

Somer Smith

From: Christine Ritzo [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2023 11:15 AM
To: City Council (San Mateo); General Plan
Subject: Building and population limits

October 11, 2023

Dear Council Members,

I appreciate you taking time to represent San Mateo and hope you will take into consideration my comments in relation to future growth decisions for our city.

It has come to my attention that there should have been an opportunity for us to participate in building heights surveys as they will directly affect the quality of life in my neighborhood. This did not happen.

I have owned a home in District 5 for the past 33 years. My children and I were born at Mills Hospital, San Mateo, as was my father nearly 100 years ago. Needless to say my family has witnessed significant change in the community.

Overbuilding and overcrowding has been the more recent trend. What is actually desired and needed is a plan to add support services that can contribute to a positive, quiet suburban lifestyle which we desired when purchasing a home in San Mateo.

District 5 is impacted more by taller buildings than other districts in San Mateo.

I do not support buildings that are predominantly non-residential. I do not support buildings over 5 stories. We currently have an excess of these types of buildings and they are nowhere nearly filled.

I do not support Measure Y limits in height.

I am writing to support the preservation of single-family home neighborhoods. This includes the small business and retail model that compliments these neighborhoods.

Please take into consideration the cost for services needed already to support growth incurred in the past two decades. For example, police services have not been increased since the creation of the Bay Meadows residential community. Crime has risen though. The homeless population has risen to an unchecked extent. San Mateo residents can't sit comfortably at our own bus stops any longer because of transients being allowed to

sleep in them. Try walking down El Camino and not notice lack of cleanliness in this most public area. Let's take care of our current population before adding more.

This is our community. It's your responsibility to tell the State what is needed and not simply conform to their mandates. From my understanding only maximum development plans were reviewed. Please always look at minimized options.

As our elected officials it is your responsibility to plan for the quiet suburban lifestyle we want. If people want a big city living experience they can move to a big city. Leave San Mateo and District 5 out of this.

Sincerely,

Christine Ritzo