

**From:** [Joerg Rathenberg](#)  
**To:** [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#); [Sue Hestor](#); [James Hill](#); [Wong, Jocelyn \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** 617 Sanchez Street CATEX Appeal date of Hearing Aug 18, 2020: James Hill - Letter for Submission  
**Date:** Thursday, August 6, 2020 4:53:32 PM  
**Attachments:** [B120 Letter re 617 and Sec 241.pdf](#)

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Good afternoon Supervisor Norman Yee, President, Board of Supervisors,

Please find attached a letter from our architect James Hill, for the 617 Sanchez Street, San Francisco CA 94114 CATEX Appeal scheduled for hearing on August 18, 2020.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Joerg Rathenberg  
619 Sanchez Street  
San Francisco CA 94114

**RE: the 617 Sanchez Proposal for the Demolition of an Existing Dwelling and the Construction of a New as Relates to the Requirements of San Francisco Planning Code Section 241 Dolores Heights Special Use District:**

The proposal for 617 Sanchez ignores the intent and goals of the San Francisco Planning Code as outlined in Section 241 Dolores Heights Special Use District. These goals, the development of 619 Sanchez in 2005 respected when it expanded their home but preserved both existing public views from across Sanchez Street and the private lateral views of adjacent neighbors. As a result of these thoughtful decisions, 619 is now put at an unfair disadvantage.

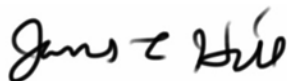
617 Sanchez ignores the Planning Codes requirements for Dolores Heights

- "to preserve and provide for an established area with a unique character and balance of built and natural environment"
- "to preserve and provide ... public and private view corridors and panoramas"
- "to conserve existing buildings"
- "to conserve ... plant materials and planted spaces,
- "to prevent unreasonable obstruction of view and light by buildings"
- "to encourage development in context and scale with established character and landscape"

In ignoring the intent, 617's proposal ignores the Code section entirely. 0

There has been a shift in direction at the Planning Commission and Planning Department over the past 15 years. At that time, adjacent neighbors' opinion and the existing historical conditions had significant influence over Planning Department decisions leading to significant compromises in scale. The difference in the more respectful goals and expectations for Planning and Neighbor approval for 619 Sanchez in 2005 versus the current direction of the Planning Department and the personal interests evidenced in the proposal for 617 Sanchez in 2019 puts 619 at a serious and unfair disadvantage, penalizing them for respecting the codes intent and their neighbors' wishes.

Respectfully,



James Hill  
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