

Jacob, Melinda

Subject: FW: Sick and tired of your behavior

From: Hector Salgado <hector.a.salgado@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 16, 2026 9:16 PM

To: DRC <DRC@berkeleyca.gov>

Subject: Sick and tired of your behavior

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Once again, we are being notified at the last minute by you—the mayor, the city council, and your real estate developer partners—of plans that will significantly affect our neighborhoods, while you remain comfortably situated in the Berkeley hills overlooking the bay. This pattern raises serious concerns about transparency and accountability.

Hector Salgado

2127 Derby St

Berkeley, CA 94705

Since 1992

Jacob, Melinda

Subject: FW: 2700 Shattuck Review

From: Todd Darling <toddardlingfilms@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 16, 2026 10:28 AM

To: DRC <DRC@berkeleyca.gov>

Subject: 2700 Shattuck Review

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

To: Anne Burns and Design Review Commission:

RE: 2700 Shattuck proposal

Berkeley's DRC is supposed to adhere to building design variations. The proposed structure looks just like the other buildings that run on the west side of Shattuck for the next four blocks - skipping over the fire station. Where are the rules that say there needs to be variation? The design should be returned to the architect to design something original.

Secondly, in terms of the presented design on the notice, it is another flat, blank wall, out to the side walk, no set back. Nice use of ruler.

How is this anything but Soviet bloc brutalist design? The public facing walls need to be re-designed, given some contour, style, more welcoming, aesthetic appearance.

The mixed commercial space at 5,000 square feet will probably go unused. Better to lessen the space and lower the height of the building.

Where is the open space?

The housing mix is inappropriate to our needs. Hundreds of small apartments? The population of California is declining or static It will not change for decades. We need to promote families - not atomized living for itinerant tech workers. This is a massive Air BnB project. Make short term rentals illegal in this location.

Perhaps most important, there is probably no financing for this. That means that re-design is entirely appropriate as this project is only lines on a computer screen.

Furthermore, the City of Berkeley should not allow demolition of this very usable building until actual construction is truly going to commence. The speculative value goes up if the building site is scraped clean. But, the City has zero obligation to increase or guarantee the profit to any business or speculator. The vast hole in downtown, east of the YMCA and the Post Office should be sufficient lesson for the city. The shuttered Center Street and two theaters downtown should be acknowledged of the City's failure to regulate speculative real estate developers.

The fig leaf 10% affordable housing flies in the face of actual housing needs. We're at over 100% market rate, and way below mandates for affordable. At this rate we will run out of land.

Where are the shade studies? Where is the public notice to the neighborhood?

Only a late posted sign on the address, zero notice to neighbors demonstrates Berkeley City Planning Department's contempt for our neighborhood and Berkeley citizens at large. This project is destructive of the city and its 175 year old history, culture and diversity. The community does not need another massive, market rate building. Your job is to at least insure that it isn't ugly.

Sincerely,
Todd Darling
Linda Jensen Darling
Derby St. Berkeley