



Elmhurst Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 191613
Sacramento, CA 95819-7613

July 14, 2020

Brad Simmons
UCD Health System, Interim CEO and COO
2315 Stockton Boulevard
Sacramento, CA 95817

Dear Mr. Simmons,

We are the Elmhurst Neighborhood Association (ENA), representing the residents in the historic residential neighborhood directly adjacent to the UC Davis Medical Center (UCDMC). We are writing because construction activity on the eye center project building has negatively impacted Elmhurst residents, disturbing them and their sleep. Specifically, there was very loud, pounding construction noise late into the night that was audible inside people's homes for several blocks.

As it turns out, this evening and late-night construction/demolition work should NOT have occurred. That it did was due to a failure on the part of UCDMC to implement and adhere to the construction noise mitigation measures outlined in the Addendum to the University's Long Range Development Plan Final Environmental Impact Report for the eye center project (Addendum). When contacted, project management and community relations staff all appeared unfamiliar with the Addendum which is the controlling environmental document for this project. We hope that you can appreciate this is wrong on many levels.

Adding further concern, your community relations department provided inaccurate information in response to neighborhood complaints about the late night noise, i.e., they told residents and our City Council member's staff that the construction work was following "City guidelines" and could occur until **10:00 p.m.** but added they would ensure it no longer continued after 10:00 p.m. This is wrong. Your environmental documents for the eye center project indicate construction would not go beyond **6:00 p.m.** (at the latest). Clearly, this is a HUGE time difference for a residential neighborhood, and it was a very serious misstatement of fact that UCDMC disseminated to your neighbors and our elected officials.

The Addendum, states at section 2.5 that *“Construction would occur between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday and between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on Sundays and holidays. Nighttime construction would only occur inside the ACC building for work associated with ACC renovation.”* Section 3.13.1 entitled “Construction Noise Analysis” states in several places that *“project construction would be limited to the daytime hours of 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.”*

In addition to the construction time parameters, we understand that other mitigation measures set forth in the Addendum have yet to be implemented.

As Aggie Square is in the planning phase and will include additional construction projects adjacent to the Elmhurst neighborhood, we need to have better, accurate communication and transparency on all UCDCM projects. The events in the last month surrounding the eye center project have raised alarms and fueled distrust between our neighborhood and UCDCM. We ask that you step in and step up to make it right for the eye center project and ensure that you adhere to all mitigation measures on the other projects to come.

Further, we request that a meeting be arranged (with masks and social distancing) between ENA representatives and appropriate facilities staff to walk through the eye center project to get information on how ALL mitigation measures in the Addendum will be implemented and monitored. We would like this walk through to take place this month so that we can be confident that these will be followed. Please contact president@elmhurstna.com with available times for this meeting.

We are copying key elected officials to inform them of this serious matter, especially since they were misinformed by your staff as to project construction hours.

Respectfully,

for
Board of Directors
Elmhurst Neighborhood Association

cc. City Councilmember Eric Guerra, Assemblymember Kevin McCarty, Mabel Salon