

September 27, 2005
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Open Letter to Safeway's Neighbors and the People of Menlo Park

**RE: Safeway Redevelopment
525 El Camino Real
Menlo Park**

Safeway appreciates the time and commitment shown by its neighbors in engaging in a dialogue over the design of our new store, and the creativity of those neighbors and the City of Menlo Park staff in working out solutions to the problems posed by a complex project.

Safeway recognizes that this project has unique importance because it is located between a busy arterial street and a quiet residential neighborhood, and that the construction of the project could be disruptive. We will make a consistent effort to minimize disruption and discomfort to our neighbors and customers during construction.

It is our intention to honor the relationships that have formed during the development of this project and to keep the lines of communication open. Therefore, Safeway is making a public commitment to the following agreements that were made with the Neighborhood/Safeway Working Group:

1. Neighboring property owners on Roble and Kenwood will be offered the opportunity to sign a license agreement with Safeway allowing each neighbor to use the land between the neighbor's property line and the Safeway building as additional back yard space. The license agreement will address use of the land, eventual reversion to the landowner, and Safeway's ability to access the land to perform occasional building maintenance.
2. The concrete block fence between Safeway and the Roble properties will be removed. The existing fences between the Kenwood and Roble properties will be extended to the Safeway building. These fences will match the existing fences.
3. The wall of the new building will be architecturally pleasing and Safeway will allow plants, such as ivy, to be trained on the wall. If requested by individual property owners, Safeway will install an 8' wide 11' high trellis on the wall as shown on the building elevations. The property owners will take responsibility for the maintenance of plantings and the trellis.
4. If the trees between the Safeway building and the adjacent Kenwood/Roble properties show signs of distress within five years after construction, and if the City arborist finds that this was caused by the construction, Safeway will remove these trees and plant new trees of a species recommended by the arborist.
5. Safeway will keep the landscaping in the parking lot and along the El Camino and Middle perimeters healthy, well maintained and free of trash.
6. Safeway will develop a Construction Disruption Avoidance Plan in cooperation with the Neighborhood/Safeway Working Group. It will include adequate on-site or private off-site parking so that construction crews do not park on neighborhood streets. A plan will be agreed upon by Safeway and the Working Group prior to commencement of construction.
7. Employee or construction vehicles parked on neighborhood streets (Middle or Roble between El Camino and University Avenue, Kenwood, or Morey) during the construction process will receive a \$100 "fine." Safeway will pay the "fine" to a charity designated by the reporting neighbor. Reports should include the description and license plate number of the vehicle accompanied with a photograph, if possible. The reporting party would also be required to notify Safeway's manager (if available) or the construction project manager (if available) by telephone at the time of the violation.

8. To minimize noise during construction, Menlo Park noise ordinances will be adhered to. Adjacent property owners and specified neighborhood representatives will have a 24-hour phone access to a project representative for reporting problems.

Thanks again to our neighbors and to City Staff for their willingness to collaborate with us. We believe that the new store that will be both a valuable addition to the El Camino Real retail environment and an asset to the adjacent neighborhood. We look forward to our role in the revitalization of El Camino Real and to continuing our involvement with the Menlo Park community.

Very truly yours,

SAFEWAY INC.

STEVEN E. BERNDT
Director of Real Estate