliber in our neighborhood seems to me to be a great gift to everyone. In addition to the beautiful design, I was impressed by the technology of the building. It seems that every effort is being taken to use the best modern ideas to minimize the impact of the building on the environment and the neighborhood. I feel that this is the wave of the future for buildings and a good model for future projects in the Saranap.

I hope that you will be able to support the construction of this new sanctuary.

Sincerely,

Fred E. Warren

CC: Lashun Cross

5 6/4/10

CONTRA COSTA
2010 MAY -3 P 1:57

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 4/24/10

Printed Name
ANNMARIE WARREN

Address:
1203 BACON WAY
LAFAYETTE, CA. 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

1184 Dewing Ln.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
October 4, 2008

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms Cross:

Enclosed you will find a copy of a letter of support for the Sufism Reoriented sanctuary in Walnut Creek that I sent to Supervisor Uilkema. Please feel free to file it with the building permit application.

Sincerely

Paulina Warren

Paulina Warren, PhD

08 OCT 28 PM 12: 17
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

1184 Dewing Ln.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
October 4, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing in support of the proposed sanctuary of Sufism Reoriented in our Saranap neighborhood.

I have been a homeowner in the Saranap for over 30 years. My children attended The Meher Schools. I am a retired therapist and college professor. Now that I have the time to volunteer, I sew dress-up clothes and other needed items for the White Pony preschool.

I am also a dedicated flower gardener. The thought of two acres of a beautifully landscaped haven in our neighborhood, open for quite contemplation, delights me. I am especially pleased with the sanctuary's harmonious design. I think such a structure could set a new standard for ecologically responsible construction in our county.

Many of my neighbors regularly walk in the neighborhood. They tell me that they are quite pleased that such a lovely sanctuary could replace the tired and dingy structures that currently occupy the site of the proposed sanctuary.

I sincerely hope that you will be able to strongly support the building of the sanctuary.

Sincerely

Paulina Warren

Paulina Warren, PhD

CC: Lashun Cross, County Planner

Copy: Ms. Lashun Cross

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Linda Waters
96 Sky Ranch Lane
Pleasant Hill, CA.
94523

July 10, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Conservation & Development Dept
651 Pine Street, 4th Flr, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553-1229

RE: Sufism Reoriented Church
Application LP08-2034 / MS08-0011

Dear Ms. Cross:

My family and I have lived in the Saranap, Walnut Creek neighborhood for over three years. During that time, we have come to learn of the Sufism Reoriented project to build a new church.

Generally, I feel the Sufis serve our community very well. I understand that the property laws let the Sufis build what they want according to their beliefs and I feel they should be able to do so.

Sincerely,

Adrienne B. Watson

1305 Boulevard Way, #314
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

3/2D 1st address on sheet

S
3/22/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 4/27/2010

Printed name: Jules WATSON

Business name: COLE HAAN

Address: 1180 BROADWAY PLAZA

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

CONTRA COSTA

08 OCT 28 PM 12: 17

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

S

Oct. 25 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, Ca 94553

Dear Ms, Cross:

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely

Margo Watson

Margo Watson

1312 D Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, Ca 94595

Oct 25 2008

Supervisor Gayle Ulikema
651 Pine St. Rm 108A
Martinez, Ca 94563

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I have been a member of Sufism Reoriented for almost 40 years. My husband and I own a condominium one block away from the new building site. I am writing you to encourage your enthusiastic support of our proposed new building. I have been in charge of the large group of volunteers that have cleaned the current sanctuary at 1300 Boulevard Way for almost 30 years. This is a dedicated group of about 150 volunteers. Each has one, two or three or more weekly jobs, such as vacuuming the prayer hall or being a member of a team that mops the floors or cleans the bathrooms. I can honestly say it would be hard to find another group around the world that works so hard to maintain the high cleaning standards that this group does. It is because they love the group, its purposes and the building that houses these purposes.

I know that this same dedicated loving care is also given to the grounds at at 1300 Boulevard Way and the parsonage at White Horse Court, as well as the cleaning of The Meher Schools. How could a group that so lovingly cares for their property not be an asset to the neighborhood? I am sure the new building and its grounds will be given the same loving care, if with not even more zeal. I am sure you can also observe this same quality of care in the incredible attention to detail being given to every aspect of planning for the new building.

I also support this building for another reason. I am an artist and photographer. I have spent many years photographing Mt. Diablo and have sold my cards and photos at the Visitor Center there for many years. I was a painter, but I became interested in photography after studying the work of a very famous photographer, Galen Rowell who resided in Berkeley. After many years of worldwide travel, even climbing the heights of faraway mountains, Galen came home and decided the Bay Area was the most beautiful place in the world. That's pretty high praise from one such as him! Truthfully, I agree with Galen. I deeply love this area, Walnut Creek and its surround. What could be more uplifting than an exquisitely designed new church here!

Sincerely.

Margo Watson

Margo Watson

1312 D Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
May 18, 2008

LeShun Cross
Community Development Department
Contra Costa County
651 Pine Street
4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms Cross:

Please find enclosed a copy of the letter I sent Supervisor Uilkema in support of the Land Use Permit application of Sufism Reoriented for their proposed new church in the Saranap.

Yours truly,

Richard W. Watson
President, Boulevard Terrace Owners Association

1312 D Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
May 18, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street
Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I'm writing this letter in support of the new church that Sufism Reoriented proposes to build on Boulevard Way in the Saranap and to also request your whole-hearted support for this neighborhood-enhancing project. I am a computer scientist and engineer by training with a PhD from the University of California, Berkeley. Before retiring in 2001, I was the Chief Scientist of the Computation Directorate of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL). As an anecdote, I played a pioneering role early in my career, in developing key protocols for the Internet email that we now all use so extensively. I continue working at LLNL about half time. As a 26-year condominium owner of the neighborhood and President of the Boulevard Terrace Owners Association (BTOA), I have a strong interest in upgrading, in my view, our currently rather unattractive and in places shabby area. Our 24-unit condominium complex is about a block away from the proposed new sanctuary, behind the existing sanctuary of Sufism Reoriented. We have a long history of cooperation on landscaping and other projects to improve the attractiveness of our adjoining properties. Much of the property that Sufism Reoriented will develop, as you know, consists of abandoned or rundown houses and a former dump. All of this is a drag on the neighborhood.

I'm also particularly enthusiastic about Sufism Reoriented's project because I've had a life-long interest in architecture (I seriously considered majoring in architecture at one point) and gardening/landscaping. I have made many trips over the years throughout the world and the United States focused on visiting important secular and sacred architectural sites and gardens. Further, I spend several hundred hours each year helping to maintain and improve the landscaping of the BTOA property. The Sufism Reoriented project, with its lovely, non-intrusive, world-class architecture by the outstanding Philip Johnson/Alan Ritchie firm is very much in the best tradition of classical sacred architecture of many religious traditions, as well as classical American architecture, such as Jefferson's Monticello. This architecture combined with world-class landscape design by the SWA Group will make a significant improvement to the Saranap area. It will upgrade the neighborhood aesthetically, provide important open space and leadership with environmental design features that we can all take pride in. All these aspects will combine to enhance the quality of life (even if unconsciously) and the property values of our whole area. It will, I believe, inspire others to improve landscaping and other aspects of their properties.

I know these issues are important to you because, as just one example I am aware of, you played a key role in helping the residents of the Newell area along Olympic Blvd upgrade the area from Boulevard Way to Newell Court with an attractive bike trail and plantings of Crepe Myrtle trees. I appreciate that each time I drive by and I know my daughter and her family who live on Newell Avenue do also. Mentioning my daughter, I should add here that my two grandsons attended the Meher Schools, as did my own son

many years earlier so I am aware not only of the wonderful educational service Sufism Reoriented has provided the community, but also the significant upgrading of that property they have made through its high quality landscaping and very high levels of maintenance and cleanliness, all provided by dedicated volunteers. It is a model of what schools can become.

So in closing I look forward to the fulfillment of this inspired project and its very positive impact on our neighborhood and community and thank you ahead of time for anything you can do to support and further this worthy effort.

Yours truly,

Richard W. Watson
President, Boulevard Terrace Owners Association

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CONTRA COSTA
2011 JUL 10 P 2:11
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Mark M. Wayn WAYN? Date: JULY 9 '09

Address: 1172 SARANAP AVE
#24-B
WALNUT CREEK CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CC

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MRA CO...

08 JUL 29 PM 1:18

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

July 6, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I'm a Sr. Systems Analyst with AT&T in San Ramon. My wife recently started her own consulting business, renting an office on Boulevard Way. I've lived in the immediate area since 1991, and my wife has lived in the area since 1983. Now we own a condo a couple of blocks from the proposed building site, so of course we were very interested in the packet of materials we received about the building plans of Sufism Reoriented.

I'm impressed by how many positive benefits are involved, and by the effort to minimize any possible negative impacts or objections. I'm sure others have pointed out the positives for you.

Frankly, the only negative I can see is in the possibility of these plans not being realized, because that would mean this group could not place all their current activities in a single building, as they need to do. I have personally experienced the difficulties involved when conflicting activities need to occur in the same space, as when my weekend volunteer waxing team at The Meher School runs into a drama class and we have to work around each other!

If Sufism Reoriented isn't able to pursue their development plans, it seems likely they would have to relocate.. And that would result in removing from the neighborhood not only the organization, but the several hundred members living in the community, with the loss of all the existing benefits their presence brings. This would cause both immediate and probably long-term decline of property values in the area.

I urge you to support the building of this project as a great benefit to the neighborhood and to prevent what would be a serious loss to the neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Doug Webb
1312B Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CC: Lashum Cross, County Planner
Community Development Department

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Evelyn Webb
1312B Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
June 23, 2008

'08 JUN 23 PM 1:09
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Lashun Cross
County Planner
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented is filing a land use application. In response, I have sent a letter in support of the project to Supervisor Galye Uilkema (enclosed) that I wanted to share with you.

Sincerely,

Evelyn Webb

Evelyn Webb

Evelyn Webb
1312B Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
June 24, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

Please count me in whole hearted favor of the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek.

I am writing as a 20-year Saranap homeowner, a business consultant with offices on Boulevard Way, and as a member of Sufism Reoriented.

As a homeowner and business consultant, I am, of course, interested in maintaining and improving the quality of the neighborhood. From the renderings I have seen, the new building in its park-like setting will be both beautiful and uplifting. I believe it will blend in nicely with the surround and will improve the look, quality, and ambience for everyone in the neighborhood.

As a member of Sufism Reoriented, I look forward with great anticipation to worshiping in this new and light building, which is just down the street from our current location. I believe Sufism Reoriented and its members to be an asset to the community. They have been long-term good neighbors who generate an abundance of good will and community spirit as can be seen through the 30 years of service of The Meher Schools.

I therefore urge you to support this building project and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Evelyn Webb

Evelyn Webb

cc: Lashun Cross

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Kerry Webb Date: SEPT. 3, 09

Printed Name KERRY WEBB

Address: 1408 WALDEN RD
WALNUT CREEK CA.
94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, Ca 94533

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am enclosing a letter to Gayle Uilkema in support of the Land Use Permit Application. Thank you for your kind consideration in this application.

Sincerely,

Diane C. Weinstein
Diane C Weinstein

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -1 P 1:55
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

6101 16th St NW
Washington, DC 20011

June 26, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
652 Pine Street, Room 108 A
Martinez, Ca 94553

Dear Supervisor Uikema,

I am writing a letter in strong support of the new sanctuary being proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I have had the privilege of residing in the Bay area in both Marin County and the Saranap area for many years. In Marin I was constantly inspired by the Frank Lloyd Wright domed library. I use to go there just to feel the beauty of Mr. Wright's beautiful domed structure. When I saw the gently sloping domes on the new building proposed by Sufism Reoriented, I was thrilled. I look forward to the opportunity to share this domed space as I did Mr. Wright's.
While residing in the Saranap area I sent my two children to the Meher Schools. Both of my children have grown up to give back to their communities as an attorney, and as an office manager for a large medical practice. Both feel they benefited from the harmony and consideration of others while students at the Meher Schools. What a delight it would be to have a beautiful, uplifting structure in the Saranap area. After reviewing the architectural plans and renderings I believe that the neighborhood would be most fortunate to have such a structure to inspire the entire community.

As an interior designer for over 35 years I strongly support an environmentally "green," esthetically designed, beautifully landscaped project that would bring great joy to all the residents and visitors of the growing Saranap community.

Sincerely,

Diane C. Weinstein
Design Doctor LLC

Samuel Weinstein M.D.
Virginia Pediatric Group
3020 Hamaker Ct. #200
Fairfax, Va. 22031
703-573-2432

June 27, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, north wing
Martinez, Ca. 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I am enclosing a letter to Gayle Uilkema in support of the Land Use Permit Application. Thank you for your kind consideration in this application.

Sincerely,

Samuel Weinstein M.D.

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -6 P 2:05
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Samuel Weinstein M.D.
Virginia Pediatric Group
3020 Hamaker Ct. #200
Fairfax, Va. 22031
703-573-2432

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108 A
Martinez, Ca. 94553

June 27, 2009

Dear Supervisor Uilkema

I am a Pediatrician living in Washington DC. I worked and lived in the Saranap area for more than 15 years. I was inspired by the volunteer efforts at The Meher Schools, as well as the quality of education, that I sent both of my children there when they were young. I too worked at the school as a volunteer, supervising the medical provisions for the day care program and providing medical advice and guidance for the staff.

I have reviewed the documents pertaining to the establishment of a church in the area. I believe it will provide nobility and grace, and enhance the suburban community there by its beauty and ability to blend with the hills, and through its surrounding vegetation. I have discovered that it will be a "green" structure, with most of its area beneath ground, and with state of the art provision for water drainage, parking, and overall traffic control.

Had I remained in this Northern California community, I would have looked forward to the existence of such an inspiring church and property, as I made my way from Boulevard Way to my work at The Meher Schools. I am grateful for your support in this matter; nothing could be more beneficial for this lovely area and its residents.

Sincerely,

Samuel Weinstein M.D.

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Maly Weiss Date: 9/22/09

Printed Name Maly Weiss

Address: 2908 Terrace View Ave
Antioch CA 94531

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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1314-D Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek CA 94595

May 31, 2008

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
615 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

Because Sufism Reoriented intends to file a land use application in the near future, it may be helpful to share with you a letter I recently wrote to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Wells

Benjamin Wells
wells@usfca.edu

1314-D Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek CA 94595

May 29, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
District 2, Martinez Office
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

As a 25-year homeowner in Saranap and three-year member of the Saranap Community Association, I am writing in *support of Sufism Reoriented's plan* to build and move into a new sanctuary on Boulevard Way.

My name is Benjamin Wells, usually called Pete. I have been on the faculty of the University of San Francisco for 25 years where I am Professor of Mathematics and of Computer Science. I have degrees from MIT and UC Berkeley, have studied in four countries, and am the noted logician Alfred Tarski's last doctoral student. Before USF, I taught in a number of middle-school through college programs ranging from peer-teacher training to enrichment to community college mathematics and graduate computer science. The first real courses I developed and taught were for Sufism Reoriented's Meher Junior High and High Schools (7–10th grades), where I was the math teacher for all classes during the last two years (1980–82) of these upper-grade programs.

One of my Meher School students died two weeks ago. At a memorial celebration, members of his 7th grade class spoke about their school experience with him. It reminded me how my own experience at The Meher Schools has informed and enhanced my quarter-century of teaching at USF and continues to inspire me. It was clear that these men and women, now nearing 40, recall that time with great fondness. It's true for our own children too. Our older daughter has said that they were the happiest of her 27 years, and our younger daughter, a one-week graduate from Sarah Lawrence, still points to her learning to share by feeding her fellow two-year-olds in The Meher Schools' preschool.

At Meher High School I learned how to combine art and math. For me this has evolved over the years to include now a joint program with USF, the de Young Museum, and the Fusion Project to use the museum's collections to teach middle-school math (please see www.fusionprojectinfo.com if you are interested). Looking yesterday at long-preserved projects created by my students at Meher School, I was amazed by their creativity, imagination, and willingness to tackle vacation assignments like "Using the root spiral, tell a mathematical story about finding a treasure."

So I offer my students', my children's, and my own testimony that this aspect of Sufism Reoriented's service in our community has had a positive and lasting effect on those involved. When Sufism Reoriented has a new home on Boulevard Way—with expanded facilities for artisitic creativity as well as a beautiful place to worship—the school, the neighborhood, and the county will benefit.

With thanks for your work for Saranap,

Benjamin Wells
wells@usfca.edu

Cc: LaShun Cross
Community Development Department

5 (4) 3/22/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Jesse Wellen Date: 11/12/09

Printed name:
JESSE WELLEN

Business name:
Lafayette Car Wash

Address:
3319 Mt Diablo B
Lafayette 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

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June 4, 2008

Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
615 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

Sufism Reoriented will soon file a land use application; it seems helpful to share a letter I wrote today to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema about this.

Sincerely yours,

Karen Wells

Karen Wells
1314-D Boulevard Way
Walnut Creek CA 94595

5 7/22/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: V. J. Wen Date: 11-15-09

Printed Name: VICTORIA J. WEN

Address: 141 FLORA AV #40
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S HU
08/09/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Tema Wengell Date: 6/15/'10

Printed Name Tema Wengell

Address:
237 Colusa Ave.
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Bill Wentz

Date: 9-1-09

Printed Name
BILL WENTZ

Address:
863 WILMORE AVE.
CONCORD, CA 94518

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG -4 P 12: 16
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Leslie Wesson Date: 7/15/09

Address: 1010 Buchan Dr.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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2009 JUL 14 P 2:20

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/11/09

Printed Name: DAVID WEINMAN

Address: 51 MANZANITA CT. WALNUT CREEK, CA 94553

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7-11-09

Printed Name: Sandra J. Wirtanen

Address: 51 Manzanita Ct,
Walnut Creek,
CA. 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 8/3/09

Printed name: Joel Westbrook

Business name: Mile & Westbrook

Address: 1407 Oakland Blvd, Ste 107, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

COPY

29 Mayhew Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94597
October 29, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
652 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing in support of the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented, for which a land use permit application has been submitted. I hope you will also support this project.

I have lived in Walnut Creek for 33 years – most of this time as a renter in the Saranap neighborhood near the current Sufism Reoriented sanctuary at 1300 Boulevard Way. Since my current address is about 3 miles from this Saranap neighborhood, I drive or bicycle several times a week to our Boulevard Way Center or to The Meher Schools, where I have done volunteer work for more than twenty years – between 5 and 8 hours a month – including participation on a Tuesday evening cleaning team.

While I've always considered it a great privilege to participate in the work of Sufism Reoriented, I have rarely spoken of this involvement with family, friends, or business associates - less from a wish to conceal than from an observation that such talk is generally not helpful. However, I'm happy for the opportunity to try to express *in words* the work and principles of Sufism Reoriented and especially happy that this has been done so well by others in our group in the "Neighborhood Newsletter", which you may have read. Although I think this point was brought out in the newsletter, it might be worth repeating that many members of Sufism Reoriented (including myself) consider ourselves Christians, celebrate Christian holidays, and of course try to practice Christ's admonition to love one's neighbor. I sincerely believe that this new building will prove to be an unmixed blessing for the entire neighborhood, improving its appearance, and creating a more neighborly atmosphere.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Paul Weston
Paul Weston

5

CONTRA COSTA

08 NOV 13 PM 1:09

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

May 13, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
Contra Costa County, District 2
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: Sufism Reoriented Land Use Permit Application

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

We are writing in regards to the application of Sufism Reoriented for a Land Use Permit for the development of a new sanctuary to be located on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek (the "Project"). We strongly support the Project and urge the County's approval. We are not members of Sufism Reoriented, however, both of our children attend The Meher School (in grades 2 and kindergarten) and we live in the neighborhood. In fact, the backyard of our home abuts the school. Thus, we can attest not only to the quality of the school's educational environment, but to the quality as neighbors of the Sufism Reoriented membership who work at and administer the school. Simply put, we can not imagine more thoughtful and committed members of any community.

The school is a tremendously important resource to our family, the neighborhood, and the community at large. The teachers and administration are beautiful, caring people who provide an invaluable service. The school is vital to working parents throughout the County, as they provide high quality childcare and education at very affordable rates. Their understanding of different learning styles made The Meher School an obvious choice for our family. It is critical to the hundreds of families that utilize The Meher Schools preschool and elementary school that the schools remain in the same neighborhood as the proposed new sanctuary. In addition, the school is clean, well-maintained and open to the public on weekends and evenings providing an excellent opportunity for recreation for area families.

We have personally reviewed the plans for the Project and they exhibit the same high level of detail and thoughtfulness that we see on display every day at the The Meher Schools. The Project is well-designed, attractive, and tailored to minimize any adverse impacts on the neighborhood and environment. Having lived in the neighborhood for nearly nine years, we are familiar with the existing Sufi Center on Boulevard Way and have never witnessed any issues of noise or traffic resulting from the use of the center. Because such a high percentage of the Sufism Reoriented members live in the neighborhood, we are aware that when events are held at the Center, most participants are able to walk or use alternate

08 NOV 13 PM 1:10
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

forms of transportation. The same will be true of any events at the proposed sanctuary.

We ask that you enthusiastically support and approve the Project. It would be a positive addition to the neighborhood and would help ensure that The Meher Schools remain viable.

Sincerely,

Lara Weyland
Chris Klein → SP?

Cc: LeShun Cross, Community Development Department

S
K

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Rosemary G. Wheeler Date: 11-25-09

Printed Name Rosemary G Wheeler

Address: 531 Dalewood Dr.
Orinda, CA. 94563

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Barbara Whelpley Date: 9-16-09

Printed Name
Barbara Whelpley

Address:
2416 Golden Ram Rd. #8
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

JAMES D. WHELPLEY
2416 Golden Rain Road-#8
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
2009 MAY 18 P 12: 51
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

May 13, 2009

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

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary. I am enclosing a copy of my letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

James D. Whelpley

JAMES D. WHELPLEY
2416 Golden Rain Road-#8
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

May 13, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street--Room108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms.Uilkema:

Studying Philip Johnson's architecture in college, visiting his glass house home in New Canaan, Connecticut and later walking to work past his Park Avenue Seagram's building for many years left an indelible impression of his world renowned, uplifting art forms.

After moving from New York to Walnut Creek and being here for thirty five years, 25 in a large home on Tice Valley Boulevard and ten in a retirement unit in Rossmoor, the idea of going to Friday night Sufi classes in a signature structure of Philip Johnson/Alan Ritchie is beyond my wildest dream.

This structure will ideally but very subtly celebrate spiritual gatherings and other church activities. At the same time, it will serve as a tribute to the uniqueness of the city of Walnut Creek.

Sincerely,

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

Dear Ms. Lashun Cross,

Hello, my name is Alexander White. I am sending this letter in regards to the new Saranap Sanctuary project I heard about. I would like to start by expressing my thanks to everyone who is taking the time to evaluate this case.

Growing up I had the privilege of attending the Meher School, which is run by the Sufis from the Sufism Reoriented group. To this day I still tell people of the amazing childhood experiences I had going to this loving private school, as well as how kind and enriching an experience it was for me. When I was 16 I even went back to work there for a little while and once again enjoy the atmosphere. I have also lived in or around this Saranap community my whole life, apart from the two years I went away to Davis to finish my undergraduate work.

I was shocked to discover there has been such a resistance to building a beautiful new garden and building over an ugly uninhabited plot of land that has forever stood. I do suppose that it only takes several people to start a problem and sway others. I've felt that by having the Sufi group present in our Saranap community it has created a comforting environment and appeal that one just doesn't find in ordinary residential areas.

I'm sure there is quite a bit of bias in some of these responses, but I would like to add that while I am friends to a number of Sufis that I grew up knowing or met locally, I would never support something I didn't truly believe in. I have not only discussed this topic over with several people, but read up about it and personally gone to look at where it is going in. These undertakings have helped me become fully aware of what is going to happen and provide an opinion that has substance.

I would like to finish by thanking you again, but also to close with a final thing for consideration. While reading about the project, speaking about the project and surveying the areas have given me information to provide a realistic opinion, I would also like to tell you one of the main reasons I went to such lengths to give my opinion. The idea is that I will be taking my children to the Meher School. I will be letting them experience the warmth and fond attention that I was so spoiled with having in, of all places, a school! My life is forever connected with this loving place and any organization who can provide something as beautiful as that deserves my time.

Best Regards,

-Alexander White

1773 Tice Valley Blvd

CONTRA COSTA
2009 MAR 31 P 12:41
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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May 20, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Lashun,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented will be filing its land use application soon and I would like to express my support for this project. Enclosed is a copy of the letter I sent to Supervisor Uilkema.

I inadvertently sent a copy of this letter to you earlier today, forgetting this cover letter. Please excuse the duplication.

Sincerely,

Dawn White

Dawn White
1773 Tice Valley Boulevard
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

May 19, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street
Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to encourage your support for the sanctuary Sufism Reoriented proposes to build on Boulevard Way. I have been a resident of the Saranap community, first as a renter, then a homeowner, since I was a graduate student in Public Health at UC Berkeley, more than 20 years ago. I raised my three sons here and I work here. My sons all attended The Meher Schools from preschool through fifth grade. Each time one of them graduated, he would admonish his younger brother to "enjoy every day you have at The Meher Schools, because it is the best school you will ever have." This statement has remained true for all of them. They are now aged 24, 19 and 13, and between them they have attended WCI, Las Lomas, UC Davis and Sac State. They still maintain that The Meher Schools is the best school they have attended.

The values of Sufism Reoriented, as expressed by the teachers, are what made The Meher Schools such a vibrant, happy experience for my sons. The teachers are personal, loving, and genuinely concerned about their students. They live the messages of love, tolerance, understanding, and cooperation. They respect children and teach them to extend respect to others. They gently foster social intelligence in tandem with the academic curriculum.

At The Meher Schools, even spending time with the principal, Ellen Evans is fun. Children eagerly await their invitations to the small-group luncheons she hosts for them. My sister, who teaches fifth grade there, is so well-loved by her former students, that they stay in contact with her for decades. One day I was waiting for my sister to join me at a local restaurant. The hostess, a very proper and serious young woman, asked me the name of the person I was waiting for. When I replied, "Terry Hogan", the hostess squealed, "Terry Hogan?? I *LOVE* her! She was my fifth grade teacher!" Just then, my sister walked through the door, and this proper young lady ran across the entry and literally threw herself into my sister's arms. I estimate that it had been 10 years since that young woman had graduated from The Meher Schools.

While The Meher Schools has been a community treasure since 1979, the service of Sufism Reoriented goes even beyond this wonderful school. Members have demonstrated that they are good neighbors and productive members of the community. We do not drain community resources, but contribute to them. Fully 99% of our membership serves as community volunteers. We find our joy in serving others, as love and service are central tenets of our faith. We live quietly, don't proselytize, and look to support the greater good. This is most directly evidenced by our Transportation Management Plan; whereby 50 % of our membership commits to walking and the other 50% (of which I am one) commits to carpooling to all major gatherings.

Our new church will also benefit the community by enhancing safety and creating an atmosphere of peace and well-being. Recently, I visited an elderly Saranap resident. In my profession as a Geriatric Care Manager with Eldercare Services, I see elderly clients almost daily. In response to the doorbell, the elder opened an inner door, but stayed behind a heavy steel outer door throughout our conversation. I could not see her face. I could not assess whether she was well, whether she was eating, or in need of medical care. She was clearly intelligent. I was saddened that this bright woman had become reclusive, and felt at risk in her own neighborhood. I feel certain that our new sanctuary will create a feeling of security and safety in the community and that it will also serve as a deterrent to trouble-makers.

Thank you for your consideration of my request to support the building of our new church. I realize that as Supervisor you are required to carefully consider all the facts before lending your support to our project. I am confident that once you do, you will agree that Sufism Reoriented's proposed structure will only enhance the beauty and character of the Saranap community, strengthen its property values, attract desirable citizens, and provide residents with the sense of peace and security found near exalted places of worship.

Respectfully yours,

Dawn White
1773 Tice Valley Boulevard
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Rev Lynne D White, MFT

Date: 8/21/09

Printed Name
Rev. Lynne D. White, MFT

Address:
863 Wilmore Ave.
Concord, CA 94518

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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7/10/09

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Michael White
1773 Ticevalley Blvd
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

cc: Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

MIRA M. WHITE FINE ART
www.miraMwhite.com ♦ mira@miraMwhite.com 925 947-5773

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 MAR 18 P 1:12
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Ms. Cross:

I understand that Sufism reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uikema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Mira M. White

Mira M. White

Mira M. White □ 2500 lucy lane #306 □ walnut creek, california □ 94595

MIRA M. WHITE FINE ART
www.miraMwhite.com ♦ mira@miraMwhite.com 925 947-5773

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
652 Pine St., Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

I am writing this letter in enthusiastic support for the proposed sanctuary designed for Sufism Reoriented on Boulevard Way in the Saranap area of Walnut Creek.

I have lived in the Saranap area since 1974, as both owner and renter, and in my present residence on Lucy Lane since 1988. I frequently walk the length of Boulevard Way, onto Olympic or the other way on Boulevard Way to the downtown area. I have witnessed many of the changes in the neighborhood, in both its residential and commercial aspects. It has been delightful and encouraging to see and to feel the growing sense of community.

I am an artist and an art educator. I exhibit my work locally, nationally, teach at several local art centers and educational institutions, have taught workshops in Europe and have taught art at the Meher Schools since it first opened in 1977. In fact, I set up its initial art program.

I care a great deal about the aesthetic appeal of my environment. This proposed building is beautiful and graceful. It will give harmony, order and symmetry to a corner of Boulevard Way that is such an eyesore and has been since I have lived here.

It is my firm belief that this structure will be an important prototype for future architectural endeavors, as it has included, within its inherent design, many features that are critically important for the environment and, ultimately, for the future of our planet.

Please give this proposal your support.

Sincerely, Mira M. White

Mira M. White

Mira M. White □ 2500 lucy lane #306 □ walnut creek, california □ 94595

S

5820 16th St. NW
Washington, DC 20011

July 3, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, north wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for the new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of that application.

Sincerely,

Miriam White

Miriam White

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -8 A 11:52
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

5820 16th St. NW
Washington, DC 20011

June 28, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a web developer in Washington D.C. with strong ties to the Saranap area and I am writing to express my support for Sufism Reoriented's new sanctuary project. I spent my childhood and teenage years growing up in the Saranap, living on Whyte Park Avenue for over a decade, swimming on the Dewing Park Swim Team and riding my bicycle to The Meher Schools. While at The Meher Schools, I acquired a love of learning and saw living examples of positive values that have enriched my whole life. After college, I rented an apartment first on Boulevard Way and then on Saranap Avenue. For several years the main view from my apartment looked out on a dirt lot and concrete office space across the street.

Recently, I had the chance to read a brochure describing the design for a new church in the Saranap neighborhood. I am so pleased that Sufism Reoriented has a plan for a lovely garden oasis and a graceful church building with the bulk of the structure below ground. How wonderful to have this green-space open to the public! I now have two children of my own and our family often travels from the east coast to visit the beloved family and friends who continue to reside in the Saranap. It would be such a welcome change to have a tranquil park where I could take the children for walks. They have been learning about recycling and caring for the planet in school and I would enjoy showing them the Grass Pave lawn for parking, the energy efficient design and other environmentally progressive techniques used in the building. I also would welcome the chance to show my little ones a contemporary example of how a building can celebrate God's presence in the world.

Sincerely,

Miriam K. White

Miriam Kershaw White

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 OCT 28 A 11:29

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: N. White Date: 10-26-09

Printed Name NANCY WHITE

Address: 1573 Camino Verde
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

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Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Ruthann White

Ruthann White

429 N Wildwood
Hercules CA 94547

CONTRA COSTA
2011 JUL 14 P 2:21
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
& DEVELOPMENT

S

November 21, 2008

08 NOV 24 PM 1:34

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

Virgil E. White
3146 Oak Road, Apartment 423
Walnut Creek, CA 94597
October 15, 2008

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary and I am enclosing a copy of my letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema, asking her support of that application.

Sincerely,

Virgil E. White

Enclosure

November 21, 2008

Virgil E. White
3146 Oak Road, Apartment 423
Walnut Creek, CA 94597
October 15, 2008

Gayle Uilkema
Supervisor
Contra Costa County
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to ask your support for the proposed new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented.

I have lived in Walnut Creek, as a renter and also as a home owner, since 1983, and have been a member of Sufism Reoriented since then. For the majority of that time, I have lived in the Saranap, or within one mile of the current sanctuary at 1300 Boulevard Way.

I hold a Masters degree in psychology from John F. Kennedy University and have been employed by the Bank of America since 1995, where I am currently a Senior Vice President, and manager at the bank's Concord Technology Center. By way of explaining my request for your support, I will share a little of my background; what brought me to California, and to Sufism Reoriented.

From early childhood, God was important to me. I grew up in the Midwest, where my religious upbringing was in the Christian church. As a child, the doctrines and theology of my church were engaging, but I found much greater meaning and inner connection to God in the beauty of the liturgy, the harmony of the hymns and chorales, and in nature. That inner connection was centrally important to me. Its outward expression at the time, although not fully satisfying, was my church.

No one was surprised that my first career choice was to be a minister. I completed my undergraduate degree at a church-sponsored college, and came to California to attend seminary at the Graduate Theological Union (GTU) in Berkeley. The rich experience of the GTU's nine different Catholic and protestant seminaries, along with the multicultural experience of the Bay area, offered a broad variety of outward approaches to the same inner connection that had prompted my initial career choice. But again, although the outward expressions were engaging, my search for an inner connection with God did not find a satisfying home.

To shorten a longer story, my search for that inner connection with God found a home with Sufism Reoriented, where doctrines, religions, and theologies are silent, out of respect for each individual's search for an inner connection with what each understands to be sacred, holy, God.

More than any of the many structures in which I have worshiped, in America or throughout the world, the sanctuary that Sufism Reoriented now hopes to build, expresses in its design the silent respect for everyone's search for an inner link with God, in the beauty and harmony of its form, and the honor of nature that it proposes in its unostentatious and "green" footprint on the land.

I ask again that you do all that you can to support building what is without question a world-class architectural structure, the new sanctuary for Sufism Reoriented, in Walnut Creek.

Sincerely,

Virgil E. White

Cc: Lashun Cross, Community Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/31/2009

Printed Name: Jack Whitehouse

Address: 1305 Blvd Way #110
Walnut Creek CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 14 P 1:42
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Elaine Whiteley Date: 8/13/09

Printed name: Elaine Whiteley

Business name: Far Western Trophy + Award

Address: 2363 Boulevard Circle
Suite 23
Walnut Creek Ca 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Pam Whitman Date: Feb 5, 2010

Printed Name Pam Whitman

Address: 58 Van Ripper Ln
Orinda CA 94563

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 NOV 10 P 1:51

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 10/14/09

Printed name: Tobi Wieger

Business name: First American Title

Address: 1850 Mt Diablo Blvd #100
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

(5)
#7/6

CONTRA COSTA

'11 JUL -5 P

COUNTY CLERK
ADMINISTRATOR

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 25 Jun 11

Printed Name: Ken Wiebe

Address: 88 Gardner Pl.
Walnut Creek, CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5(112)
6/23/10

CONTRA COSTA

2010 JUN 22 P 12:49

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 of a General Plan Amendment Study to review a change in zoning as requested in the above letter.

Date: 6-20-10

Your address: 26 Willow Ave, Walnut Creek 94595-1617

Signature(s): Beth Wiese WIESE

Printed name(s): Beth V. Wiese

Contact information (if desired): _____

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Michelle Wilbur Date: 9-6-05

Printed Name: Michelle Wilbur

Address: 136 Ponderosa Ln.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: Michelle Willows Date: 9/6/09

Printed Name: Michelle Willows

Address: 166 Ponderosa Ln.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

June 6, 2009

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

Dear Ms Cross,

I have submitted a letter to the Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema expressing my opinion regarding the new Sanctuary for SufismReoriented. I am attaching a copy for your records, as I understand the land use permit has been filed.

Sincerely

Yvohne B Wilkins

Yvohne B. Wilkins

Yvohne B. Wilkins
1211 Kendall Ct
Walnut Creek, Ca 94595

June 8, 2009

The Honorable Gale B.. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez CA 94553

Dear Ms. Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area and have lived at my home at 1211 Kendall Court since September 1972. I would like to express my thoughts on the application for the new Sanctuary for the SufismReoriented.

I have read the literature produced by the Saranap Home Owners association and the church. I feel the design and the members who will worship there best decide usage of the church. I feel the congregation has made a great effort to design a place that will fit in with the area and has made a special effort to create a place of beauty that will also be good for the environment.

The Church has been very responsive to issues that have been presented and has made adjustments based on the wish's of the community. I especially like the fact that they are going to open up the grounds to the neighborhood, as we currently do not have a quiet place.

The members of the congregation are for the most part members of the Saranap community and I do not feel that they would want to do anything to change or detract from what being a resident of this community means.

Please give this your consideration and I thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely

Yvonne B Wilkins

Yvonne B. Wilkins

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Sindy Wilkinson Date: 7/16/09

Printed name: SINDY WILKINSON

Business name: ENHANCED LEARNING & GROWTH CENTER

Address: 2940 CAMINO DIABLO #105 WC 94597

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: Janet Willford Date: 8.26.09

Printed Name: Janet Willford

Address: 1237 Clover lane

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

May 13, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
Contra Costa County, District 2
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: Sufism Reoriented Land Use Permit Application

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

We are writing in regards to the application of Sufism Reoriented for a Land Use Permit for the development of a new sanctuary to be located on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek (the "Project"). We strongly support the Project and urge the County's approval. We are not members of Sufism Reoriented, however, both of our children attend The Meher School (in grades 2 and kindergarten) and we live in the neighborhood. In fact, the backyard of our home abuts the school. Thus, we can attest not only to the quality of the school's educational environment, but to the quality as neighbors of the Sufism Reoriented membership who work at and administer the school. Simply put, we can not imagine more thoughtful and committed members of any community.

The school is a tremendously important resource to our family, the neighborhood, and the community at large. The teachers and administration are beautiful, caring people who provide an invaluable service. The school is vital to working parents throughout the County, as they provide high quality childcare and education at very affordable rates. Their understanding of different learning styles made The Meher School an obvious choice for our family. It is critical to the hundreds of families that utilize The Meher Schools preschool and elementary school that the schools remain in the same neighborhood as the proposed new sanctuary. In addition, the school is clean, well-maintained and open to the public on weekends and evenings providing an excellent opportunity for recreation for area families.

We have personally reviewed the plans for the Project and they exhibit the same high level of detail and thoughtfulness that we see on display every day at the The Meher Schools. The Project is well-designed, attractive, and tailored to minimize any adverse impacts on the neighborhood and environment. Having lived in the neighborhood for nearly nine years, we are familiar with the existing Sufi Center on Boulevard Way and have never witnessed any issues of noise or traffic resulting from the use of the center. Because such a high percentage of the Sufism Reoriented members live in the neighborhood, we are aware that when events are held at the Center, most participants are able to walk or use alternate

forms of transportation. The same will be true of any events at the proposed sanctuary.

We ask that you enthusiastically support and approve the Project. It would be a positive addition to the neighborhood and would help ensure that The Meher Schools remain viable.

Sincerely,

Amy Williams & Todd Williams
1004 Windsor Drive
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: LeShun Cross, Community Development Department

3

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Bertha L. Williams Date: January 20, 2010

Printed Name BERTHA L. WILLIAMS

Address: 29 HONEY HILL RD
ORINDA, CA 94563

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

ROBERT E. WILLIAMS 210 KING DRIVE WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595-1505
Phone *(925) 935-7377* ***E-mail*** = rtbywilliams@comcast.net

June 25, 2009

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

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

CONTRA COSTA
JUN 29 P 1:49

/5

JB 10/3/11

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 9/17/11

Printed Name: Josette Mamoulochi & William

Address: 1034 Leland Dr.
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Wandell Williams

Date: 02 / 3 / 10

Printed Name:
Wandell A Williams

Address:
5900 Shattuck Ave
Suite 202
OAKLAND CA 94609
3191 Condit Rd
Lafayette CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

(52)
6/7-11 A

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 6-4-2011

Printed Name: Michael Wilson

Address: 111 Sequoia Ave
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

George S. Winnacker
772 Hilton Road
Walnut Creek CA 94595
george@winnacker.com

1 March 2009

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez CA 94553

Re: Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

My wife and I are residents of Saranap. We have lived here happily since 2005, and really enjoy the neighborhood. Saranap is a delightful credit to the County, and to neighboring Walnut Creek and Lafayette.

Sufism Reoriented has been an important part of Saranap since 1975, according to Dorothy M. Ligda's "Saranap, Then and Now." We have come to appreciate their activities in the neighborhood, and are pleased that they have chosen to build their new sanctuary here.

We are both architects, graduates of UC Berkeley. We have reviewed the plans of the proposed Sanctuary and are pleased with the sensitivity and creativity reflected therein. Alan Ritchie is a nationally-recognized architect, and SWA holds even higher stature in the field of landscape architecture. We will be honored to have their designs in our neighborhood.

We are not members of, nor do we have any relationship with, Sufism Reoriented.

There is opposition to this project. We have spoken briefly with opponents and have read their handouts carefully. We do not agree at all with their objections. Their references to "semi-rural character" do not accurately represent the properties involved with this proposal.

We request prompt attention to this application, in accordance with law and appropriate regulations, and approval.

Thank you.

George and Mieko Winnacker

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

Katy c/o Meher Schools
999 Leland Drive
Lafayette CA 94549

5 (R)
09/30/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Stacey Winslow Date: 9/10/10

Printed Name STACEY WINSLOW

Address: 1099 W. HOLLY DR
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 10/14/09

Printed Name: PAUL WIRFEL
RPM Mortgage

Address: 2175 N. CAL Blvd.
WALNUT CREEK CA 94558

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

COPY: La Shun Cross

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signature _____ Date 6/10/09

Business name Alan F. Wockeritz, Attorney at Law

Address 2099 Mt. Diablo Blvd. #201
Walnut Creek, CA. 94596

illegible
Wockeritz

S 08/04/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Katherine Wolfman Date: June 15, 2010

Printed Name
Katherine Wolfman

Address:
115 Pomona Ave
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Chloé Wood Date: 6/12/11

Printed Name: Chloé Wood

Address: 2500 Lucy Lane #304
W. C. CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
JUN 20 P 2:02

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7

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 9/13/09

Printed Name: Michael Wood

Address: 65 Alta Hill Way
Walnut Creek, CA 92024

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Kirsten Woods

Date: 1/19/10

Printed Name

KIRSTEN WOODS

Address:

1097 Honey Ct.
Pittsburg, CA 94565

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (H) 7/22/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 6·3·10

Printed name: Lewis Wooler

Business name: Lacoste

Address: 1174 Broadway Plaza walnut creek CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 10-14-09

Printed Name

AARON WOOLFSON

Address:

~~2673 E.~~

607 PREAKNESS DR.
W. CREEK CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Barbara Woolsey Date: 4/20/09

Address: (Barbara Woolsey)
1225 Clover Lane
Walnut Creek CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -9 P 1:04

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
AND PROJECT MGMT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Lori A. Wraith

Date: 7/7/2009

Address:

LORI A. WRAITH
321 GINGER COURT
SAN RAMON, CA
94582

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA

08 SEP -5 PM 12: 24

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

1770 Holland Dr
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

September 2, 2008

To: Supervisor Gayle Uilkema:

I have learned that Sufism Reoriented has filed for a land use application. I would like you to know that I wholeheartedly support this application. Please see the letter attached.

Sincerely,

Tamara Wrettick Freda

Tamara Wrettick, RN (Freda)

CC: Lashun Cross, Community Development

1770 Holland Dr.
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

September 2, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine St. Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

This letter is to convey my sincere and enthusiastic support for the approval of the proposed new building plan by Sufism Reoriented. As a member of Sufism Reoriented for over 25 years I feel strongly that this beautiful center for worship and service will be a beacon of vibrant, and positive force for its members and the community.

In the early 1980s I rented apartments on Saranap and Flora Avenues for about 8 years. I loved living in the area and being close to Sufism Reoriented. Our daughter attended and graduated from The Meher Schools. I am so grateful for The Meher Schools. The school not only gave our daughter a loving, nurturing and academic education; it gave gave us love and guidance by example to help us be the best parents we could. This has not been a unique experience, over the years I have heard many parents relate similar stories of marvel and gratitude.

We still are involved with the school: my husband volunteers on the weekly cleaning staff; for the past 2 summers my daughter volunteers at the drama camp. The school is such an important contribution to the community and to the hundreds of families from all walks of life that it serves and this contribution depends upon its proximity to Sufism Reoriented's sanctuary.

In addition, it seems all aspects of the building project have been carefully thought through, from the magnificent architectural design to the energy efficient systems and gracious landscaping. This will be an exciting and important enhancement to the Saranap neighborhood.

I hope you will do what is in your power to approve this structure for the benefit of so many people. Thank you for your service to the district. I wish you further success in your work.

Sincerely,

Tamara Wrettick Freda

Tamara Wrettick, RN (Freda)

CC: Lashun Cross, Community Development Department

CONTRA COSTA

08 OCT 14 PM 3:21

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

S

1770 Holland Dr
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

October 13, 2008

To: Ms Lashun Cross:

This is a copy of the letter I sent to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema on September 2, 2008, I am **wholeheartedly in positive favor** of the Sufism Reorient land use application. Please see the letter attached.

Sincerely,

Tamara Wrettick Freda

Tamara Wrettick, RN (Freda)

Duplicate

The Personal Advisors of
Ameriprise
Financial

Mary Kay Wright
Senior Financial Advisor

Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc.
2233 Olympic Boulevard
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
Tel: 925.952.9810
Fax: 925.952.9806
mary.k.wright@ampf.com
CA Insurance #0C69784

CONTRA COSTA

2009 MAR 27 P 1:27

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

March 25, 2009

Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Cross:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the planned Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary project. Please keep it on file for consideration in the upcoming review process.

Sincerely,

Mary Kay Wright

Mary Kay Wright, M.A.
172 Lancaster Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
925-952-9810

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The Personal Advisors of
Ameriprise
Financial

Mary Kay Wright
Senior Financial Advisor

Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc.
2233 Olympic Boulevard
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
Tel: 925.952.9810
Fax: 925.952.9806
mary.k.wright@ampf.com
CA Insurance #0C69784

March 12, 2009

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema:

The purpose of this letter is to briefly introduce myself and to express my whole hearted endorsement for Sufism Reoriented to build a new sanctuary on Boulevard Way. I have lived in three Contra Costa County communities - Pleasant Hill (1977-78), Orinda (1978-1994), and from 1994 as a homeowner at 172 Lancaster Road in the Parkmead area of Walnut Creek. I was originally drawn to the East Bay to do my graduate work at JFK University where I built an academic career, becoming an Assistant Dean in the Graduate School of Wholistic Studies. In 1988 my professional work took a new direction as I helped design and implement the first national multi-year training program in contemporary chemical dependency treatment for professionals in Russia and the former Soviet republics (including 93 trips to Russia to date.) In the later phases this included delivering training for Chevron's medical staff at the Tenghiz oil fields in Kazakstan. In 1999 (after the collapse of the Russian economy) I made a career change and became a financial planner. I have owned an Ameriprise Financial Advisors business since 2001 on Olympic Boulevard, a block from the Tice Valley intersection and minutes from the proposed church site. For the past six years I have also served as the President of the Board of the global Rosen Institute, headquartered in Berkeley.

I invested in home ownership and built my business in Walnut Creek because of my active participation in Sufism Reoriented since 1981. It has become quite clear that our current facility, which was too small at the outset, must be replaced by a new facility with more space and broader capacities. The shared commitment to build a church that properly houses our many needs and activities entails significant contributions of time, energy, finances, and thousands of volunteer hours. As a faith-based community we have chosen to take this direction and to personally provide what is necessary to create a center that serves our generation of members and those to come.

As a financial advisor, I also look at this project from the perspective of value. The redevelopment of the corner church site will increase the value of the real estate property. This should impact the valuation of nearby homes, condos, and commercial properties. There is an intrinsic value in having a stable, broadly employed, and highly responsible population of Sufism Reoriented members living close by. There is also a civil value found in the cohesion of cooperation and public service that adds to the vitality of the Saranap, Walnut Creek, and Contra Costa County.

As the approval process for the proposed sanctuary unfolds, I ask for your vote in favor of our new place of worship, as I have repeatedly voted for you as our representative. Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration and support.

Best wishes,

Mary Kay Wright

Mary Kay Wright, M.A.
Senior Financial Advisor

An Ameriprise Financial franchise. Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. offers financial advisory services, investments, insurance and annuity products. RiverSource® products are offered by affiliates of Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc., Member FINRA and SIPC.

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The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Stephen B. Wright Date: 8/6/09

Printed Name: STEPHEN B. WRIGHT

Address: 3184 Old Tunnel Road Ste G.
Lafayette

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Judy K Wyrobek

Date: 7/20/09

Printed Name

Judy Kranzler (Wyrobek)

Wyrobek

Address:

235 Lakewood Rd
Walnut Creek CA
94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5 (A) 11/29/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 10/10/10

Printed Name: Jerry Yang

Address: 30 Mauzanita Ct.
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Gary A. Yee Date: 2-13-10

Printed Name GARY A. YEE

Address: 2064 ESSENAY AVE.
WALNUT CREEK, CA. 94597

I HAVE ATTENDED THEIR FUNCTIONS AND HAVE GOTTEN TO KNOW MEMBERS OF THE SUFIS AND BELIEVE THEIR NEW SANCTUARY WILL BE A POSITIVE ADDITION TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Niranjan Yee Date: 2/13/10

Printed Name Niranjan Yee

Address: 2064 Essenay Avenue Walnut Creek, CA 94597

I have attended functions at Sufism Reoriented and been very impressed how everyone + the enviroment is treated with respect.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S 6/15/10 E

CONTRA COSTA

2010 JUN -7 P 2:01

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Erik Yewell Date: 5/23/2010

Printed Name
E. YEWELL

Address: 1140 Bacon Way, Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: July 23, 2009

Printed name: MILO G YOSHINO

Business name: MILO G YOSHINO, CPA

Address: 71 ALEMAN CT
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

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4

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/23/09

Printed name:
Reiko R Yoshida

Business name: Reiko Renee Alteration

Address:
71 Alemany Ct
Walnut Creek
Ca 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: maggie youssef

Printed name: maggie Youssef Date: 10/17/09

Business name: Rosewood Car Center

Address: 1911 Oak Park Blvd P.H. 94523

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 27 P 2:21

DOWNTOWN SECTION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: Derek N. Yung Date: 8/25/09

Printed Name: DEREK N. YUNG

Address: 41 IRIS LANE, WALNUT CREEK, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S 9/30/10

CONTRA COSTA
10 SEP 28 P 12:04

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner, or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Robin Zeman Date: 9/22/10

Printed Name: Robin Zeman

Business Name: Robin Nicole

Address: 1043 Stuart St. #200
Lafayette, Ca 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 APR -7 P 1:13

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

To:
Ms. Lashun Cross
Community Development Department
651 Pine St., 4th Floor, North Wing
Martinez, CA 94553

From:
Emily Zettner
149 Molly Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

March 23, 2009

Dear Ms. Cross,

I understand that Sufism Reoriented has submitted a Land Use Permit Application for their new sanctuary. I am enclosing a copy of a letter to Supervisor Gayle Uilkema in support of the permit application.

Sincerely,

Emily Zettner

To:
Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine St. Rm. 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

From:
Emily Zettner
149 Molly Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

March 23, 2009

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to show support for the proposed sanctuary that Sufism Reoriented hopes to build in the future.

Just three months ago, I moved to the neighborhood to work at The Meher Schools as a teaching assistant and to be closer to family and friends. I am renting a house that is right across from the proposed site of the new sanctuary. Already I have become involved in school and community activities, and I am continually impressed with the many ways that Sufism Reoriented serves the greater community. I feel so fortunate that I am able to participate in this atmosphere of giving.

I believe that a new sanctuary will not only beautify the neighborhood, but it will also be more accommodating for the group's activities and ability to serve. Thank you for your support in helping to strengthen the community.

Sincerely,

Emily Zettner

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Community Development Department

5
+

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: CHANGE FROM OPPOSED

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area. After receiving information about the building project from Sufism Reoriented, I have changed my position, and I am no longer opposed to the new sanctuary.

I'm writing to request that you take my name off of the list of those opposed. Thank you.

Signed: Ilse Zubak Date: 9-17-09

Printed Name: ILSE ZUBAK

Address: 75 GRANDVIEW PLACE
WALNUT CREEK, CA
94595-1603

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

SHN
11/29/10

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: _____ Date: 10/27/10

Printed name: Laurel Zwemmer

Business name: Fancy Pants

Address: 1509 Cypress Street, WC 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

Amy Zwicker
45 Island Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
925.934.2206

CONTRA COSTA
08 JUL 25 PM 1:14

www.amyzwicker.com

AND DEVELOPMENT

July 24, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Ms. Uilkema,

I'm writing to express my support for the new building Sufism Reoriented is proposing in the Saranap.

I have lived in the Saranap since 1995; since 1975, I've lived on the borders of the Saranap. Presently, my husband and I own a duplex on Island Court.

I welcome the construction of this building. Having seen the artist's renderings and read about the green construction and the designing architect, I really can't wait! Generally speaking, the only attractive building on the entire Boulevard Way corridor is the current meeting hall for Sufism Reoriented. They are very tidy neighbors!

Very sincerely,

Amy Zwicker

Amy Zwicker

Cc: Lashun Cross, County Planner

S

Copy

45 Island Court
Walnut Creek, Ca 94595

08 JUL 21 PM 1:27

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

July 17, 2008

Supervisor Gayle Uilkema
651 Pine Street, Room108A
Martinez, CA 94533

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am writing to enthusiastically lend my support to the Sanctuary project proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I have been a Saranap resident for 30 years. During that time, I have lived in several different homes, have owned my current home on Island Court for the last 5 years and have always been charmed by the friendliness and inviting nature of our neighborhood.

Although I have been employed as a vice president at the Bank of America for the past 10 years, I was an elementary school teacher at the Meher Schools for 15 years prior. Not only was this a wonderful experience for me, I was able to witness the many ways in which the children are provided with educational, cross-cultural and artistic learning. Since the Bank allows me 2 hours per week to volunteer, I have had the pleasure of continuing my association with the school by teaching singing with the kindergarten through fourth grades every Monday morning. I think that the highly positive contribution made to our neighborhood by The Meher Schools cannot be overstated.

I live just around the corner from the new building site and believe that its presence will greatly enhance our neighborhood. I have seen the drawings and am so impressed with its beauty and grace. I believe that you care about our neighborhood and hope that you, too, will lend support to this truly inspired project.

Sincerely,

Paul Zwicker

S
6/22/11

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] RESIDENT Date: 6.12.11

Address: 1162 Saranap Ave #5A
Walnut Creek CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

3
6/23/11

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] RESIDENT Date: 6/5/11

Address: 3441 [illegible] Rd. [illegible] CA 94598

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/11/2010

Address: 7 Blade Ct

Insufficient inf.
7/22/10

Cc: LaShun Cross, County Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 10/8/09

Business name: CATS A GROOMIN

Address: 1829 Mt DIABLO BLVD (D)
Walnut Creek

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 10/17/09

Business name: CJ Skin Care

Address: 1829 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
W.C. CA. 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

3

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 10/14/09

Business name: Labels

Address: 1367 N. Main St.
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

3

---COPY FOR MS. LASHUN CROSS---

CONTRA COSTA

2009 OCT 27 P 1:54

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner in Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signature _____ Date 10/24/09

Business name Melange

Address 3439 Mt Diablo Blvd
Lafayette CA 94549

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Susan Clifton Date: 11/24/09

Business name: Pathways - Career & Life Strategies

Address:
2960 Camino Diablo - Suite 200
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

3

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 9/21/09

Business name: Rhythm Room

Address: 1018 C Almanor Ln.

Lafayette Ca 94549

cc. Ms. Lashun Cross Sr. Planner

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

S

CONTRA COSTA

2009 OCT 10 P 1:32

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: Oct 25, 09.

Address: 216 Happy Hollow Cr
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 07.26.09

Address: 1751 TICE VALLEY BLVD. WALNUT CREEK CA.

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7.25.9

Address: Lafayette
3148 Old Tunnel

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA

2010 MAR 10 P 1:18

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 3/5/10

Business name: METRO LAFAYETTE

Address: 3524 MOUNT DIABLO BLVD
LAFAYETTE, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

July 1, 2009

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of ~~the Saranap area~~ Lafayette and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

V.T.Y.

Gerald Martin
308 Willoughby Ct.
Lafayette, Ca. 94549
308 WILLOUGHBY CT

Your copy of the letter I sent Supervisor Uilkema

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -6 P 2:04
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 6/28/09

Address: 8 Morgan Cir. Pleasant Hill
CA 94523

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 7/29/09

Business name: VESPA WALNUT CREEK

Address: 2780 CAMINO DIABLO
WALNUT CREEK CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/14/09

Business name: Walnut Creek Vacuum

Address: 1960 Mt Diablo Blvd Walnut Creek Ca

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/30/09

Business name: Frank + Paul's Auto Repair

Address: 2770 A Camino Diablo
Walnut Creek, Ca 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 17 P 1:29

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 8/9/09

Address:

7 Olde Creek Place
Lafayette, CA 94549

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 8/1/09

Business name: California Exterminators

Address:
2770 Ygnacio Valley
Walnut Creek, Ca
94597

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 19 P 1:40
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 8/14/09

Business name: Kids Into Speaking Spanish

Address: 2780 Camino Diablo
WC, CA 94597

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 19 P 1:40
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

Copy for Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signature _____ Date 6/16/08

Business name Hooked on Books

Address 1956 Tice Valley Blvd, Walnut Creek

CC: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/14/09

Address: 1172 Saranap Ave #5B
Walnut Creek CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

COPY: La Shun Cross

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signature _____ Date 6/10/09

Business name The Wizards of Oz Kids.

Address 2099 Mt. Diablo Blvd #203

Walnut Creek, CA 94596

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

COPY: LaShun Cross

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signature [illegible] Date 6-10-09

Business name Center for Family Solutions

Address 2099 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Ste 202

W.C. Ca 94596

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 6-17-09

Business name: LeapFrog Plumbing

Address: 1196 Boulevard way #15 Walnut Creek CA. 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

5

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 6/21/09

Address: 3391 Freeman Rd
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

June Johnston
Director

Gateways
A Learning Center®
Formerly *Britannica Learning Center/The Reading Game*

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Rae D. Johnston
6.19.09

name illegible

address

1870 Olympic Blvd. • Suite 203 • Walnut Creek, CA 95496 • 938-6181

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 6/21/09

Address: 1667 Geary Rd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

COPY FOR MS. LASHUN CROSS

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signature [illegible] Date 6/16/09.

Business name Diva Nails.

Address 1952 B Mt Diablo Blvd
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

---COPY FOR MS. LASHUN CROSS---

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signature [illegible] Date 7-8-09

Business name Bikram Yoga

Address 2021 Mt. Diablo Blvd. #200
Walnut Creek, Ca 94596

COPY FOR MS. LASHUN CROSS

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signature [signature] Date 7/2/09

Business name Russell D. Mitchell + Assoc.

Address 2760 CAMINO DIABLO

Walnut Creek, CA 94597

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -6 P 2:04
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Contra Costa County near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/2/09

Business name: Old Republic Title Company

Address: 1940 Tice Valley Blvd. #D
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL 10 P 2:11
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUN 30 P 12: 12

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 6/25/09

Address:
1180 Saranap Ave #206
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -7 P 1:47

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/04/09

Address: 225 N. Villa Way
Walnut Creek, CA
94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -2 P 3:14

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [signature] Date: 6/29/09

Address: 625 N. Villa Way
Walnut Creek CA 94595

DANIEL CAMPI

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA

2009 JUL -2 P 3: 15

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 6/30/2009

Business name: Davis Home Pros

Address: 1942-A Tice Tice Valley Blvd
WC 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Christine S. Brown Date: 6.26.09

Address: 225 LAS QUEBRADAS LN
ALAMO, CA 94507

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -2 P 3:15
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 6/30/09

Address: 1133 LAUREL DR LAFAYETTE CA

RICHARD S. RUBIN

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -2 P 3:15
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

CONTRA COSTA
JUN 26 P 1:50
DEVELOPMENT AND ENGINEERING

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Flamer Fuyard Date: June-22-2009

Address: 1162 SARANAP AVE Apt 9A
Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S
+

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/13/09

Address: 26 BLADE WY
WALNUT CREEK, CA
94595

GPLAN

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL 15 P 2:19
RECEIVED

June 6, 2009

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

Dear Ms. Cross,

Attached please find a copy of a letter sent to Supervisor Uilkema in support of the land use application for the new Sanctuary to be built by Sufism Re-oriented on Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Lanie R. Figueroa
31 Sanford Lane
Lafayette

Lanie Figueroa

CONTRA COSTA
2009 JUL -1 P 1:55
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT

5

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 25 P 1:36

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 8/1/09

Address: 2249 WHYTE PARK AVE
W.C. 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S
+

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Heather N Sye Date: 9/13/09

Address: 1301 Dewing Lane
Walnut Creek CA
94595

Eligible - enter as occupant

✓ Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

5

B & D Upholstery
2231 Commerce Avenue
Concord, CA 94520

September 15, 2009

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

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am the co-owner and co-manager of B & D Upholstery in Concord and have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented. I appreciate having received this information and am writing to let you know that I am in support of this building project. Over the past 25 to 30 years, I have worked on many interior decorating projects with members of Sufism Reoriented.

Sincerely yours,

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Illegible
Enter as Occupant

5

B & D Upholstery
2231 Commerce Avenue
Concord, CA 94520

September 15, 2009

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

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am the co-owner and co-manager of B & D Upholstery in Concord and have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented. I appreciate having received this information and am writing to let you know that I am in support of this building project. Over the past 25 to 30 years, I have worked on many interior decorating projects with members of Sufism Reoriented.

Sincerely yours,

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG 11 P 1:19
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signature Mike Date 08/09/09

Business name Rossmoor Diner owner

Address 1907 N. Tice Valley Blvd.

W.C. CA 94595

(Copy for Lashon Cross)

S

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Shari Raouf Date: 8-6-09

Printed Name: Shari Raouf

Address:

House of Couture
1812 Tice Valley Blvd.
Walnut Creek, Ca 94595

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

3

CONTRA COSTA

2009 AUG 24 P 1:30

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: Date: 8/17/09

Printed Name: John de Lorenzo

Address: State Farm Insurance
3186 Ottinger Rd
Walnut Creek

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

continue. I am including the names and addresses of County officials to whom you could write (and addressed envelopes), should you wish to send a letter. Sample letters from former students and a form letter are included in case they might be helpful.

The writing of letters is the most effective way to offer assistance, but if you have not already done so, signing the enclosed "Letter of Community Support" and returning it in the envelop addressed to the school is also helpful.

Thank you for considering offering your help in these ways, and thank you also to those of you who have already offered your support. I hope that we can stay in touch. We expect to have a public hearing on our project before the County in several months, and the number of supporters who attend will also be very important. We will let you know more about it as the time approaches.

We are also planning a school reunion on August 15, from 2 to 5 at the Sufi Center, and hope you'll be able to come. Details are in the flier included in this packet!!

Looking forward to seeing you,

Ellen

Dear Lashun Cross,
I have no idea who to send this information to. First of all its the wrong class picture that been sent to me. I am from the advanced class (The last ninth grade) with Susan Estes, Genevive Cushing, Ben Crockett ect My name has been spelled wrong as well - its not JOSIE - its JOSY - No one responded to my proposal for the alligator sculpture in front of the school and I went through quite allot of struggle to get it there as requested. I was not charging very much money for it either I want to go but not if you can't remember who am (from a very small class of 8 people) or what class I'm from -

sincerely
josy Cobb.

CONTRA COSTA
2009 AUG -5 P 1:46
DEPARTMENT

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

~~Signed:~~ Date: July 22, 2009

Address: 1384 Oakland Blvd
#26
Walnut Creek, Ca

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/21/09

Address: 1440 Oakland Blvd. #10
Walnut Creek CA. 94596

Mailing Address
P.O. Box 5655
Walnut Creek CA 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

Saramaps
T

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

COPY

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner in Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signature _____ Date 6-9-09

Business name Cosmoprof

Address 2400 Olympic
Walnut Creek 94595

RECEIVED
JUN 11 2009
GAYLE B. UILKEMA

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108 A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area and have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 20 July 2009

Address:
1016 Buchan Dr Lafayette

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7/19/09

Address: 1172 Saranap Ave 36B
Walnut Creek

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a resident of the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 7-15-09

Address: 1229 Boulevard Way #14

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner

S
T

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner or manager in Walnut Creek near the Saranap area, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signed: [illegible] Date: 8/19/09

Business name: Vito's

Address: 2027 Mt. Diablo Blvd
Walnut Creek Ca. 94596

Cc: Ms. Lashun Cross, Senior Planner, Department of Conservation & Development

The Honorable Gayle B. Uilkema
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street, Room 108A
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Uilkema,

I am a business owner in Contra Costa County, and I have received information about the new sanctuary proposed by Sufism Reoriented.

I appreciate receiving this information, and I'm writing to let you know that I support this building project.

Signature [illegible] Date 9-3-09

Business name Hilton House

Address 21 Orinda Way
Orinda, CA