

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

TO: TOWN OF LOS GATOS
FROM: JAY PLETT ARCHITECT

THE PROJECT IS A PROPOSAL FOR A NEW HOME IN AN EXISTING PD WITHIN A NEIGHBORHOOD OF MIXED USES - CONDO/TOWNHOMES, SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL AND PROFESSIONAL OFFICES. THE OWNER HAS LIVED IN THE ADJACENT HOME FOR 31 YEARS AND INTENDS THIS HOME FOR HIS DAUGHTERS USE.

EARLY IN THE PROCESS, THE TOWNHOME NEIGHBORS WERE CONSULTED REGARDING THE PLANNED HOME. THEY EXPRESSED THAT THEY WOULD PREFER THE HOME BE ACCESSED FROM BELOW, RATHER THAN THRU THE HOA PARKING AREA AND THAT THE BRICK FENCE BE RETAINED. THIS PREFERENCE IS INTEGRATED INTO OUR PROPOSAL.

THE McFARLANDS LOVE THE ENVIRONMENT AND ITS BEAUTIFUL OAK TREES. THEY GO TO GREAT LENGTH TO CARE AND NURTURE THE TREES - AND THIS IS WHERE THE DESIGN BEGINS. MARTY WANTED AS MANY TREES AS POSSIBLE TO BE SAVED AND PROTECTED. OUR FIRST STEP WAS TO CONSULT WITH A LICENSED ARBORIST TO ESTABLISH THE PERMISSIBLE PROXIMITY OF THE NEW STRUCTURE TO EACH OF THE TREES SURROUNDING THE HOUSE ON THE SIDE. THESE LIMITS BECAME OUR BUILDING ENVELOPE FOR THE HOME AND GARAGE. WE WILL CANTILEVER OR BRIDGE PARTS OF THE DRIVEWAY AND GARAGE TO FLOAT OVER THE ROOT ZONE OF TREE #103. THE BELOW GRADE AREA HAS BEEN LIMITED IN SCOPE TO NOT ENCROACH MORE THAN RECOMMENDED TO TREE #101. THE UPPER PORTION OF THE HOME WILL BE ON A PIER AND GRADE BEAM TYPE FOUNDATION, AVOIDING THE ROOTS OF TREES #103 AND #102.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION-CONT

THE STYLE OF THE HOME IS ECLECTIC - IT RELATES TO THE FORMS OF ITS COMPANION HOUSE, FORM AND MATERIALS OF THE ADJACENT TOWNHOMES, AND THE MATERIALS OF THE 60'S MODERN ADJACENT OFFICE BUILDINGS. WE HAVE CHOSEN A MIX OF MATERIALS APPLIED IN TRADITIONAL STYLES, COLORCOAT CEMENT PLASTER OF AN EARTHY COLOR AND WOOD SIDING COMPLIMENTING THE NEIGHBORING ARCHITECTURE. UNDER THE OAK TREES, THE CEMENT PLASTER WILL BE OF LOW MAINTENANCE AND MAINTAIN ITS ATTRACTIVENESS. THE WOOD SIDING REFLECTS THAT OF ITS NEIGHBORS.

MUCH THOUGHT, CARE AND CONCERN WAS EMPLOYED IN THIS DESIGN TO ENSURE IT TAKES NEIGHBOR FEEDBACK INTO ACCOUNT AND BLENDS AMICABLY WITH THE NEIGHBORHOOD, AND PRESERVES THE SITE'S TREES.

BEST REGARDS,
JAY PLETT ARCHITECT