

From: weller323 [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 30, 2023 10:01 AM
To: City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>
Subject: SM General Plan

Dear City Council Members,

There remains much confusion and an unknown future in terms of the needs for a 2040 General Plan for San Mateo.

***What is REALLY necessary to meet housing requirements given the new housing laws passed this year?

***California is losing population, making predicted housing needs unreliable.

***Why have the initial drafts for the General Plan always chosen the maximum growth option when medium and low growth alternatives were options?

Ironic that the high density population planned for downtown San Mateo and the Hillsdale area, people will have to get in their cars just to buy groceries---"progressive urban planning" at its worst! Although Draeger's MAY return to a smaller space in the proposed new building, it is a high end grocery for the low income shopper. Lots of talk about less reliance on cars, but the reality of San Mateo's development tells another story---it has been all about tear down and build, build, build without regard to the need for infrastructure, increased traffic, wind tunnel affects of high building downtown blocks, already plenty of empty office space, convenient access to basic needs such as groceries, etc. And, a token nod for low income housing, requiring only the minimum from developers.

City planners, the Planning Commission, real estate interests and developers seem eager to tip San Mateo into a high density, characterless suburban "nothing community." I urge you, the City Council, the ultimate decision makers for our city, to take a thoughtful approach before approving more high density for San Mateo.

Sincerely,
Nancy Weller