

Somer Smith

From: Victoria Langenheim [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2023 7:46 PM
To: General Plan; City Council (San Mateo)
Subject: Building heights and density

Dear City council and planners

I have had the great fortune to have lived in San Mateo for the past 28 years and am disappointed that I was not able to participate in the recent building heights survey. My neighborhood means a lot to me because of the lovely homes, neighborly feel, proximity to the quaint 25th Avenue business district, and relative abundance of trees (still could be better!). I realize that the state of California has mandates for increased housing but I feel VERY strongly that the very attributes that make this city hospitable and lovely to live in will not be sustainable if we build too fast and too dense. I do NOT support non-residential buildings that exceed Measure Y limits in height nor do I wish to see our 25th Avenue become a homogenous canyon surrounded by tall apartment buildings with brand name retail on the first floor. I really wish to preserve our predominantly single-family home neighborhoods that are served by the homey small businesses that populate our local business district.

Furthermore there is no reason to go beyond the state-mandated requirements for additional housing set by the state of California. Frankly this seems like a great gift to deep-pocketed developers that not only line their pockets at the expense of folks who need affordable homes but also is unsustainable financially or environmentally. By the way shouldn't there be a minimum of one tree for each unit in these complexes? Not much of an urban forest if it's just all condos and concrete!

So here is my input and I hope it is noted.

Thank you
Victoria Langenheim
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