

Dear Ms. Drake,

I live at 150 Corte Balboa in Greenbrae and grew up in Kentfield. My husband and I bought a home near my mother, who still lives in Kentfield, because of the character of the neighborhood. I am opposed to Marin Catholic's petition to add lights to their fields because the lights and consequent noise, light pollution, and foot/vehicle traffic will *irreversibly change the character of this neighborhood.*

Marin Catholic has acknowledged that noise carries farther at night and that there is no solution to that problem. They have not provided accurate portrayals of glow and glare, or the cumulative effects of the additional lights. They have misstated the availability of parking based on incorrect assumptions about parking lot availability. They believe that our neighborhood should accept change to prevent high school kids from being bored on weekends and to allow Marin Catholic's athletic program to schedule games and practices at new times.

I played high school sports in the Bay Area and still love going to games to support my kids and our friends' kids. Somehow I have been able to do this without going to lighted fields. The only lighted public high school fields in Marin County are at San Rafael HS (permitted over 50 years ago) and Tomales. Marin Catholic hopes that if they are able to light their field, other towns, like San Marin, will fall as well.

I have reached my opinion based not only on my own experience - I hear every word of the day games and much of the practices inside my home - but also on research. The MC football coach said that East Bay and North Bay high schools have lights, so I looked closely at the topography of the high schools he mentioned. I wanted to understand how the lighted fields there might reflect neighborhood choices which could inform our County's position.

Unsurprisingly, every lighted field in the areas the coach mentioned are near freeways or large undeveloped open spaces, or are in mostly flat areas with lots of land and trees to buffer the lights, noise and traffic. By contrast, the unique topography of Greenbrae and Kentfield amplifies the problems presented by lighting a field. This is not the place to site a lighted field.

There were a few comments in the audience that resonated with me, which I would like to reiterate to you. First, I chose to move to this part of Marin because of the serenity and environmental values of the neighborhood. I remember being a teenager and I don't think it is selfish for me to place my need for peace and quiet over a teenager's wish for entertainment.

Second, I agree that Marin Catholic's application should be subject to review based on the cumulative effects of the school's development. I grew up biking past Marin

Catholic in the days before helmets. The school has grown tremendously since then, but its private growth should not be at the cost of our public neighborhood's historic character.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my comments.

Alisa Rubel