

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2023 9:04 PM

To: General Plan <generalplan@cityofsanmateo.org>; Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>

Subject: Additional Thoughts about the future of my city

My name is Rick Karr and live at [REDACTED] and bought my home in 6/1983. I was born in Mills Hospital so basically you can label me an ORIGINAL

I wrote a piece yesterday and felt compelled to put a few more thoughts to paper

I have attended meetings for many years

In essence I have been fighting for a solid 55 foot height limit and our side has won several votes but the powerful money interests and certain members of the current and past city councils have ignored the election and our wishes. The current planning commissioner EBETNER is a disgrace to the voters and seems to approve ALMOST any and all building applications. So hence much of the city east of the Railroad tracks between 5th Avenue to First avenue has been leveled and replaced with huge building facilities to accommodate those who want more housing.

These structures look like these COMMUNIST STONE structures I have seen in East Germany and the eastern block. Instead of putting retail at the bottom of many of the structures, the buildings have residences which reduces the available locations for local residents there to go shopping.

Congratulations Mr Ebetner for copying Communist architecture design. I do not doubt the buildings are up to code. These buildings near the RR lines will lead to legal battles as some residents will complain that passing trains are causing a lack of sleep or wake them up. Then the CITY OF SAN MATEO will be forced to pay out thousands of dollars. It may not have happened yet but it will. Can we send you MR EBETNER the bill for the litigation????

Bottom line is that our fine city is being held captive by big builders and developers who are in concert with builders (thank you Mr BONILLA)...I do not like or approve of all of this change and building..I do like remodels if it is kept to under 55 feet and the two buildings at the corner of West Third and El Camino were well done. So now we have more applications and approved plans which most people in San Mateo do not want.

The infrastructure costs for more sewage pipes, water systems, electrification, and police requirements have dramatically increased. Instead of forcing these new buildings to pay for dedicated sewage lines all the way to the sewage facility, they merely hook up in front of their new driveway and we the tax payers are stuck with more sewage and water treatment costs. Did anyone in the planning commission ever discuss this or consider how to access more fees from the builders/ developers to be responsible for all of this ???NO because no one cares or takes this into consideration

When are the PRO GROWTH members going to STOP???I assume never so we the tax payers who really are not happy with this huge transformation of our city of SAN MATEO are stuck with this final horrible product. Developments are never torn down and returned to the state they used to be. So we are stuck with this so called PROGRESS

So what can we suggest to the city council??? Board of Supervisors?? Governor???

A moratorium on any new building projects

A new path to force developers to pay for all sewage, electric (must be underground), water lines, 5 G structures, and roads if necessary..

Also fines to developers for any work stoppages more than two weeks which mean FINES and also forced insurance policies to prevent work stoppages so that disasters or fiascos like the we now have at third and Fremont will not happen again,,,

I know Mr EBETNER has been well paid to approve these many projects and want him removed from COMMISSIONER i want this commissioner to be voted on by the voting population of San Mateo

I will now rest my words

Rick Karr ,,,.