

From: Laurie Hietter [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2022 4:00 PM
To: City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: Patrice Olds <polds@cityofsanmateo.org>; Drew Corbett <dcorbett@cityofsanmateo.org>
Subject: Comments on General Plan

Dear Council Members,

Please register my support for Alternative A for the General Plan. Alternatives B and C call for unprecedented growth that is unlikely to occur, given the ongoing trend to work from home for the tech industry, which has provided some of the highest levels of job growth.

The circulation options of a dedicated bus lane on El Camino are neither practical or needed. Bus ridership does not warrant making our traffic orders of magnitude worse for the vast majority who cannot rely on the limited bus service. This idea does not work on a 4 lane road that traverses many cities. The Burlingame section of El Camino has 4 lanes with physical constraints that will not allow widening.

I second the Baywood Neighborhood Association's comments that the RHNA numbers may be inaccurate. The State audit committee identified a significant problem in calculating numbers that are the basis of our General Plan. The State can punish the City if it fails to provide the ability to have the discredited number of housing units built. The City is expected to adopt policies through zoning and development incentive tools that the City has under its control to enable the RHNA numbers to occur. These rule changes are in anticipation of development, so the numbers we receive from the State profoundly impact our housing policy. We are being asked to change zoning regulations and other policies to accommodate a number that to me is completely unrealistic. San Mateo needs affordable housing, but the mandated numbers do nothing to ensure the housing is affordable. Consider limiting the new jobs in the City to ease the housing crunch.

The City is deficient in park space. We should not approve 30, 40, or 50% increases in housing when we are already deficient in park land, as well as water and abysmal traffic.

I also repeat my request for the City to conduct a historic survey of the City and adequately assess the historic assets as part of the General Plan process.

Thank you for your consideration.

Laurie Hietter
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