

From: linda lara <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, October 2, 2023 2:34 PM
To: City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: [REDACTED] San Mateo Heritage Alliance <info@smheritage.org>
Subject: Tonight's CC Meeting - 10/2/23

Dear City Council Members, City Manager and other city leaders,

Regarding this evenings meeting about Draft General Plan 2040, please consider my thoughts as a long time resident of San Mateo since 1961. My daughter is now a 45 year resident of our city, with 3 children of her own. Generations of families live, work and play in our city and are creating their own history here.

My comments in particular are about Historic Resources and maintaining them throughout our city either residentially, or commercially.

Sadly, the City of San Mateo over many years has done little to preserve and maintain our historic resources and contributions made to our city and county by these historic resources.

I'm not sure when the seemingly disregard for history began in our city, but in my estimation the first mistake was moving City Hall out of downtown to its present location.

Little by little history is disappearing.

Bay Meadows Race Track was a large contributor to the city and county of San Mateo, and to the best of my knowledge has received no historic recognition to date.

Not only did they provide decades of revenue, they also provided jobs, recreation, sports and entertainment.

Bay Meadows also remained open during WWII and contributed nearly 4 million dollars in war effort and hundreds of thousands of dollars to emergency war relief, veterans hospitals, wounded soldier funds, bay area army and navy bases etc.

None of this seems to be acknowledged at the current Bay Meadows developments or anywhere throughout our city.

In your plans for the future of this city, please, please do not erase it's past.

Please find a way to embrace, promote, identify and tell the stories of our past history.

I am aware that the Ching Lee Laundry at 1st and Claremont has received a plaque and recognition. I do hope these efforts will continue throughout San Mateo.

No one person should ever forget their beginnings, who they are, where they came from, how they grew and developed to who they are now. Nor should a city, county, state or country.

Thank you for your time, thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

Linda Slocum Lara
San Mateo Drive

San Mateo

