

Dear City Council,

The closure of the access pathway from Ashfield Road to Maple Ave is extremely concerning -- all residents of Ashfield Road are now living under unsafe travel conditions, whether on foot, bicycle, skateboard, wheelchair, or driving (as we become a risk to our very own neighbors when turning right onto Ashfield from El Camino Real). Forget for a moment about the danger to which this exposes my family and our neighbors -- it also creates a liability risk for the Town of Atherton itself.

All of these issues could have been avoided. Those involved with this development project have certainly been aware of the need to move the safe access pedestrian pathway in order to complete the library.

Why wasn't an alternate route to Fair Oaks Lane or to Maple Ave opened up? Or safety barriers between traffic and a pedestrian walkway on El Camino itself put in place? Any of these solutions could have been planned for and implemented *prior* to closing off our only safe route off our block.

Residents of Ashfield have suffered through noise, dust, escaping vermin from the construction zone, the closure of road access in both directions on Dinkelspiel, and the destruction of our beloved and historic library. The Town of Atherton is obligated to provide a *safe* pedestrian connection from Ashfield Rd to either Maple Ave or Fair Oaks Lane.

All of us appreciate your attention to resolving this critical safety issue.

Best regards,
Maureen

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Maureen Kirchner

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **maureen kirchner** <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, May 31, 2021 at 4:28 PM

Subject: Needed: Safe Pedestrian Access from Ashfield Road (to Maple Ave or Fair Oaks Lane)

To: Marty Hanneman <mhanneman@ci.atherton.ca.us>

Cc: George Rodericks <grodericks@ci.atherton.ca.us>, Rachel McDonnell

Dear Marty,

As a resident of Ashfield Road in Atherton, the access pathway from Ashfield to Maple and

the temporary library has been absolutely critical to my family's ability to travel *safely* by foot, bicycle, and skateboard *without* being forced to travel along El Camino Real. My daughter relies on this, as do the rest of us in the family, including our dog.

Distressingly, several small signs have just been posted saying that this critical access pathway will be closed as of June 7. No additional information is displayed on the signs, and we haven't been able to find details on the project website ... perhaps it's buried in a PDF?

As of this morning, we learned from our neighbor that this isn't simply a closure for a few days. Indeed, there will be no safe pedestrian access off Ashfield Road from June 7 until the project is complete. This is unacceptable.

If this is incorrect, and an alternate pedestrian pathway *will* be provided, please advise. Every family with children on our street -- as well as those with dogs -- is extremely worried about this important safety measure.

However, if it is true that no alternate pathway is already in the works, the Town of Atherton will need to provide a pedestrian connection from Ashfield to *either* Maple Ave or Fair Oaks Lane to ensure our neighborhood residents' safety.

Thank you in advance for your serious attention to this matter.

Best regards,
Maureen

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Maureen Kirchner

Atherton, CA 94027

