



The Honorable Timothy S. Grayson
California State Senate
1021 O Street, Room 7250
Sacramento, CA 95814

re: Senate Bill 315 – Quimby Act

Dear Senator Grayson,

We in the District 6 Neighborhood Leaders Group (D6NLG), an association of involved community representatives of the numerous San Jose Council District 6 neighborhoods and associations, are dedicated to preserving and enhancing the quality of life in a sustainable and equitable San José. We have long supported the City Parks throughout our city, and we are very concerned that the proposed SB 315 could severely affect them.

Parks in San José are funded in large part by fees on developers through the Parkland Dedication Ordinance (PDO) and Parkland In-Lieu Fee Ordinance (PIO), derived from the Quimby Act. When a project adds housing, the developers are to provide three acres of parkland (or the cash equivalent) for every thousand new residents, so that they do not overwhelm the existing park facilities and are welcomed rather than being a burden on the community.

As we understand it, the current draft of SB 315 now under consideration would modify the Quimby Act to free developers of the responsibility of providing parks for their new residents if there's an existing park nearby, without regard for the capacity or accessibility of that park. Thus, a large new project would not need to provide park facilities if there were a small pocket park in the vicinity, or if the nearby park were on the other side of a river or freeway.

Parks are an important part of any city, and ever more so for us in San José as our city develops and densifies. There are many competing demands for land, but it's not an "either/or" but rather an "and": **we can have both housing and parks.** A city with housing but without parks is not a livable city. Do not jeopardize our parks!

In support of parks,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Dr. Lawrence Ames', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dr. Lawrence Ames, Chair, D6NLG.

cc: State Senators David Cortese and Josh Becker
State Assemblymembers Ash Kalra and Gail Pellerin
Matthew Duarte, Exec. Dir., Calif. Assoc. for Park and Rec. Indemnity