From:	Susan Piper
To:	Pattillo, Chris
Cc:	Laura Konigsberg; Klein, Heather; Gordon Piper
Subject:	Re: Bentley School, Oakland FIrestorm Memorial Garden and Fence
Date:	Saturday, August 08, 2015 10:26:04 PM

Sorry about that-- fingers were too fast....Let's try again:

Dear Chris,

Thank you for taking the time to meet with us about Bentley's School's interest in a water savings audit for both the school and Firestorm Memorial Garden. As we said, we would be happy to work with the school and EBMUD to find ways to conserve water during the current drought.

Concerning the school's interest in installing a fence along the property line, as we discussed in our meeting, we would prefer the school to install the fence along the original fence line, which can easily be determined by linking up the current chain link fence by the two-car parking spaces near the front of the school's property to the wooden fence by the former pool/now ball court area. It would save the school a substantial amount of money, because the school would not have to replace the current fence along the ball court, or the new fence next to the Liu's property at 24 North Hill Court, which comprise at least half the length of the proposed fence line.

In the 37 years that we have lived here, we have understood where the property lines were located. We had an understanding with the school that we would landscape and maintain the property on our side of the fence. Because we have fruit trees and other plants located near or in this area, we would prefer not to have to lose them.

If, however, the school is set on moving the fence line, we seek the following actions:

1. Complete a Master Plan for the school so that we and other neighbors understand the full intent of the school's development, before a fence is installed. We understand there is interest in widening the entry road and in installing bleachers at the ball court. We would want to know how these fit with a master plan, which is required by the current CUP for any new development.

2. Place the fence at least 3 feet back from the property line, to protect our fruit trees and specimen plants that are immediately adjacent to the property line.

3. Screen the fence with landscaping to offset the massive “wall” effect such a long fence would have (another reason to leave a 3 foot set back).

4. Choose a material other than wood for fire safety and esthetics. A solid wood fence placed so close to trees and other vegetation, and running such a long length is a fire risk. An iron or other metal fence would be less of a fire risk. It also would allow for a more open esthetic, which we would prefer. The Ready for Wildfire website recommends: *Fences: Consider using ignition-resistant or non-combustible fence materials to protect your home during a wildfire. - See more at: http://www.readyforwildfire.org/hardening_your_home/ - sthash.G9mfYe3T.dpuf*

5. A gate near the ball field will allow staff and students to retrieve balls that end up on our property. During the school year, we typically return 6 or more balls a week that have flown over the fence. The row of citrus trees does help to break their trajectory. Currently, students and staff can come through the gap between the start of the art building and the wooden fence to retrieve the balls.

6. The school give us a month’s notice before commencing work so that we can relocate any sprinkler lines and plants that we would want to conserve.

Sincerely,

Gordon and Sue Piper

33 Hiller Drive

Oakland, CA 4618

On Sat, Aug 8, 2015 at 10:21 PM, Susan Piper <susangpiper@gmail.com> wrote:

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