

The issue of Stanford land use and development vitally affects all the citizens of the Mid-Peninsula. Commercial and industrial development around the University has contributed to serious housing and traffic problems in our communities. Demand for housing and demand for land have forced real estate prices to such a high level that many residents are literally forced out of their neighborhoods. Employees of Stanford often have to commute long distances from areas where housing is cheaper. Other cities, where many Stanford employees live, see their tax base suffer because so much of the region's taxable industry and commerce is located at Stanford and Palo Alto. Many times in the past citizens have been forced to resort to initiative efforts or other extraordinary means to stop bad development proposals and, or related to, Stanford: the Willow Expressway, the Palo Alto Plaza, the Mayfield School site building, and the Superblock.

Stanford has announced a meeting for Saturday, December 16th to discuss future expansion of the shopping center. We protest the fact that many citizen organizations concerned about Stanford land use were not invited to participate in this meeting.

We seriously doubt the wisdom of a major expansion of the Stanford shopping center. Such an action has ramifications far beyond those that are immediately apparent. Should not Stanford concentrate on providing the 2000 units of moderate and low income housing that were recommended by its own housing committee, before it brings more workers onto its property?

Should not Stanford be concerned about generating more traffic when local citizens voted overwhelmingly to stop the Willow Expressway?



Is there a relationship between proposed expansion of the shopping center and the proposed Dumbarton Bridge?

We request that Stanford extend invitations to any of the undersigned groups not previously invited. We urge all interested citizens to join us in attending the meeting.

Endorsement: