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Date: December 16, 2019 at 11:11:01 PM PST
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Subject: Old Town Sidewalks and Fencing

We would like to bring to your attention some of our concerns regarding the current sidewalk project.

The proposed project is for the removal of sidewalks which have been in place for the past 60+ years.

Our property at 5704 Gato Avenue has had an easement apron into the property for the use by utility companies to be able to access the 2 poles from that property since 1957.

We are now being told this one apron will be removed to allow for additional parking (1 space).

When work needs to be done on the poles how will the utility companies be able to access the poles for their repair work?
There is no easement allotment on another property for this work to take place.

If a vehicle is blocking access, how does that happen?

Another concern at this same property which is a quarter acre parcel has a large frontage (200+ feet) currently with a chain-link fence. We are hearing that chain link is being thought of as a non-acceptable type fencing.

Chain link allows drivers to see other vehicles on the street as well as pedestrians and bikers.

We removed all the growth material when we purchased the property and do not plan on adding a blinder to the fencing for safety.

There is also discussion of having fences no higher than 3 feet.

There are safety issues with a 3-foot fence where children are involved.

A 3-foot fence will allow easy access to reach over and take a child.

3-foot fencing allows easy access to private property which would allow anyone to step over the fence and come into that private property to do damage and or steal. In our property, we have fruit trees; 3 ft. fencing will not stop thieves.

3-foot fencing or a split rail fence will not keep out aggressive/dangerous dogs off the property; they will jump the fence or crawl under the fence.

Law enforcement can clearly see the property from the street as no one can hide behind a chain link fence. There is a wooden fence near the home for resident privacy.

Had the city not decided that we all need new sidewalks; we would not be looking at an expense of bringing our fencing (approx. 2 feet in some areas of survey) out to city property due to the proposed sidewalk project.

We want the chain link fencing to be allowed as it has been in the 60+ years where several properties have the chain link fencing.

The new city of Goleta accepted existing boundaries of the county from its inception however now we are redoing what was accepted.

Robert & Bonnie Moore