

STANFORD  
UNIVERSITY



February 10, 2020

*Via Electronic Delivery*

Supervisor Cindy Chavez, President  
Supervisor Dave Cortese  
Supervisor Susan Ellenberg  
Supervisor S. Joseph Simitian  
Supervisor Mike Wasserman  
70 West Hedding Street, East Wing, 10th Floor  
San Jose, CA 95110

Dear President Chavez and Members of the Board of Supervisors:

I am writing in regards to Item #19 on your February 11 meeting agenda. Should you vote to approve this item, Stanford would like to request that you include in the referral a direction to County Administration to engage early and constructively with the university as the county studies possible amendments to the Stanford Community Plan.

Stanford has carefully considered the various issues raised in the Board Referral and already has extensive programs and policies addressing many of them. Helping our faculty, staff, postdoctoral fellows and students navigate regional affordability challenges is a major priority for the university. Through the work of our Affordability Task Force, we have spent the past 18 months listening to our community and tailoring approaches that address the needs of different campus populations. Stanford recently announced new paid family leave, retirement, child and adult care, health care, and financial assistance benefits for faculty and staff, and university leadership will soon be considering a comprehensive set of additional recommendations. As this work continues, we hope that the County Administration will engage with us to learn the details of these programs and policies to inform any possible recommendations.

With respect to municipal services, Stanford already provides many of the same types that are typically funded by public tax revenues, as well as a host of other services, and funds them directly. These include construction and maintenance of roads, utilities, storm water detention, open space and recreation facilities, libraries, and contracts for police, fire, emergency medical services, communications and emergency dispatch services, child care, senior services, and more. We look forward to sharing the specifics of these services with the County Administration as the work on this referral proceeds.

We would appreciate the opportunity to work constructively with County Administration on these and other issues that are of great importance to Stanford.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jean McCown".

Jean McCown  
Associate Vice President

Office of Public Affairs  
Government and Community Relations

Building 170, First Floor, Stanford, CA 94305-2040 T 650.725.3320 F 650.725.3577

Considered: 02/11/2020

**From:** [Steve Schmidt](#)  
**To:** [BoardOperations](#)  
**Cc:** [Nash, Betsy](#); [ctaylor](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] 99-Year Protection of Stanford Hills  
**Date:** Monday, February 10, 2020 1:06:53 PM

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Date: February 10, 2020

To: Santa Clara Board of Supervisors

Subject: 99 Year Open Space Element Stanford GUP

Dear Supervisors,

I support the recommendation of Supervisors Simitian and Chavez to include in the updated Stanford GUP an amendment that would extend the Academic Growth Boundary in the Stanford hills.

First, the region is under environmental stress from relentless commercial growth and Stanford plays a significant role. The University has expanded beyond Santa Clara County spreading its influence in San Mateo County with the [45-acre](#) Redwood City medical and administrative complex. This project, in addition to the many satellite office buildings in Menlo Park and Ladera, has allowed the University to continue its growth on the main campus.

Secondly, the non-profit tax status of the University creates a burden for both Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties. To partially compensate for the tax revenue loss and to be a good neighbor, Stanford should willingly agree to a 99-year extension of its growth boundary that now protects the foothills from development pressures. Stanford has quietly acquired numerous local residential properties which they rent to University personnel. These homes can be exempt from property taxes that support schools, parks, street maintenance and other essential municipal services.

For those who who call Santa Clara Valley their home, the foothills provide a calm visual refuge. It is only right that in exchange for Stanford's transformational growth and tax exemption status, the University provides explicit assurance to protect the foothills.

Steve Schmidt  
Former Mayor of Menlo Park

**From:** [LindaRudin](#)  
**To:** [Supervisor Simitian](#); [Ellenberg, Supervisor](#); [Chavez, Cindy](#); [Cortese, Dave](#); [Wasserman, Mike](#); [BoardOperations](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please protect the Stanford Foothills  
**Date:** Monday, February 10, 2020 3:34:22 PM

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Dear President Chavez and Supervisors,

Please vote to support the extension of the Academic Growth Boundary for 99 years with the 4/5 vote requirement.

The Stanford Foothills constitute some of the last grassland habitat on the Peninsula. Protecting this habitat is critical for wildlife.

Extending the supermajority vote requirement for 99 years does not mean that Stanford can never develop in the foothills, but merely requires a higher threshold for development approval. I ask that you afford this protection for our foothills open space.

Sincerely,

Linda Rudin

Daly City 94014