



To: Santa Monica Planning Commission
Subject: Item 10 A: 15 ENT-0230 and 18 ENT-0342
Date: January 15, 2019

The NOMA Board supports the idea of the Rainbow Garden project but has several concerns.

1. The applicant states that their community meeting took place during the NOMA January 10th meeting and the applicant invited neighbors surrounding the 4th and Montana property. NOMA was asked to have a short presentation by the owner of the property. Ms. Ma was informed that she would be given 10 - 15 minutes. NOMA was not informed that this was a "community meeting" and considers this an affront of the notion of a community meeting.
2. NOMA supports the concerns of the neighbors that are included in the Anne Burkley letter.
3. The request for a Conditional Use Permit needs to have more study. The use of this space for children to learn about how food grows is noteworthy but this is a very large area in the midst of a residential neighborhood. The applicant has not been a good steward of the property while they have been planning its future. The weeds and trash have been rampant over the last few years.
4. The CUP needs to address any likelihood that the stated purpose is changed or morphs into another use. While there is some language about this issue in the Statement of Official Action it needs to be stated that if any changes occur that the CUP is revoked and the owners must seek a "new application for any changes in the plan" that will be granted under this proposal.
5. The CUP should state specifically the maximum number of groups who can come to the facility each day. The CUP should also state how the children will arrive and leave - to insure that the neighbors will not be inconvenienced by the coming and going of the visitors.
6. The hedge/fence height should not exceed the 42" as the zoning ordinance requires. In addition the height along 4th St as well as on Montana should not exceed the 42" height.

NOMA asks that the CUP and the variance be delayed so that an actual community meeting take place. NOMA's monthly meeting was in no way a "community meeting."

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