

Supplemental Material

For

City of Sacramento

City Council

Housing Authority

Redevelopment Agency

Economic Development Commission

Sacramento City Financing Authority

Agenda Packet

Submitted: January 21, 2005

For the Meeting of: January 25, 2005

Additional Material

Revised Material

Subject: Westgate Gates (P04-102) correspondence from David J. Martin.



Approved By:

January 20, 2005

Honorable Mayor and City Council Members
City of Sacramento

RE: Call-up of Westlake Gates (P04-102)

My name is David J. Martin and I am a resident of Westlake. The residents of the five villages of Westlake have signed a petition requesting the gates, that are currently closed 13 hours at night, be closed 24 hours per day. The following are the facts and why the residents are requesting your approval in this action:

1. Security – Westlake is located at the very northwest corner of the City. The villages are bounded by two sides by Freeway (I-5), one side by County territory (rice fields) and the fourth side by a school. The city police do not patrol the area. The homeowners association has hired a private security to patrol our neighborhoods.
2. Existing walls and gates – We purchased our home in the Westlake community as it was promoted as a gated private waterfront community. The city approved the walls and gates. Each homeowner is required to pay \$18.00 per month for the gates, walls and the phone directory at each entrance. We have collected over 500 signatures from the resident within Westlake requesting the closer 24/7.
3. Value – The property values of the villages of Westlake will increase just like the areas of Greenhaven that have gates. Also, my insurance company will take addition 20% off our insurance bill if the property is within a gated community.
4. Private – Behind the walls and gates are private streets, sidewalks, clubhouse and lake. Each resident pays for these amenities. There are no commercial properties, public parks or schools within these villages.

The residents of Westlake are requesting the closers of the gates be 24/7.

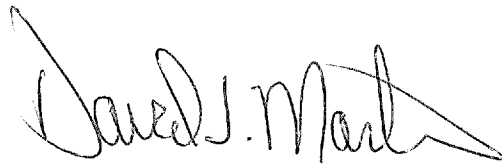
I was very disappointed while attending the City Planning Commission's meeting on this issue. The commission members stated that we needed to "take this request back to the City Council because they approved it in 1999". I thought that the planning commission was an arm of the city council. They asked if we had any celebrities sign the petition (Maloofs or Mr. Bibby). Would it make a difference? They continued by saying that the only gated community that they approved was for security concerning gangs, prostitution and drug sellers. If we could prove that we have this type of activities then our request to close the gates would be granted. And the final comment from one of the commissioner was that society needs to change so we don't need security and gates. My question was shall we start today or tomorrow.

Who really cares? Does the Planning Commission, City Council or Joe citizen really care if the gates are closed 13 hours or 24 hours per day in Westlake? I don't think so, but the residents of Westlake do care!

The argument against gated development centered around the idea that walls and gates create physical and social barriers within communities. I do not believe this is true. One only needs to look at other communities like Greehaven, the unincorporated areas of Sacramento County (Rancho Murrieta), City of Elk Grove, and the Counties of Yolo, El Dorado and Placer. I have never heard that these gated areas created social barriers. The gates add value and keep the bad guys out. Also, look at North Natomas, while going north on I-5, you see all the new developments surrounded by 12 to 15 foot walls to create physical barrier between each development. Look at Heritage Place and the multi-family residential developments. They include gates, walls and wrought iron fencing as an added amenity to deter criminal activity.

Thanks in advance for your time and understanding. The residences of Westlake want the gates to be closed. Please support our effort to deter criminal activity and add value to our investment and homes. Help make Westlake safe.

David J. Martin
5010 Monetta Lane
Sacramento, CA. 95835

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David J. Martin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

cc: Mr. Guy Wolcott, Westlake Master Association