

# SAVE THE RIDGE!

## Pittsburg City Council Decision Still Threatens Pittsburg's Beautiful Ridgeline



### MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!

What can you do to **SAVE THE RIDGE?**  
Here are some steps you can take:

- ✓ **Sign up for our newsletter** and stay up-to-date on the latest: <https://bit.ly/savemountdiablo>
- ✓ **Sign the petition to SAVE THE RIDGE!**  
Go to: [bit.ly/savetheridge](https://bit.ly/savetheridge)
- ✓ **Attend Pittsburg City Council meetings**, which are at 7:00 PM on the first and third Monday of the month in the City Council Chambers (at the Pittsburg Civic Center at 65 Civic Avenue, Pittsburg, CA 94565).



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**JOIN US AND MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!  
TOGETHER, WE CAN SAVE THE RIDGE!**

# UPDATE: PITTSBURG CITY COUNCIL MAKES THE WRONG DECISION FOR PITTSBURG



## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN CONCORD?

In January 2023, the Concord City Council delayed another project—the Concord reuse project, on the other side of the ridge, which will ultimately develop part of the former weapons site (the new Thurgood Marshall Regional Park had previously been created on part of the Concord reuse project).

The council voted 3-2 to allow a term sheet—a draft of a contract for the project—with Concord First Partners, a consortium of developers that includes Seeno/Discovery Homes, to expire. Councilmembers Laura Hoffmeister, Laura Nakamura and Carlyn Obringer said they didn't trust Concord First Partners to develop the sprawling 2,275-acre site.

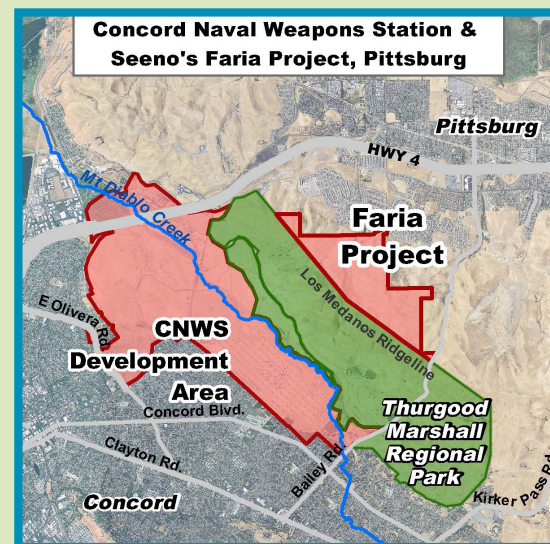
On September 19, 2023, the Concord City Council unanimously voted to approve an exclusive negotiating agreement (ENA) with a new Master Developer for the development area of the Concord reuse project. Meanwhile East Bay Regional Park District is getting closer to opening the first phase of Thurgood Marshall Regional Park.

In April, the Pittsburg City Council approved Seeno/Discovery Builders' 1,500-unit Faria project—a plan that was opposed by thousands of residents, environmentalists and the city Planning Commission, which recommended against the plan. The 1,500-unit Faria project would destroy part of the major ridgeline between Pittsburg and Concord.

On a 4-0 decision, with one member abstaining, the city council disregarded court challenges, community opposition and its Planning Commission's rejection of the project's master plan, an amended general plan and a development agreement with Faria Land Investors, an affiliate of Seeno/Discovery Builders.

The Pittsburg City Council has argued that residents want bad, hill-topping projects like Seeno's 1,500-house Faria project because Measure P was adopted in 2005. Measure P expanded the city's urban limit line and zoned some land for development outside the city limits. However, it also said that hillsides would be protected by making projects follow development standards, like reducing grading and not allowing dense development.

Yet, in the city council's approval of the Faria project, they twice deleted the City's own development standards and allowed for much more grading of Pittsburg's beautiful hills than would be allowed otherwise. The city council has repeatedly removed parts of



of the city's rules that require development to conform to the natural landscape. It's no surprise because the only way a massive project like Faria can happen is to level the hills and change the land itself to accommodate dense, extensive housing.

When Save Mount Diablo asked for just 45 days in which to negotiate to make the project less damaging—basically

to protect more of the ridge—the Pittsburg City Council refused. The ridge is one of the most beautiful landscape features in Pittsburg, and it should be protected.

Previously, in 2021, the city council approved an earlier version of the project despite opposition from residents. The approval was then challenged in court by Save Mount Diablo, and a judge ruled the city's environmental review had failed to properly analyze the project's effects on air quality, traffic and water.

Organizations such as the Greenbelt Alliance, the Audubon Society, Sierra Club and the Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission have all expressed concerns about the development.

Pittsburg residents deserve to have their hills protected, like so many other Bay Area communities already do. And they deserve the same access to the new Thurgood Marshall Regional Park (on the Concord Naval Weapons Station) that Concord residents will have.

Residents deserve answers, especially because Seeno's Faria project and its environmental review were so deficient that the project needed to be overturned. There's still no detailed subdivision map showing streets and roads, and the project's footprint remains unchanged—threatening neighboring Thurgood Marshall Regional Park and destroying Pittsburg's ridge.

The Pittsburg City Council needs to do what other communities in the Bay Area have already done—treat their hills as a public treasure, which increase property values and should be protected rather than flattened and paved over.

On April 17, 2023, the Pittsburg City Council approved a Master Plan for the Faria/Southwest Hills Annexation Project. (PITTSBURG CITY COUNCIL MEETING, 4/17/23)

MAYOR SHANELLE SCALES-PRESTON	COUNCILMEMBER JELANI KILLINGS	COUNCILMEMBER DIONNE ADAMS	COUNCILMEMBER ANGELICA LOPEZ	VICE MAYOR JUAN ANTONIO BANALES
"Aye"	"Aye"	"Aye"	"Aye"	"Abstain"

**CONTACT THE PITTSBURG CITY COUNCIL AND TELL THEM THAT THE FARIA PROJECT MUST BE CHANGED TO SAVE THE RIDGE.**