

**From:** Jennifer Bock [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 17, 2022 2:35 PM  
**To:** General Plan <generalplan@cityofsanmateo.org>  
**Subject:** San Mateo city development plan

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to express my deep concerns about the 3 aggressive San Mateo growth plans proposed: one is for 30 %, another for 40 %, and a third one for 52 % growth. These are the highest growth rates for decades, and they do not take into account SB 9 and 10 or the voters expressed opinion regarding a call for slow growth in defeating measure Y.

Our city does not have the infrastructure in terms of water, roads, traffic etc to meet these aggressive growth proposals and implementing such a change will add to residents' traffic stress, increased transmissibility of respiratory contagions (witness the soaring cases of covid in New York City), exploit resources, and packing more people into San Mateo will threaten our citizens sense of sanctuary and community. (Witness the nightmare building frenzy in downtown Redwood City whose character was ruined by high rise buildings or the cookie cutter blight of homes in towns like Dublin, CA). Really ? Can't we do better ?

Why would we want to take a wrecking ball to the character of a town like San Mateo on the alter of meeting the state's inflated housing number demands ?

Likewise, the attitude that treasured, historical, single family neighborhoods such as Baywood and Aragon are 'out of date' is arrogant and deeply insulting to the people who chose to live in those neighborhoods because of their character and privacy.

Many of the residents in those specific neighborhoods have disproportionately given to the San Mateo community in terms of volunteer time commitments, professions, businesses, neighborhood stability, and paying large property taxes to the city of San Mateo. These people have serious 'skin in the game' and should not be insulted by city planners interested in affixing the latest sociological experiment upon these neighborhoods which have stood the test of time and are an asset to the community.

We have a beautiful community and proceeding with slow, thoughtful, respectful growth that preserves the character and history of our city is the way to proceed.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Bock Hughes, MD