

From: LKinsella [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 3, 2020 7:52 PM
To: General Plan <generalplan@cityofsanmateo.org>
Subject: Where is the affordable housing?

This Vision/General Plan update concept, as presently configured, is just a giveaway to STACK AND PACK developers.

WHERE IS THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING?

It's a game of bait and switch....ooh, we need more housing, because affordability is a major problem BUT no where do I see any nexus to solve the very real problem of affordable housing. And piecemeal, iterations of things like 10 units per 100 market rate won't do anything to solve the problem.

The majority of the City Council has been consciously, complicit in this process that is being run for and by business interests, like Bohannon and the rest of the local RE development companies, and the trade unions. Every local political needs union and business support to run for or stay in office, whether here, at the County level or...? I've been here for over 40 years and the same politics have been in play for that entire period.

Is it not obvious to you (the Council) that we will end up with stack and pack market rate housing, and like Wilson Meany did with Bay Meadows, the existing residents will be left having to fund the consequences, whether it's for school bond issues, public service shortages, infrastructure costs or traffic congestion. The consequences go on and on but the developers are gone and specifically, the problem of affordability will remain.

I would support affordable housing by Mid-Pen or some other affordable developer, but as is clear, the City is going to allow market rate stack and pack housing around the train stations, on the Eastside of San Mateo. And again, the problem of affordability will be exactly the same after they are built, but with the added funding issues they generate and the developer paying little to nothing of the actual costs for the resultant consequences of their market rate developments.

Elephant in the room, Caltrain ridership has been down for the last 3 years...even with their count adjustment to doing only mid-week counts.

IS it possible to make the above comments somehow part of the Vision/ General Plan update process?

Thanks,

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