

City of Albany
Planning and Zoning Commission
Staff Report

Meeting Date: July 22, 2008

Prepared by: ____

Agenda Item: 6d

Reviewed by: _____

Subject: 1600 Posen Avenue, Albany*. **Planning Application 06-091. Design Review.** Annual Report on Design Review of structural and landscape elements of the Saint Mary's College High School Athletic Field Renovation Project. (*The site is also known by the mailing address of 1294 Albina Avenue, Berkeley)

Applicant/Owner: Dahanukar Brandes Architects/Saint Mary's College High School

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Planning and Zoning Commission hold a public hearing to review the annual report and provide direction to staff and St. Mary's High School.

Background

Following a series of public hearings, the Planning and Zoning Commission approved Design Review for the renovation of the St. Mary's athletic field, including installation of an artificial turf field, artificial track, replacement of spectator bleachers, and new storage building. The project also includes new landscaping and fencing. As a condition of approval, there are restrictions on the use of the field. Construction of the new facility is currently underway, and is expected to be completed near the end of the calendar year.

Discussion

Among the conditions of approval, was a requirement (J-2 in the Notice of Action) for the school to prepare an annual report on athletic field usage. Because the project is under construction, many of the elements of the annual review process are not applicable, such as monitoring the condition of the landscaping.

As indicated in correspondence from Kristine Fowler, in April 2008, the baseball field was used in violation of conditions of approval. The school investigated the report, and believes that the violators were not St. Mary's students/parents. As part of the implementation of the new field, signage will be installed that clearly states use restrictions.

Attachments:

Annual Report prepared by St. Mary's College High School
Planning & Zoning commission Notice of Action, October 16, 2007
Mitigated Negative Declaration
CEQA Mitigation Monitoring Program
Correspondence from Michael Tomkins and Kristine Fowler