

## Alberto Quintanilla

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**From:** William Yragui  
**To:** CClerk  
**Date:** 04/14/2020 2:00 PM  
**Subject:** To the city council regarding the MPRP resolution

Oakland is closing 75 miles of public streets, to protect pedestrians and cyclists. Fremont has reduced parking at Central Park, but will keep the walking trails open. City Staff is proposing to close the main walking trails and Stanford entrance at Mission Peak, used by 80% visitors. The alternative trail would be Ohlone College. But, the Ohlone trail is much narrower than the main trail. Ohlone requires has two gates, another health risk. This makes this trail head less desirable than the Stanford Avenue trail head.

The Stanford Avenue sidewalk was too narrow, before the coronavirus arrived. We recommend that Stanford Avenue be temporarily be made one-way downhill, east of Vineyard. This would close the Stanford Avenue parking lot, and reduce crowding.

The Alameda County and Contra Costa Health Departments have recommending keeping the parks open. They say that parks are essential for health. We ask the Council not to rubber stamp the proposed resolution. To keep the park open.

We ask the city to negotiate in good faith with the park district to expand the Stanford Avenue staging area. This would reduce conflict with nearby residents. We ask the to city to renew the 25-year lease request the park district to spend six million dollars to improve the staging area.

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wm. yragui  
co-founder  
Mission Peak Conservancy  
650-642-5150 cell

## Alberto Quintanilla

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**From:** Jannet Benz  
**To:** Mark Danaj, Suzanne Wolf, Raj Salwan, Lily Mei, Rick Jones, Teresa Keng, Yang Shao, Vinnie Bacon, Jenny Kassan  
**Date:** 04/10/2020 8:40 PM  
**Subject:** Comment on April 14 council meeting agenda item 2.H. Closure of Mission Peak Stanford Staging Area Trailhead

Dear Mayor Mei and City Councilmembers,

We sincerely thank you for your continuing efforts to keep Fremont safe and healthy, and for reminding residents to be kind and thoughtful during this challenging time. We write to urge you to vote to ratify the City Managers request to close the Stanford Staging Area parking lot and trails to Mission Peak Regional Preserve.

As you know, crowds of visitors continue to visit Mission Peak-Stanford staging area during the Stay at Home/Shelter in Place orders. They come from far afield, causing overcrowding, and failing to practice social distancing. Due to EBRPD's restroom closure, some visitors are again relieving themselves inappropriately, "when nature calls", creating a separate, but related public health issue.

We appreciate all the work the City has done to educate the community, and Preserve visitors, about the importance of social/physical distancing online and in the media, and for reminding them via electronic message boards, social media, etc. Unfortunately, visitors fail to comply.

Again, we ask that you please vote to support ratification of the City Manager's letter to EBRPD regarding the immediate closure of Mission Peak – Stanford staging area.

Thank you.  
Sincerely,

Jannet Benz  
Fremont, CA

## Alberto Quintanilla

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**From:** Andreas Kadavanich  
**To:** CClerk  
**Date:** 04/14/2020 11:54 AM  
**Subject:** Comment on April 14 council meeting agenda item 2.H. Closure of Mission Peak Stanford Staging Area Trailhead

The staff report regarding the closure request is generally reasonable. However it lacks any concrete data as to the severity of the situation. Surely if the problem is crowding, then the people making the observations could have taken illustrative photographs. Besides providing better information for council to make a decision (e.g. are any of the crowds composed of family units?), such photographs could also be used to better educate the public as to what situations to avoid, potentially obviating a complete closure. A picture with a stern "Don't do this" caption, can convey a message much more clearly and succinctly than thousands of verbal admonitions.

It is also not clear from the report why a closure of the parking lot, without a closure of the trail-as done at other EBRPD facilities, is insufficient to reduce crowding, especially in light of the existing parking restrictions in the neighborhood.

This does raise the point that if people do choose to go there on foot, the sidewalk on Stanford Avenue is certainly too narrow to permit social distancing. Indeed this is true of most sidewalks in Fremont's residential areas. If we are to close off this rather spacious recreational area, can we do something to provide more pedestrian space within neighborhood roads, such as was done in Oakland's Slow Streets\* program?

Ultimately, in the absence of action to make more recreational space available everywhere, I have to wonder if a trail closure will just shift the problem to places that are more crowded, yet diffusely located and harder to police.

Sincerely,

Andreas Kadavanich  
Fremont Resident

Reference:

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<https://www.oaklandca.gov/projects/oakland-slow-streets>