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Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 1:42 PM
To: City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Richard Hedges <rhedges@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Amourence Lee <alee@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Building Heights/ CITY COUNDEL MIEETING 4/3/2023

As a longtime resident who fought many years ago with the Beresford Hillsdale neighborhood association, and other San Mateo neighborhood associations along side Gary Yates, in the early 90's to keep building heights in check in the city of San Mateo through Measure H, and later Measure P, it's extremely discouraging to see that the present City Mayor, who obviously was not present in these important topics back then, intends to reopen this misguided matter. She also most probably does not know of the residents' and small business owners' fight to keep rampant development from engulfing Bay Meadows Phase I and Phase II in the early 2000's.

Ironically, all of the combined efforts of the City government and developers usually begin their persuasion of the public with the noble declaration that we need more affordable housing for all no matter which building project they were proposing. The affordable housing argument was a sham. The units, apartments, condos subsequently built were never **really** affordable no matter what the time period in which they were built.

The development of bigger and higher edifices have, and will, continue to cause chaos on our present infrastructure—whether it be for our congested transportation, sewer or electrical systems and grids. We see what the results of an electrical system run by an inept company has produced this winter. We see the conditions of our roads, levies and waterways where Public money can be better spent to improve. The repetition of saying, “this is the worst winter ever”, doesn't placate a public who knows that keeping everything repaired, renovated and run responsibly should be one of the top priorities of governments—not how many buildings we can squeeze into suburbs which have now become as sprawling as big cities, and have lowered the quality of life for all.

We also see some of the recently erected buildings beginning to have vacancies (Genentech's South San Francisco letting off a good number of employees). Our local city governments who proclaim to be helping out its lower to middle class citizens have instead catered to the tech industry in an unbalanced and insincere way.

Acting upon ideologies without good, competent knowledge and experience of “how things work” will end up in bad and even sometimes “selfish” decisions?

Height measures should be reduced, not increased.

georgette guerra
San Mateo