

Citizen Participation Report

Child Crisis Arizona, Property 827 N Country Club, Case number: ZON-18-01014

This report is to follow up on the Citizen Participation Plan for Child Crisis Arizona submitted in December 2018.

The purpose of this plan was to inform citizens, property owners, neighborhood associations, agencies, schools, and businesses in the vicinity of the site of an application for Child Crisis Arizona. This site is located at 817 N Country Club, Mesa AZ 85201 and is an application for a site plan modification on the property of 827 N Country Club to be a parking lot. The plan includes the creation of a playground (on the south side of the 817 building) as well as the creation of a future playground (on the north side of the 817 building) as required by licensing to serve Head Start programs.

The following is a report on the efforts that were made to ensure that those affected by this application had an adequate opportunity to learn about and comment on this proposal.

Outreach:

We first developed a list of neighborhood contacts within one mile of 827 N Country Club, home owners associations within one half mile of the property and all property owners within 1,000 feet.

In response to our neighborhood contacts record request, on January 14, 2019 Cynthia Ezcurra from the City of Mesa sent us a list of forty-seven registered neighborhood contacts and home owner associations within a one mile radius of 827 N Country Club. (See address list in attachments.)

Using the instructions e-mailed to us on January 10, 2019 by Veronica Gonzalez from the City of Mesa and the Maricopa County Assessor website, we generated a list of property owners within 1,000 feet of 827 N Country Club. This list included 283 parcels that were fully within or partially touching the 1,000 foot radius. There were individuals or companies that owned multiple parcels.

We then established a date for a neighborhood meeting that individuals on both of the mailing lists would be invited to. The date for the neighborhood meeting was set for January 31, 2019 at 6pm at the Child Crisis Arizona building at 817 N Country Club Drive.

A letter was prepared. The letter included brief information about the project, a tentative target time for the project and an invitation to the neighborhood meeting on January 31. The letter was dated January 23, 2019. The mailing also included a copy of the site plan as updated on January 23, 2019 with a sidewalk connecting the proposed parking lot to the existing sidewalk to the Child Crisis Arizona building. And it included the phone number and e-mail

address of Tom Shaughnessy, Director of Operations for Child Crisis Arizona, to provide methods of contact for questions and comments. (See copy of the letter and the site plan in attachments.)

By January 24, 2019, letters were mailed to the 47 addresses on the registered neighborhood contacts and home owner associations, and to the list of 188 property owners within 1,000 feet of the property. (To ensure each property owner only received one letter, we eliminated duplicative addresses. For example, there was one owner who owned 48 parcels; rather than sending 48 letters to this one owner, we sent one letter. So we ended up with 188 different property owners of these 283 parcels. See address list in attachments.) The letters to the property owners were sent to their mailing address as gathered through the Maricopa County Assessor website rather than the property address.

Response:

Prior to the neighborhood meeting, EJ Hughes and Tom Shaughnessy of Child Crisis Arizona met with representatives of the First Christian Church (Ellen Hoff and Liz DeWeese) on January 28, 2019. The Church is the closest neighbor of both the Child Crisis Arizona building and the proposed parking lot, so the updated site plan was discussed with their representatives. The impact of the required sidewalk on parking spaces, how the figures for retention were calculated and the types of trees were all discussed. (Brent Henderson from Henderson Engineering Group who drew the site plan was later looped in on e-mail to help answer technical questions.) The Church representatives were also made aware of the upcoming neighborhood meeting.

One phone call was received in response to the mailing. Salima Keegan (303 W 9th Street, Mesa) spoke with Tom Shaughnessy on January 29, 2019. Ms. Keegan is the owner of the property backed up to the very northeast corner of the Child Crisis Arizona property at 817 N County Club. Her property would be affected by the future playground on the north side of 817. She said she would like to come to the neighborhood meeting on January 31 but would be out of town so she had a few questions. Her main concern was how the future playground on the north side of the building would affect access to the rolling gate on her property. Here is a summary of the conversation:

- Ms. Keegan said she does not use the gate very often – most recently she had some work done in her backyard and the workers accessed it through the gate. She also said that the City of Mesa uses the parking lot area where the playground would go to access power lines and trim trees to prevent their interference with the power lines. She said that the City does this annually and had completed it recently.
- Tom told her that it would be some months before the playground would be built but that he would have to get more information on how it would affect access to her property.
- She had the following questions:

- Would the storage container (conex) be moved to make room for the playground? Answer: Yes, storage container would be moved as well as the dumpsters.
- Would the playground be fenced? Answer: Yes, it would be fenced to keep children inside CCA boundaries.
- Would the space between her property and the new playground fence be wide enough for a car/truck to access her property? Answer: Further exploration would be required, including looking at impact on trees and plants in that area.
- She mentioned that Tom Brew, two houses west of her, also has a gate and uses it a lot. She guessed by looking at the site plan that it did not look like access to his gate would be blocked by the new playground. She mentioned that she would talk to Mr. Brew before the January 31st neighborhood meeting to let him know that she had already reached out to CCA so that if he was planning on attending the meeting that he would not feel like he had to ask about her property.
- She said how much she likes Child Crisis Arizona and that the organization was “so worthy.”

No e-mails were received in response to the letter.

Neighborhood Meeting:

For the neighborhood meeting on January 31, the following was prepared:

- Sign-in sheet
- Copies of the January 23, 2019 site plan
- Copies of the layout of both the south playground and the future north playground.
- (See copies of each of these documents in the attachments.)

EJ Hughes planned to introduce the meeting, review the site plan and then lead questions and answers. Brent Henderson attended to help answer questions as well as Tom Shaughnessy.

No one from the community came to attend the meeting. The three staff members waited until 6:30pm in case anyone was running late for the 6pm start time but no one showed up.

Next Steps:

No additional meetings will be held as all interested parties have had the chance for questions and comments by phone, e-mail or meeting.

The Church will continue to be included on updates to the site plan through regular communication.

Ms. Salima Keegan will be contacted to clarify her use of the gate to her property and be given regular updates as we look to put in the playground near her property.

Conclusion:

If you have any questions on this report, please contact Tom Shaughnessy, Director of Operations, Child Crisis Arizona, 480-304-9446 or tom.shaughnessy@childcrisisaz.org.