

From: MAUREEN FRESCHET <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, October 30, 2023 3:51 PM
To: Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Richard Hedges <rhedges@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: Patrice Olds <polds@cityofsanmateo.org>
Subject: Please vote No on the General Plan

Dear Lisa, Rob and Rich,

I am writing to urge you to reject the new General Plan Update. I have a number of concerns with the Plan as presented for approval. From my perspective, the plan appears to ignore important height and density limits included in the voter approved Measure Y. It also doesn't provide details on how our city will pay for the increased infrastructure needs that go hand in hand with new developments. Our City is already stretched financially with significant unmet infrastructure needs, so we cannot ignore how increased growth will impact the bottom line for our city and our taxpaying residents. We must understand those costs and have a plan for funding those needs moving forward.

A General Plan needs to be balanced and address the needs of all our residents not just the needs of those who have yet to live here or special interest groups. It needs to take into consideration the quality of life in our city, the importance of maintaining the character of our many unique neighborhoods, traffic flow, and critical infrastructure needs both present and future. We all realize the need for more affordable housing, but is building to the maximum allowed going to achieve that goal, especially if it comes at a potentially significant cost to our current residents?

Unfortunately, our state legislators continue to pass laws that dictate how cities manage growth. Growth is not one-size-fits-all and each time the state imposes new housing requirements, important decision making is taken away from local governments where it belongs. With this in mind, it is even more important to consider the impact new laws, such as AB1287, may have on future development in on our city and adjust the General Plan accordingly keeping those impacts in mind.

Sadly, most of our residents do not have the time to participate in the General Plan meetings. Instead they look to those they elected to represent their interests, to honor voter approved measures, to protect their neighborhoods, their quality of life, and make decisions that consider current and future conditions, while making every effort to avoid scenarios that may result in negative impacts such as increased tax liabilities.

I believe the consistent message from residents is that they do not want maximum growth, but more measured, balanced growth and this General Plan draft does not appear to be in sync with this message. I know a great deal of work has gone into developing this plan, but please, let's make it a "win-win" for everyone. I think this can be achieved and urge you to give careful consideration before approving.

Thank you for your service and for your consideration of my comments.

Kindest regards,

Maureen Freschet

A handwritten signature in black ink, written in a cursive style, that reads "Maureen". The signature is positioned below the typed name.