

From: Peter Mandle [REDACTED]

Sent: Saturday, April 1, 2023 6:57 PM

To: General Plan <generalplan@cityofsanmateo.org>; Patrice Olds <polds@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Subject: General Plan

To: Honorable Members of the San Mateo City Council,

This note (1) repeats my March 3 email requesting that the City Council allow Measure Y to remain unchanged recognizing that it was supported by the majority of City's voters two years ago despite the well-funded efforts of the opposition outside interests and developers, (2) request that any changes or challenges to Measure Y occur through a ballot initiative, and (3) the City avoid the trouble and cost of a community survey due the questionable reliability of such a survey as any statistician will vouch.

1. Allow Measure Y to remain unchanged. Measure Y allows sufficient housing to be developed in the City while achieving other community goals. With Measure Y housing can and will be located in sites providing excellent access to transit. Voiding Measure Y and allowing 10- to 12-storey buildings will forever change the character of our City.

2. Require any changes or challenges to occur through a ballot. It is disheartening to see the opponents of Measure Y once again try to circumvent the democratic process. Two years ago the opponents were able to unfairly introduce Measure R with the aid of the then City Council members. The opponents spent millions opposing Measure Y, using TV advertisements, numerous slick mailings, and other media to publish their views. With the aid of high-paid consultants, they published lies about Measure Y, including implying that Measure R provided housing for First Responders, unlike Measure Y which was patently false. The efforts of the opponents were largely funded by developers, outside interests, and non-residents. In comparison Measure Y was truly a grassroots effort, with supporters, who were local residents, walking door-to-door and speaking with their neighbors. I hope you will recall the numerous lawn signs supporting Measure Y and the scarcity of signs supporting Measure R. It was a David versus Goliath effort, and despite the odds David and the local residents won.

I sincerely hope you do not overrule the residents who voted for Measure Y and side with the well-funded developers, outside interests, and their slick agents and lobbyists.

3. Avoid a community survey. Any qualified surveyor can "cook" the results of a survey by defining how questions are asked, what questions are included, and how the sampling is conducted, particularly if it is conducted on-line. If those overseeing a community survey have a specific objective and communicate this objective to the surveyor that they have engaged, I am confident the results will reflect the stated objective. If an accurate survey is desired, I hope that the City staff and City Council will distance themselves from the process and have an intermediary acceptable to both the pro Measure Y and anti Measure Y factions oversee the survey. Otherwise the results will be and should be challenged. Better yet, avoid the community survey and rely upon the ballot box to guide City Council actions.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Sincerely,
Peter Mandle

