

Sheila de la Guerra

Public Comment-Group 5

#3

From: Sandra Petersen <sandreeni@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, November 4, 2024 5:44 PM
To: conner@countyofsb.orgsbcob; sandreeni@aol.com; sbcob
Subject: Fwd: OPPOSITION TO THE MAOF THE WEST REQUEST FOR A REVISED CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT



Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

OPPOSITION TO THE MUSIC ACADEMY OF THE WEST
REQUEST FOR A REVISED CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

GOOD AFTERNOON

.MY NAME IS SANDRA PETERSEN & I HAVE LIVED AT 60 BUTTERFLY LANE DIRECTLY ACROSS FROM THE MUSIC ACADEMY EXIT GATE FOR 45 YEARS.

I DID NOT REALIZE WHEN I BOUGHT MY HOME 45 YRS AGO THAT THE 100'S OF CARS A DAY..1000'S PER YEAR THAT DRIVE THRU THE MA EXIT GATES WAS NOT JUST TRAFFIC FROM THE CONCERTS/STAFF/STUDENTS..

..... BUT ALSO FROM "CUT THRU'S"

CARS/MOTORCYCLES/PICK UP TRUCKSCUTTING THRU THE MA FRONT & BACK GATES TO AVOID THE 101 SOUTHBOUND WORK HR TRAFFIC..,SHORT CUTS TO BUTTERFLY BEACH & THE BILTMORE...PIZZA DELIVERIES...MARBORG GARBAGE TRUCKS...UPS..AMAZON...FED X.. NONE OF THE TRAFFIC FOR GUESTS ATTENDING VENUES AT THE MA ...BUT USING THE MA EXIT AS A "SHORT CUT".

NEIGHBORS HAVE LEARNED TO "GRIN & BEAR IT" EVEN THOU THE TRAFFIC IS A LIABILITY TO THE MA..&...NOISE...DIRT. & .POLLUTION FOR THEM AS WELL.. AS THEIR NEIGHBORS LIVING ON BUTTERFLY LANE,,,HILL RD...CHANNEL DR & NEIGHBORS ON FAIRWAY & THE FRONT GATES.

YET..... THE MA IS REQUESTING A NEW CUP FOR ADDITIONAL TRAFFIC & NOISE VENUES IN OUR SMALL COMMUNITY THAT WOULD CREATE MORE NOISE & POLLUTION:..WEDDINGS...ANNIVERSARIES..BIRTHDAYS ..REUNIONS.

.....THESE TYPES OF VENUES ARE NOT WHAT THE MA IS..
SUPPOSED TO BE" DEDICATED TO"...& ..ACTUALLY IS
CARVED OUT ON THE STONE ON THE FRONT GATES/PER
THE FAMILY WHO DID DEDICATE & LEAVE THE
PROPERTY TO PROMOTE THE BEAUTY OF MUSIC & THE
GROUNDS.

..... NOT....." RENTING"... OUT THE GROUNDS & OURS TO
THOSE WHO WOULD... COMMERCIALIZE..OUR.
NEIGHBORHOOD TO LOUD AMPLIFIED MUSIC & LOUD
GUESTS OUTDOORS WHO HAVE HAD TOO MUCH TO DRINK
& THEN DRIVE AWAY THRU OUR LANES & ROADS.

WE KNOW EXACTLY WHAT THAT IS LIKE .A NEIGHBOR
RIGHT ACROSS FROM THE MA HAD 18 WEDDINGS IN 6
YEARS.....300 PEOPLE...AMPLIFIED MUSIC FOR THE 2 HR
BAND..8TO 10 PM....MICROPHONES !....LOUD DRUNK
GUESTS.!...CAR DOORS SLAMMING
SHUT/ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE...WEDDING SET UP & TAKE
DOWN...A GENERATOR RUNNING ON BUTTERFLY LANE
FROM 12 PM TO 11 PM.

IT TAKES ITS TOLL & NOW THE MA WANTS TO..
HOST/RENT OUT THE PROPERTY...THEIRS & OURS...FOR
AT LEAST 14 WEDDINGS A YEAR.THE MA HOSTED
WEDDINGS 40 YEARS AGO UNTIL NEIGHBORS
COMPLAINED & THEY STOPPED & I AM SURE FOR THE
SAME REASONS NEIGHBORS ARE NOW ASKING NOT TO
HOST THEM.

PEACE & QUIET DURING THE DAY & NIGHT
....NOT OPEN BAR EVENTS...MORE CARS &
POLLUTION....BUT.. SWEET MUSIC
,,,CONCERTS...OPERAS.. MORE STUDENTS LEARNING TO
BECOME GREAT ARTISTS.

SO FOR ME & THE MAJORITY OF MY NEIGHBORS
NO LOUD EVENTS/AMPLIFIED MUSIC....UNLESS IT IS A
TUBA -:)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION &
DON'T FORGET TO LOOK AT THE INSCRIPTION ON THE
FRONT ENTRY GATES.....DEDICATED TO.MUSIC..

SANDRA PETERSEN

Sheila de la Guerra

From: MARTHA CLARK <mjcrincon@cox.net>
Sent: Monday, November 4, 2024 7:47 PM
To: sbcob; John Sanford
Subject: Music Academy of the West

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I am Martha Clark and my address is 1136 Hill Road in Montecito. I live very close to the Music Academy. This is a small beach community with roads that are shared with many beachgoers, kids, strollers, pets, bikes, and vehicles. There are already too many accidents and too much traffic.

I appreciate the Music Academy as a school but are wary of the increases they propose in the 2023 CUP. Shouldn't they prove that they can abide by the 2004 CUP before being granted/rewarded with SLEs (Significant Life Events) and more students? There have been numerous violations of the 2004 CUP including:

- Reporting only attendees: the requirement was to also report non-attendees (such as, faculty, staff, students, performers, caterers, setup & teardown personnel.
- Events that exceed current maximums
- Ignoring Cut-Through-Reduction-Plan requirements. Their "gate closure" system is a sham.
- Events that cannot egress in the 30 minute requirement.
- Noise violations of amplified music outdoors.
- Use of buses violated the 7-ton weight limit posted sign on Channel Drive, Butterfly Lane and Hill Road. This past summer two large diesel buses made up to 10 trips per day.
- Not willing to provide transparency. They report their own figures and the county has not provided compliance as required in 2004 CUP.

The Music Academy is supported by many neighbors as a music school. But not as a commercial enterprise with large parties and events.

The Music Academy has not even tried to be good neighbors; which is a red flag. They just want their parties despite the neighbors and despite large parties being eliminated in 2004 due to neighbor complaints. The same complaints exist today as they did in 2003/4. That means the Music Academy has not cared about the neighborhood. There are many things they could have done.

1. Install real Cut-Through-Reduction-Plan elements like were suggested in the 2004 CUP
2. Be transparent about traffic counts
3. Re route buses to legal roadways
4. Live by the 2004 CUP for 3 years to build trust with the neighbors.

These requests seem very fair and easily doable.

Thank you for your consideration.

Martha Clark

Sheila de la Guerra

From: David Moss <dmoss@dmapermits.com>
Sent: Monday, November 4, 2024 8:23 PM
To: sbcob; connors@countyofsb.org
Subject: CUP Case No. 21RVP-00000-00109 - Support Letter
Attachments: BOS MAW 11-5-24.pdf

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Clerk of the Board and Mr. Steven Connors
My apology for the tardiness of this support letter. The entire letter is attached and is stated below in this email.
Thank you for making this a part of the record.

David Moss

7 W. Figueroa St, Suite 302
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
dmoss@dmapermits.com

Via email

November 5, 2024

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors

**Re: Support for Music Academy of the West - Supervisorial District No. 1
CUP Case No. 21RVP-00000-00109 - Appeal to Be Heard November 5, 2024**

Dear Distinguished Board Members:

Introduction

I support proposed changes to the existing CUP that enables the Music Academy of the West ("MAW") to slightly expand operations in its current location as a land use that otherwise is not allowed "by right".

Support stems from three areas of knowledge –(i) Annual participation in MAW performance, lectures and master classes, (ii) Recognition that MAW should be entitled to expand its unique residential resources, exemplary performance and teaching facilities, and outdoor grounds that provide high quality education and performance opportunities for local, regional and international musicians and the public, and (iii) A four-decade land use planning career with a particular expertise in CEQA documentation.

Support for Expansion

MAW is a local-serving asset to the Santa Barbara community; its programs and reputation are internationally recognized and revered. Predominantly, however, this is a local-serving land use.

The following sets forth the reasons why I fully support the CUP expansion:

- Student Expansion is Deminimus: A 25-student increase doesn't result in impactful additional AM/PM peak or average daily trips, or noise; further technical analysis is unwarranted.
- Supplemental EIR is Not Warranted: The administrative record coupled with decades-long MAW operations provide substantial evidence for the MPC to have supported the expansion and now for the BOS to make all CUP findings. Attention should be focused however on compliance with CUP conditions – a concern the Appellant raised.
- The Carnegie Hall of Santa Barbara: This is our Carnegie Hall. The description of CH as "much more than just a music showplace" applies to our MAW: "Matching the artistry and grandeur of ...[an] iconic music hall, [MAW's] extraordinary event spaces feature ... expansive [grounds], [luxurious]....dining [areas], historic fixtures, and flexible spaces with dramatic [grounds] that showcase [Santa Barbara]... .

- The Board May Approve the CUP Expansion: The Appellant is flat-out incorrect – the Board is not barred today from approving expansion including non music events despite the Appellant’s erroneous opinion that wording in the prior CUP record bars expansion even when the required findings can currently be made.

MAW Must Commit to Abide by CUP Conditions

The Appellant alleges that MAW failed and therefore will continue to fail to abide by CUP conditions. I support the Appellant on this one narrow issue if true. The BOS and County staff are obligated to hold MAW to abide by all conditions –annual reports on traffic, monitors to ensure pedestrian safety, parking availability, and noise mitigation. The community should be certain now and into the future that all conditions will be implemented and enforced. Failure to do so does warrant a possible revocation or reconsideration proceeding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "D. E. Moss", written in a cursive style.

David E. Moss

DAVID E. MOSS, D. Env.

7 W. Figueroa St, Suite 302,
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Via email

November 5, 2024

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors

**Re: Support for Music Academy of the West - Supervisorial District No. 1
CUP Case No. 21RVP-00000-00109 - Appeal to Be Heard November 5, 2024**

Dear Distinguished Board Members:

Introduction

I support proposed changes to the existing CUP that enables the Music Academy of the West ("MAW") to slightly expand operations in its current location as a land use that otherwise is not allowed "by right".

Support stems from three areas of knowledge –(i) Annual participation in MAW performance, lectures and master classes, (ii) Recognition that MAW should be entitled to expand its unique residential resources, exemplary performance and teaching facilities, and outdoor grounds that provide high quality education and performance opportunities for local, regional and international musicians and the public, and (iii) A four-decade land use planning career with a particular expertise in CEQA documentation.

Support for Expansion

MAW is a local-serving asset to the Santa Barbara community; its programs and reputation are internationally recognized and revered. Predominantly, however, this is a local-serving land use.

The following sets forth the reasons why I fully support the CUP expansion:

- Student Expansion is Deminimus: A 25-student increase doesn't result in impactful additional AM/PM peak or average daily trips, or noise; further technical analysis is unwarranted.
- Supplemental EIR is Not Warranted: The administrative record coupled with decades-long MAW operations provide substantial evidence for the MPC to have supported the expansion and now for the BOS to make all CUP findings. Attention should be focused however on compliance with CUP conditions – a concern the Appellant raised.
- The Carnegie Hall of Santa Barbara: This is our Carnegie Hall. The description of CH as "much more than just a music showplace" applies to our MAW: "Matching the artistry and grandeur of ...[an] iconic music hall, [MAW's] extraordinary event spaces feature ... expansive [grounds], [luxurious].....dining [areas], historic fixtures, and flexible spaces with dramatic [grounds] that showcase [Santa Barbara]... .
- The Board May Approve the CUP Expansion: The Appellant is flat-out incorrect – the Board is not barred today from approving expansion including non music events despite the Appellant's erroneous opinion that wording in the prior CUP record bars expansion even when the required findings can currently be made.

MAW Must Commit to Abide by CUP Conditions

The Appellant alleges that MAW failed and therefore will continue to fail to abide by CUP conditions. I support the Appellant on this one narrow issue if true. The BOS and County staff are obligated to hold MAW to abide by all conditions –annual reports on traffic, monitors to ensure pedestrian safety, parking availability, and noise mitigation. The community should be certain now and into the future that all conditions will be implemented and enforced. Failure to do so does warrant a possible revocation or reconsideration proceeding.

Sincerely,



David E. Moss

<https://dmapermitscom.sharepoint.com/sites/FileShare/Shared Documents/Projects/MAW 2024/BOS MAW 11-5-24.docx>

Sheila de la Guerra

From: scottea444@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, November 5, 2024 7:38 AM
To: Supervisor Das Williams; Laura Capps; Joan Hartmann; Steve Lavagnino; Supervisor Nelson; sbcob; Sally Irving
Subject: Music Academy of the West Expansion

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

As an owner of a unit in El Montecito Verde, my bedroom and kitchen windows look out on to the grounds of the Music Academy of the West. What delightful music I hear on summer evenings when the students arrive and begin practicing their instruments. But if the Music Academy is allowed to expand beyond their original purpose, I can look forward to hearing wedding toasts, wedding speeches, drunken wedding guests and revelry, corporate event speeches, and significantly more traffic, all without leaving my unit!!

Is it fair to 'permit' an organization to cause unwanted and unabated noise to the neighborhood for the sole sake of economic gain? Please consider if an organization next to *your* home wished to have multiple outdoor events for economic gain that you were forced to listen to. How would you react? Please react the same way by stopping this needless and hurtful expansion of noise!

Thank you.

Scott and Fiona Ehrnschwender
1044 Fairway Rd

Sheila de la Guerra

From: K RS <stillekr@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 5, 2024 7:45 AM
To: Supervisor Das Williams; Laura Capps; Joan Hartmann; Supervisor Nelson; Steve Lavagnino; sbcob
Subject: In support of John Sanford's Appeal - please consider the safety & peace of our neighborhood
Importance: High

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear County Board of Supervisors:

I am a 16-year resident of 1155 Hill Road in Santa Barbara.

I am encouraging you today to support John Sanford's Appeal (Case No. 23APL-00021) of the Montecito Planning Commission's approval of the Music Academy of the West Revised Conditional Use Permit (Case No. 21RVP-00000-00109) and take time to evaluate the practices and impact of the Music Academy's current commercial endeavors.

The residential area surrounding the Music Academy is a quiet, residential beach community that has enjoyed the safety and peace of our small community. Allowing the Music Academy to embark on the growth of their commercial use fundraising efforts will severely impact both the safety and peace of our community.

I find the findings of the Music Academy Use Permit approved by the Montecito Planning Commission to be both insulting and a threat to our community. Most community nonprofits work together with their communities for the benefit of their communities, but that has not been the case with the Music Academy. The Music Academy has not honored their commitments to the community to ensure their commercial endeavors do not impact its surrounding residential neighborhood.

I encourage you today to take the time to review the history, data, and details of the Academy's activities that have NOT followed the 2023 CUP requirements. The amount and frequency of traffic that pass-through Butterfly Lane, Hill Road and Channel Drive as well as the tonnage of trucks and buses are just two examples of many that are indicative of the Academy's noncompliance of the 2023 CUP. The Academy has consistently exceeded what was previously approved. Greater expansion to the 2023 CUP will only jeopardize the safety and peace of our community further.

As a person with a great deal of community nonprofit board experience, there are many creative ways in which the Music Academy and its board can remedy their need to raise additional funds to support their services. Please do not allow their simple solution of growing their commercial endeavors that so greatly impact our community to move forward without doing a complete analysis of the impact.

Thank you for your time,

Kate Stille
1155 Hill Road, Santa Barbara, CA
530-219-1573