

Bond Battle

Regarding the dispute about how MPUSD spends taxpayer-approved bond money that residents and neighbors voted for and have to repay, there are several facts not brought to light in many of the letters decrying the opposition (“Letters,” Jan. 5-11).

If MPUSD had engaged the nearby neighbors in meaningful dialog in the beginning, the current scenario might have been different. While I agree that students deserve good facilities, Monterey High is located in a densely populated neighborhood and residents there deserve the same consideration. Contrary to assertions by some writers, these neighbors are not newly arrived NIMBYs. Many of the residents closest to the school have lived there for decades. All of them bought into the charm of a local neighborhood, complete with a school, without lights.

CEQA is in place to ensure important guidelines and considerations are adhered to even when an applicant states “the local rules don’t apply to us.” The fact that the judge found the EIR so lacking is proof that CEQA is doing what it’s supposed to. *Tony Tollner | Monterey*