

Summer Foss

From: Ginger Exley <gexley@stanford.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 10:44 AM
To: Summer Foss
Subject: Strong Objection to Demolition of Mid-Century Home at 3523 Golden State Drive

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Dear Ms. Foss,

I am writing to express my unequivocal objection to the proposed demolition of the original mid-century home at 3523 Golden State Drive and the construction of a large, incompatible two-story replacement.

I am a resident of a neighboring street and I walk by the current home multiple times a day. I have personally witnessed the ongoing and deeply troubling loss of mid-century homes in this area. Each demolition chips away at the character that makes this neighborhood distinctive, livable, and historically meaningful. It is heartbreaking to watch thoughtfully designed 1950s homes be erased and replaced with oversized, generic structures that could belong anywhere—and clearly do not belong here.

This neighborhood is defined by its cohesive collection of modest, single-story mid-century modern homes. That architectural consistency is not accidental; it is the very foundation of the neighborhood's charm and identity. The proposed teardown of this approximately 1,600 square foot home, replaced with a two-story house nearly double in size and wholly out of character, would be a glaring eyesore and a permanent disruption to the streetscape.

Even more concerning is the precedent this approval would set. Allowing one such demolition incentivizes others to follow. Each approval sends a clear signal that the City is willing to sacrifice neighborhood character and architectural heritage in favor of unchecked, incompatible redevelopment. This slippery slope threatens to fundamentally and irreversibly alter the neighborhood. Once the charm is gone, it cannot be restored.

If a property owner wishes to live in a large, newly built home, there are countless newer developments and communities designed for that purpose. It is wrong to impose that vision on an established mid-century neighborhood by destroying the very homes that define it.

The continued loss of Santa Clara's mid-century housing stock is not progress—it is cultural and architectural erosion. This pattern needs to stop.

I strongly urge the City of Santa Clara to deny approval of this project and to take meaningful action to protect the architectural integrity, scale, and character of established neighborhoods like this one. Preservation and compatibility must be treated as priorities, not obstacles.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. It is my sincere hope the City will choose to protect what remains of this neighborhood's unique identity before it is lost entirely.

Sincerely,
Ginger Exley

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Ginger Exley
CDCM Operations Manager

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