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RT @seanyodarouse: #BerkeleyArt A construction wall #mural on Ashby east of Shattuck #streetart #seenonmywalk @... <https://t.co/SQamzoHjt0>.

Zoning board talking abt #1500SanPablo: 5 stories, 170 units, 10,900sf commercial (retail or food), 179 car spots, 184 bike parking #berkmtg.

16 below-market-rate units are set to be provided. Project docs:

<https://t.co/ZYZbAKXR1V> #berkmtg.

Staff said neighborhood issues "are the direct result of the density bonus issues"; neighbors will get 9 mins to present alt plan #berkmtg.

If you're not at [#berkmtg](#) and want to watch online, do it here: <https://t.co/K1pz3Tznw4>.

Commissioner Hahn asks: Why only LEED silver?

Staff: "We promote it every way we can"; no ordinance there requiring more [#berkmtg](#).

Commissioner Clarke: Why do ppl have to pay for parking? Staff: Otherwise rent goes up for all tenants + car ownership more likely

[#berkmtg](#).

Comm. Hahn asks: Why is traffic data from 2014, and from the week before Christmas?

"The results seem so hard to accept."

[#berkmtg](#).

Hahn says: More than 400 people could be going in and out every day. Why is the trip count so low? Turns out: Just 1 hour reported [#berkmtg](#).

Here's the project we're talking about at [#1500SanPablo](#) <https://t.co/Tyfa1GYWOg> [#berkmtg](#) <https://t.co/a1PPczDpBR>.

Traffic rep says: Trip counts weren't done in December. Just intersection counts. Says there cld be "seasonal variability" [#berkmtg](#).

Project rep starts out with a joke: "Does this mean we're not getting approved on consent?" Was McNevin Cadillac [#berkmtg](#) [#1500SanPablo](#).

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Project site is diagonal from Bartavelle, Kermit Lynch, Acme bread. Another developer tried to develop it first in 2008. [#berkmtg](#).

In December 2014, had first community mtg for the new project, to collect information, collect neighborhood priorities. [#berkmtg](#).

Rep Massih: This notion of height, density, shadows is a big one. Dropped story on Jones, included notches on 10th, "wide setback"

[#berkmtg](#).

Read project background on Berkeleyside:

<https://t.co/AXS3jAtqxM> [#berkmtg](#).

[@EastBayForward](#) The newer iteration since the 2008 version or project team though...

/er.

Project rep says team wants to be one of founding members of a West Berkeley shuttle program to help residents get to BART, etc.

#berkmtg.

Massih says the project can support retail:

"You see it all the time at Bartavelle," has designed features that retailers want

#berkmtg.

Now, 3 neighbors will get a chance to present their alternative ideas and project modifications. #berkmtg.

Local resident Ed Herzog says it was the traffic study – which said project would require no mitigations – that raised big concerns #berkmtg.

One neighborhood idea is putting the parking underground. Turning above-ground garage into courtyard. (Now planned as 20ft wall.)

#berkmtg.

RT @EastBayForward: Asking ZAB to mandate dev work with "neighborhood leaders" to improve project. #berkmtg.

@mmelibbington I don't know -- which architects? /er.

@EastBayForward I don't know -- I just meant new in that sense -- new compared to that earlier attempt, as described by Massih, I thought.

@tdfischer\_ You mean you have more important things to do??? I don't see how! :) /er.

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*@mmelibbington* It sounded to me like they all live nearby... but I'm not sure. /er.

*@mmelibbington* Looks like at least one of them is on Cedar. /er.

Massih: "Critiquing a Berkeley community plan is like saying you don't like santa or puppies." He's a Berkeley resident too btw  
*#berkmtg.*

Says it's not his place to critique the neighbor plan. He says his proposal adds 5th story FOR the 16 below-market-rate units.

*#berkmtg.*

Massih: What the neighborhood proposal does is turns that logic on its head and pushes everything down. *#berkmtg.*

Massih: We've tried to find ways to reach common ground, it just hasn't been enough.

#berkmtg #1500SanPablo.

@mmelibbington OK -- well that was my understanding from what I heard but I don't know for sure. That was what I thought I heard. /er.

Massih: We have had a hard time getting into a conversation... we end up having to attack our neighbors' plan. #berkmtg @mmelibbington.

Massih says he doesn't think the neighborhood proposal's numbers add up, especially as far as ADA compliance. #berkmtg #1500SanPablo.

Never heard this before at ZAB: Neighbors present hypothetical proposal and developer is asked to respond point by point to it...

#berkmtg.

RT @nora\_b\_fitzroy: This is 1500 San Pablo currently on 10th st near Jones #berkmtg  
<https://t.co/HSHa6IQcgO>.

ZAB is asking: Is there any consideration for neighbor ideas? Massih says: We have already made numerous changes to address it. #berkmtg.

"It's not a great looking wall," says Chair Pinkston. "We'll talk about that." She is asking for hearing to move ahead. #berkmtg.

Neighbors suggested single-loaded corridor w/housing on one side. ZAB is asking project rep to talk abt why it's less efficient.

#berkmtg.

"There's a lot of inefficiencies we found in their scheme," says project architect, about neighbor's single-loaded corridor #berkmtg.

Woman sitting behind speaker dais is next to sign that says: "Neighbors know best. We support the alternative design." #berkmtg.

We're on public comment. So far 6 opposed, 2 in favor, I think. Estimated. Neighbors taking issue with traffic study, traffic #berkmtg.

Many speakers are agreeing with each other. Fair enough. Could we just leave it at that or do we need to reiterate the same points?

#berkmtg.

Woman: Place that's there now is just ugly, trashed. I really do want development. Very concerned abt traffic, not enough parking

#berkmtg.

Man: Traffic is backed up to Gilman every day in the morning and in the evening. That is an impact. #berkmtg.

Man: "I am behind the alternative proposal. It does lower a mass into the ground and it makes the area much more bright" #berkmtg.

10-minute captioner's break. #berkmtg.

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RT @ktvusports: Oracle will be rockin' Monday night Complete Western Conference Finals schedule below: <https://t.co/veyh7jxioB>.

RT @EastBayForward: public comment speakers doesn't like parking garages, prefers the great outdoors for his parking. @MesozoicPolk #berkmtg.

Local resident says Berkeley's high-rise development must step down to neighborhoods in terms of height and character #berkmtg.

Says @MTLawCalBear: 324 affordable units in #Berkeley: Most have hundreds on the waiting list. Many ppl are being displaced. #berkmtg.

Woman: City promised San Pablo Avenue strategic plan; wld be nice if the city got around to it before every scrap of land was gone #Berkmtg.

Woman says it's "a first where a neighborhood has gone to so much work to make something better than they would have been given"

#berkmtg.

She says: Why can't we just have the community work with the architects and the developers and come up with something really good? #berkmtg.

Gilman resident supports project as is:

"We're gonna lose the opportunity to build it in this market cycle," asks for expediency

#Berkmtg.

Another speaker says: It's unfortunate that there is so much parking as part of it. But urges approval. #berkmtg.

Resident: You could shrink the size of the floors or you can put your parking underground. Put parking on commercial side. Why not? #berkmtg.

Resident: I think this project as proposed will have an impact. And I think it will have a positive impact. It's a dead zone. #berkmtg.

Man says his mom lives nearby, her grandkids "don't want to come to where it looks like Transylvania" bc there's not enough light

#berkmtg.

He follows speaker who lives nearby, jogs by daily, says he wants place where his mom can live nearby: "It's classy, it's not fake"

#berkmtg.

John McBride: Have a large building, have vibrancy. Get ppl across San Pablo. But get this thing done properly, with the neighbors

#berkmtg.

@goodnewsbitches Full disclosure, I am watching from home. It's been a long week!  
/er.

Short break, maybe one more speaker? And then turning it back to the zoning board for discussion, I believe. #1500SanPablo #berkmtg #teatime.

Last public commenter said he's glad the project is being built, his main concern is parking bc there's already a problem on Cedar #berkmtg.

Oops all the captioner's info just disappeared... For me online anyway. Anyone else? #berkmtg @CityofBerkeley.

And it's back. Thank you #berkmtg !  
@CityofBerkeley.

Comm. Hahn is questioning the density on the parcel, the technical analysis, the traffic analysis, the trip calculations #berkmtg.

Commissioners and consultants are saying the project may be overparked. Wonder if that will go anywhere. #berkmtg.

Is anyone else watching online having internet "hanging" type issues? Feed keeps going black. It could just be me! #berkmtg.

Some ZAB commissioners are asking for traffic bollards. Staff: It solves a problem for some people and it makes it worse for others #berkmtg.

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Comm. Clarke makes motion to approve the project: "It has done a lot to accommodate certain things in the neighborhood." #berkmtg.

Comm. Williams, second: If we're gonna attempt to resolve the housing shortage in this city we have to look at corridors like this #berkmtg.

RT @gregmanity: Commissioner Donaldson has seen less impact on traffic from 4th & U than from steam works. Oh, Steven. #ZAB #berkmtg.

Comm. Allen says he too supports the project as is. Suggests tenants not be eligible for parking permits shld neighborhood get them #berkmtg.

[@mmelibbington](#) OK thanks. Just curious if it has just been my internet... haven't had time to reset. Refreshing helps but I'm missing stuff.

Comm. [@Donaldsonbrands](#) also supports it. Happy about 75 fam-friendly units (townhomes and 2 bedrooms) [#berkmtg](#).

Says [@Donaldsonbrands](#): These will be accessible to ppl who work + live in the city. I think that is a great thing; need double that [#berkmtg](#).

Comm. [@IgorTregub](#): This plan, the first time we saw it was Friday. Makes motion to continue for neighbors + dev to work together [#berkmtg](#).

Comm. [@IgorTregub](#): I think what's really going on here, I'm going to get right down to it, is compatibility. (with existing plans)

[#berkmtg](#).

[@EastBayForward](#) [@mmelibbington](#) The school district uses YouTube. Granicus is always a pain. [@CityofBerkeley](#).

Comm. Hahn seconds, wants it continued. Says she likes a lot: affordable housing, lots of housing, fam-size units, bike parking

[#Berkmtg](#).

Hahn questions the wall behind the houses on Cedar; also the traffic circulation. Put the fitness center on the roof. [#berkmtg](#).

Comm. O'Keefe: I am going to vote for this project but not tonight. "This project represents the future of San Pablo Avenue"  
[#berkmtg](#).

Comm. Hauser supports project as is. Says impacts are so low, relatively speaking, because project is located in the right place  
[#berkmtg](#).

Hauser: We want to take as many mtgs as it takes for a project to be good. And when a project is appropriate we should approve it.  
[#berkmtg](#).

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Comm. Pinkston: Sounds like she supports main motion if staff will look at traffic, possible turn pocket onto Jones. Also: Shuttle  
[#berkmtg](#).

Pinkston: Height -- While it feels dif and jarring it is actually within height limit. They did put the height on [#SanPabloAvenue](#)  
[#berkmtg](#).

Pinkston: Berkeley likes to do things differently. We might as well just start doing them. Re: the West Berkeley shuttle idea  
[#berkmtg](#).

RT [@EastBayForward](#): Wow we are witnessing the birth of the Berkeley Go Around.  
[#berkmtg](#).

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Substitute motion fails, 3-6. Now onto main motion. With condition not to allow RPP for tenants. [#berkmtg](#) [#1500SanPablo](#).

Pink Floyd and Reagan references: Tear down the wall. Discussion of large wall on Cedar.

Dev: "We're willing to take a hard look"

[#berkmtg](#).

The wall will go back to DRC "to make sure that wall is much softer." Clarke says:

Planter pockets, have vines grow. [#berkmtg](#).

[@bestcoastin](#) Permit parking.

<https://t.co/kUqSTLcBGC>.

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Zoning board has approved #1500SanPablo, 7 in favor and two abstentions. Even the abstentions said they support project generally #Berkmtg.

O'Keefe abstained bc of traffic concerns.

Tregub said project was better than how it started. #berkmtg is adjourned.

