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Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2023 1:41 PM
To: General Plan <generalplan@cityofsanmateo.org>
Subject: General Plan

Committee Members,

I have come to the realization that no matter what San Mateo citizens express as a valid concern, they are not listened to or acted upon because you are intent to implement your general plan. The density and congestion that has already been accomplished as you build up whole blocks into massive buildings gives us a glimpse into what is to come; more density and unbelievable congestion.

Although this plans falls under the mandate for more affordable housing, the absence of building new schools to absorb our growing population is frightening. This lack of foresight is alarming since it means that classrooms will be "congested," teachers will be overloaded, and learning might be compromised because of the multitude of students in a classroom. What are your plans to overcome this possibility?

Additionally, the addition of so many more people results in traffic congestion. For example, the "tunnel of homes" off Norfolk has one main street funneling onto Norfolk. What has resulted is congestion, delays, and the need for great patience as cars inch their way to the freeway. Third, Fourth and Fifth avenues's gateway to 101 are also congested from the many sun-blocking and whole block long buildings being built in our once quaint downtown area. Thinking that these new residents and/or employees will use Cal Train for transportation is simply ignorant.

One of my biggest concerns, however, is the lack of medical staffing for our growing population. Trying to find a primary doctor is a challenge, and accessing labs for a blood draw or a urinalysis has now created an "appointment only" venue with too often a long wait to have the work accomplished. There are not enough doctors to accommodate this population expansion. The general plan has fallen short when it came to the vision of our medical future.

A congestion of traffic, a density of housing, a lack of schools and teachers, a need for medical doctors and facilities, a blocking of sun in the downtown area, and the continuation of building are a multi-faceted cause of alarm. Any comments or voiced concern is met with a nod and the harsh reality that the general plan will continue to unfold.

How very sad this is.

Maureen Zane
A resident of San Mateo for 34 years