

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Marilie Smith, Administrative Secretary

- **Subject:** Report of Planning Commission Action
- Date: November 26, 2018
- **RE:** <u>PCN18-0048</u> Consideration and possible recommendation to the Sparks City Council of approval of a Tentative Map for a 69-unit, multi-family residential townhome subdivision on a site 7.72 acres in size in the MF2/PUD (Multifamily/Vistas Planned Unit Development) zoning district located at 2255 Los Altos Parkway, Sparks, NV.

Please see the attached excerpt from the November 1, 2018 Planning Commission meeting transcript.

COMMISSIONER PETERSEN: I'll second it. 1 CHAIRMAN VANDERWELL: Thank you. I have a 2 first and a second. Any further comment? 3 Commissioner Carey. 4 COMMISSIONER CAREY: Thank you, Madam Chair. 5 I appreciate the staff bringing this item 6 before the Commission. It's a little different than 7 what we normally get. 8 I'm a little concerned about the use of the 9 orange and the blue myself. But, I think, I'm going to 10 go with staff on recommendation on this. I think, it is 11 kind of more of an accent, kind of. Or even though the 12 orange is there already, I don't think it detracts from 13 the store. I think, it does make it look a little bit 14 compatible. 15 So I will be supporting the motion. 16 Thank you, Madam Chair. 17 CHAIRMAN VANDERWELL: Thank you. 18 With that, all in favor? 19 (Commission members said "aye.") 20 CHAIRMAN VANDERWELL: Anyone opposed? 21 Okay. Thank you. Motion carries. 22 Next, we'll move along to general business item 23 PCN18-0048, consideration and possible recommendation to 24 25 the Sparks City Council of approval of a tentative map.

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MR. CRITTENDEN: Chairman VanderWell, members of the Planning Commission, I am Ian Crittenden, Senior Planner.

This is a request for approval of a tentative map for a 69-lot, 69-unit, multi-family residential townhome subdivision on a site that's 7.72 acres in size and is located at 2255 Los Altos Parkway.

You can see here the site is highlighted in 8 It's this slightly triangular piece that abuts cyan. 9 Los Altos at the roundabout here at Los Altos and Vista 10 Heights Drive. And this site is in the Vista's planned 11 development. The site is located, again, the site is 12 located in the Vistas planned development, and the 13 Vistas Planned Development Handbook was approved in 1988 14 by special use permit SP19-87-1. 15

The site was rezoned to MF2/PUD, which is 16 multi-family, in the Vistas planned development, in July 17 of 2018, in accordance with the development procedures 18 outlined in the Vistas Planned Development Handbook. 19 Rezoning of the property was approved in conjunction 20 with the development agreement. Excuse me. The 21 development agreement limits the number of units in the 2.2 site to a maximum of 75. In addition, pursuant to the 23 project description in the development agreement, the 24 units must be attached townhomes. 25

The development agreement also addresses the 1 infrastructure improvements the developer must 2 construct, including some that are off-site. And it 3 requires the site and buildings be constructed in 4 conformance with the multi-family design standards in 5 the MF2 zoning district and the design standards of the 6 7 Vistas Planning Development Handbook. I'll address the requirements of the 8 development agreement, in addition to the findings that 9 are normally covered for a tentative map, throughout my 10 presentation. I'll call those pieces out. 11 As I stated, the applicant is requesting a 12 13 tentative map for 69 townhomes. The proposed development will have direct access, for this sheet here 14 from the tentative map. It will have direct access from 15 Los Altos. Los Altos Parkway was designed to 16 accommodate the volume of traffic that will be generated 17 by this development. 18 The streets within the subdivision will be 19 private. And the homeowners association will be created 20 to maintain all streets and common areas. The private 21 ownership and maintenance of the on-site utilities and 2.2 common areas is required, is a requirement of the 23 tentative map. Or the final map. Excuse me. 24 As part of the final map submittal, the 25

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1	developer must provide to the City a report for
2	The Canyons subdivision that includes the following:
3	An estimate of the costs to maintain, repair,
4	replace, or restore all privately-owned streets,
5	sidewalks and utilities within the subdivision;
6	An estimate of the total annual assessment for
7	the subdivision's property owners that will be necessary
8	to cover the costs of maintaining, repairing, replacing,
9	and restores the privately-owned streets, sidewalks, or
10	utilities;
11	And a plan to provide adequate funding to cover
12	these costs.
13	That report is subject to City review and
14	approval prior to recordation of any final map. And the
15	report must be completed by a person who is registered
16	to conduct reserve studies pursuant to NRS Chapter 116A.
17	The applicant submitted a traffic analysis.
18	The traffic analysis is based on the maximum density
19	permitted in the MF14 land use. We haven't talked about
20	the zoning so far today, but the MF14 land use is the
21	Comprehensive Plan land use that underlies that zoning.
22	And the traffic analysis was based on the maximum number
23	of units that are available within that land use, which
24	is 180 units. That's the number they used for that
25	analysis.

1	That traffic analysis states that 108 townhome
2	units would generate an average of 627 daily trips, with
3	48 AM peak-hour trips and 56 PM peak-hour trips. The
4	development permit, the development agreement permits a
5	maximum of 75 units. And the applicant is proposing 69
6	units. Even with the higher number of a 108 units, that
7	was used for the analysis, the PM peak trips estimate is
8	lower than 80 peak-hour trips that would trigger the
9	requirement for a traffic study. While not required,
10	the developer commissioned and submitted a traffic
11	analysis to address concerns about the project's traffic
12	generation.
13	The applicant also submitted with the tentative
14	map application a letter from Traffic Works. That's the
15	firm that provided the traffic analysis. And that
16	letter specifics three recommended off-site traffic
17	operation and safety improvements that are based on the
18	traffic analysis. And these improvements are
19	specifically included in Condition 16 that's been
20	proposed.
21	And they are construction of a fourth leg for
22	the roundabout. The existing three legs would be the
23	two sides of Los Altos and Vista Heights Drive. And
24	this would be the fourth leg, which would be the
25	entrance to the subdivision.

1	The second is that the westbound and northbound
2	site lines be improved. And that is it's hard to
3	tell on this drawing. If you go back to the vicinity
4	map, west and north would be Vista Heights and
5	Los Altos. And those, improve those site lines,
6	basically, will require adjustments to landscaping to
7	make sure that there's clear views so that people have
8	the safe ability to see at that intersection.
9	And then third is the addition of pedestrian
10	flashers I'll go right back to that map again at
11	the intersection of Goodwin and Los Altos, the Los Altos
12	Parkway.
13	I'm now going to start going through the
14	tentative map findings.
15	Finding T1 requires that the request conform
16	with the master plan.
17	The proposed tentative map is for a
18	multi-family townhome subdivision, with 69 lots. This
19	project would advance Goal H2 and Policy H2 by providing
20	townhomes, which differ from traditional single-family
21	or apartment homes, the predominant housing options in
22	Sparks. Townhomes are a housing product that are
23	identified in the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning
24	Agency's 2016 housing study as one of the missing middle
25	housing types needed in the Truckee Meadows.

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1	The tentative map shows sidewalks throughout
2	the development connecting to the pedestrian structure
3	along Los Altos Parkway, complying with Policy C4.
4	The infrastructure serving the site, including
5	roads, water, and sanitary sewer facilities, was
6	designated to support multi-family development on this,
7	on this site. And the city sewer model shows sufficient
8	capacity to serve the 69 proposed townhomes, complying
9	with Policy CF1.
10	Finding T2 looks for general conformity with
11	the City's master plan for streets and highways. As
12	discussed previously, the proposed development will have
13	access from Los Altos. Traffic associated with this
14	development of this site for multi-family residences was
15	considered with the review and approval of the Vistas
16	Planned Development Handbook in 1988. The tentative map
17	does not change the traffic patterns or generate trips
18	exceeding the planned capacity for the surrounding
19	streets.
20	Finding T3 looks at environmental health laws
21	and regulations concerning water and air pollution,
22	disposal of solid waste, facilities to supply water, and
23	community public sewage disposal.
24	The application was distributed to agencies
25	that provide basic services and administer environmental

1	and health laws. Washoe County School District and the
2	Regional Transportation Commission have provided
3	comments. And the developer will also have to comply
4	with the requirements of outside agencies with
5	regulatory authority over tentative maps and final maps
6	prior to the recordation of a final map.
7	Finding T4 requires the availability of water
8	which meets applicable health standards and in
9	sufficient quantity for the reasonable foreseeable needs
10	of the subdivision to be considered.
11	The developer has estimated the domestic water
12	requirement for this proposal, proposed development at
13	18.11 acre-feet per year. The water rights needed to
14	serve the project must be in place or will be dedicated
15	with the final map.
16	Finding T5 addresses the availability and
17	accessibility of utilities being considered.
18	The developer has estimated that sewage flows
19	for the development will be 8,970 gallons per day. The
20	City's sewer model shows sufficient capacity to serve
21	the 69 proposed townhomes, but the applicant will be
22	required to provide evidence that there is adequate
23	sewer capacity to serve the project prior to the
2.4	recordation of the final map. The stormwater and
25	drainage plans for the development must be reviewed and

1	approved by the City Engineer prior to recordation of a
2	final map for the project.
3	Finding T6 is regarding the availability and
4	accessibility of public services such as schools, police
5	protection, transportation, recreation and parks.
6	This area is currently zoned for Beasley
7	Elementary School, Mendive Middle School and Reed High
8	School. The letter from Washoe County School District
9	estimates the proposed development will add 3 students
10	to Beasley elementary, 1 to Mendive Middle School and 1
11	to Reed High School.
12	Police protection will be provided by the
13	Sparks Police Department.
14	Addressing transportation concerns, comments
15	received from the Regional Transportation Commission
16	recommended that the recommendations of the traffic
17	study be conditions of approval. That's included in
18	Condition 16. And the City's Transportation Manager has
19	reviewed the project and determined that the proposed
20	road network conforms to the approved Vistas Planned
21	Development Handbook and is designed to handle the
22	traffic generated by this project.
23	Fire and emergency medical response will be
24	provided by the Sparks Fire Department and REMSA. And
25	this project, the project site is located within the
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1	6-minute response time for the Sparks Fire Department.
2	And then utilities will be provided by
3	NV Energy, both electrical and natural gas.
4	Finding T7 requires that the proposed
5	subdivision, it requires that we look at the effect of
6	the proposed subdivision on existing public streets and
7	the need for new streets or highways to serve the
8	subdivision.
9	And the traffic analysis anticipates that this
10	project will generate less than 627 average daily trips,
11	with an AM peak of less than 48 trips and PM peak-hour
12	trips of less than 56 trips. The proposed project will
13	have access from Los Altos Parkway, which was designed
14	to accommodate multi-family development on the site.
15	The traffic analysis concludes that
16	project-generated traffic volumes are not expected to
17	degrade operations of Los Altos Parkway to unacceptable
18	levels or create any significant traffic impacts. The
19	City's Transportation Manager concurs with these
20	conclusions.
21	And the project's internal streets will be
22	owned and maintained by the HOA.
23	Finding T8 looks at the physical
24	characteristics of the land such as floodplain, slope,
25	and soil.

The site is in the FEMA Zone X, which is 1 outside the 100-year floodplain. 2 And then slope of the site, I'm going to go to 3 the slope map. This is the slope map, this map. So the 4 slopes on the site do trigger the application of the 5 Slopes, Hilltops and Ridges requirements of the Sparks 6 Municipal Code. That's Section 20.04.011. The maximum 7 allowed disturbed area, based on the applicant's slope 8 analysis, is 6.69 acres. The applicant is proposing to 9 disturb 6.64 acres, leaving 1.08 acres undisturbed. 10 This degree of disturbance complies with section 11 20.04.011 of the Sparks Municipal Code. And the site 12 does not contain any protected hilltops or ridgelines. 13 And then, finally, for Finding T8, we talk 14 about soils. A final geotechnical report will be 15 required prior to the issuance of any building permits. 16 And any recommendations of that report shall be 17 incorporated into the design for the building permits. 18 Finding T9 requires that the recommendations 19 and comments of those entities reviewing the tentative 20 map to be considered. 21 As I mentioned previously, we received comments 22 from Washoe County Schools and Regional Transportation 23 Commission. Those have been, those comments have been 24 25 addressed already.

Finding T10, the availability and accessibility 1 of fire protection. This fire protection will be 2 provided by the Sparks Fire Department. And this site 3 is within the 6-minute response time. Δ Finding T11 is that other identified impacts be 5 Those identified impacts were that the addressed. 6 development agreement requirements be met. And this 7 project is subject to all limitations and requirements 8 of the development agreement. 9 I will go through those guickly, specifically 10 what those requirements are. 11 One is the limited number of units; 75 units is 12 the maximum number per the development agreement. The 13 applicant is proposing 69 units. 14 The second one is the permitted unit types, 15 that specifically wanted it to attach townhomes by the 16 development agreement. 17 They also are limited to a maximum of 10 18 dwelling units per acre. At 7.72 acres and 69 units, 19 that's a density of 8.9 units per acre. So they're 20 underneath that maximum density. 21 And then also was a minimum reservation of open 2.2 space of 1.54 acres. 23 Which takes us to the next addressed identified 24 impact, which is landscaping. As I stated, the 25

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1 development agreement does require a minimum of 1.54
2 acres of open space. That is equivalent to 20 percent
3 of the site. And the preliminary landscape plan
4 indicates that 1.74 acres will be landscaped as commonly
5 owned open space areas, which satisfies this
6 requirement.

7 Landscaping within the project will be 8 regulated by the standards for MF2 zoning district, as 9 well as the Sparks Municipal Code Section 20.04.006, 10 which is landscaping and screening.

11 The tentative map includes conceptual plans for 12 common, pedestrian, and street areas, including areas 13 along Los Altos Parkway. Common areas within the 14 development will be maintained by the HOA. And a 15 condition of the tentative map requires that final 16 landscape plans be submitted with the final map and be 17 approved prior to the recordation of that final map.

18 And then, finally under Finding T11 is 19 architecture. The design standards for the MF2 zoning 20 district govern the architecture for this project.

And then the last finding is Finding T12. And that is in regards to public notice. Public notice for tentative maps is accomplished through the posting of the agenda for a public meeting. A specific request for notice was made at a Planning Commission meeting during

the rezoning process for this site. And a copy of the 1 agenda for the meeting was mailed to that individual on 2 October 24th. The Planning Commission and City Council 3 meetings function as the public meetings for this item. 4 In addition to that report and those findings, 5 there were some concerns that came up through public 6 comment and at the Study Session of the Planning 7 Commission. And I wanted to make sure I went through 8 and addressed those things the best I can. 9 Slope, disturbed area was brought up at that. 10 As I mentioned previously, 6.69 acres are permitted to 11 be disturbed, and 6.64 acres are being proposed to be 12 13 disturbed. So they meet that requirement. There was a specific question about the 14 separation distance between the nearest townhome parcel. 15 This is actually the parcel line that's being proposed. 16 That's not necessarily the entire building envelope for 17 that -- or not necessarily. The corner of that 18 envelope, or the corner of that parcel is not 19 necessarily the corner of the building. But that's what 20 we have right now. And that distance from that corner 21 to the adjacent house is 60 feet per by the scale. It's 22 20 feet from the adjacent property, to the adjacent 23 property line, which is the required setback for 2.4 25 multi-family.

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There were questions regarding blasting. 1 Blasting permits are issued by the fire department, the 2 Sparks Fire Department. They use accepted national 3 standards for blasting as part of that review process. 4 If there are specific questions from the public 5 about specific requirements related to blasting or 6 specific concerns that they want to bring up, they can 7 contact Bob King, who's the Fire Marshal, and he can 8 9 review that for the public if they have any specific questions. Again, that's Bob King. He's the Fire 10 Marshal. 11 There was questions about hours of operation or 12

13 construction hours. There are standard construction 14 hours in the Sparks -- yeah, in the Sparks Municipal 15 Code under Section 20.04.005. Those hours are 7:00 a.m. 16 till 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9:00 a.m. till 17 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, with no construction permitted on 18 Sundays.

19 There were questions about debris removal and 20 grading, or not debris removal, but debris on the side 21 and grading. Grading permits are also something that 22 the City of Sparks requires, reviews and issues, you 23 know, regarding in conformance with Sparks standards and 24 regulations. And that would be typically reviewed 25 through the engineering department. So that would be 1 required, and that would be how we would address those
2 issues.

And then material removal is another item that 3 was brought up. Material removal from the site will be 4 addressed through an encroachment permit, sometimes 5 called a curb cap permit, which is kind of the envelope 6 that covers a lot of this, and it'll address any sort of 7 damages to adjacent street networks, and so forth, as 8 part of the removal or bringing in of fill or any 9 equipment during the construction process. 10

And then a lot of the comments that we received 11 as public comment to this item had to do with parking. 12 Just to address parking as best I can at this time is 13 this site is now zoned MF2, multi-family, in the City of 14 Sparks. Our minimum parking permit is one space per 15 unit. The applicant is proposing two spaces per unit at 16 138 spaces, plus 27 parking spaces for guests. That 17 exceeds both the City of Sparks parking standards, but 18 19 also it's beyond the requirement from the ITE, which is the Institute of Transportation Engineers, what their 20 average daily peak period parking demand is for 21 2.2 townhomes in suburban locations, which is 1.46 vehicles per unit. 23 That is the end of my presentation. Sparks 24

25 staff is recommending, planning staff is recommending

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approval of this item. 1 I am available for any questions. And the 2 applicant's representative is here if you have any 3 questions. 4 CHAIRMAN VANDERWELL: Great. Thank you. 5 Would the applicant like to come up and have a 6 7 seat. MS. ANGELA FUSS: Good evening, Madam Chair and 8 members of the Commission. For the record, Angela Fuss, 9 Planning Manager with Lumos & Associates. 10 I just have a very quick presentation that I 11 want to run through. I think, Ian covered very 12 extensively everything that was in the staff report. 13 And so I'm not sure that there's a whole lot of new 14 things out there. There are things I just want to 15 highlight to you. 16 One thing that was not included in the 17 presentation was some photos of the site. And I imagine 18 most of you have driven on Los Altos and probably driven 19 by more recently as this project is coming before you. 2.0 So that photo on the left is taken from, 21 basically, the entrance of where the project will be on 22 Los Altos. And as you can see, there's a knoll at the 23 top. That knoll will remain, so that that piece at the 24 very top is not coming down. 25

1 That picture on the left is the views as you're 2 looking to the southwest. So it's a very picturesque 3 place. And that's why this property is such a coveted 4 piece of property that is really ideal for any type of 5 residential development but one, I think, that is going 6 to create a positive impact to this community.

7 Ian brought up the slope. Again, I wanted to 8 highlight this. Everything in green is the slopes that 9 we encourage development on, the slopes less than 30 10 percent, the slopes less than 20 and 25 percent.

One thing that I wanted to point out to you is that everything you can see right here, in these areas here, the slopes here, this is all common open space that's part of a separate parcel. So there are no homes directly adjacent to this property, because they are surrounded by that common open space.

Here's an image of the tentative map. As you can see, our primary access coming off that Los Altos roundabout. And then we have our emergency secondary access coming off of Dry Gulch Way.

The site has been designed so that it's more of a circular development pattern. So if you're coming by vehicle, you can go all the way around. And the same place that you come in is the same place, ultimately, that you come out.

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1	The building pads themselves, or the lots
2	themselves are about 1,300 square feet in size. These
3	are designed to be two-story townhome units. And so
4	that gives us the additional square footage. So looking
5	on average, the townhomes will be about 1,600 square
6	feet in size. And this is actually bigger than most of
7	the single-family homes directly adjacent to the
8	property.
9	So, again, it's very much compatible with the
10	surrounding development.
11	All of these units have been designed with
12	two-car garages. That was one thing that was brought up
13	during the public hearing process. So that is part of
14	the design.
15	And as part of the multi-family zoning, you do
16	have to provide some community land use. So I just
17	wanted to highlight a couple of those that are shown on
18	the tentative map. We do have, again, the typical ones
19	that you would see would be a tot lot, a barbecue area.
20	They have a dog-walking area. This area, according to
21	this, is great for walking and hiking. There's a lot of
22	people right now that currently walk across the site.
23	And so there'll be trails to be able to continue doing
24	that.
25	In terms of addressing some of the neighborhood

concerns, one of them had to do with protection of new 1 development with existing development. So we really 2 tried to take that into consideration. And we've done a 3 couple things to consider that. 4 One of them has to do with where we put the 5 landscaping. On that border to the south -- and, again, 6 this area here. So these are the homes that are 7 existing. And, again, they're protected by an open 8 space buffer in between. Then we also put in a 9 landscape buffer with trees and shrubs. And, again, 10 over time, as those, that landscaping matures, that will 11 really fill out and help to protect any kind of view, 12 viewshed impacts. 13 There's also a significant change just in the 14 grade. So the homes are quite a bit lower, those 15 existing homes. And so just by natural topography, 16 those homes will have a buffer of just -- the topography 17 will buffer them. 18 All of these townhomes are limited to two 19 stories. And, again, the parking. So just in general, 20 when you look at parking, whether it's from a city code 21 or a local, kind of regional parking code, or a national 22 parking codes, on average, townhomes are parked anywhere 23 from one to two parking spaces per unit. Between our 24 two-car garages and our guest parking, we're at about 25

1	2.3 parking spaces per unit. So that not only is above
2	City code requirements, it's above kind of our regional
3	parking requirements. It's also higher than national
4	parking requirements.
5	So I wanted to bring that to your attention.
6	And that's all I have for you tonight. And I'm
7	available if you have any questions. Thank you.
8	CHAIRMAN VANDERWELL: Great. Thank you.
9	Do any of the Commissioners have any questions?
10	Commissioner Carey.
11	COMMISSIONER CAREY: Yeah, Angela, I had a
12	question concerning Condition Number 16. Those are the
13	roadway improvements. I don't know if I should direct
14	that, but, yeah, I just kind of wonder if you could go
15	over it again today. It was the roundabout and
16	crosswalk.
17	MS. ANGELA FUSS: Oh. Yes. There were three
18	things. So one of them is, right now, that roundabout
19	has it's a three-way roundabout. So this will
20	provide that fourth leg to that intersection. And it,
21	basically, is equivalent to where Vista Heights comes in
22	now on the roundabout. It was to be an extension of
23	that Vista Heights road. So it will go from a three-way
24	roundabout to a four-way roundabout just north.
25	And the second one is just to improve outside

1 lines. So there's some landscaping, mature landscaping 2 that's kind of overgrown over time. So as part of this 3 project, they'll have to improve that, both going to the 4 north and to the west.

And then, finally, the pedestrian flashers. We 5 talked a lot during the public hearing process about 6 where is it appropriate to put those flashers. After 7 working with staff and our traffic engineer, they felt 8 the most used area for crossing is actually off of 9 Goodwin, which is not connected to this development; 10 it's actually further down. But it seemed that that's 11 where most of the pedestrian activity is. 12

So the applicant is going to kind of go outside 13 of what his normal, I would say, development area and 14 put in the flashing pedestrian flasher at that location. 15 COMMISSIONER CAREY: Thank you. 16 CHAIRMAN VANDERWELL: Thank you. 17 Anyone else have any questions? 18 Okay. All right. Even though this is a 19 general business item, we -- it's up to my discretion to 20 take public comment on this. 21 So if there's anybody that wishes to speak on 22 this agenda item, you know, you can come up. 23 MS. SMITH: I have five. 24 CHAIRMAN VANDERWELL: Okay. But what I'd like 25

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1	to ask is, if you don't have anything to add to the
2	previous speaker, let's not duplicate what we're talking
3	about.
4	So we'll go ahead and we'll start with Spencer
5	Ericksen.
6	MR. SPENCER ERICKSEN: Thank you. Is it
7	possible to use the camera?
8	CHAIRMAN VANDERWELL: Sure.
9	MR. SPENCER ERICKSEN: My name is Spencer
10	Ericksen. First, thank you for allowing us to be able
11	to speak.
12	I wanted to speak about the parking. It has
13	been addressed by Angela and by City staff pretty well.
14	But I did want to point out a few things.
15	So on this map, it's highlighted all the guest
16	parking spaces, 28 by my count.
17	One thing that I did have a question about. So
18	per the description of the 69 units that are generally
19	similar size, similar square feet, three bedrooms,
20	two-car garage, on the application it appears that, for
21	the two units that happen to be paired instead of
22	grouped in more units, they're considered duplexes. And
23	by the City of Sparks, a duplex requires one parking
24	space per bedroom, so it would require three. Now, all
25	the other units that happen to be attached to more than

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1	one unit drop that one space per unit.
2	And I really question whether that makes sense.
3	You know, the homeowners that are going to be living in
4	these units, are you telling me they're going to only
5	have one neighbor who are going to have two and a half
6	cars and three cars, or that they have more neighbors
7	that only have one car?
8	I also point out that the site of this
9	development is not like townhomes. It's Sparks, Reno,
10	Victorian Square. There is no bus service. There is no
11	walkable grocery stores or restaurants. So maybe the
12	homeowners that are going to buy there are going to
13	depend on their cars.
14	I would argue that the particular usage pattern
15	for those homeowners is going to match pretty closely to
16	the surrounding neighborhood, which is single-family
17	homes. And all those homes have five parking spaces,
18	two in the garage, two in the driveway, one out front.
19	In my neighborhood currently, I look out in the morning,
20	and those driveways are full, and there's cars parked on
21	the streets.
22	And so if it's similar homeowner is being
23	targeted, with a similar size house, in the same
24	location, and a similar price point, I don't know how
25	you're going to argue that these magical home owners are

going to have less than two cars in that three-bedroom 1 house, and they're not going to have visitors, and 2 they're not going to have a similar usage pattern to all 3 these neighborhoods. 4 And as a result, all that overflow parking is 5 going to spill into those surrounding neighborhoods. 6 And that was one of the main concerns of the surrounding 7 homeowners during this approval process. 8 And I just wanted to make it clear to the 9 Commission that this is one of our main concerns. We 10 don't want to be staring at strange cars out our kitchen 11 windows and our living room windows because there's not 12 enough parking in the development to contain the number 13 of cars that really have any connection are going to be 14 there. 15 And truly, by the zoning, the applicant does 16 have such a parking at about the minimum. But by how 17 this development is sited and the expected usage 18 pattern, it's just not a good decision. 19 So I don't know if there's other ways to 20 address that, maybe by creating resident-only parking in 21 the surrounding neighborhood, so that it would not allow 22 overflow parking from this development. It seems like 23 there's not much flexibility within the development 2.4 itself. 25

1	But there is a concern, and I would be
2	interested in hearing what are options are for
3	minimizing our impact on the surrounding neighborhood.
4	Thank you.
5	CHAIRMAN VANDERWELL: Thank you.
6	Next is Jody Ericksen.
7	MS. JODY ERICKSEN: Can I also get the
8	projector running, if that's okay? Does it have zooming
9	capability?
10	So, Jody Ericksen. I live at 2265 Stone View.
11	Here is the lot in question. And this is Bud
12	Beasley's school. And I want to speak about the
13	pedestrian flashers. Angela is correct that when the
14	community met with the developer, we spoke about our
15	concerns about safety, pedestrian crossing safety. But
16	we weren't we were talking about the problem where
17	children and other pedestrians were getting like almost
18	hit by cars at the roundabout.
19	So the kids now walk up, uphill, like and
20	they're on the right side of the road from Bud Beasley,
21	and they cross right here at the roundabout. There's
22	like two crosses, but they cross at the lower one.
23	And cars that are coming up the hill, kind of
24	fast because they're going uphill, they're looking to
25	the left to see if there's oncoming traffic at the

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1	roundabout, and they're missing that kids are crossing
2	right here.
3	So the proposed flashers that Traffic Works are
4	suggesting are down here at Goodwin. That's because
5	there is this walkway and kind of a natural place to
6	cross. But that's not where the safety concern is.
7	And I'm really, really concerned I live
8	right here, I see it all the time that somebody's
9	going to get hit by a car, like a little kid.
10	So I would ask that the Planning Commission
11	stipulate that the flashers be put where the community
12	would prefer them, which is here at the roundabout, so
13	that the kids can like push a button and signal, you
14	know, flashing lights, cars, that they're crossing the
15	roundabout.
16	I've even seen parents, you know, standing out
17	there to try to help make them safe. So we're talking
18	about right here, this crossing is where I think the
19	flashing lights should be.
20	This other area that they're talking about down
21	here at Goodwin, off, off-screen, is like leveler, and
22	you can see. There's like a clear line of sight. So I
23	don't ever feel unsafe. I live right here. You know, I
24	never hear cars screeching or, you know, anything or
25	anybody, you know, complaining about crossing there.

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1 And that's pretty visible.

2	The other thing my husband was talking about
3	is, right here, they have the emergency exit. So people
4	are going to like park on these streets and then like
5	end up walking in to their duplexes, or their guests
6	are, because there's not ample parking. And you can't
7	park on Los Altos. If you look at the map, you can't
8	park on Vista Heights. So people are also going to park
9	on these side streets in residential areas, you know,
10	because there's not enough parking, we don't feel like.
11	So those are just my thoughts. Thank you.
12	CHAIRMAN VANDERWELL: Thank you.
13	MS. JODY ERICKSEN: And I don't know if you
14	want this to kind of mark where the preferred parking
15	is. I don't know if that makes any sense.
16	CHAIRMAN VANDERWELL: Thank you.
17	MS. JODY ERICKSEN: Where pedestrian crossings
18	are.
19	CHAIRMAN VANDERWELL: Next, Bill Wagner.
20	MR. BILL WAGNER: Boy, you two are good, you
21	know that, you're really good.
22	Madam Chairperson, Commission, for the record,
23	my name is Bill Wagner, and I live in the Vistas.
24	Subject, townhomes, PCN18-0048, at 2255
25	Los Altos Parkway. I realize that the project will be

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1	passed by the Commission as well as the City Council. I
2	think, the reason is going to be taxes and what they
3	need.
4	I would like you to understand where I'm coming
5	from personally. And I know I'm going to duplicate a
6	little bit. So please bear with me.
7	CHAIRMAN VANDERWELL: That's quite all right.
8	MR. BILL WAGNER: Approximately 103 cars
9	estimated, with no driveways, 28 guest parking, with
10	only one handicapped parking space. I own a cane and
11	having a hard time getting to where I want to go.
12	Blasting. Ground shaking, noise. Residents
13	who sleep, residents who sleep during the day, because,
14	you know, a lot of people who work at night sleep during
15	the day. And the elderly who are going out are going to
16	be affected by this.
17	The amount of heavy trucks dumping on the city
18	streets also create an additional traffic congestion.
19	The length of time it will take to complete the
20	project, could be three years, four years before they
21	finish everything. I'm not sure about that.
22	Construction accidents. If you believe in the
23	Peter principle, it's going to happen.
24	And, finally, and most important, are the
25	hundreds and hundreds of Vista homeowners who are still

against this development. 1 Okay. And thank you all for your time. I 2 really appreciate you listening to me. 3 CHAIRMAN VANDERWELL: Thank you, Mr. Wagner. 4 Next is Ron King. 5 MR. RON KING: Good evening, Chairman 6 7 VanderWell and Commissioners and staff. For the record, my name is Ron King. I live in the Vistas in the City 8 And I'm here to comment also on the 9 of Sparks. townhouses projected to be built on Los Altos Parkway. 10 I would like to compliment staff again, as I 11 have done often, for their exemplary efforts in taking a 12 30-year document and legally processing that into a 13 handbook and directions and conditions that meet today's 14 standards. Even though I disagree with the development, 15 I do feel that they have done a great job in being able 16 to back you up and give you information, even though I 17 don't always agree with that. 1.8 I do have one disappointment that I would like 19 to quickly express, and that is that there were 200 20 voices that were here at this, before this Commission 21 and, also, before the City Council, 200 people's voices 22 from that area that were not heeded. And it's 23 disappointing that our no vote ended up with your yes 24 vote. In other words, in my feeling, in my opinion, the 25

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1 people lost. We lost.

And I agree wholeheartedly with the items that have been listed by Mr. Wagner and the Ericksens. I feel and know that tonight you will not add those suggestions to the tentative map proposal. I know that. I just know it'll be no motion to amend what you have already heard. And that's your prerogative.

8 And I know, I also know it will not happen 9 within the City Council. That's unfortunate for me. 10 It's disappointing, having been a long-term resident of 11 the City of Sparks.

This is an infill project. You've got houses surrounding it. They're going to be working day and night, six days a week. No matter what we say, they are going to break the conditions. They are going to be pounding, laying, building, blasting, moving, whatever.

Also, I want to emphasize that I did not hear 17 from the applicant, talked about, a little bit about the 18 landscaping or the retaining wall along the east side of 19 the development. I still have great fears about what's 20 going to happen in case of an accident or a rock wall 21 failure, or how they're going to sustain and maintain 22 that slope on the west side and on the south peak of the 23 development, how they're going to maintain that and keep 2.4 it safe and keep cars from, after it's built, cars from 25

going over it or cars and trucks and debris going over 1 it during construction and into the back of the 2 (indistinct) the development. 3 So please keep the thumbscrews tight. If you 4 don't know what that is, Google it, and on the 5 development, and keep those conditions strictly stated 6 and enforced. 7 Thank you. 8 CHAIRMAN VANDERWELL: Thank you, Mr. King. 9 Cindi shoemaker. 10 MS. CINDI SHOEMAKER: Hello. My name's Cindi 11 shoe maker. I live at 4946 Santa Barbara Avenue in the 12 Vistas. And we have never attended a Planning 13 Commission meeting on this before. I've written emails 14 before. 15 Pretty much everything that I believe, my 16 opinions have already been voiced. I agree that there's 17 not enough parking spaces. I walk my dogs every 18 morning. And, yes, my husband and I have a clean 19 garage, park our cars in it. But the majority of the 20 people do not; they have their garages full of things. 21 So the parking is a really big one for me. I 22 wish -- and I don't -- it's not going to affect me if 23 people are parking by my house to get to the townhomes. 24 But it's just something that bothers me about 25

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development. I know it's going to happen. But if they 1 can fix some things. 2 The roundabout, I think, there should be 3 flashing lights at the roundabout. The young lady that 4 just lost her life near the high school. Why not have 5 flashing lights at those places? And let's protect the 6 7 kids. Let's protect people. Let's protect dog-walkers. I mean, you know, it's very important to me. 8 The blasting. I'll contact Ron King, because 9 my dogs are very sensitive to sound, vibrations. So I 10 understand I need to contact him. I hope they send out 11 notices ahead of time. 12 13 And then the last thing is the traffic. I think, their estimate is low, like somebody pointed out 14 that it's not like a walking community. Everyone, we do 15 rely on our cars unless we're walking our dogs or our 16 kids to school. And Santa Barbara Avenue isn't a main 17 thoroughfare like Los Altos, but it is definitely a 18 19 thoroughfare. And we've only lived there a few years. We're 20 newbies. We love Sparks. Thank you for having us. But 21 our neighbors across the street and our next-door 22 neighbor's an original homeowner, and they have told us 23 how much traffic has increased, that people use that as 2.4 a shortcut, instead of going down to Vista, because 25

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1	there's just so much traffic everywhere. And it's just,
2	it's just going to be more and more traffic.
3	But I appreciate your time and letting me voice
4	my concerns. My main one is, my main two are the
5	flashing lights. I think, they should have them at both
6	locations. And parking for the especially for the
7	people that live near there, that are not in the
8	development, but the parking in front of their homes,
9	it's going to affect them. It would be nice if they
10	could get us some more parking spaces. We had our own
11	condo in the past, and we had a lot more parking spaces
12	per unit, and they were smaller units.
13	So, thank you.
14	CHAIRMAN VANDERWELL: Thank you.
15	Is there anybody else that wishes to speak on
16	this?
17	Okay. With that, do any Commissioners have any
18	questions?
19	COMMISSIONER READ: I have a question.
20	CHAIRMAN VANDERWELL: Yeah, Commissioner Read.
21	COMMISSIONER READ: Can Angela come back?
22	Thank you.
23	Angela, can you address the comments about
24	possibly moving the flashers to the roundabout?
25	MS. ANGELA FUSS: Yeah, the reason that the

1 flashers at this location was selected had to do more 2 with the current design of Los Altos in that roundabout. 3 The speed limit on Los Altos is 35. The majority of the 4 traffic drives faster than 35. And so, as you're coming 5 up, and you hit Goodwin, most people are traveling 6 faster than 35. So it's a lot harder to slam on your 7 brakes when you see people crossing.

8 When you get to the roundabout, that roundabout 9 acts as a natural traffic slowing down mechanism. So 10 you hit the roundabout, you have to slow down to drive 11 the roundabout. So because cars are already slowed down 12 as they're going around the roundabout, it kind of 13 already provided that feature of, you know, paying 14 attention and slowing down.

I think, it will help, frankly, that some of this mature landscaping that's overgrown will be cut back. I think, that's part of the problem with not seeing people that are getting ready to cross. And so there's just a lot of overgrown landscaping.

Again, the applicant is willing to put in the flashers wherever staff and you, as a Planning Commission -- though it makes no sense, just based on the traffic Engineer's recommendations. He felt that it made more sense at the Goodwin crosswalk than it did at the roundabout.

So it wasn't based on anything financially or 1 any of those reasons. It was just based on where do we 2 need to slow down traffic. Which crosswalk serves more 3 people and has problems with people slowing down. 4 Because you are coming up, going 45 miles an hour, all 5 of a sudden you see people crossing, you have to slam on 6 your brakes. 7 COMMISSIONER READ: Thank you. And can you 8 also address the -- and going back to the parking and 9

10 then the comments earlier about the reference to the 11 duplex and the parking per bedroom and additional 12 parking.

MS. ANGELA FUSS: So this, because of this 13 zoning, this project is consistent more with the 14 multi-family, townhome, slash, apartment parking 15 standard. And, again, per the City code, there's one 16 set of standards. One parking space per unit is 17 probably not enough. I think, we all (indistinct). If 18 it was in a downtown area where you're close to transit 19 and close to services, it would be one thing. 20

So taking that into consideration, what's an appropriate parking count? I think, you can draw whatever number you want. Somebody else is going to come out with a different number. So in that case, then, we go to standards. And we looked at what are

some standards locally, not just in Sparks, what about 1 Reno, what the Carson, what about the surrounding 2 community who has the same type of development patterns. 3 And then what national standards, what makes sense. 4 So that's where we came up with anywhere 5 between one and two spaces per unit makes sense. And so 6 then we looked at, well, where are we at? We're at 2.3 7 parking spaces per unit. 8 Each unit does have that two-car garage. That 9 was one thing that, I think, the public was very adamant 10 It's not a requirement, but that was one thing 11 about. that they did, to try and work with the community and 12 said, okay, we hear your concerns, we will put in 13 two-car garages per unit. 14 These are also, you know, two-and three-bedroom 15 townhomes. A lot of the single-family homes around us 16 are four and five bedrooms. So there's a difference 17 between parking for a four-bedroom single-family home 18 and parking for a two-bedroom with a den townhome. 19 And we also have a very different demographic, 20 typically, that lives in townhomes versus single-family. 21 A lot of times, as people kind of start a home, so where 22 you maybe can't afford the single-family home yet, so 23 you move to the townhome. It's also the other end of 24 25 the demographic where it's people that are retired,

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1	their kids have moved out, so they downsize because they
2	don't want to take care of the yards.
3	So when you take all those things into
4	consideration, it really made more sense to say that,
5	you know, this 2.3 parking spaces per unit makes sense
6	for this project and for this location. It was
7	consistent with City codes. It was consistent with
8	national parking standards. And that's why, I think,
9	why staff also got comfortable with that number.
10	COMMISSIONER READ: Thank you for redirecting
11	those concerns.
12	MS. ANGELA FUSS: Sure.
13	CHAIRMAN VANDERWELL: Any other questions from
14	the Commissioners?
15	Commissioner Fewins.
16	COMMISSIONER FEWINS: Yeah, one for
17	Commission Fewins. I have one for Ian.
18	So Commissioner Fewins. Ian, there's some
19	things in the past where we've come across the 30
20	percent slope. And under one overhead that showed kind
21	of a horseshoe, and you saw a lot of red pieces in the
22	map, and it looks like, on the horseshoe, it kind of
23	goes right through that red spot there on the I
24	guess, as it is, the red kind of funnels out there to
25	the east.

1	MR. CRITTENDEN: This area?
2	COMMISSIONER FEWINS: Yeah, that area. And the
3	horseshoe kind of went right through that on the grade,
4	30 percent grade there. So what is kind of the City's
5	position? Because in past projects, we've used that as
6	open space and haven't disturbed those slopes. So what
7	is typically, what do you look at when you see more than
8	a grade area of 30 percent that's going to be disturbed?
9	MR. CRITTENDEN: So the percent slope and the
10	ability to disturb isn't necessarily specific to that
11	slope area. I know it can sound a little bit confusing,
12	but when we look a site, we look at it holistically and
13	we say, what are your percent slopes for each category
14	that are just vacated by code? And then there's a
15	certain amount of disturbed area that is allowed per
16	sloped area.
17	And so what we do is when we look at that, we
18	say, okay, how much of the area's in this slope
19	category, how much is in this. And when you get to
20	those higher slopes, you get lower and lower
21	percentages. In fact, past a certain point, it's zero
22	percent that can be disturbed. But that doesn't
23	necessarily mean that you can't disturb areas that have
24	30 percent or higher slope. It just means that you have
25	to balance that out over the entirety of the site.

1	Now, most of the time, people will avoid those
2	slope areas because it's harder to deal with. But in
3	this case, they are going to disturb some of the areas
4	that have the higher slope. But as a balance, they
5	don't disturb more of the site than is allowed per code.
6	COMMISSIONER FEWINS: Thank you. One other
7	question. Since this is located in a even if it is
8	MF2
9	MR. CRITTENDEN: M-hm (affirmative).
10	COMMISSIONER FEWINS: but it is surrounded
11	by single-family homes, just out of curiosity, what is
12	the setback requirement on the MF2 versus SF6?
13	MR. CRITTENDEN: The setback in which
14	direction?
15	COMMISSIONER FEWINS: The frontage.
16	MR. CRITTENDEN: On the front, the front
17	setback is typically the same. Although the way that
18	multi-family addresses front setback is a little bit
19	different, because you're looking at a site in that case
20	versus individual lots.
21	So as an analogy, these, these sites have
22	their garage is, essentially, with the drive apron.
23	Whereas you couldn't really do that in a single-family
24	neighborhood because of the way the streets and
25	everything work, but because it's all private-streeted,

and we're looking at the front, we can actually only 1 look at the frontage along Los Altos for that 20-foot 2 front setback. 3 The other setbacks are -- I believe, it's 15 on 4 the sides and 20 in the rear. But, again, we'd be 5 looking at that as a total site. 6 Now, I don't believe there's anyplace except 7 potentially along the north side here, kind of -- or 8 that would be the northwest, west side. I need to go to 9 my pictures. Sorry. So you get a better requirement. 10 Yeah, along this kind of north side, they're a 11 little bit closer, but there's a larger setback with 12 that, kind of, that buffer area. But, in general, most 13 of these units are no closer than 20 feet from the 14 adjacent property line, or the site as a whole, not 15 necessarily to the other adjacent units, which is the 16 way we look at the single-family. 17 So, hopefully, that answered your question. Ιf 18 not, feel free to re-ask it. 19 COMMISSIONER FEWINS: And many, in a few in 20 21 Los Altos. So. 22 MR. CRITTENDEN: Yeah. COMMISSIONER FEWINS: You're not looking on the 23 2.4 street or the horseshoe street. 25 MR. CRITTENDEN: Yeah.

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1	COMMISSIONER FEWINS: So the garage can be part
2	of that 20 feet?
3	MR. CRITTENDEN: Exactly.
4	COMMISSIONER FEWINS: So, and, I guess, what is
5	the City code for parking on public streets? We heard a
6	lot of public comment that are worried about cars parked
7	on public streets. How long can one sit, have their car
8	parked there, can be parked there without registration,
9	et cetera?
10	MR. CRITTENDEN: Well, I don't, the answers to
11	all of those pieces.
12	COMMISSIONER FEWINS: Okay.
13	MR. CRITTENDEN: I know that there are limits
14	to the amount of time that you can leave a car parked
15	without moving it along city streets. That's usually
16	enforced by the police department. So I don't know that
17	section of the code as well. And, obviously, you do
18	have to have cars registered that are parked there, they
19	have to be registered.
20	As far as parking on public streets, any public
21	street that's not specifically designated as a no
22	parking area is available parking to the public. As a
23	city street, there's no, no regulation as to who can or
24	can't park there, whether they live in the area or not.
25	COMMISSIONER FEWINS: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN VANDERWELL: Any other Commissioners 1 have any questions? 2 3 The Commissioners are good? Okay. COMMISSIONER FEWINS: I'm sorry, Commissioner 4 VanderWell. 5 CHAIRMAN VANDERWELL: Yeah, go right ahead. 6 COMMISSIONER FEWINS: Commissioner Fewins. 7 Ian, again, I was just reminded on a question. On the 8 end of the horseshoe, where the slopes grade to the --9 greater, the houses below, and there's a parking -- one 10 more back. 11 So on the very bottom of the -- yeah. And 12 those, that's a pretty good slope. I see trees there. 13 Do we have any -- does the applicant know what they're 14 going to put on the end of that parking lot, so if 15 somebody goes right when they should have went left, and 16 17 they --MR. CRITTENDEN: Certainly. 18 COMMISSIONER FEWINS: --- are four-wheeling it 19 down the side of the hill there? 20 MR. CRITTENDEN: Not that I'm aware of. This 21 2.2 landscape plan is preliminary. COMMISSIONER FEWINS: Yeah. 23 24 MR. CRITTENDEN: I anticipate the final 25 landscape plan to be fairly similar. But they would

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need to provide a landscape plan. 1 Now, as far as something to avoid the people 2 coming over that, that hillside, we have not discussed 3 that with the applicant at this time. 4 COMMISSIONER FEWINS: Okay. Thank you. 5 CHAIRMAN VANDERWELL: Okav. Any other 6 7 questions? Ian, I have a question really quick, because I 8 know this has been brought up in other meetings, 9 regarding the blasting. Now, the neighborhood, now, is 10 or is not the neighborhood notified when there is going 11 12 to be blasting? MR. CRITTENDEN: I'm not aware of all of the 13 requirements that come out of that blasting. Kike I 14 said, it is regulated by the Fire Department. But in my 15 discussions with the Fire Department regarding the 16 blasting permit, input from the neighbors and concerns 17 from the neighbors can influence all of the pieces that 18 they're looking for and that, if there's concerns about 19 it, they can ask for more information from the 20 applicant. Then they can kind of go through some more 21 22 stuff. So if there are additional concerns or 23 questions from the people around, they definitely need 24 to talk to Bob King and kind of voice their concerns, 25

and he can tailor their application process and what 1 he's looking for to the concerns in the neighborhood, 2 3 obviously within reason. But that would be the best way to kind of 4 address that, from the neighbors' concerns about 5 blasting. 6 CHAIRMAN VANDERWELL: Okay. Thank you. 7 Any other questions? Comments? 8 Entertain a motion. 9 Commissioner Carey. 10 COMMISSIONER CAREY: Sure, I will give this a 11 shot to get the discussion going. I certainly 12 appreciate the applicant coming in earlier this year 13 with the development agreement. I know it's a tentative 14 map, but I think that the development agreement provided 15 a lot of transparency to the public in this planning 16 process that we normally don't have. 17 And I concur with staff's analysis that the 18 19 proposed tentative map is certainly in compliance with the four requirements of that development agreement. 20 I can certainly sympathize with the public 21 22 concerns that we've gotten by email and tonight about the parking requirements. I certainly think that's 23 something we should take a look at in our code. One 24 25 space per unit, I don't know if that's enough for this

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1	city. We've had some other issues with some projects
2	we've seen.
3	But, overall, I think, that the proposed
4	density associated with this tentative map is consistent
5	with the land use designation that's been on this site
6	for a good three decades now. And I believe that I can
7	make all 12 findings for this.
8	So I'd be prepared to do a motion, if I can
9	find it.
10	I move to forward to the City Council a
11	recommendation of approval of the tentative map for
12	The Canyons on Los Altos Townhomes associated with
13	PCN18-0048, adopting Findings T1 through T12 and the
14	facts supporting these Findings as set forth in the
15	staff report, and subject to the Conditions of Approval
16	1 through 17 as listed in the staff report.
17	COMMISSIONER READ: Commissioner Read. Second.
18	CHAIRMAN VANDERWELL: Okay. I have a first and
19	a second. Is there any further discussion?
20	Okay all in favor?
21	(Commission members said "aye.")
22	CHAIRMAN VANDERWELL: Anyone opposed?
23	Okay. Thank you. Motion carries.
24	Next, we'll move along to public comment. Do
25	we have any additional requests to speak?