

December 12, 2009

To: Del Mar Union School District and 7/11 Committee
From: Torrey Hills Community Planning Board

Re: Proposed Development at Torrey Hills School

The Torrey Hills Community Planning Board has not been included in the vetting of the proposed development at the Torrey Hills School. The board has not seen any proposed plans or traffic studies for the option that involves the Torrey Hills Elementary School. As such, the board is not able to comment on the proposed project itself.

However, it is relevant for the School District and Committee to consider the long history of planning board decisions regarding projects that impact the main intersection serving the Torrey Hills School. Over the years, the Torrey Hills Community Planning Board has received numerous complaints about traffic and safety concerns during school hours. The board has consistently voted to oppose increasing density and traffic near the Torrey Hills School. In fact, the board most recently recommended the City deny construction of a 484 unit multi-family condominium project located across the street from the school. The project was approved against the board's recommendations and it is therefore important for the School District and Committee to consider the impacts of any additional vehicle trips related to expansion at the school site. In addition, the planning board has previously opposed measures that would reduce green space and has asked developers to contribute more park land to mitigate density increases.

On the surface, it appears that the School District and Committee may be considering additional development at the school which could result in impacts this board has previously opposed. The Torrey Hills Community Planning Board hopes you would take into consideration the longstanding concerns of the local community specific to overbuilding near the school and the subsequent potential impacts to the health and safety of the students.

Kathryn Burton