

TO: San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed

RE: Public comment on Proposed Rocketship #8 on the Tamien site

Dear Mayor Reed,

Hello my name is Francisca Morales. My experiences with Washington Elementary School have been very enjoyable. I have four children and three of them have attended Washington Elementary School. Thanks to the hard work of both the teachers and my children, my children have become top students in the past few years. And since Washington Elementary School is a bilingual school, the students learn to communicate well in both English and Spanish. This is an important life skill.

Regarding the purposed new Rocketship elementary school, I strongly believe that there are enough elementary schools in the area and we should not open a new elementary school. However, I do believe we should open up a middle school in the area. There are no middle schools in our neighborhood and because of this, our children have to attend schools far away from home after the 5th grade. It would be much more appropriate to open a school that offers a 6th, 7th, and 8th grade, instead of another elementary school. I don't care whether this new school is a charter school or a public school, but I strongly believe that this new school should be a middle school.

If another school were to be opened, I believe the city planners should consider traffic related issues. For example, I live close to a relatively new Rocketship charter school. This school has caused a lot of traffic and congestion. This causes me concern. When I walk my children to school, I have to be extra careful as there are so many cars and they block the crosswalk, even when we have the right of way. Traffic planning should must be considered for the safety of our children and community.

My family and I want and hope the best for this community. Thank you for hearing our concerns.

Sincerely,

Francisca Morales