

From: Lisa Nash [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, June 26, 2019 2:37 PM
To: Julia Klein <jklein@cityofsanmateo.org>; General Plan <generalplan@cityofsanmateo.org>
Subject: Fwd: Public Comment on Tonight's June 26 General Plan Subcommittee Meeting

This is a revised version of my previous email. Please include this version in the public comment. Thank you.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Lisa Nash [REDACTED]
Date: Wed, Jun 26, 2019 at 2:34 PM
Subject: Public Comment on Tonight's June 26 General Plan Subcommittee Meeting
To: <jklein@cityofsanmateo.org>, <generalplan@cityofsanmateo.org>

I am unable to attend tonight's meeting. I would like to add my thoughts to tonight's Public Comment on the status of our San Mateo General Plan process. Thanks to all involved for your efforts to work together to create a vision and roadmap for San Mateo we all can be proud of.

I have attended several of the General Plan 2040 public pop up workshops, most recently the June 8th meeting. Highlights of the workshops for me included a sense of collaboration across diverse groups, the agreement that housing (especially affordable housing) should be a top priority for San Mateo, and an excitement that individuals were having their voices heard in the Strive San Mateo process. There was near consensus that there were a number of areas (along El Camino and Caltrain especially) that should be actively researched for future housing development. There also was an appreciation that our City can change and still maintain its special qualities we all appreciate.

To ensure the sustainability of the San Mateo General Plan 2040, I believe the following three principles also must be observed:

- 1) The San Mateo General Plan 2040 must prioritize how the City/County/State will, in parallel, build the infrastructure necessary to support the rapid growth in housing we are considering for our City. We cannot wait for housing plans to be completed before we talk about infrastructure. We must design housing and infrastructure together to be sustainable and successful. Isn't the whole point of a General Plan to look collectively at all the elements a city needs so that we create an attractive, sustainable vision for our city, and a concrete plan on how to get there?
- 2) We must ensure that the General Plan 2040 specifies how we are going to build truly affordable housing (the segment that is lacking) to give all groups of San Mateans the opportunity to live good lives here. The Plan should include innovative ways, such as creating land trusts for housing or offering rent subsidies (vs. rent caps) for our public servants, to enable truly affordable housing to be created in substantial numbers, not just token units that are overwhelmed by top dollar units that only raise living costs for everyone.
- 3) The San Mateo City Council must continue its leadership role in working with Sacramento to ensure that local governments retain control over our zoning and growth plans. San Mateo will, and should, step up to growth. We must, however, avoid a "one size fits all" top-down solution and, instead, design

sustainable growth so that San Mateo continues to grow as a destination city, as a hub of Silicon Valley and as a place where diverse people can live happy and productive lives.

Sincerely,
Lisa Diaz Nash

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Board Chair [Atma Connect](#)
VP and Board Director, [We Players](#)
Co-Captain, [Sister District Project CA Peninsula](#)

