

Dear Ms. Drake,

I am writing to you again subsequent to the Jan. 27 KPAB meeting.

An issue raised by KPAB is the lighting plan for the addition to Marin General Hospital. This addition includes a very large parking garage and 160 new hospital rooms. I spoke to a KPAB member after the meeting about this and his concern is the alignment of the new hospital rooms. They will face directly onto Bon Air Road and they will cast a considerable amount of light across Bon Air into Hal Brown Park and possibly beyond which would be onto the Marin Catholic athletic fields.

I believe that the county has a duty to review the proposed lighting from the new hospital in conjunction with the proposed lighting of the MC football field. Due to the proximity of these two large light sources there is a possibility that this entire portion of Ross Valley will be unduly illuminated for most nights of the year. This will have an adverse affect on all homeowners who look down into the valley as it will potentially affect views and be a constant source of light pollution. As there is a lighting plan for Marin General available I believe that the application from Marin Catholic is incomplete as their lighting study does not take into account the proposed lighting to be generated by Marin General and how this will impact Ross Valley.

The Marin Catholic application does not state that it will erect story poles. As a builder for 30 years I was required to erect story poles for everything I built. At the 1/27 meeting a representative for Marin Catholic stated that erecting story poles could not be done. This is not true.

There are wood poles which are tall enough and close in diameter to the proposed poles available to do this.. The holes for these wood poles could be installed 8-10 feet deep with the use of an augur which could drill these holes quickly and cleanly. The poles may require rope or wire guy-wires for stability but these can be attached easily. The public must have the ability to see how tall these poles (towers) are and how they affect the visual impact of Ross Valley and the hills beyond. These lights are not 'works of art' ; they are intrusive and out of place in the valley. I request that you walk down Sir Francis Drake and stand across from the fields and imagine what these 80 foot towers will look like. Then imagine what they will look like at night lighted. The thought 'out of character' may come to mind. Thousands of people drive by the fields every day and these towers will jump out as they are enormous. When they are lit at night they will be obtrusive.

I believe the application cannot be deemed complete unless MC stipulates that they will install story poles that accurately reflect how these towers will look to the public which will have a lasting impact on Ross Valley for the next 50 or more years. In my opinion installation of these light towers will generate the same negative public opinion that the Wincup development did in Corte Madera.

Sincerely,

Dan Brady
9 Almenar Drive