

February 3, 2016

Dear Ms. Drake,

I've lived in the hillside area of Greenbrae for several years, and am quite used to the sound of sports events at Marin Catholic high school. They have been good neighbors in general, and I feel their daytime sports events are accepted—and even expected—by those of us who live here. Our deck overlooks the field directly, and we can hear every whistle, speaker announcement, and even voices of the players as they communicate with one another.

Unfortunately, the recent proposal by Marin Catholic to add four 80-foot light towers to the stadium so that they can extend these activities into the night is a different matter entirely. We have been very patient and accommodating with Marin Catholic, though this request to become a nighttime stadium is completely inappropriate for a residential neighborhood. The school plans for well over 500 lighted practices and games throughout the year, meaning everyone within earshot of the stadium (hundreds of homes) would be directly affected up through 10 pm, and possibly even later. We have small children who are in bed well before 10 pm and the roar of a crowd and thunderous foot stomping would make it very difficult for them to fall asleep.

There is little that would stop the school from using the lights virtually every night of the school year. Adding these night lights would radically change our neighborhood for the worse, increase traffic congestion, potentially damage the Creekside wetlands and endangered species that nest there, and generally degrade the overall quality of life that we all enjoy here in Greenbrae.

Why are long-term residents being asked to bear the burden of a private school's lighting project? It is not a project that will benefit the community in any way, and will serve Marin Catholic's private needs and desires only. The school should not be able to impose its will on our neighborhood in this way, and I am joining every neighbor I know in opposing this as vigorously as I can.

Please take this into consideration as you consider this application.

Thank you and best regards,

Yumi Esaka