

## **Expanded Community Advisory Panel (XCAP)**

### **THIS PACKET INCLUDES:**

A compilation of emails (public comments, etc) submitted to the XCAP email box, [XCAP@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:XCAP@CityofPaloAlto.org), between **July 22 and July 27, 2020 at 12:00 pm (noon)**.



Note: This PDF contains bookmarks separating each email in this compilation. If you'd like to see the bookmarks but your internet browser doesn't show them, download this PDF from your browser, then re-open it in a PDF reader (such as Adobe Reader, Foxit, etc) and make sure your bookmarks panel is open.

**From:** [Eduardo F. Llach](#)  
**To:** [Expanded Community Advisory Panel](#)  
**Subject:** XCAP July 22nd - Comments on reports  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 2:52:13 PM

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Hi XCAP members, Thank you for all the great information you, and the consultants, have compiled.

I'm in support of the Embarcadero & Oregon mitigation measures with the Closure of Churchill for the Churchill Ave options.

The "[2020-07-22\\_Item-4A\\_Matrix-Summary-of-Evaluations-with-City-Council-Adopted-Criteria](#)" works well. The Churchill alternatives look like a tie on Page 6 with **all having a net score of 1 or 2** (blue dots – orange dots). Yet the price differences are significant, with the **Viaduct being 6X more expensive** and **the Underpass being 3X more expensive**. How do we represent that, can we use dots there too?

On the same Matrix summary, on Page 2 can we put one orange dot on the Churchill closure row Q since it is a potential ROW vs a certain ROW on the Underpass?

Based on your "[Noise-and-Vibration-Report\\_presentation-received-after-meeting](#)", closing Churchill would provide **a drop of 15 dB for the First Row West, which is a 3X drop in sound** (given that dB is a logarithmic scale). This is a huge factor for all the neighbors on Mariposa. I say this since there is a push to do the mitigations but not necessarily close Churchill.

The Traffic Impact report in "[2020-07-22\\_Item-3A\\_Traffic-Report\\_Churchill\\_MeadowsCharleston-Grade-Separation-Analysis](#)" on page 3 has a **23.58 second delay on Alma Churchill with Closure**, which is a huge **reduction of 103 seconds** from the estimate on page 41 for no closure, where the times climb to 127.86 seconds.

Separately, on the same page 3 there is a comparison of Churchill closure vs Underpass, where underpass has a slightly lower number of 15.62 sec. Do you consider this material? I'm not sure why closure is slower given that there are no lights at this point vs the lights and restrictions with the underpass option.

Regarding the proposed new matrix, given that these items are going to be discussed in public, I would suggest using the updated City Adopted criteria w/ the dots since it is shorter and easier to understand. I frankly was having a hard time understanding the items in the new Dynamic matrix, although I like the Want, Need, Constraint differentiation. Good idea.

Thank you, Eduardo

Eduardo F. Llach  
Cel – 650 678 1406

**From:** [Gary Lindgren](#)  
**To:** [Expanded Community Advisory Panel](#)  
**Subject:** Churchill Partial Underpass and Meadow  
**Date:** Friday, July 24, 2020 12:05:45 PM

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Hello XCAP Committee,

I have noticed for the first time (at least for me) that 10 to 12 homes will need to be acquired in order to implement the Partial Underpass for the Churchill grade separation (see pages 40,41 of Appendix C on the Traffic Report). I recall when the Partial Underpass concept was first presented, the main feature was that no property would be acquired. This Partial Underpass has so many problems that make it unworkable. Part of the CalTrain right-away would need to be used, and hearing from CalTrain, this seems impossible. Residents east of Alma would be left in the dust as only right turns would be possible. Also construction would be an issue as Alma would be torn up for months while the drop-down lanes are built to accommodate the to/from movement west of Alma. In addition Kellogg Ave. would be impacted in a major way with the pedestrian/bike underpass that goes under Alma and the tracks. It is time to abandon the Partial Underpass for Churchill. To replace this idea, I suggest that Churchill be widened to 56 feet in the block between Emerson and Alma. This would keep Churchill open and allow all 8 turns at Churchill and Alma. Property would need to be acquired. Tracks would stay at grade. Alma would not be torn up except for one weekend where Alma would be closed while a pre-built box (the underpass) would be jacked in place (see <http://www.paloaltoenergy.org/box-jacking/>) and then Alma at Churchill would be paved over and full traffic the next day. We need a design developed by AECOM and then XCAP and the public can evaluate the tradeoffs.

The underpass design for Meadow originally could only accommodate 38% of the needed vehicle turns. Last minute changes increased the 3 possible turns to 6, but these have compromises and have problems of their own. It is time to abandon the Meadow underpass now on the table. AECOM needs to design an underpass modeled after the design for Charleston. Then we can fully evaluate the tradeoffs required.

Take Care,  
Gary Lindgren

**Gary Lindgren**  
**585 Lincoln Ave**  
**Palo Alto CA 94301**

650-326-0655

[Check Out Possible Grade Separation Solution at Churchill](#) or

Copy and Paste <http://www.paloaltoenergy.org/churchill/>

[Check Out Latest Seismometer Reading](#)

@garyelindgren

[Listen to Radio Around the World](#)

**Be Like Costco... do something in a different way**

**Don't trust Atoms...they make up everything**

A part of good science is to see what everyone else can see but think what no one else has ever said.

The difference between being very smart and very foolish is often very small.

So many problems occur when people fail to be obedient when they are supposed to be obedient, and fail to be creative when they are supposed to be creative.

The secret to doing good research is always to be a little underemployed. You waste years by not being able to waste hours.

It is sometimes easier to make the world a better place than to prove you have made the world a better place.

Amos Tversky

**From:** [Susan Newman](#)  
**To:** [Mohamed T. Hadidi](#)  
**Cc:** [youngjoh](#); [Mohamed Hadidi](#); [Expanded Community Advisory Panel](#); [Bhatia, Ripon](#); [Kamhi, Philip](#); [Steve Carlson](#); [Eileen Fagan](#); [Omar Hadidi](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Participation in Churchill Survey  
**Date:** Sunday, July 26, 2020 12:55:09 AM

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Hi Mohamed,

I believe you're on my route and I'll be dropping off my flyers in the morning. Maybe I'll see you!

Your idea about inviting people to take the survey on Nextdoor Southgate is a good one. Can't use too many methods of reaching people! We'll get the paper fliers out first and then I'll post something on Nextdoor as well.

There's a little bit of work to get emails into a form we can use with the Survey tool, but you and Young-Jeh should get your survey within a few days. But don't hesitate to reach out to me if you have concerns.

regards,  
Susan

Susan Newman  
1523 Portola Avenue  
Palo Alto CA 94306  
650.473.1811 (h)  
650.380.1764 (c)  
[snewman@workpractice.com](mailto:snewman@workpractice.com)  
[snewzy@gmail.com](mailto:snewzy@gmail.com)

On Jul 25, 2020, at 8:13 PM, Mohamed T. Hadidi <[mthadidi@alumni.stanford.edu](mailto:mthadidi@alumni.stanford.edu)> wrote:

You are welcome.

Given the limit you mentioned, please send to my wife and me.

I have also one suggestion to make, namely to **advertise the survey on the Nextdoor Southgate website/App** to ensure the widest reach and the representativeness of the survey. By the way, I have not received the flier in my mailbox that you mentioned in your email.

I look forward to receiving the link allowing me to complete the survey in the not too distant

future.

Best,  
Mohamed

Mohamed Hadidi, Ph.D.

On Jul 25, 2020, at 8:04 PM, Susan Newman <[snewzy@gmail.com](mailto:snewzy@gmail.com)> wrote:

Thanks for the info — we look forward to getting your input.

One thing, though: there's a limit of 2 surveys per residence. Let us know to whom we should send the link.

best,  
Susan

Susan Newman  
1523 Portola Avenue  
Palo Alto CA 94306  
650.473.1811 (h)  
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[snewman@workpractice.com](mailto:snewman@workpractice.com)  
[snewzy@gmail.com](mailto:snewzy@gmail.com)

On Jul 25, 2020, at 5:12 PM, Mohamed T. Hadidi  
<[mthadidi@alumni.stanford.edu](mailto:mthadidi@alumni.stanford.edu)> wrote:

Hi Susan,

Thanks for getting back to me. Here is the information that you have requested:

**My info:**

Mohamed Hadidi  
54 Churchill Ave, Palo Alto, CA 94306  
[mthadidi@stanfordalumni.org](mailto:mthadidi@stanfordalumni.org)  
(650) 796-5318 (c)

**Wife:**

Young-Jeh Oh  
[ohyoungjeh@gmail.com](mailto:ohyoungjeh@gmail.com)

**Son:**

Omar Hadidi

[omar.hadidi@gmail.com](mailto:omar.hadidi@gmail.com)

My family and I look forward to participating in the survey, and share your desire that it truly reflects the sentiments of all Southgate residents. We hope that your second-wave survey recipients will extend the survey to ALL residents.

Regards,  
Mohamed

Mohamed Hadidi, Ph.D.

On Jul 25, 2020, at 4:54 PM, Susan Newman <[snewzy@gmail.com](mailto:snewzy@gmail.com)>  
wrote:

Hi Mohamed,

Thanks for reaching out.

We agree completely about the importance of conducting a representative survey. We based our initial distribution on the database of survey respondents we built last summer. It includes a representative sample of most Southgate residents, but I do think we missed a lot of Churchill folks. We are working on spreading the word of this updated survey throughout the neighborhood. You'll probably see a flier in your mailbox sometime today.

But you've already given me your email addresses, so we're ahead of the game. The only other info we need are your and your wife's name, your street address, and (optionally) your phone number. Street address is key — we need it to track how well we are covering the neighborhood. We only use people's phone numbers in cases where people's emails fail.

As soon as you send me the information, I'll add you to the list of second-wave recipients.

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

regards,  
Susan

Susan Newman  
1523 Portola Avenue  
Palo Alto CA 94306  
650.473.1811 (h)  
650.380.1764 (c)

[snewman@workpractice.com](mailto:snewman@workpractice.com)  
[snewzy@gmail.com](mailto:snewzy@gmail.com)

On Jul 25, 2020, at 10:59 AM, Mohamed T. Hadidi  
<[mthadidi@alumni.stanford.edu](mailto:mthadidi@alumni.stanford.edu)> wrote:

Hi Susan,

I understand that there is a Southgate Neighborhood survey currently being conducted to provide input on the Churchill Intersection.

As a Southgate residents, my wife and I would like to participate in that survey. I would appreciate it if you could send us the **link to the survey**, so that we may do so. Perhaps, the survey could also be more widely advertised and made available so that all Southgate residents who so wish may also provide their input.

Thanks,  
Mohamed

Mohamed Hadidi