

From: Kevin Burke <kevin@burke.dev>
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2019 8:11 PM
To: General Plan <generalplan@cityofsanmateo.org>
Subject: Reject the idea that pro-housing people are profit driven

I paid \$36,000 in rent last year to rent a 900 square foot apartment near the San Mateo border in Belmont. The hot water didn't work consistently. \$36,000 is more than the mortgages + property tax bills of most of the homeowners who are most strongly against building new housing in the area. Most of them have seen close to 7% year over year increases in the value of their homes from San Mateo's severe zoning restrictions and the resulting unmet demand for housing. They've also managed to lock in their housing costs at a fixed rate for 30 years. The area's renters have no such luck; I spoke with one woman whose rent doubled in 4 years. She is over 50 and unlikely to change careers now.

I am one of the lucky ones, though - my friends and family that can't afford it have moved far away.

The idea that I'm in it "for the money" or motivated by Wall Street is ludicrous. I'd be happy if my landlord felt threatened enough by the idea of me moving out that he wanted to fix the hot water. It would be nice if my friends could afford to live here, in the metro region where they grew up. It would be great if people under 30 didn't have to move back in with their parents to afford to have kids.

Kevin