

**Aug. 13 Readers' letters**

**From Mercury News readers**

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**Almaden Ranch plan not in Green Vision**

The proposed Almaden Ranch Shopping Center is inconsistent with San Jose's Envision 2040 General Plan in creating "neighborhood villages" and also contradicts Mayor Chuck Reed's San Jose Green Vision.

Building a highly auto-oriented project within walking distance of light rail will make the 43-acre site the same old swath of surface parking spaces and big-box retail.

San Jose needs to lead the Bay Area in meeting state air-quality standards, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, creating public space, and enabling long-term economic prosperity.

We recommend either improving this development or stopping it altogether until a better option arises.

We have submitted a detailed comment letter to the City Council with many recommendations, including creating a vibrant community plaza and constructing a bridge over Guadalupe Creek so light rail riders can access it.

San Jose can do better.

Kenneth Rosales

San Jose Cool Cities Team

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