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From: Rick Ballard [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, September 13, 2022 4:00 PM

To: General Plan <generalplan@cityofsanmateo.org>

Subject: General Plan feedback for September 13th meeting

Regarding the draft circulation goals and policies, I am strongly in favor of circulation measures which put us on a trajectory to reduce car use in San Mateo over time, improve public transit, and ensure safe and welcoming urban design for pedestrian and bicycles. Reducing car use is critical for climate, public safety, and public health; the electric transition is required but not sufficient for climate goals and does not address the public safety impact of cars.

Regarding policies around historic preservation, I encourage the commission to be mindful to employ balanced historic preservation requirements so as not to block much-needed housing and transit-oriented development. Some neighborhood character (specifically with regard to community density) may need to change in order to appropriately add housing throughout the city. Additionally, as the owner of a historic house myself which needs work including a foundation replacement, I find the current regulations around carefully protecting the facade and public character of the house appropriate and not burdensome; but adding new regulations should be done carefully so as not to prevent these kinds of important projects.

Regarding noise policies, while community noise levels are important to protect, I would encourage the commission to be mindful to structure policy requirements so as to avoid placing an undue burden of planning process on housing and transit development, and to avoid providing more avenues for a minority of community members to hold up development projects unfairly. But noise levels are an important part of community health and should be controlled appropriately.

Regarding the water supply policies PS-A2.1 and PS-A2.2, specific promotion of greywater initiatives might be warranted.

Thank you,

- Rick Ballard

North-Central San Mateo resident