



City of San Mateo
City Council Meeting

POST PACKET

PUBLIC COMMENT

Historic Preservation is NOT a Priority

From Alex Miller <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 1/20/2025 1:10 AM

To Rob Newsom <[REDACTED]>; Adam Loraine <[REDACTED]>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <[REDACTED]>; Nicole Fernandez <[REDACTED]>; Lisa Diaz Nash <[REDACTED]>; City Mgr <[REDACTED]>; City Council (San Mateo) <[REDACTED]>; Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed \$500,000 expenditure for historic preservation consultants coming to vote on January 21st.

With a \$10.6M deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure projects, this spending makes no sense. Our Central Park Playground is closed, MLK Rec Center is in shambles, and other community facilities are deteriorating.

This project, pushed by a preservationist special interest group, appears designed to block development and create more red tape. Similar efforts in Baywood were opposed 9-to-1 by residents. It would effectively undermine Measure T's housing progress and put huge burdens on homeowners and eventually increase rental prices as well.

Please prioritize our critical infrastructure needs over creating new bureaucratic barriers. Our community needs functional parks and facilities, not more development restrictions.

These historical preservation efforts do not reflect my priorities and I oppose them.

Sincerely,
-Alex

Urgent Appeal: SAY NO to the \$500K Historic RFP

From Adi Rathore <[REDACTED]>

Date Sun 1/19/2025 4:27 PM

To Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear Honorable Mayor Newsom and City Council Members,

I am writing regarding the proposed \$500,000 Historic Resources RFP. As a San Mateo resident, I have several serious concerns:

Financial Impact:

- City faces \$10.6M budget deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure needs
- \$500,000 could be better spent on deteriorating parks and facilities
- Less than 0.03% of San Mateo's 101,327 residents are driving this expensive initiative

Community Opposition & Consensus:

- In Baywood, 9 out of 10 residents weighing in oppose historic districting
- No broad community consensus exists for such a consequential decision
- City has conducted no community outreach to determine if this is a citywide priority

Legal Concerns:

- JMBM Attorneys warn of permanent, irreversible consequences in this RFP format
- Historical context statement with potential for CEQA obligations
- Potential impacts exceed those of general plan or zoning changes
- Council is putting the cart before the horse - community outreach should precede signing this RFP

Alternative Solution:

- Implement staff-driven community engagement process
- Focus on voluntary participation rather than mandatory impositions
- Develop consent-driven historic preservation ordinance
- Prioritize infrastructure benefiting all residents

I urge you to vote NO on this \$500,000 RFP and instead support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
Adi Rathore



Strong Opposition to Wasteful Spending on Historic Preservation Consultants

From Jeffrey Bidzos <[REDACTED]>

Date Sun 1/19/2025 7:11 PM

To Rob Newsom <[REDACTED]>; Adam Loraine <[REDACTED]>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <[REDACTED]>; Nicole Fernandez <[REDACTED]>; Lisa Diaz Nash <[REDACTED]>; City Mgr <[REDACTED]>; City Council (San Mateo) <[REDACTED]>; Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Members of the City Council,

As a long-time Baywood resident raising a family in San Mateo, I strongly oppose the proposed \$500,000 expenditure for historic preservation consultants coming to vote on January 21st.

For seven years, I've watched as our Central Park Playground has deteriorated and the MLK Rec Center has fallen into disrepair. Meanwhile, wealthy homeowners in Baywood pour millions into renovating their mansions, while families like mine, who have lived and contributed to this community for years, are priced out of ever owning a home. It's despicable to see this council prioritize the interests of preservationist special interests over the working class.

With a \$10.6M budget deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure projects, this spending is a slap in the face. This proposal is nothing more than an effort to block development, burden homeowners, and ultimately raise rental prices. Similar efforts were opposed 9-to-1 in Baywood for good reason—they do nothing to benefit our community.

San Mateo needs functional parks and facilities, not bureaucratic barriers that appease the wealthy at the expense of everyone else. I urge you to reject this wasteful spending and focus on the real needs of our city.

J. Bidzos
Baywood



NO to 'Historic' Survey RFP

From Sue Blockstein <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 1/20/2025 9:42 PM

To Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

I feel that the City should NOT be spending this large amount of money given the \$10.6 M budget shortfall. I want to see the money go to parks, street improvements for pedestrian and bicyclist safety, and to repair local streets which are in awful condition.

Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district.

I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents.

Sincerely,

Sue Blockstein

[REDACTED]



Outlook

Please vote no on Historic RFP agenda item 10; engage community instead

From Rick Ballard <[REDACTED]>**Date** Tue 1/21/2025 10:27 AM**To** Rob Newsom <[REDACTED]>; Adam Loraine <[REDACTED]>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <[REDACTED]>; Nicole Fernandez <[REDACTED]>; Lisa Diaz Nash <[REDACTED]>; City Mgr <[REDACTED]>; City Council (San Mateo) <[REDACTED]>; Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Dear City Council,

I'm writing to ask you to oppose the adoption of the Historic Resources RFP in tonight's agenda item #10.

San Mateo's most historic and beautiful properties already have the appropriate protections. The city's heritage is not in danger. A vocal but tiny minority has asked you to act as if it is, but they do not represent the city. As evidence of their misalignment with the community, note that the extensive proposal for Baywood historic designation was, in the end, opposed by 90% of Baywood owners. This RFP is at odds with the priorities and desires of your constituents.

Spending more money on studying this issue is a waste of important city dollars. It's also dangerous. It opens the door to abuse of CEQA by that well-financed minority, who can afford to hire private lawyers to bully property owners and developers who don't bend to their whims. Members of that minority have already demonstrated their willingness to "go vigilante" on historic preservation, instead of trusting our city planning staff, who are already working hard to make sure that real historic resources have the appropriate protections. City planning takes preservation of our real historic resources seriously and does not need the intrusion of wealthy private community members armed with new legal avenues for control.

There are other ways, which do not raise such legal concerns, to encourage and support the caretaking of our historic resources. I know others have written in with suggestions. Please choose an alternative approach to supporting the historic portion of our housing element. Community outreach would be a good start to determine what to do. If even minor traffic safety improvements warrant lengthy community engagement, something this consequential certainly does.

Thank you,
- Rick Ballard
San Mateo Resident, district 2



URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP

From Rustard Mustard <[REDACTED]>

Date Tue 1/21/2025 8:51 AM

To Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>

Cc Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Alex Khojikian <akhojikian@cityofsanmateo.org>; Prasanna Rasiah <prasiah@cityofsanmateo.org>; Zachary Dahl <z Dahl@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I strongly implore you to **REJECT** the proposed Historic Resources Request For Proposals on tonight's agenda.

There is a \$10.6M budget shortfall.

This is absolutely **NOT any type of priority if 9 to 1 Baywood residents are against** the proposal of making their neighborhood a historic district. It is my strongly held belief that, once informed, all San Mateo residents would reject this proposal.

Mayor Newsom wants fiscal responsibility. So Council step up to the plate and **put an end to this divisive chaos** that you will be continuing to instigate. Instead find a way to solve the deficit.

Once again, **VOTE NO** on the Historic Request for Proposals.

Sincerely,

Dr. Suzanne Bonilla
San Mateo Resident



Urgent Appeal: SAY NO to the \$500K Historic RFP

From PETER BORDEN <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 1/20/2025 8:10 PM

To Rob Newsom <[REDACTED]>; Adam Loraine <[REDACTED]>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <[REDACTED]>; Nicole Fernandez <[REDACTED]>; Lisa Diaz Nash <[REDACTED]>; City Mgr <[REDACTED]>; City Council (San Mateo) <[REDACTED]>; Clerk <[REDACTED]>

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I urge you to vote NO on this \$500,000 RFP and instead support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
Peter Borden



Sent from my iPhone



Outlook

Historic Preservation is not a Priority

From Mary Burns <[REDACTED]>**Date** Sun 1/19/2025 6:59 PM**To** Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

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Please prioritize our critical infrastructure needs over creating new bureaucratic barriers. Our community needs functional parks and facilities, not more development restrictions.

These historical preservation efforts do not reflect my priorities and I oppose them.

Sincerely,
Mary Burns

Sent from my iPhone



Outlook

Historic Preservation is not a Priority

From Kyle Cameron <[REDACTED]>**Date** Sun 1/19/2025 9:58 PM**To** Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

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These historical preservation efforts do not reflect my priorities and I oppose them.

Sincerely,
Kyle, Baywood Resident



Historic Preservation is not a Priority

From Rosa Chairez <[REDACTED]>

Date Tue 1/21/2025 9:02 AM

To Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

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These historical preservation efforts do not reflect my priorities and I oppose them.

Sincerely,

[Name]

Evelia Chairez

Sent from my iPhone



Outlook

Historic districts - Historic RFP OPPOSE

From Albert Chang <[REDACTED]>**Date** Sun 1/19/2025 8:29 AM**To** Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear San Mateo City Council,

Thank you so much for your dedication to our city and hard work. It is a thankless job and I appreciate your efforts. Nevertheless, I believe that the RFP under consideration could create historic districts throughout the City, without owner consent. We want to see San Mateo thrive, and establishing arbitrary hurdles to remodels and new construction, will not help us evolve and thrive.

Please do not support any actions to establish more historical districts. Vote no on the proposed Historic consultant RFP. This is not a priority for San Mateo. Thank you for the opportunity to comment and for your dedication.

Thank you,

--

Albert Chang
[REDACTED]



Outlook

Historic Preservation is not a Priority

From nivedita chowdhury <[REDACTED]>**Date** Mon 1/20/2025 7:07 AM**To** Rob Newsom <[REDACTED]>; Adam Loraine <[REDACTED]>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <[REDACTED]>; Nicole Fernandez <[REDACTED]>; Lisa Diaz Nash <[REDACTED]>; City Mgr <[REDACTED]>; City Council (San Mateo) <[REDACTED]>; Clerk <[REDACTED]>

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Please prioritize our critical infrastructure needs over creating new bureaucratic barriers. Our community needs functional parks and facilities, not more development restrictions.

These historical preservation efforts do not reflect my priorities and I oppose them.

Sincerely,
Niv Chowdhury



Outlook

Concerning Pursuit of Historical Districts

From Jonathan Chun <[REDACTED]>**Date** Sun 1/19/2025 7:53 PM**To** City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear City of San Mateo,

As a resident not affected by the baywood historic district directly I am still appalled by the amount of money the city wants to spend on such an endeavor. There are so many other deserving projects in our city that would not make it even more difficult to develop housing. Please do not waste that money on consultants for a historic district.

Jonathan Chun



Outlook

Baywood Aragon Resident Opposing the Baywood Historic Designation

From Brent Cohn <[REDACTED]>**Date** Tue 1/21/2025 5:33 AM**To** City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>

Hi San Mateo City Council & Council Member Nash,

As a resident and homeowner in the Baywood-Aragon neighborhood, I am writing in to note my opposition to the Baywood historic district. I cannot attend the council meeting tonight, but I hope that my voice will be heard by my elected representative, Council Member Nash, and the entire Council. Creating this historic district will impede solving the major problems facing our community: the housing crisis, climate change, and economic empowerment for the city. Personally speaking, as the father of two young children, I am disappointed that our council is debating & spending our tax dollars considering this matter while the Central Park playground has been shuttered for months. It is my children's favorite playground, and I would love to see us focus on reopening the playground soon rather than consider divisive matters that do nothing to address our community's problems.

Thank you for reading my note.

All the best,
Brent Cohn & family



Historic Preservation

From Chris Cooper <[REDACTED]>
Date Sun 1/19/2025 9:53 AM
To City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

January 19, 2025

City Council
City of San Mateo
330 W. 20th Avenue
San Mateo, CA 94403

SUBJECT: Support for Context Study and Historic Preservation Ordinance Update

Dear Mayor Newsom and City Council Members,

I am writing to express my strong support for the approval of the proposed scope of work to prepare a context study and update the City's historic preservation ordinance. As a resident of San Mateo for nearly 25 years, I have witnessed firsthand how our community's history is an essential part of what makes our city unique. The current historic preservation ordinance, dating back to 1993, and the 1989 Historic Building Survey are outdated and insufficient for our rapidly growing city. Updating both is critical to preserving the city's rich legacy while accommodating future development.

The Importance of a Context Study

- **Cost-Effective and Efficient:** A context study provides a cost-effective alternative to surveying each historic property individually. It offers a comprehensive understanding of our city's historic assets at a fraction of the cost.
- **Framework for Preservation:** The study will provide the necessary foundation to establish a citywide understanding of our historic resources, which will guide future preservation efforts and development decisions.
- **Informed Policy:** The findings of the context study will directly influence the revision of the preservation ordinance, ensuring it accurately reflects the current state of our historic resources and guides effective policy-making.
- **Strategic Planning:** By identifying the type, quantity, and location of historic resources, the study will enable informed decisions that balance the need for growth with the importance of preserving our heritage.

The Necessity of Updating the Historic Preservation Ordinance

- **Cultural and Economic Benefits:** As the current ordinance notes, preserving our history is not only a matter of nostalgia—it enhances the cultural, economic, and aesthetic value of our community.

- **Clear Criteria for Preservation:** An updated ordinance will establish clear criteria and processes for designating and protecting historic districts, something our current framework lacks. For example, it does not include the new Yoshiko Yamanouchi House Historic District or the upcoming Baywood Historic District.
- **Legal Protection:** The updated ordinance will provide a legal framework that enables the city to recognize, protect, and manage historic resources, ensuring they are properly considered in development reviews.

Misinformation about Historic Districts

There is considerable misinformation surrounding the concept of historic districts, particularly regarding their impact on homeowners. From my own experience, historic districts provide homeowners with the ability to manage and invest in their properties as they see fit, without unnecessary restrictions. Far from inhibiting property improvement, these districts enhance our ability to protect and invest in the unique aspects of our homes. Moreover, historic districts help preserve the features of our neighborhoods that contribute to their charm and appeal, fostering a sense of community that would otherwise be lost in the face of unchecked development. The benefits of historic districts extend beyond individual properties, creating a collective sense of pride and shared heritage.

The Urgency of Action

- **Time-Sensitive:** Over three decades have passed since significant action was taken on historic preservation in San Mateo. Delaying further will only increase costs and risks losing more of our heritage.
- **Resource Allocation:** As budget constraints may become more pressing, acting now will allow us to make the most of existing funds for maximum impact.

Balancing Historic Preservation with Housing Needs

- **Compatibility with Modern Needs:** Historic properties and districts can support modern housing solutions such as accessory dwelling units (ADUs), expansions, and remodels. Preservation can complement, rather than hinder, urban development.
- **Selective Designation:** The criteria for historic designation are rigorous, ensuring that only significant structures or neighborhoods are protected, which does not impede the development of new housing where appropriate.

In conclusion, the time to act is now to preserve San Mateo's history while facilitating thoughtful growth. Approving the proposed scope of work will protect our past and enrich our future. I urge you to support this important initiative for the benefit of San Mateo's residents and cultural heritage.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your favorable response.

Sincerely,
Chris Cooper



Kevin & Lisa Cullinane



Subject: Cancellation of \$500K Historic RFP for Baywood District

Dear Honorable Council Members,

As residents of Baywood and the City of San Mateo for over 35 years we are strongly opposed to any funds being spent on studying or creating a Historic District for the Baywood area. As some of you know we not only live in San Mateo but have done business in this City for over 35 years, operating SC Properties, a Real Estate Brokerage and Management company headquartered in Downtown San Mateo since 1996.

Having renovated and/or developed over \$750M of projects over this time we can tell you that we have seen the City of San Mateo go from one of the most efficient, development friendly cities in San Mateo County, to one of the worst.

Adding a restrictive component to the already strained and arduous process of getting the City Planning and Building departments to process and provide a building permit will only make matters worse. For anyone to say otherwise is just untrue. While we won't detail it in this letter we know of at least 3 recent projects (one being in the Glazenwood Historic District) that took anywhere from 9 -12 months to just get planning approval (then in one case another 7 months to get a permit). Most of these projects were assigned to "Contract Planners", with minimal knowledge and/or experience. In most cases they became an obstacle rather than facilitator to that applicants' project, which should never be the case.

We can say with 100% certainty that prior to 2014 working with the Planning & Building staff in San Mateo was a wonderful experience. They made every effort to help move the project forward by being available for meetings and responding to questions quickly and expertly. Moreover, staff saw themselves as advocates for the applicants' project and made every effort to help them and their consultants provide what was required to move the project forward in an expeditious manner.

For the Council to even consider funding an RFP for something that is so clearly an overreach by a small group of residents defies common sense. We have confirmed with my immediate neighbors ([REDACTED])

[REDACTED] that none of them are in favor of the Historic District. From what we understand that is the case in other areas of Baywood.

We understand the importance of preserving our Historic properties. We own and/or manage several Historic properties in San Mateo County and have made every effort to maintain them in a way that honors that heritage. If there are some historic properties in the Baywood area we are in favor of identifying those homes and working to preserve those specific properties. That is a more reasonable and sensible path.

For a Historic District to be put into place for all Baywood is akin to using a shotgun to kill a fly. Please reconsider your position on this matter and move to reject the RFP currently being considered. We are sure our already strained city budget can use the \$500K in a more useful manner.

Respectfully,

[REDACTED]
Kevin & Lisa Cullinane



Outlook

01/21/2025 Agenda item #10: OPPOSE Historic Policy Update

From Priyam Das <[REDACTED]>**Date** Mon 1/20/2025 9:10 PM**To** Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear San Mateo city council,

My name is Priyam and I am a resident of Foster City who grew up in the area and attended high school in San Mateo. I strongly urge you to reject any proposals for new historic districts in San Mateo. These historic designations will only make it harder to build more housing and keep San Mateo's cost of living way too high. Please vote no on the proposed Historic Policy Update.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Priyam



Outlook

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From David Brownman <[REDACTED]>**Date** Sun 1/19/2025 8:16 PM**To** Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

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Sincerely,

~DavidB
[REDACTED]



Urgent Appeal: SAY NO to the \$500K Historic RFP

From Annette Delaney <[REDACTED]>

Date Fri 1/17/2025 7:40 PM

To Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

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I urge you to vote NO on this \$500,000 RFP and instead support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
[Your name]

Annette Delaney
[REDACTED]



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From Richard Delaney <[REDACTED]>

Date Fri 1/17/2025 7:24 PM

To Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

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- \$500,000 could be better spent on deteriorating parks and facilities
- Less than 0.03% of San Mateo's 101,327 residents are driving this expensive initiative

Community Opposition & Consensus:

- In Baywood, 9 out of 10 residents weighing in oppose historic districting
- No broad community consensus exists for such a consequential decision
- City has conducted no community outreach to determine if this is a citywide priority

Legal Concerns:

- JMBM Attorneys warn of permanent, irreversible consequences in this RFP format
- Historical context statement with potential for CEQA obligations
- Potential impacts exceed those of general plan or zoning changes
- Council is putting the cart before the horse - community outreach should precede signing this RFP

Alternative Solution:

- Implement staff-driven community engagement process
- Focus on voluntary participation rather than mandatory impositions
- Develop consent-driven historic preservation ordinance
- Prioritize infrastructure benefiting all residents

I urge you to vote NO on this \$500,000 RFP and instead support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
[Your name]

Richard Delaney
[REDACTED]

Daniel Freedman
[REDACTED]

January 20, 2025

Mayor Newsom, Deputy Mayor Loraine and
Hon. Members of the San Mateo City Council
City of San Mateo
San Mateo City Hall
330 West 20th Avenue
San Mateo, CA 94403

Re: **Historic Policy Update Effort Professional Services**
Agenda Item No. 10.
Hearing Date: January 21, 2025.

Dear Hon. Members of the City Council:

Our office represents Less Red Tape (“LRT”), a coalition of San Mateo homeowners and residents who object to the establishment of historic districts without homeowner consent. In prior correspondence LRT objected to the scope of work contained in the Historic Policy Update Request for Proposals (“RFP”), and urged the City to *first* prepare an updated Historic Preservation Ordinance, and thereafter proceed with the hiring of historic preservation consultants to assist with preparing historic context statements that are consistent with the scope of the updated ordinance.

The intent of this request was to allow the City Council to first establish the scope of an ordinance (i.e., whether consent is required, whether single-family districts are included, etc.), and then prepare historic context statements that match that scope. LRT still believes this is the right path and can be accomplished without an outside historical consultant.

If council wishes to move forward on the agenda item and cannot de-couple the ordinance portion, then LRT urges the City Council to proceed with Option 1 – subject to certain conditions. The recommended conditions are as follows:

- (1) **Consent Based Ordinance:** Any ordinance prepared or proposed in connection with this RFP shall require property owner consent prior to the City surveying, designating, or listing a property as a resource on any local register, survey or list.
- (2) **Single-Family Residential Exclusion:** No Historic Context Statements or surveys shall be performed, proposed or considered as part of this Historic Policy Update for

any potential district that includes single-family residential homes, unless affirmative consent is first obtained from the homeowners.

- (3) **Consent Threshold and Process:** For potential single family residential districts, consent will be determined in a similar manner as the City's Residential Parking Permit Program: a survey will be mailed to all households in the area, and at least 50% of households in the proposed program area must respond to the survey. Of those responding, at least 67% must support the proposed program.

We believe these conditions are both reasonable and narrowly tailored to allow for the City to accomplish its goal of updating its historic preservation program, while also balancing the property rights of City residents. To assist the City Council with proceeding in this manner, we have attached a revised resolution labeled as **Option 4**. Option 4 simply directs staff to proceed with the Historic Policy Update subject to these requested terms.

Thank you in advance for your consideration, and we look forward to presenting our proposal in greater detail at tomorrow's hearing.



DANIEL FREEDMAN of
Jeffer Mangels Butler & Mitchell LLP

DF:df

cc: Alex Khojikian, City Manager, City of San Mateo
Christina Horrisberger, Assistant City Manager, City of San Mateo
Less Red Tape

OPTION 4
CITY OF SAN MATEO

RESOLUTION NO. (2025)

APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR TASKS AND SUPPORT RELATED TO A CITYWIDE HISTORIC POLICY UPDATE

WHEREAS, on June 17, 2024, the City Council directed staff to prioritize an update of the City's historic policies and procedures, including an update of the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance and preparation of a Citywide Historic Context Statement; and

WHEREAS, in August 2024, a Request for Proposals (RFP) for historic policy support services from qualified historic professionals was issued; and

WHEREAS, in October 2024, following a review of proposals and follow-up interviews, staff identified the proposal from Rincon Consultants, Inc. as being the best suited to support the City's historic policy update effort; and

WHEREAS, the proposal from Rincon Consultants, Inc. for historic policy support services, including community outreach and engagement, is for an amount of \$285,843; and

WHEREAS, a 15% contingency, in the amount of \$42,900, is included in the event that additional services are required during the course of the project; and

WHEREAS, the City Council requires that any Historic Preservation Ordinance prepared or proposed in connection with these services be subject to certain specified provisions.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN MATEO, CALIFORNIA, HEREBY RESOLVES THAT

1. This fund appropriation is not a project of CEQA because it is an organizational or administrative activity that will not impact the environment (CEQA Guidelines § 15378(b)(5).
2. The appropriation of \$328,743 from the Advance Planning Fund (Fund 225) to the Historic Policy Update project is approved.
3. Any Historic Preservation Ordinance prepare in connection with these services or the Historic Policy Update project shall include the following:
 - (a) The City shall only survey, designate, or list a resource on a local register, survey, or list, with property owner consent or upon the application of the property owner.
 - (b) No Historic Context Statements or surveys shall be performed or proposed for any proposed district composed of primarily Single-Family Residential homes, unless affirmative consent is first obtained from the homeowners.
 - (c) For potential single family residential districts, consent will be determined in a similar manner as the City's Residential Parking Permit Program: a survey will be mailed to all households in the area, and at least 50% of households in the proposed district area must respond to the survey. Of those responding, at least 67% must support the proposed district.



January 21 Meeting - Historic Survey Agenda Item

From Norma Formanek <[REDACTED]>
Date Sun 1/19/2025 9:49 PM
To City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

City Council Members:

The notion of spending hundreds of thousands of dollars on a historic property survey is disturbing for a number of reasons.

The tragedy in Los Angeles and environs is one that could easily visit our city. San Mateo sits at the base of steep, wildland canyons that are choked with dead and diseased trees, brush and all manner of fuel. If you have not driven slowly up Crystal Springs Road, Parrott Drive, Polhemus, Tournament, Hillsdale etc. and looked at the adjoining land, I urge you to do so and consider the fire risk. Some of this land is in the County and Hillsborough, but if it burns, San Mateo will burn too. Thus far this year we've had decent rainfall. So did LA in the last couple of years, leading to rapid brush growth in the hills which, with a dry spell and winds out of the valley and desert, led to the cataclysmic fire. I would hope there is a major cooperative effort with the City's neighbors - with funding and not just paper studies - to mitigate risk. San Mateo's older buildings (whether or not they meet the definition of "historic") are far more likely to be destroyed by fire than developers. The money that is proposed for a historic site survey should be used to benefit the entire city, neighboring communities and our economy as a whole by mitigating fire danger.

Further, the lack of housing in San Mateo that meets any definition of "affordable" is stifling our City's vibrancy. I have lived in Baywood and Aragon for 40+ years -- I want teachers, City workers, health care workers, firefighters and police to enjoy what I've enjoyed. The San Mateo Heritage Alliance has been transparent about their goal of "preserving" Baywood as a neighborhood of single family homes - i.e., without ADUs. While the number of ADUs that conceivably could be built in Baywood is a vanishingly small addition to the residential stock that is needed, I see no legitimate purpose in establishing special enclaves in the City or throwing up another hurdle to housing.

It is, further, without question that a historic district designation will put further burdens on the availability and cost of homeowners insurance. If insurance becomes unaffordable or unavailable, the economic consequences and saleability of homes will be dire. I hope the City has taken expert advice on this issue - it is complex but should be of compelling importance to the Council, much more so that identifying subjectively "historic" building facades.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of these important issues.

Norma Formanek
[REDACTED]



Historic designations - OPPOSE

From Ernest French <[REDACTED]>
Date Tue 1/21/2025 7:15 AM
To City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear San Mateo city council,

Please reject the idea that we should establish new historic districts, in any neighborhoods. Doing this just takes away people's rights to build and shelter themselves from the outdoors! What we need are much fewer restrictions on the kinds of things people can do, not more at all, so we can find better ways to live in accord with what we would like. That's not going to happen if we freeze things in time.

Please do not support any actions to establish more historical districts. Vote no on the proposed Historic consultant RFP. This is not a priority for San Mateo.

I have been living here since 2015 (El Camino, N Ellsworth, and now at 31st Ave) and working in town, at Roblox.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Ernest French



Outlook

NO on Historic Districts and Spending

From Zhang Grace <[REDACTED]>

Date Sun 1/19/2025 6:05 PM

To City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Hello Council,

I just learned about proposed funding for historic consultants and historic designations in the City. It look like this is up for vote on January 21.

I live in San Mateo Park. I pay six figure every year in property tax. I do NOT support historical designations or districts. **If San Mateo Park would have been a historical district, I would have bought in Menlo Park or Atherton instead.**

Last week I took my son to Central Park Playground - it was closed due to safety and maintenance issues! Most other parks are in similarly bad shape. That is where my tax dollar should go, not to preservation consultants and more issues for us.

These historical preservation efforts do not reflect what families and tax payers need in San Mateo. You need to look forward not backwards. San Mateo is already behind other cities in the area. Historical districts will make attractiveness of the city worse.

This should get \$0 allocated.

Thank you for your attention,

Bingyuan

San Mateo Park Resident



Outlook

Historic Preservation is not a Priority

From Michael Hosticka <[REDACTED]>**Date** Mon 1/20/2025 9:25 AM**To** Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed \$500,000 expenditure for historic preservation consultants coming to vote on January 21st.

With a \$10.6M deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure projects, this spending makes no sense. Our Central Park Playground is closed, MLK Rec Center is in shambles, and other community facilities are deteriorating.

This project, pushed by a preservationist special interest group, appears designed to block development and create more red tape. Similar efforts in Baywood were opposed 9-to-1 by residents. It would effectively undermine Measure T's housing progress and put huge burdens on homeowners and eventually increase rental prices as well.

Please prioritize our critical infrastructure needs over creating new bureaucratic barriers. Our community needs functional parks and facilities, not more development restrictions.

These historical preservation efforts do not reflect my priorities and I oppose them.

Sincerely,
Michael Hosticka



Outlook

URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP

From Michelle Hudson <[REDACTED]>**Date** Mon 1/20/2025 1:14 PM**To** Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request that you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP for the following reasons:

- Other matters should be higher priorities for the city, such as addressing the climate crisis, parks, safety and housing.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall.
Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of residents who wish to circumvent the will of the majority.
- This non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In

summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

Michelle

Hudson

Baywood Resident



Urgent Appeal: SAY NO to the \$500K Historic RFP

From daniel ikeda <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 1/20/2025 9:17 PM

To Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear Honorable Mayor Newsom and City Council Members,

I am writing regarding the proposed \$500,000 Historic Resources RFP. As a San Mateo resident, I have several serious concerns:

Financial Impact:

- City faces \$10.6M budget deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure needs
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- Less than 0.03% of San Mateo's 101,327 residents are driving this expensive initiative

Community Opposition & Consensus:

- In Baywood, 9 out of 10 residents weighing in oppose historic districting
- No broad community consensus exists for such a consequential decision
- City has conducted no community outreach to determine if this is a citywide priority

Legal Concerns:

- JMBM Attorneys warn of permanent, irreversible consequences in this RFP format
- Historical context statement with potential for CEQA obligations
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- Council is putting the cart before the horse - community outreach should precede signing this RFP

Alternative Solution:

- Implement staff-driven community engagement process
- Focus on voluntary participation rather than mandatory impositions
- Develop consent-driven historic preservation ordinance
- Prioritize infrastructure benefiting all residents

I urge you to vote NO on this \$500,000 RFP and instead support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
Daniel and Jackie Ikeda

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone



Urgent Appeal: SAY NO to the \$500K Historic RFP

From daniel ikeda <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 1/20/2025 9:17 PM

To Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

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Sincerely,
Daniel and Jackie Ikeda

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone



Outlook

Historic Preservation is not a Priority

From Lara Irias <[REDACTED]>**Date** Mon 1/20/2025 9:15 PM**To** Rob Newsom <[REDACTED]>; Adam Loraine <[REDACTED]>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <[REDACTED]>; Nicole Fernandez <[REDACTED]>; Lisa Diaz Nash <[REDACTED]>; City Mgr <[REDACTED]>; City Council (San Mateo) <[REDACTED]>; Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed \$500,000 expenditure for historic preservation consultants coming to vote on January 21st.

With a \$10.6M deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure projects, this spending makes no sense. Our Central Park Playground is closed, MLK Rec Center is in shambles, and other community facilities are deteriorating.

This project, pushed by a preservationist special interest group, appears designed to block development and create more red tape. Similar efforts in Baywood were opposed 9-to-1 by residents. It would effectively undermine Measure T's housing progress and put huge burdens on homeowners and eventually increase rental prices as well.

Please prioritize our critical infrastructure needs over creating new bureaucratic barriers. Our community needs functional parks and facilities, not more development restrictions.

These historical preservation efforts do not reflect my priorities and I oppose them.

Sincerely,

Lara Irias



Historic Preservation is not a Priority

From Janna Kolodi <[REDACTED]>

Date Sun 1/19/2025 11:27 PM

To Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

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These historical preservation efforts do not reflect my priorities and I oppose them.

Sincerely,

Janna Kolodii

A home owner from red zoned Cental San Mateo that has been severely neglected and completely abandoned by Council.



Historic designations - OPPOSE

From Kat Cruz <[REDACTED]>
Date Tue 1/21/2025 10:01 AM
To City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear San Mateo City Council,

Please reject the idea that we should establish new historic districts, in any neighborhoods. One of San Mateo's greatest liabilities is our high cost of living, and making it harder to build more homes will only make it more expensive.

We have worked to pass good housing laws, both at the state and local levels, and a historic district would undermine these laws, as well as our general plan and newly-minted Measure T. Please do not support any actions to establish more historical districts. Vote no on the proposed Historic consultant RFP. This is not a priority for San Mateo.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Katrina Cruz



Urgent Appeal: Reconsider the \$500K Historic RFP

From Anna Kuhre <[REDACTED]>

Date Fri 1/17/2025 2:12 PM

To Rob Newsom <[REDACTED]>; Adam Loraine <[REDACTED]>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <[REDACTED]>; Nicole Fernandez <[REDACTED]>; Lisa Diaz Nash <[REDACTED]>; City Mgr <[REDACTED]>; City Council (San Mateo) <[REDACTED]>; Clerk <[REDACTED]>

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I am writing regarding the proposed \$500,000 Historic Resources RFP. As a San Mateo resident, I have several serious concerns:

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I urge you to vote NO on this \$500,000 RFP and instead support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
[Anna Kuhre]

Sent from my iPhone



Urgent Appeal: Reconsider the \$500K Historic RFP

From Anna Kuhre <[REDACTED]>

Date Fri 1/17/2025 2:12 PM

To Rob Newsom <[REDACTED]>; Adam Loraine <[REDACTED]>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <[REDACTED]>; Nicole Fernandez <[REDACTED]>; Lisa Diaz Nash <[REDACTED]>; City Mgr <[REDACTED]>; City Council (San Mateo) <[REDACTED]>; Clerk <[REDACTED]>

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Sincerely,
[Anna Kuhre]

Sent from my iPhone

Vote No on the Proposed Historical Assessment

The Inconvenient Truth

San Mateo City Council,
San Mateo City Staff,

From the beginning of the dispute that surrounds Historic Registration, Less Red Tape (LRT) has acknowledged the value of protecting resources that have **Actual Historic Relevance**. The Inconvenient Truth is that Registration and Protection of a Historic Resource takes time and money. In every case, the time and money expenditure is a multiple of both. San Mateo Heritage Alliance (SMHA) refuses to acknowledge that fact. That denial is a disservice to themselves and their supporters while deceiving the general public and the City of San Mateo.

Anyone that denies the Inconvenient Truth simply does not have the experience of trying to stay in business while bearing the responsibility of compliance with all applicable rules, regulations and laws concurrently with insuring the quality, safety and schedule of the project as they try to satisfy the expectations of an owner. Every problem that arises is incorrectly blamed on the contractor while any “perceived” success is attributed to the “benevolence” of Historic Preservation.

The argument that historic registration does not “in itself” have negative consequences is true. The problem lies downstream from that “Honor”. Inappropriate application and/or inept administration is the problem. Supporters of historic preservation abuse the “Honor” and even the classification of “Eligible” by hammering the City and its residents in their attempts to avoid fair housing laws or to protect the “Fabric” of their neighborhood. Avoiding the law is a crime. “Fabric”, like beauty, exists in the eye of the beholder. It is a nebulous concept upon which agreement will never be reached. Stop trying! A prime example of this is “How the Giannini House was saved” (see link below). In 2019 History advocates blocked the wishes of A.P. Giannini’s heirs to demolishing his home in favor of building a Children’s Medical Clinic. I wonder what A.P. Giannini would rather be remembered by. Would it be the preservation of a home that very few people even know about, much less care about? Or would it be a Children’s Medical Clinic bearing his name? I hope that injustice never happens again!

As our leaders you are considering spending taxpayer money to assess Historic Resources in San Mateo. You are at the brink of falling into the Giannini rabbit hole. I encourage you to stay the course that is already in use. Plenty of San Mateo Building Codes exist with the backing of CEQA requirements that protect history (**if & when the resource actually has historic relevance**). If you still don’t believe me, please consider the Alston property at [REDACTED] Fairfax. This family started the process of removal and replacement of a home that did not satisfy their needs over four years ago. The home is still unfinished due to the influence wield over them by SMHA.

Do not spend time and money on any process that allows for historic recognition of any sort over the objection of its owner. That is particularly true in residential districts. Follow the existing rules rather than hiring experts to cobble together weak scenarios that advance the fantasies of SMHA. The existing process has worked and will continue to work regardless of the complaints made by SMHA. To bow to that pressure will negatively affect the City of San Mateo as much as the owners of properties that purchased them without the albatross of Historic Recognition hanging over their head. Historic preservation should only be undertaken by owners that are aware of, understand, are qualified to deal with and can afford **The Inconvenient Truth**

No Consent No Historic!

Jay Kuhre

[Historians’ Block Children's Hospital](#)



Urgent Appeal: SAY NO to the \$500K Historic RFP

From Lane Poms <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 1/20/2025 3:56 PM

To Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear Honorable Mayor Newsom and City Council Members,

I am a resident of San Mateo Park. We are only now just being communicated with by our neighborhood association regarding this issue. Please vote now as we need time to make the decision as to whether we want to be historic for our neighborhood.

I am writing regarding the proposed \$500,000 Historic Resources RFP. As a San Mateo resident, I have several serious concerns:

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I urge you to vote NO on this \$500,000 RFP and instead support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

Lane L. Poms
[REDACTED]



Please support more housing and oppose anti-housing designations

From Anthony Lazarus <[REDACTED]>

Date Tue 1/21/2025 9:35 AM

To City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Distinguished San Mateo City Council members,

I'm a former Planning Commission member in Redwood City beseeching you to reject the notion to establish new historic districts, in any neighborhoods.

One of San Mateo's greatest liabilities is our high cost of living, and making it harder to build more homes will only make it more expensive. Redwood City and other cities are facing this same challenge without trying to stymie new development.

New housing laws are seeking to address the housing affordability crisis, and we must work together as a region to create better and stronger communities, not exclude people or condemn them to megacommuters. The creation of historic districts would undermine these efforts.

Please do not support any actions to establish more historical districts. Vote no on the proposed Historic consultant RFP.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Anthony Lazarus





Historic Preservation is not a Priority

From Jess Liu <[REDACTED]>

Date Sun 1/19/2025 9:19 PM

To Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear City Council Members,

As a resident of San Mateo, I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed \$500,000 expenditure for historic preservation consultants coming to vote on January 21st.

With a \$10.6M deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure projects, this spending makes no sense. Our Central Park Playground is closed, MLK Rec Center is in shambles, and other community facilities are deteriorating.

This project, pushed by a preservationist special interest group, appears designed to block development and create more red tape. Similar efforts in Baywood were opposed 9-to-1 by residents. It would effectively undermine Measure T's housing progress and put huge burdens on homeowners and eventually increase rental prices as well.

Please prioritize our critical infrastructure needs over creating new bureaucratic barriers. Our community needs functional parks and facilities, not more development restrictions.

These historical preservation efforts do not reflect my priorities and I oppose them.

Sincerely,
Jess Liu

Sent from my iPhone



Please cancel the \$500K Historic RFP

From Colin Madere <[REDACTED]>

Date Fri 1/17/2025 8:53 PM

To Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear Honorable Mayor Newsom and Council,

Regarding the proposed \$500,000 Historic Resources RFP, I strongly suggest the city use these funds instead to help all of San Mateo (such as funding the Central Park and other park updates!), and not just a very select few.

Owners always have the option to have their own property designated historic without impacting the taxpayers or creating barriers for people improving deteriorating properties.

I urge you to vote NO on this wasteful spending, especially since a potential incoming financial tightening in general will put a spotlight on such wastes. It would not look good for those that supported this.

Sincerely,

Colin Madere
Central



Outlook

Historic Preservation is not a Priority

From David Mazahreh <[REDACTED]>**Date** Mon 1/20/2025 10:45 PM**To** Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed \$500,000 expenditure for historic preservation consultants coming to vote on January 21st.

With a \$10.6M deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure projects, this spending makes no sense. Our Central Park Playground is closed, MLK Rec Center is in shambles, and other community facilities are deteriorating.

This project, pushed by a preservationist special interest group, appears designed to block development and create more red tape. Similar efforts in Baywood were opposed 9-to-1 by residents. It would effectively undermine Measure T's housing progress and put huge burdens on homeowners and eventually increase rental prices as well.

Please prioritize our critical infrastructure needs over creating new bureaucratic barriers. Our community needs functional parks and facilities, not more development restrictions.

These historical preservation efforts do not reflect my priorities and I oppose them.

Sincerely,
David Mazahreh



No historic districts.

From Ricki McGlashan <[REDACTED]>

Date Fri 1/17/2025 1:17 PM

To City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear San Mateo City Council,

San Mateo has a rich history and hopefully a rich and prosperous future. The idea of special historic districts is anathema to that goal. All of us need to figure out a way to fit in more housing, and carving out special districts that might limit ADUs or other shared housing options punishes the rest of the town. We already have regular requirements for what can be built where, and those are sufficient. Homeowners should otherwise have the right to decide.

No-one in San Mateo has the right to force higher density in other parts the town. Our future is shared.

Please do not support any actions to establish historical districts. Vote no on the proposed Historic consultant RFP. **This is not a priority for San Mateo and benefits just a few elite neighborhoods.**

Ricki and Doug McGlashan



Outlook

Support Context Study Jan. 22, 2025

From [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Date Fri 1/17/2025 12:22 PM
To City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear Mayor Newsom & City Council Members,

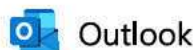
I am writing to ask for your support to protect and to preserve our unique treasures and neighborhoods for future generations by supporting the proposed scope of work for the Context Study & Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Please protect our historical homes, set-backs, beautiful gardens and heritage trees. Please do not be deceived by the developers who are not truthful and who are interested in creating mega-mansions and inappropriate buildings that do not reflect the neighborhood and where, ultimately, money and profit rule over esthetics and common sense.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Shirley Melnicoe
Baywood Home Owner

Sent from my iPhone



Outlook

Support Context Study Jan. 22, 2025

From [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Date Fri 1/17/2025 12:22 PM
To City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear Mayor Newsom & City Council Members,

I am writing to ask for your support to protect and to preserve our unique treasures and neighborhoods for future generations by supporting the proposed scope of work for the Context Study & Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Please protect our historical homes, set-backs, beautiful gardens and heritage trees. Please do not be deceived by the developers who are not truthful and who are interested in creating mega-mansions and inappropriate buildings that do not reflect the neighborhood and where, ultimately, money and profit rule over esthetics and common sense.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Shirley Melnicoe
Baywood Home Owner

Sent from my iPhone



Outlook

1/21/25 Council Meeting - Please vote for Option 1 and pursue the Rincon Survey

From Michael <[REDACTED]>**Date** Mon 1/20/2025 5:26 PM**To** City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>**Cc** Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear Mayor Newsom and Members of City Council - Please support Option 1 and pursue the Rincon Survey. The prior survey was incomplete and our current ordinance outdated and inadequate. The survey will able us to make data-driven decisions on what historical assets exist, driving informed strategy around what should be preserved vs the ad-hoc method used today.

I remind the mayor and council to consider the source of input coming in on this topic. YIMBY activists, co-opted by developers and unions that do not reside in or care about San Mateo should be discounted heavily. Residents that stepped up and got you elected expect you to represent them (whether they wrote in or not). Big money interests and outside activists, as always, are flooding you with opposition that really does not exist in reality right here in San Mateo. Most residents like myself live here precisely because of San Mateo's history - the homes, downtown, neighborhoods etc. We deserve to know what exists and to participate in the land use decisions that are precipitated. Without our historic assets, San Mateo becomes like any other generic city, and we must strike a balance.

The cost is nominal. There will always be competing interests and no doubt you'll hear all of those tomorrow. But to quote Churchill when parliament wanted to cut funding for the arts during WWII, he asked "well then what are we fighting for?". The same can be said here. We owe it to our current residents, and future generations, to be smart about this. And that starts with approving the study.

This study doesn't enact and historic districts or any sort of ordinance - it does make us more well-informed, which will hopefully make our future land use decisions better. i think an important question that needs answering is how did the cost come down from \$250k to \$60? We do not want or need another survey that doesn't truly capture the assets like the last one. Do it right or don't do it at all.

In the wake of the passage of Measure T, which removes the protections of Measure Y, you as the council must take extra steps to protect our beloved city from developers, unions, etc. who only care about one thing - making money. It will take courage on your part. Don't back down.

Thanks - Michael Weinbauer, Central Neighborhood



Outlook

Jan 21 agenda - Reject historic policy update funding

From S Miller <[REDACTED]>**Date** Mon 1/20/2025 12:51 PM**To** Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

I am writing regarding the Jan 21 agenda item regarding funding of the historic policy update funding by the city council.

I urge the council to reject the proposal to fund the historic project update. Historic district designation has been an incredible divisive issue for the Baywood neighborhood and the councilmembers should not worsen these divisions by funding any effort to develop policy updates or surveys that are a precursor to historic designation.

In my opinion, historical designation for the neighborhood falls flat on its own merits. Most of the building took place under San Mateo's redlining practices, which excluded non-Caucasians from purchasing in the area - this is an unfortunate stain on the historical legacy. On practical matters, historical designation increases building costs, prevents desirable updates, and increases litigation.

In the wake of the LA area fires, insurance companies are leaving the area. Our previous insurance company no longer is doing business in San Mateo, leaving us with fewer options and more expensive insurance. Increasing costs to rebuild and uncertainty about approvals is yet another real reason for insurance companies to stop offering policies.

The proposal here to spend more than \$300,000 on policy updates would be an irresponsible financial decision when there are many other more deserving and less divisive projects needing funding.

I currently believe that the city councilmembers value fiscal responsibility and community coherence and hope that you demonstrate this by rejecting this unnecessary and divisive proposal.

Thank you,
-Steve Miller

[REDACTED]



Outlook

Historic Preservation is not a Priority

From sesh mudumbai <[REDACTED]>**Date** Sun 1/19/2025 8:35 PM**To** Rob Newsom <[REDACTED]>; Adam Loraine <[REDACTED]>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <[REDACTED]>; Nicole Fernandez <[REDACTED]>; City Mgr <[REDACTED]>; City Council (San Mateo) <[REDACTED]>; Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed \$500,000 expenditure for historic preservation consultants coming to vote on January 21st.

With a \$10.6M deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure projects, this spending makes no sense. Our Central Park Playground is closed, MLK Rec Center is in shambles, and other community facilities are deteriorating.

This project, pushed by a preservationist special interest group, appears designed to block development and create more red tape. Similar efforts in Baywood were opposed 9-to-1 by residents. It would effectively undermine Measure T's housing progress and put huge burdens on homeowners and eventually increase rental prices as well.

Please prioritize our critical infrastructure needs over creating new bureaucratic barriers. Our community needs functional parks and facilities, not more development restrictions.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

These historical preservation efforts do not reflect my priorities and I oppose them.

Sincerely,

Sesh Mudumbai

[REDACTED]



Outlook

Glazenwood Background for Historic Resources Discussion

From Michael Nash <[REDACTED]>
Date Sat 1/18/2025 5:59 PM
To City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc [REDACTED]

Attachments available until Feb 17, 2025

Dear Council:

Please find materials that reflect the successes San Mateo has had with previous historic preservation efforts in our city.

For example, Glazenwood residents are pleased with the experience of being in a historic district as measured by a survey that Chris Eckert -"Mr. San Mateo"- supported. Please consider this part of the public outreach effort!

Also note the link to a short video spotlighting Mr Eckert, San Mateo's history, and Glazenwood.

Many people are pleased that this historic resources effort is finally happening after 30 years of patience waiting for the City to complete its promised assessment.

[Click to Download](#)

GlazenwoodSurvey2024F.pptx
204 KB

[Click to Download](#)

Glazenwood Edited.mp4
655 MB

Regards and thank you for prioritizing this for 2025.

Michael Nash





Outlook

Glazenwood Background for Historic Resources Discussion

From Michael Nash <[REDACTED]>
Date Sun 1/19/2025 9:20 AM
To City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc [REDACTED]

Attachments available until Feb 18, 2025

Dear Council:

Please find materials that reflect the successes San Mateo has had with previous historic preservation efforts in our city.

For example, Glazenwood residents are pleased with the experience of being in a historic district as measured by a survey that Chris Eckert -"Mr. San Mateo"- supported. Please consider this part of the public outreach effort!

Also note the link to a short video spotlighting Mr Eckert, San Mateo's history, and Glazenwood.

Many people are pleased that this historic resources effort is finally happening after 30 years of patience waiting for the City to complete its promised assessment.

[Click to Download](#)

GlazenwoodSurvey2024F.pptx
204 KB

[Click to Download](#)

Glazenwood Edited.mp4
655 MB

Regards and thank you for prioritizing this for 2025.



Michael Nash





SAN MATEO
HERITAGE ALLIANCE

GLAZENWOOD
HISTORIC DISTRICT- RESIDENT SURVEY
SAN MATEO, CALIFORNIA

June 2024 with Thanks to Chris Eckert

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The Glazenwood Historic District is a small neighborhood of single-family homes in the Hayward Park area of San Mateo, California. The homes were built in the 1920s and 1930s and are primarily Spanish Colonial Revival architecture.

The District is one of three historic districts in San Mateo. The Downtown Historic District and Glazenwood were identified in the 1989 *Historic Building Survey* commissioned by the City of San Mateo. The Yoshiko Yamanouchi House Historic District was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2023.

The Baywood Historic District was nominated in 2023 to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This nomination raised questions about what it means to live in a historic district.

This survey was designed to solicit the opinions of residents regarding their years of living in a historic district in the City of San Mateo to respond to these questions.

Due to its small size the survey has an 18% margin of error at a 95% confidence level.



STUDY DESIGN

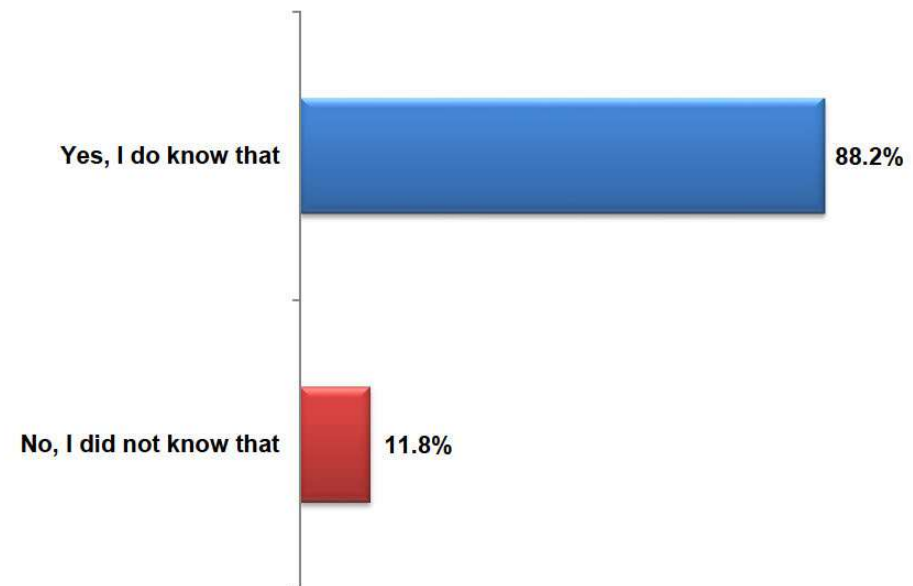
This resident survey was designed by Edna Luther & Associates, Inc., a national marketing research and consulting firm. (See appendix) This firm has conducted thousands of studies to measure consumer attitudes that inform major decisions.

The questions were developed to elicit unbiased opinions of residents. The questionnaire was hand delivered by Mr. Chris Eckert, a Glazenwood resident and local realtor who specializes in the Glazenwood area of San Mateo. Responses were mailed or hand delivered to Mr. Eckert. There are 37 homes in Glazenwood. The questionnaire was completed by 17 residents, or 46% of residents.



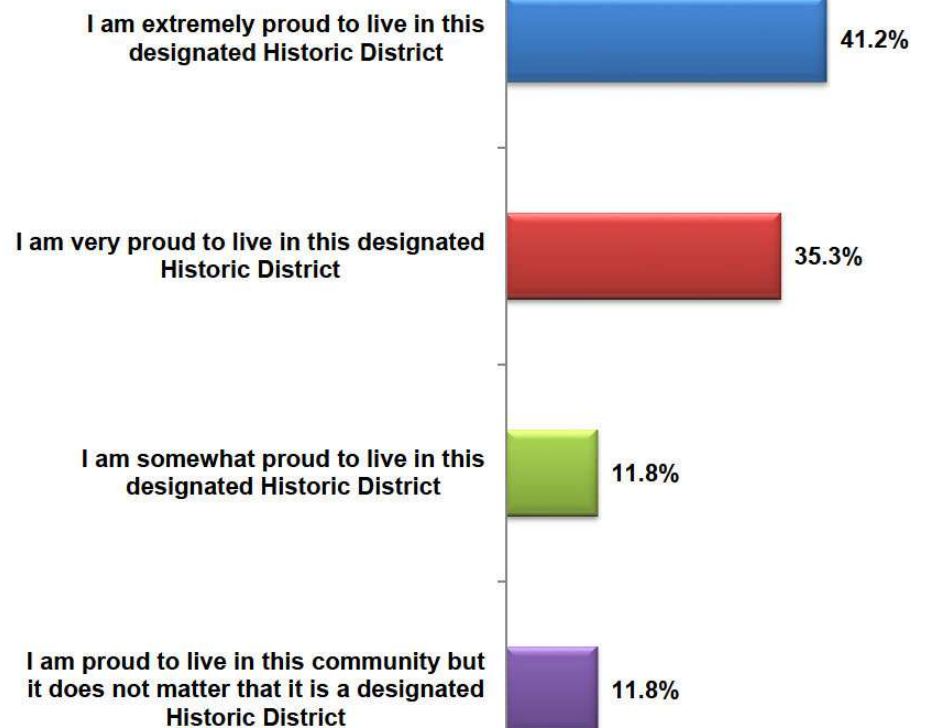
Q: ARE YOU AWARE THAT GLAZENWOOD IS A DESIGNATED HISTORIC DISTRICT?

A significant majority of homeowners are aware of the Historic District.



**Q: WHAT IMPACT, IF ANY, DOES THE FACT THAT
GLAZENWOOD IS A DESIGNATED HISTORIC DISTRICT
HAVE ON YOUR PRIDE OF OWNERSHIP?**

88.3 % of owners are proud to
live in a Designated Historic
district to a varying degree.



Q: WHEN YOU PURCHASED
YOUR HOME, HOW MUCH
DID THE FACT THAT
GLAZENWOOD IS A
DESIGNATED HISTORIC
DISTRICT IMPACT YOUR
DECISION?

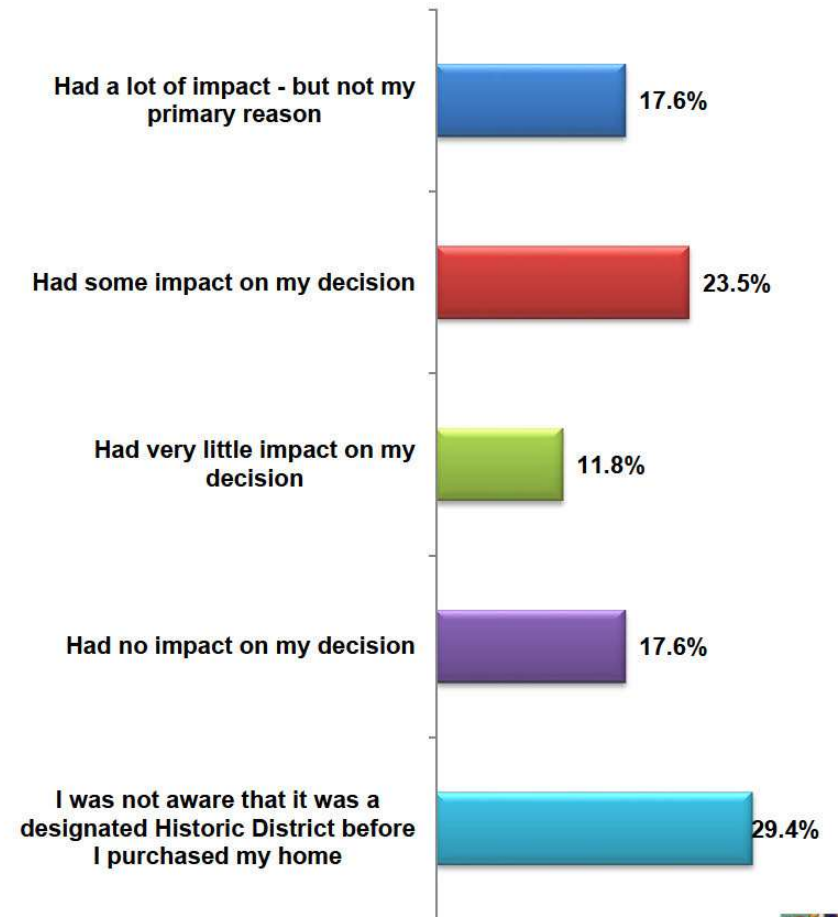
41.1% of owners said it favorably impacted
their decision to buy
but 29.5% of people were not aware at the
time

**Of those who were aware, 75% said it
had at least some impact:**

A lot – 25%

Some – 34%

Very little – 16%



Q: WHICH, IF ANY, OF THESE FACTORS MAKE GLAZENWOOD A STABLE COMMUNITY ?

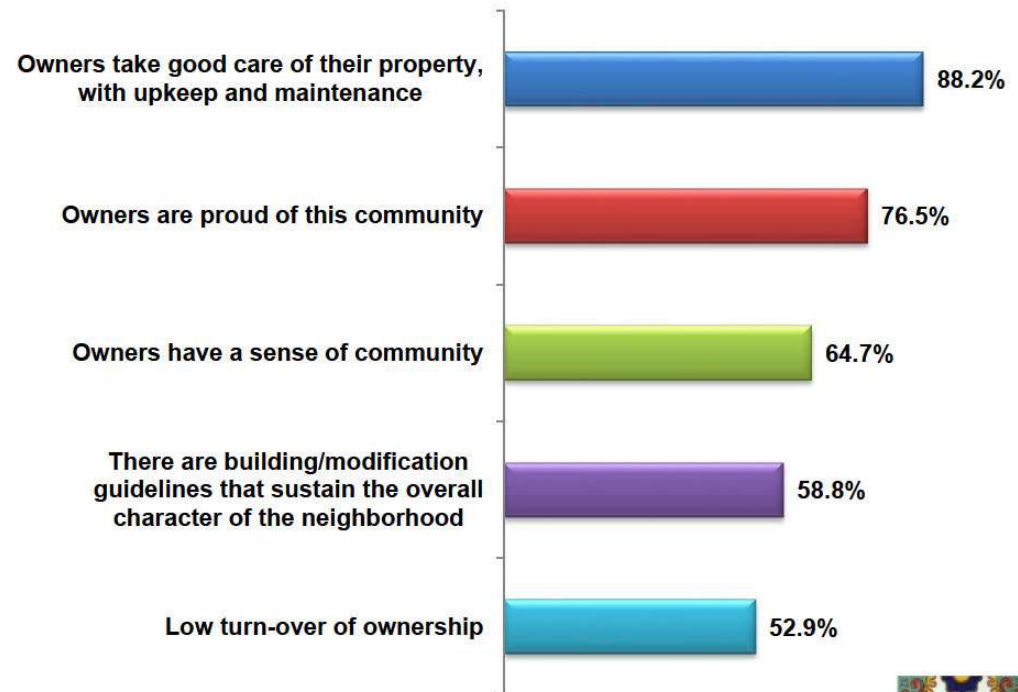
88.2% of residents say owner upkeep and maintenance contribute to the stability of the neighborhood.

76.5% of residents say pride in ownership contributes.

Two out of three say owners having a sense of community contributes.

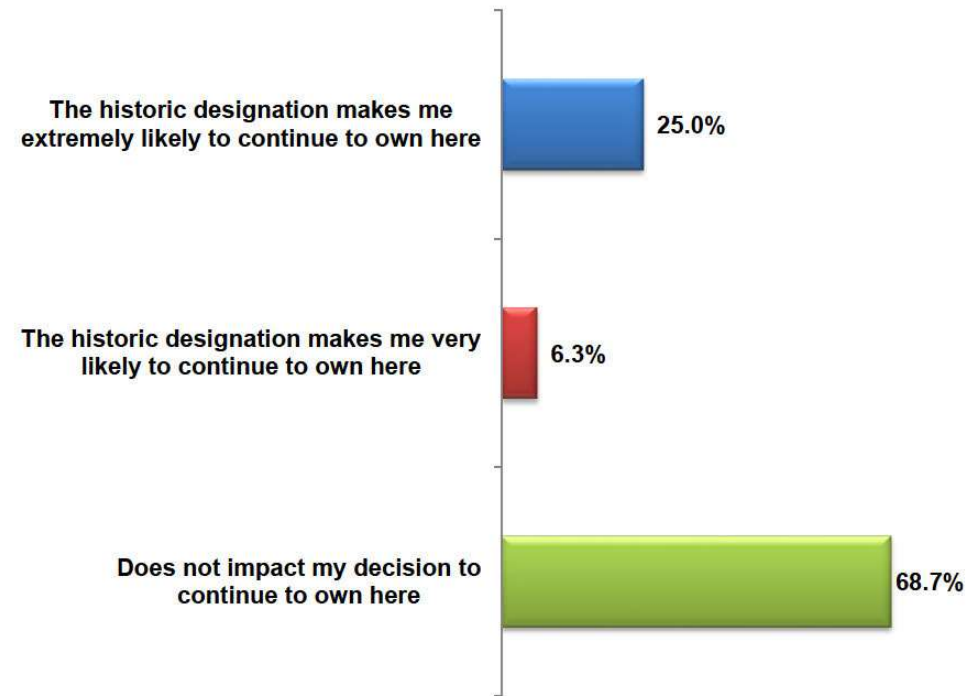
Six in ten agree design guidelines sustain the character of the neighborhood and contributes.

Just over half believe low turn-over of ownership sustains the character of the neighborhood and contributes to its stability.



Q: HOW MUCH DOES THE FACT THAT GLAZENWOOD IS A DESIGNATED HISTORIC DISTRICT HAVE ON YOUR LIKELIHOOD TO CONTINUE TO OWN HERE OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS?

Most owners did not rate historic designation as important to remaining in their homes.



RESPONDENTS WERE ASKED TO READ “INFORMATION ON GLAZENWOOD HISTORY”

- *The City of San Mateo currently has two identified historic districts, the Downtown Historic District and the Glazenwood Historic District.*
- *Historic districts typically come with legal protections that ensure relevant buildings and homes remain visually intact with their surrounding structures, meaning the homes are much like they were when first built.*
- *The Glazenwood Historic District, a neighborhood of single-family homes within Hayward Park, was designated a local historic district by the City in the early 1990s and is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The District retains a high degree of integrity.*
- *Glazenwood now occupies the site of the original Hayward mansion which was converted to the luxury Peninsula Hotel after Hayward's death. The Hotel burned down in 1920.*
- *Between 1922 and 1925, the S.A. Born Building Company developed the property into an upscale residential area of Spanish Colonial Revival homes. One distinguishing feature of the subdivision is its U-shaped design with the two curved streets of Laurel and Rosewood. Curved streets were popular at the time, derived from the country lanes of England.*
- *The District includes a majority of houses on the west side of Rosewood Drive, Laurel Avenue, the 100 block of Hayward Avenue and the east side of Palm Avenue between 9th and Hayward.*
- *The boundaries are based on the original subdivision map as well as the visual coherence and age of the houses.*
- *Perhaps the most striking visual feature of this neighborhood is the use of the Spanish Colonial Revival style architecture. Many architectural historians note that this style became the favored style for coastal California in the 1920s. In fact, if one architectural style were selected to characterize San Mateo's historic building stock, the most likely choice would be the Spanish Colonial Revival.*
- *One historian described the neighborhood this way, “Glazenwood epitomizes San Mateo's hopes during the 1920s, as it formed itself into a community of ‘beautiful homes’”*



OPINION - NOW THAT YOU READ THE DESCRIPTION, WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE FACT THAT GLAZENWOOD IS A DESIGNATED HISTORIC DISTRICT?

Notable Responses:

- Extremely proud and helps maintain these 100-year-old structures for the future generations.
- I absolutely love the history in our neighborhood. I've done extensive reading on the Alvinso Hayward and actually have handwritten postcards from the hotel! I also have a copy of the Glazenwood map that shows the handwritten names of the homeowners on each lot.
- I appreciate that Glazenwood is a historic district and that there are efforts being made to keep the visual style intact.
- I believe that it is very beneficial that Glazenwood is a historic district. This designation will help to preserve the character of the neighborhood.
- I like that Glazenwood is a very small subdivision and has a unique history. Most of my neighbors take pride in living in Glazenwood and are quick to point out that this is not Hayward Park! It seems like most of the owners (with some exceptions) have chosen to honor the history of their homes when updating their houses. I am extremely glad we have a level of protection against an owner scraping their house to plop down an ugly white modern block built right out to the set back limits. (This is very common in Los Angeles and in part of San Carlos and Redwood City).
- It is very important part of our culture here in San Mateo to retain our History. Glazenwood represents an important piece of San Mateo history.
- Love it and support this. We need to maintain this beautiful architecture. Need to prevent new homeowners buying and tearing down homes only to rebuild non-descriptive mini mansions. The duplex on We need to ensure new homeowners retain the Glazenwood beauty and not force their own cultural norms into our community and destroy our history.
- It is very important part of our culture here in San Mateo to retain our History. Glazenwood represents an important piece of San Mateo history.
- Support legal protections for visual consistency in the area.
- The neighborhood is unique. The pillars are an outstanding enhancement when we moved in, a high school classmate not a broker, told me "I've always wanted to live here"



OPINION - NOW THAT YOU READ THE DESCRIPTION, WHAT DO YOU
THINK ABOUT THE FACT THAT GLAZENWOOD IS A DESIGNATED
HISTORIC DISTRICT? (CONTINUED)

Notable Responses (cont.):

- I feel proud to live in this neighborhood
- I like to see some of the early history of San Mateo preserved.
- I feel the city should not have designated the district as historic without the residents' votes/inputs. (note: designation was done in 1993-1955(?))
- We think it is very interesting, it also provides even a greater sense of pride in owning the home.

Q: HOW IMPORTANT ARE EACH OF THESE CHARACTERISTICS OF YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?

- 94% say Historic Designation is absolutely critical or important
- 88.3% say maintaining exteriors visible from the street is absolutely critical or very important
- 82% say authenticity of architecture is very important or critical
- 88% say the preservation ordinance protects that the character is critical or very important
- 82% say renovation being subject to a historic preservation ordinance is absolutely critical or very important.
- 82% support Street facing regulations
- 82% support legal protections for visual consistency in the area
- 88.3% say new construction should adhere to local style, rating this as critical or very important



Q: HOW IMPORTANT ARE EACH OF THESE CHARACTERISTICS OF YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD? (CONT.)

- 82% rate property value stability or increasing as critical or very important. (note: Glazenwood enjoys higher than average price increases when compared to similar homes in the area - Eckert Study).
- 23.5% have some concern about onerous regulations while 47.5% are not concerned.
- 70% of homes had significant renovations – 30% were done after historic regulations were implemented.
- One person reported cost implications and added complexity from historic regulations. Two said the regulations made their project better. Most didn't know.
- 35% said city staff were competent, or capable with help from others
- Respondents were satisfied with renovation results in all cases



SUMMARY

- 88.2% of residents were aware of the Historic District when asked.
- 88.3 % of owners are proud to live in a designated Historic District.
- 41.1% of owners said the Historic District designation favorably impacted their decision to buy, but 29.5% of people were not aware. (see slide 7)
- Glazenwood residents regard historic designation as extremely important to the character of the neighborhood.
- City ordinances are working to support Glazenwood.
- Only one party had something bad to say about the ordinance process.



CONCLUSIONS

- Glazenwood residents regard Historic Designation as extremely important to the neighborhood.
- City ordinances are viewed as working well in support of Glazenwood.
- Only one party had something bad to say about the ordinance process.
- **There is no reason to assume new city rules would make Historic Designation less appealing citywide than it is in Glazenwood.**





Outlook

Historic Preservation Ordinance

From Alicia Ong <[REDACTED]>**Date** Mon 1/20/2025 3:06 PM**To** City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Hi,

I'm a resident of District 1 in San Mateo ([REDACTED]) and I would like to advocate that the city not allocate any money for the update to the Historic Preservation Ordinance. That is tens of thousands of dollars that could go toward other city projects instead (like unfunded infrastructure).



Outlook

Support for Context Study and Historic Preservation Ordinance Update

From martha J Park <[REDACTED]>**Date** Mon 1/20/2025 8:25 PM**To** City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear Mayor Newsom and City Council Members,

I would like to express my support once again for historic preservation in San Mateo. I'm writing to ask you to approve a consultant to prepare a historic context study of San Mateo historic resources, as well as update the Historic Preservation Ordinance - which has not been done for thirty years.

It's important to do this now, before we lose more historic resources.

Thanks so much for your consideration.

Martha Park



Outlook

Historic districts - Historic RFP OPPOSE

From Kevin Phillips <[REDACTED]>**Date** Sun 1/19/2025 3:14 PM**To** Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear San Mateo City Council and Staff,

I reject the idea that new historic districts should be established. I am a Glazenwood resident and recently completed a significant remodel to my home. Because Glazenwood is historic, my architect and I had to navigate the process with city planners and building staff and I am confident that process added significant time and costs to the project. My goal was to complete said renovation while following both general and historic guidelines. I wasn't looking to push the boundaries and do anything out of the ordinary. What should have been a simple project, took 18 months from my first submittal to permit approval.

The approach to add new historic homes to the list should not be a shotgun blast. It should happen on a case-by-case basis after thorough research and investigation on the specific property.

Please do not support any actions to establish more historical districts. Vote no on the proposed Historic consultant RFP. This is not a priority for San Mateo.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Respectfully,

Kevin Phillips
Glazenwood Resident, San Mateo Business Owner



Urgent Appeal: SAY NO to the \$500K Historic RFP

From Scott Poms <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 1/20/2025 3:59 PM

To Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear Honorable Mayor Newsom and City Council Members,

I live in the San Mateo Park neighborhood. I would appreciate a no vote. As I need time to get up to speed to understand this issue more fully. It does not make sense to me to be spending this much on a study.

I am writing regarding the proposed \$500,000 Historic Resources RFP. As a San Mateo resident, I have several serious concerns:

Financial Impact:

- City faces \$10.6M budget deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure needs
- \$500,000 could be better spent on deteriorating parks and facilities
- Less than 0.03% of San Mateo's 101,327 residents are driving this expensive initiative

Community Opposition & Consensus:

- In Baywood, 9 out of 10 residents weighing in oppose historic districting
- No broad community consensus exists for such a consequential decision
- City has conducted no community outreach to determine if this is a citywide priority

Legal Concerns:

- JMBM Attorneys warn of permanent, irreversible consequences in this RFP format
- Historical context statement with potential for CEQA obligations
- Potential impacts exceed those of general plan or zoning changes
- Council is putting the cart before the horse - community outreach should precede signing this RFP

Alternative Solution:

- Implement staff-driven community engagement process
- Focus on voluntary participation rather than mandatory impositions
- Develop consent-driven historic preservation ordinance
- Prioritize infrastructure benefiting all residents

I urge you to vote NO on this \$500,000 RFP and instead support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

Scott Poms
[REDACTED]



Outlook

Oppose Historic District Designation for San Mateo

From Ofelia VL Ramos <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 1/20/2025 7:57 AM

To Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear San Mateo City Council,

The RFP under consideration could create historic districts throughout the City, without owner consent. I reject the idea that we should establish new historic districts. We want to see San Mateo thrive, and establishing arbitrary hurdles to remodels and new construction, will not help us evolve and thrive.

Please do not support any actions to establish more historical districts. Vote no on the proposed Historic consultant RFP. This is not a priority for San Mateo.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Ofelia V. L. Ramos



Outlook

Urgent Appeal: Reconsider the \$500K Historic RFP

From Amit Rathore <[REDACTED]>**Date** Sun 1/19/2025 5:55 PM**To** Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear Honorable Mayor Newsom and City Council Members,

I am writing regarding the proposed \$500,000 Historic Resources RFP. As a San Mateo resident, I have several serious concerns:

Financial Impact:

- City faces \$10.6M budget deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure needs
- \$500,000 could be better spent on deteriorating parks and facilities
- Less than 0.03% of San Mateo's 101,327 residents are driving this expensive initiative

Community Opposition & Consensus:

- In Baywood, 9 out of 10 residents weighing in oppose historic districting
- No broad community consensus exists for such a consequential decision
- City has conducted no community outreach to determine if this is a citywide priority

Legal Concerns:

- JMBM Attorneys warn of permanent, irreversible consequences in this RFP format
- Historical context statement with potential for CEQA obligations
- Potential impacts exceed those of general plan or zoning changes
- Council is putting the cart before the horse - community outreach should precede signing this RFP

Alternative Solution:

- Implement staff-driven community engagement process
- Focus on voluntary participation rather than mandatory impositions
- Develop consent-driven historic preservation ordinance
- Prioritize infrastructure benefiting all residents

I urge you to vote NO on this \$500,000 RFP and instead support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
Amit Rathore,
Baywood Home Owner

Sent from my iPhone



Urgent Appeal: SAY NO to the \$500K Historic RFP

From Steve Revesz <[REDACTED]>

Date Tue 1/21/2025 7:57 AM

To Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear Honorable Mayor Newsom and City Council Members,

I am writing regarding the proposed \$500,000 Historic Resources RFP. At a time when our city has so many serious issues, expending resources on this silly vanity project is irresponsible.

As a long-time San Mateo resident, I have several serious concerns:

Financial Impact:

- City faces \$10.6M budget deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure needs
- \$500,000 could be better spent on deteriorating parks and facilities
- Less than 0.03% of San Mateo's 101,327 residents are driving this expensive initiative

Community Opposition & Consensus:

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Alternative Solution:

- Implement staff-driven community engagement process
- Focus on voluntary participation rather than mandatory impositions
- Develop consent-driven historic preservation ordinance
- Prioritize infrastructure benefiting all residents

I urge you to vote NO on this \$500,000 RFP and instead support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
Steven Revesz

Sent from my iPhone



Outlook

Historic designations - OPPOSE

From Stephanie Reyes <[REDACTED]>**Date** Thu 1/16/2025 3:14 PM**To** City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear San Mateo City Council,

Please reject the idea that we should establish new historic districts, in any neighborhoods. One of San Mateo's greatest liabilities is our high cost of living, and making it harder to build more homes will only make it more expensive.

We have worked to pass good housing laws, both at the state and local levels, and a historic district would undermine these laws, as well as our general plan and newly-minted Measure T. Please do not support any actions to establish more historical districts. Vote no on the proposed Historic consultant RFP. This is not a priority for San Mateo.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Stephanie Reyes
[REDACTED]



Outlook

Oppose historic designations survey - unnecessary expense, worse affordability

From Rafael Reyes <[REDACTED]>**Date** Mon 1/20/2025 8:07 PM**To** City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear Mayor Newsom and San Mateo City Council Members,

Please reject the idea that we should survey the city for establishing historic districts in the city. This is a poor use of the city's limited resources - up to as much as nearly \$400,000 plus substantial staff time - at a time when the city is facing substantial budget challenges.

The outcome would worsen San Mateo's already unaffordable cost of living and restrict property-owner's rights according to their needs.

Please reject this unnecessary, expensive process that will benefit a small number of residents and limit San Mateo's future.

Please vote NO.

Sincerely,

-Rafael Reyes
[REDACTED]



Historic Designation: OPPOSE

From Tyler Richendollar <[REDACTED]>
Date Tue 1/21/2025 6:27 AM
To City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear San Mateo city council,

More affordable housing should be at the forefront of decision-making for San Mateo's leadership. Please reject the idea and related proposals that intimate that we should establish new historic districts in any of our neighborhoods. One of San Mateo's greatest liabilities is our high cost of living, and making it harder to build more homes will only make it more expensive.

We have worked to pass good housing laws, both at the state and local levels, and a historic district would undermine these laws, as well as our general plan and newly-minted Measure T. Please do not support any actions to establish more historical districts. Vote no on the proposed Historic consultant RFP. This is not a priority for San Mateo and makes it a less welcoming place for its citizens.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Tyler Richendollar
[REDACTED]



No Consent, No Historic: Vote "Option 3" on Jan 21

From Andrew Ryan <[REDACTED]>

Date Tue 1/21/2025 10:20 AM

To Rob Newsom <[REDACTED]>; Adam Loraine <[REDACTED]>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <[REDACTED]>; Nicole Fernandez <[REDACTED]>; City Mgr <[REDACTED]>; City Council (San Mateo) <[REDACTED]>; Clerk <[REDACTED]>

Honorable Councilmembers,

Please reject unchecked, unconsented historic preservation in San Mateo and vote "Option 3" at today's Council meeting. The proposed RFP is:

- 1) **An expensive boondoggle in a year when San Mateo is already facing a \$10.7 million dollar budget deficit.** We're not fooled by this being funded from the "Advance Planning" fund: at the end of the day this is taxpayer money, plain and simple. Meanwhile, every time I walk through Central Park I am furious because our city's crown jewel park has a playground that is barely usable by children. The same slides that my child (now 20 years old) once played on are gone or in ruins.
- 2) **Not what the people want.** Documented formal opposition is running 9:1 in Baywood. Your inboxes are flooded with opposition, and you will see us in force tonight at the meeting as well.
- 3) **Unnecessary.** Why do we need to hire consultants to tell San Mateo what to preserve and how to preserve it? We live here, we should be able to establish our own priorities around preservation. And we already employ a city staff and attorney more than capable of writing laws.
- 4) **Likely to create new historic districts even if that is not the intent.** City Council will be paying to do the Heritage Alliance's work for them. The San Mateo Heritage Alliance has already shown they don't care about a local process and have bypassed the local process to go directly to the state. The SMHA will almost certainly use the context statements created by the RFP to create new state-level historic districts, bypassing council *again*. You can't say you weren't warned.

We have attempted to engage constructively with City staff to develop a plan that incorporates owner consent, but staff has ignored us and presented an RFP that does not guarantee any owner consent. If Council votes down the RFP, Less Red Tape will be happy to sit down and help negotiate for a better path forward that incorporates consent and other strong protections for property owners and the City. That is our plan sent by our attorney Daniel Freedman as "Option 4".

We are committed to solving this problem in a way that benefits the wishes of a majority of San Mateans. The current RFP benefits only the San Mateo Heritage Alliance. As councilmembers, you were elected to represent the wishes of the people, not minority fringe special interests like the Heritage Alliance who have no popular base in this city.

Vote "Option 3". No consent, no historic. If you must spend taxpayer money on something only a tiny fringe minority wants, please go with our "Option 4" that preserves homeowner consent in the process.

--andrew



Vote no on Historic consultant RFP

From Rebecca Schaaf <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 1/20/2025 8:00 PM
To City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear San Mateo city council,

Please reject the idea that we should establish new historic districts, in any neighborhoods. One of San Mateo's greatest liabilities is our high cost of living, and making it harder to build more homes will only make it more expensive.

We have worked to pass good housing laws, both at the state and local levels, and a historic district would undermine these laws, as well as our general plan and newly-minted Measure T. Please do not support any actions to establish more historical districts. Vote no on the proposed Historic consultant RFP. This is not a priority for San Mateo.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Schaaf

District 2
San Mateo



Outlook

Historic Preservation is not a Priority

From Sophie Scheidlinger <[REDACTED]>**Date** Sun 1/19/2025 9:48 PM**To** Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed \$500,000 expenditure for historic preservation consultants coming to vote on January 21st.

With a \$10.6M deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure projects, this spending makes no sense. Our Central Park Playground is closed, MLK Rec Center is in shambles, and other community facilities are deteriorating.

This project, pushed by a preservationist special interest group, appears designed to block development and create more red tape. Similar efforts in Baywood were opposed 9-to-1 by residents. It would effectively undermine Measure T's housing progress and put huge burdens on homeowners and eventually increase rental prices as well.

Please prioritize our critical infrastructure needs over creating new bureaucratic barriers. Our community needs functional parks and facilities, not more development restrictions.

These historical preservation efforts do not reflect my priorities and I oppose them.

Sincerely,
Sophie



Urgent Appeal: SAY NO to the \$500K Historic RFP

From Deepthi Somasunder <[REDACTED]>

Date Sun 1/19/2025 4:28 PM

To Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear Honorable Mayor Newsom and City Council Members,

I am writing regarding the proposed \$500,000 Historic Resources RFP. As a San Mateo resident, I have several serious concerns:

Financial Impact:

- City faces \$10.6M budget deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure needs
- \$500,000 could be better spent on deteriorating parks and facilities
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- JMBM Attorneys warn of permanent, irreversible consequences in this RFP format
- Historical context statement with potential for CEQA obligations
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- Council is putting the cart before the horse - community outreach should precede signing this RFP

Alternative Solution:

- Implement staff-driven community engagement process
- Focus on voluntary participation rather than mandatory impositions
- Develop consent-driven historic preservation ordinance
- Prioritize infrastructure benefiting all residents

I urge you to vote NO on this \$500,000 RFP and instead support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
Deepthi Somasunder

Sent from my iPhone



Do not fund or support Baywood historic district project

From Judy Syrkin-Nikolau <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 1/20/2025 5:10 PM

To City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

My name is Judy Syrkin-Nikolau and I have been a San Mateo resident for nearly 10 years. I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Baywood Historic Resources RFP.

It is very disappointing that projects such as the Central Park redesign have been stalled (even the park is already *closed*!!) while prioritizing projects that have far less importance to the vast majority of the people of San Mateo.

This money would be much better spent funding community wide projects that benefit all San Mateoans, such as the Central Park Playground Redesign or one of the many other underfunded projects that San Mateo has on the books.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Thank you,

A Concerned Resident of San Mateo



Outlook

Let San Mateans Dictate Their Neighborhood: YIMBYs Go Home

From Lisa Taner <[REDACTED]>**Date** Mon 1/20/2025 12:25 PM**To** City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Let San Mateans Dictate Their Neighborhood: YIMBYs Go Home

YIMBYs just can't leave San Mateo alone until they have their way at every turn. They have already put out a call to email or attend the City Council meeting tomorrow to sway your votes on the process for historical districts. Half of their call to action is absolute rubbish. But the bottom line is that it's high time to allow residents and process to dictate San Mateo outcomes - NOT OUTSIDERS.

Thank you in advance,

Lisa Taner
Resident



Outlook

Vote YES to Appropriate Funds for Historic Resource Update & Consultant

From Lisa Vande Voorde <[REDACTED]>**Date** Tue 1/21/2025 7:32 AM**To** City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Honorable Mayor and City Council Members,

I'm writing to urge you to please vote yes on Option 1 to approve the Rincon Consultants scope of work to prepare the historic context study and update the historic preservation ordinance. It's important to do the historic context study first, as it will inform the key components of the historic preservation ordinance itself. And Option 1 is more cost-effective, coming in at only 0.12% of the City's 2025-26 budget. Literally decimal dust!

Protecting and preserving historic resources is a federal, state, and local priority. It is a goal and policy in our General Plan. Now is the time to implement these goals and policies. The accelerated pace of development has residents concerned about the loss of our oldest buildings. In addition, there is a lot of confusion about what constitutes a historic resource and how the city manages those resources. The confusion can only be resolved by the city providing clarity in the designation process and ordinance.

Yet somehow, this issue has been colored and hijacked by those with other agendas.

Conflating the housing issue with preserving what little historic resources San Mateo has left is only a red herring to promote the YIMBY agenda. I urge the City Council to see through that and move forward with the long-overdue updating of our historic context study and historic preservation ordinance. **Please vote YES on Option 1 tonight.**

Thank you, and I very much appreciate your efforts to help preserve San Mateo's 130-year history for future generations.

Yours truly,

Lisa Vande Voorde
San Mateo Resident



Outlook

Historic districts - Historic RFP OPPOSE

From Tracy Volponi <[REDACTED]>**Date** Fri 1/17/2025 4:49 PM**To** Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear San Mateo City Council,

The RFP under consideration could create historic districts throughout the City, without owner consent. I reject the idea that we should establish new historic districts. We want to see San Mateo thrive, and establishing arbitrary hurdles to remodels and new construction, will not help us evolve and thrive.

Please do not support any actions to establish more historical districts. Vote no on the proposed Historic consultant RFP. This is NOT a priority for San Mateo. **That \$500,000 of OUR taxpayer dollars should be spent on other things, such as improving infrastructure, versus trying to control homeowner's property rights.**

Tracy Volponi – San Mateo City Resident



January 21, 2025 City Council Agenda Item 10 - Historic Policy Update

From Connie Weiss <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 1/20/2025 12:19 PM

To City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Hello Mayor Newsom and City Council Members,

Thank you for moving forward with the first steps in San Mateo's historic policy update. By approving the budget Tuesday evening, San Mateo can save money and be more efficient by updating and clarifying our outdated zoning ordinance now. As you know, this is part of the General Plan 2040 and the time and cost has already been factored into the City's plans.

I would encourage you to approve both the context statement and ordinance as developing them concurrently enables the ordinance to reflect the resources and the policies that will be identified in the context statement. This will have the added benefit of providing greater clarity to property owners and city staff.

As background, I grew up on the East Coast where preservation of historic resources are core to a city's identity. It creates a reason to visit and a sense of place. The West Coast is young in comparison, which makes it even more imperative for us to preserve what little historic buildings we do have! Tuesday's favorable decision to move forward is the needed first step.

I understand that there will be further discussion on this at a later date, but I'm aware there will be speakers Tuesday night who will try to argue historic preservation blocks housing or creates an onerous burden on property owners. Not only is this not true, it is also the case that this scope of work will not designate any new historic resources nor will it

designate any new historic districts. It's time to allow San Mateo to define its own sense of place and importance in history.

Thank you,

Connie Weiss
San Mateo Resident



Historic Districts

From Robert Whitehair <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 1/20/2025 1:08 PM

To City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>; Teri Whitehair <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council,

My wife and I have owned a home in San Mateo for close to 43 years. In all that time, we have been keenly interested in there being as much affordable housing as possible.

Special historic districts work against that interest. I ask the Council to figure out a way to fit in more housing. Carving out special "protected" districts that might limit ADUs or other shared housing options punishes the rest of us. We already have regular requirements for what can be built where, and those are sufficient.

Those of us in Neighborhood Associations such as ours, Borel Neighborhood Association, are deeply concerned that once one district is created, it is an easy step for creation of the next district, without our approval!

Please do not support any actions to establish historical districts. Vote no on the proposed Historic consultant RFP. **This is not a priority for San Mateo and benefits just a few elite neighborhoods.**

Robert and Teri Whitehair

Acknowledgement: We reside on the unceded lands of our indigenous ancestors, while benefiting from racial privilege. We begin making reparations by accepting only a kinship view of our place on the planet: All life is interconnected, interdependent, and interrelated.



Outlook

Historic Preservation is not a Priority

From Shihomi K. Yamanokuchi <[REDACTED]>**Date** Mon 1/20/2025 9:00 AM**To** Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed \$500,000 expenditure for historic preservation consultants coming to vote on January 21st.

With a \$10.6M deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure projects, this spending makes no sense. Our Central Park Playground is closed, MLK Rec Center is in shambles, and other community facilities are deteriorating.

This project, pushed by a preservationist special interest group, appears designed to block development and create more red tape. Similar efforts in Baywood were opposed 9-to-1 by residents. It would effectively undermine Measure T's housing progress and put huge burdens on homeowners and eventually increase rental prices as well.

Please prioritize our critical infrastructure needs over creating new bureaucratic barriers. Our community needs functional parks and facilities, not more development restrictions.

These historical preservation efforts do not reflect my priorities and I oppose them.

Sincerely,
Shihomi Yamanokuchi



Historic Preservation is not a Priority

From [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Date Mon 1/20/2025 1:34 AM

To Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

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This project, pushed by a preservationist special interest group, appears designed to block development and create more red tape. Similar efforts in Baywood were opposed 9-to-1 by residents. It would effectively undermine Measure T's housing progress and put huge burdens on homeowners and eventually increase rental prices as well.

Please prioritize our critical infrastructure needs over creating new bureaucratic barriers. Our community needs functional parks and facilities, not more development restrictions.

These historical preservation efforts do not reflect my priorities and I oppose them.

Sincerely,
Eric You

Sent from my iPhone



Historic Preservation is not a Priority

From Catherine Yuan <[REDACTED]>

Date Tue 1/21/2025 7:50 AM

To Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

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This project, pushed by a preservationist special interest group, appears designed to block development and create more red tape. Similar efforts in Baywood were opposed 9-to-1 by residents. It would effectively undermine Measure T's housing progress and put huge burdens on homeowners and eventually increase rental prices as well.

Please prioritize our critical infrastructure needs over creating new bureaucratic barriers. Our community needs functional parks and facilities, not more development restrictions.

These historical preservation efforts do not reflect my priorities and I oppose them.

Sincerely,
Catherine



Historic designations - OPPOSE

From Mary Rose LeBaron <[REDACTED]>
Date Tue 1/21/2025 3:39 PM
To City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear San Mateo city council,

Please reject the idea that we should establish new historic districts, in any neighborhoods. One of San Mateo's greatest liabilities is our high cost of living, and making it harder to build more homes will only make it more expensive.

We have worked to pass good housing laws, both at the state and local levels, and a historic district would undermine these laws, as well as our general plan and newly-minted Measure T. Please do not support any actions to establish more historical districts. Vote no on the proposed Historic consultant RFP. This is not a priority for San Mateo.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Mary Rose LeBaron



January 21, 2025 Council Meeting

From Maurine Killough <[REDACTED]>

Date Tue 1/21/2025 2:00 PM

To City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <cityclerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Cc Laurie Hietter <[REDACTED]>

Dear Mayor Newsom and Members of City Council,

I urge you to support Option 1 for the Rincon Scope of Work for our city-wide historic context study and the update of the historic preservation ordinance. Having a plan that considers our history and aesthetics adds great quality and demand to our precious area. We should protect and plan carefully.

We have so much worth recognizing and preserving! The recent nomination of the Yoshiko Yamanouchi House as a historic landmark in our Central Neighborhood is a perfect example of how we can preserve and highlight San Mateo's history; in this case the importance of the contributions of Japanese Americans to San Mateo.

Thank you for your careful and holistic consideration for Option 1 of the Rincon Scope of Work.

Maurine Killough

You are not IN the Universe you ARE the universe—an intrinsic part of it.

Ultimately you are not a person, but a focal point where the universe is becoming conscious of itself. What an amazing miracle —Eckhart Tolle

[REDACTED]

January 21, 2025

Dear Mayor Newsom and Members of the City Council,

Please support the scope of the Rincon Consultant's Context Study and the update for the Historic Preservation Ordinance with Option 1.

The cost of the study at \$328,000 is only 0.12% of the \$269 million 2025 - 2026 City Budget.

This context study and update must be developed concurrently so the ordinance reflects the resources and the policies that will be identified through the context statement.

This will lay the groundwork necessary for a citywide historic resources understanding, informing not just historic preservation, but also future development.

Thank you.

Best,

Laurie Watanuki
Central Neighborhood



Historic Presevation Ordinance

From weller323 <[REDACTED]>
Date Tue 1/21/2025 12:55 PM
To City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc Laurie Hietter <[REDACTED]>

Dear City Council,

I am urging you to vote "Yes" on Option 1 to approve the Rincon Scope of Work to prepare the historic context study and update the preservation ordinance. Our historic ordinance is woefully out of date, especially in light of the rapid development that is enveloping San Mateo.

Thankfully, the 2024 city council recognized the need for addressing how we maintain our city's unique identity through the General Plan 2040.

While recognizing that change, development and growth is inevitable for San Mateo, these should be guided by consideration for quality of life and the future character of our city. As the General Plan 2040 states one goal is to "preserve the historic and culturally important resources to maintain San Mateo's special identity and continuity with the past." Option 1 is important to this goal (and saves almost \$60,000.00 over Option 2).

Option 1:

- > Will provide an important baseline and framework for how the City should approach preserving our history. There is currently much confusion and misinformation about "historic districts" and "historic resources" and how they relate to building permits remodeling etc. for the private homeowner.

- > Will clarify for homeowners AND city staff how to determine what is historic throughout San Mateo thus saving time, money, and frustration for all.

- >It will not designate any new historic districts or resources.

- >It does not prevent future housing, ADU's, or any restrictions on homeowners. I

- >It will provide a clearer understanding of what enriches life in San Mateo's by identifying its proud cultural heritage and history.

Please vote "Yes" on Option 1!

Sincerely,
Nancy Weller
San Mateo resident and property owner



Historic Preservation

From Stephen Weller <[REDACTED]>
Date Tue 1/21/2025 1:40 PM
To City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <cityclerk@cityofsanmateo.org>; Laurie Hietter [REDACTED]

City Council of San Mateo:

We are long-term residents of San Mateo.

We purchased our home in 1979 to a large degree out of appreciation for the style of homes and neighborhoods throughout San Mateo, including the downtown area.

I have followed the issue of declaring neighborhoods and buildings as "historic" in nature, and I believe that we should attempt to preserve these historic attributes.

There appears to be misunderstanding and misinterpretation of the concept of "historic".

In order to bring clarity to these issues, the City Council has the opportunity to establish the definition of "historic" for property owners, thus eliminating the misunderstandings.

Given the vote this evening, to identify the "option" that will be pursued, I feel that selecting Option #1 is both cost effective and will result in the definitions that we need as a City going forward. This option (#1) does not remove any property rights, and will allow future development of housing while respecting the nature of our community.

Thank you for your service.

Stephen A. Weller, MD

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, January 20, 2025 3:45 PM

To: City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Cc: Clerk <cityclerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Subject: Support Option 1 - Historic Policy Update Effort Professional Services

Dear Honorable Mayor Newson and Councilmembers,

I have been a resident of San Mateo for 37 years and urge you to please vote YES for Option 1 to commission an historic resource context study and historic ordinance update project.

Historic Resources have been neglected by San Mateo for over 35 years now, it is time now, YES, NOW, to understand what resources exist and how and to what extent they should be protected. The City has committed to doing this as stated in the General Plan 2040 document – “Actively identify and preserve historic resources and concentrations of historic resources...” (page 115 Strive San Mateo General Plan 2040). Again, now is the time to follow through on this commitment.

We are excited that the City is interested in a robust public engagement program that will inform the community and allow for community input. It will provide clarity on how historic properties are defined and designated. The City, staff and public will have a clear roadmap explaining the permitting process for proposed substantial modifications to historic resources.

Why even bother with historic resources? It is because our history is what defines us, it contributes to our quality of life and it tells a story as to our shared culture. It is also a selfless act that provides a gift to subsequent generations. In short, our history as manifested by our historic resources, is the soul of our community and we need to protect it. A City that does not honor or recognize its historic past is a City without a soul – one that is all about the present and one that caters to a greedy, self-serving few.

Once historic resources decay or are destroyed, they are gone – that story and that dimension to our quality of life is gone forever.

There is opposition to this project. The opponents are deliberately misrepresenting the scope of work and the outcome of this effort – it does not prevent housing in any way. Denying this study will not make housing more affordable in San Mateo.

There are numerous benefits to launching this effort:

- This work will actually SAVE the City money and reduce risk in the long run. The resulting Context Study and updated ordinance will provide the guidelines and eliminate the guesswork of what should be protected and how it should be protected.
- It will also guide where and how new development can occur by identifying the areas of San Mateo that can be developed without destroying or degrading historic resources.
- This will guide City staff in decision-making and helps avoid irreversible catastrophic actions that potentially destroy historic resources and potentially embroil the City in costly legal action.

- It will speed up development, reduce contention and opposition that drags down approvals.

Having met and talked to most of you I know you are all honorable people of great integrity and that you will vote YES to launching this historic resource effort – something that will enhance this City Council’s legacy as stewards of our history and cultural past. Vote YES on Option 1 – it will be money well spent.

With respect,

Randy Hietter



I oppose historic designations in San Mateo

From Wendy Chou <[REDACTED]>

Date Tue 1/21/2025 11:22 AM

To City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear San Mateo City Council,

Please reject the idea that we should establish new historic districts in any San Mateo neighborhoods. San Mateo is already saddled with an unaffordably high cost of living, and making it harder to build more homes will only exacerbate the problem of affordability.

We have worked to pass good housing laws, both at the state and local levels (witness Measure T, which passed with a strong majority), but a historic district would undermine this process.

It is my opinion that the drive to create historic districts is motivated by NIMBYism — giving more power and control to the "haves" at the expense of those who don't have the privilege of currently owning property. This ploy is a shameful violation of our community's responsibility to uphold housing equity and consider the welfare of the community as a whole.

Please vote no on the proposed Historic consultant RFP.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Wendy Chou

resident of San Mateo



Outlook

Historic districts - Historic RFP OPPOSE

From Mike Feng <[REDACTED]>**Date** Tue 1/21/2025 2:31 PM**To** Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear San Mateo City Council,

The RFP under consideration could create historic districts throughout the City, without owner consent. I reject the idea that we should establish new historic districts. We want to see San Mateo thrive, and establishing arbitrary hurdles to remodels and new construction, will not help us evolve and thrive.

I do not want my hard-earned tax dollars (\$500K) to be used for a historical study -- the city has higher priorities (e.g. job growth, affordable housing) and should be applying funds to think towards the future. Also, the environment and climate are constantly changing (e.g. LA Fires), and I want San Mateo residents to have the flexibility to remodel their homes with minimal restrictions if they want to disaster-proof their properties (e.g. earthquake-proof, fire-proof in Highlands).

Please do not support any actions to establish more historical districts. Vote no on the proposed Historic consultant RFP. This is not a priority for San Mateo.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Michael Feng

San Mateo Resident for 21 years (total)

- Baywood Resident for 13 years
- Central Park Resident for 8 years



Outlook

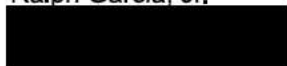
I oppose going forward with the RFP proposal for historic district study.

From Ralph Garcia <[REDACTED]>

Date Tue 1/21/2025 12:30 PM

Please do not waste city money on a historic district study. I oppose going forward with an RFP to study something most citizens do not want.

Ralph Garcia, Jr.



36 year resident.

RG2 has sent this message.



My Submittal RE: January 21, 2025 City Council Agenda Item #10.

From Douglas Handerson <[REDACTED]>

Date Tue 1/21/2025 10:59 AM

To Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; mayor@cityofsanmateo.org <mayor@cityofsanmateo.org>; Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.or <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.or>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; Christina Horrisberger <chorrisberger@cityofsanmateo.org>

Cc Alex Khojikian <akhojikian@cityofsanmateo.org>; Martin McTaggart <mmctaggart@cityofsanmateo.org>

 1 attachment (546 KB)

Historic Home on San Mateo Dr.jpg;

RE: Historic Policy Update Effort Professional Services – Appropriation and Agreement Please Include Me in Tonight's Speakers and Hand This Out to Applicable City Staff, the Mayor and City Council (with attached Photo)

January 21, 2025

Esteemed Mayor and City Council,

I am Doug Handerson, a resident of North Central San Mateo for the past five years.

As a supporter of Peninsula for Everyone, as well as the YIMBY group, I was again alarmed this morning when I received from a second housing advocacy organization, an email with huge misrepresentations of the intent of the city staff's recommendation regarding City Council Agenda item #10 this evening.

Tonight, the planning staff is not proposing the initiation of a new Historic Districts in San Mateo.

Just like the YIMBY email to me last week, this January 21, 2025 Peninsula for Everyone email misled the public about tonight's City Council Agenda item regarding updating our city's historic Inventory update and a contractual agreement with a professional historic consultant.

For the first time in person, I am attending tonight's City Council meeting to ask the City Council and Mayor to please listen to me as a non-home-owning North Central resident, as I speak in support of the agenda item's recommendation to initiate an historic survey, on a city-wide, individual site basis.

I do not support new historic districts, on a broad neighborhood basis. I do support protecting and preserving certain individual structures and properties, due to unique historic character or social significance.

Please see the attached photo of an historic building at 29-19 North San Mateo Drive, at the southwesterly corner of Saint Matthews Avenue, one block from El Camino Real.

This building, located on a street corner, is a prime example, in my opinion, of one that is deserving of recognition and preservation. Besides multiple residential units, the property is also home to the freestanding building which currently is home to the
Nouvel Vogue/Bridal Boutique.

Standing in front of this beautiful building in the photo are many members of Unitarian Universalists of San Mateo during our religious group's historic walk of our North Central and Downtown neighborhood.

As a member of Unitarian Universalists of San Mateo, I hope for similar recognition for our Sanctuary building, the longest-continually-serving religious meeting place in San Mateo.

Built in 1905, the church building at 300 East Santa Inez Avenue has survived intact through multiple earthquakes.

Located at the corner of North Ellsworth Street and East Santa Inez, less than one mile from our historic Downtown, the home of UU San Mateo has not yet received formal historic recognition on the City's Inventory.

By understanding the type, quantity, and location of our historic resources, our City leaders can make informed decisions that balance growth with preservation.

That is why we must recognize what makes San Mateo special – its unique history – as we move forward with providing for future needs of our community.

I support City staff's recommendation for Agenda Item #10, under New Business.

Thank you,

Doug Handerson





Historic districts - Historic RFP OPPOSE

From [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Date Tue 1/21/2025 1:45 PM
To City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you review carefully the proposed Historic Resources RFP and its potential consequences. The City has higher priorities, so this proposal should not move forward.

- Parks and public safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- The City is facing a \$10.6M budget shortfall, so the Council needs to prioritize its funds. A neighborhood survey survey has already determined that Baywood residents are 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district.
- A non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against the City's goal of fiscal responsibility. Surely, there are less expensive alternatives to preservation goals.

In summary, I urge you to carefully consider this proposal and, at the least, defer it to a time when funds are more available to be wisely spent to benefit all residents of the community.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Resident of San Mateo



Outlook

January 21, 2025 Council Meeting

From Maurine Killough <[REDACTED]>**Date** Tue 1/21/2025 2:00 PM**To** City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <cityclerk@cityofsanmateo.org>**Cc** Laurie Hietter <[REDACTED]>

Dear Mayor Newsom and Members of City Council,

I urge you to support Option 1 for the Rincon Scope of Work for our city-wide historic context study and the update of the historic preservation ordinance. Having a plan that considers our history and aesthetics adds great quality and demand to our precious area. We should protect and plan carefully.

We have so much worth recognizing and preserving! The recent nomination of the Yoshiko Yamanouchi House as a historic landmark in our Central Neighborhood is a perfect example of how we can preserve and highlight San Mateo's history; in this case the importance of the contributions of Japanese Americans to San Mateo.

Thank you for your careful and holistic consideration for Option 1 of the Rincon Scope of Work.

Maurine Killough

You are not IN the Universe you ARE the universe—an intrinsic part of it.

Ultimately you are not a person, but a focal point where the universe is becoming conscious of itself. What an amazing miracle.—Eckhart Tolle



Historic designations - OPPOSE

From Jon New <[REDACTED]>

Date Tue 1/21/2025 11:59 AM

To City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Cc Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear San Mateo City Council,

I'm strongly opposed to establishing new historic districts. If a household wishes to preserve their household as an homage to the 1950s, they're free to do so, but to impose that restriction on their neighbors is ludicrous. This is a nakedly transparent attempt to prevent housing from being built and would set a terrible precedent. Cities are dynamic and vibrant, and the ability to change and adapt is important.

Please Vote no on the proposed Historic consultant RFP. This is not a priority for San Mateo. There are much better things we can spend our tax-payer dollars on.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Jonathan New

San Mateo



Outlook

San Mateo Historic Preservation Ordinance

From Oser, Roger <[REDACTED]>**Date** Tue 1/21/2025 12:59 PM**To** City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <cityclerk@cityofsanmateo.org>**Cc** Laurie Hietter <[REDACTED]>

Sir/Madame-

I am an owner of a contributor home in San Mateo's Baywood neighborhood.

We felt so lucky to have an opportunity to purchase this home in 1996 based on its location in Baywood, near Downtown, its incredible 1928 architecture with seldom seen anymore arches, wrought iron in and out, natural wood doors, Spanish tile roof and floors, and colorful tile insets on the exterior façade and steps... and a few blocks from where I was born and raised in 1955!

While we remodeled the inside extensively over the years, we have worked hard to modernize it however preserve the original features of the home due to its unique qualities that are irreplaceable in our opinion.

Many in the neighborhood have also sought to preserve these historic gems, which keeps Baywood as a very sought after area in which to live and raise our families. Yet others have begun to demolish these gems to build new, modern homes, many of which are lovely, however most of which do not preserve the incredible heritage of our neighborhood.

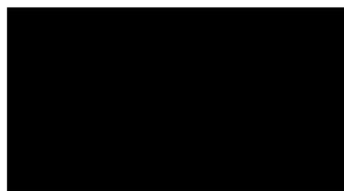
Please let it be known that I am in full support of a Baywood Historic District to further ensure this incredible architectural history is recognized and preserved for many generations to come.

To that end I support the Context Study and Historic Preservation Ordinance Update that is currently being considered by the City of San Mateo.

Thank you for your consideration.

Roger

Roger Oser



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Outlook

San Mateo Park / District 1 does not need historic preservation - alternatives?

From Kolja Schlütter <[REDACTED]>**Date** Tue 1/21/2025 1:32 PM**To** City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>**Cc** Alex Khojikian <akhojikian@cityofsanmateo.org>

Good afternoon Council,

I'm writing in regard to item number 10 on tonight's Council agenda.

As a resident of San Mateo Park/District 1, Council Member Diaz-Nash, I'd like to specifically address you here.

My family does NOT in any form support historical districting, and we oppose any actions by Council that could have unintended consequences for property owners and residents in this city that will lead to restrictions, more bureaucracy, and cost.

As very active donors, my wife and I are involved in cultural institutions up and down the Peninsula and have donated extensively to the San Mateo Park Neighborhood Association (SPNA) to care for and preserve our trees and islands as public spaces - which the city sadly does not have the adequate budget for. We value history. What we do not value is government (and special interest groups) encroaching on our private property rights as a form of development control. The city has extensive review processes already in place to ensure development and change align with the community feel.

Most homes that carry weight in the city's history are already listed on local, state, or federal historic registries and are protected. The same goes for the historic downtown of San Mateo.

My wife and I would not have chosen the San Mateo Park neighborhood to purchase a multi-million dollar property if we had known about any potential restrictions through historical preservation efforts. These prospects scare property buyers - we know of at least 3 families that scratched San Mateo off their list for buying single-family homes after hearing about the activities and approach of the SMHA and potentially the city.

No one in the city has been properly consulted yet. The cited preservation support through the General Plan input was ~30 unique individuals (most of them organized in the SMHA) over an almost 7(!) year public comment period. I believe you have already received many more letters and calls in opposition within the past 96 hours. There is no popular support for this, and Baywood serves as a cautionary tale here of what happens when something like this is done over people's heads.

Even if you believe this RFP and overreaching direction is the way forward, I want to remind you that you face an almost \$11M deficit this year and over \$300M of unfunded critical infrastructure investments, of which almost everything should have higher priority than this RFP. I'm ashamed to see the state of some of our parks and playgrounds - that has a significantly bigger impact on the quality of life and attractiveness of this city for all of us.

I urge you to vote no/option 3 on this RFP proposal.

If you still believe historic preservation is a priority right now, here are many options Council could pursue instead of wasting our tax dollars, here are some:

- Engage our entire community with staff-driven district meetings or surveys. You need to get the pulse of the entire city before embarking on any spending. This level of *proactive* outreach is even done for much less impactful projects - why not here?
- Staff and the community could work out guiding principles of preservation for an updated ordinance before engaging consultants. Why do we need consultants to tell us what the residents should want? The people need to externalize the guiding principles - before spending money!
- Further, you could try elevating existing historic material that is scattered all over the place today. If the SMHA cares this much, they could centralize all this in an accessible city website at minimum cost. This is a project I would be willing to donate to.
- Launch a city program that is capped at \$50K or \$100K that would financially support *successful owner-driven* state historic applications of individual properties (not districts) and call it a day.

Thank you,

Kolja Schluetter



Historic Preservation Ordinance Update

From Francie Souza <[REDACTED]>

Date Tue 1/21/2025 11:59 AM

To City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <cityclerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Cc Laurie Hietter <[REDACTED]>

To the City Council of San Mateo -

As a resident of San Mateo, I'm urging you to vote YES on Option 1 to approve the Rincon Scope of Work to prepare the historic context study and update the historic preservation ordinance. Our current ordinance is inadequate whereas the new scope will provide greater clarity to property owners and city staff, and save time and money for both. The cost of the study is less than 1% of the 2025-2026 budget, delaying it further will only see costs increase. This scope of work will NOT designate new historic resources or districts and will NOT impose any new burden on property owners or halt the development of new housing projects. It will create a baseline to provide for consistent and uniform evaluation of historic resources moving forward and increase awareness and understanding of the factors that contribute to whether or not a property is eligible to be a historic property.

Historic preservation does not prevent housing but it enriches San Mateo and our quality of life. Please consider the voices of residents in San Mateo as you vote on this Context Study.

Thank you,
Frances Souza



Historic Preservation Project

From Libby Tang <[REDACTED]>
Date Tue 1/21/2025 12:40 PM
To Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear City Council Members,

As a resident of the Hayward Park neighborhood, I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed \$500,000 expenditure for historic preservation consultants coming to vote today, January 21st.

With a \$10.6M deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure projects, this spending makes no sense. Our Central Park Playground is closed, MLK Rec Center is in shambles, and other community facilities are deteriorating. In my social circle of new parents, Central Park is a popular and safe place to allow children to play. My friends specifically drive from other towns in the Peninsula to visit our parks. The draw of the parks also increases revenue for the city when these visitors shop and eat at downtown restaurants.

This project, pushed by a preservationist special interest group, appears designed to block development and create more red tape. Similar efforts in Baywood were opposed 9-to-1 by residents. It would effectively undermine Measure T's housing progress and put huge burdens on homeowners and eventually increase rental prices as well.

Please prioritize our critical infrastructure needs over creating new bureaucratic barriers. Our community needs functional parks and facilities, not more development restrictions.

These historical preservation efforts do not reflect my priorities and I oppose them.

Sincerely,
Libby Tang



Outlook

No to historic districts in San Mateo!

From Dennis Yarak <[REDACTED]>**Date** Tue 1/21/2025 2:10 PM**To** City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

This is a transparent attempt to circumvent legally binding mandates to improve availability of needed housing in this city. Voters have spoken with the passing of Measure T that more housing is essential to the future vitality of our city.

Please do not support any actions to establish more historical districts!

Respectfully,

Dennis Yarak
[REDACTED]

TASO ZOGRAFOS

Date: January 21, 2025

TO: City Council, City of San Mateo

FR: Taso Zografos, Resident

RE: Council Meeting January 21, 2025, Agenda Item #10

Historic Policy Update Effort Professional Services – Appropriation and Agreement

Dear Mayor Newsom and Members of the City Council,

I am writing to voice my strong support for **Option 1** and to urge you to approve the Rincon Survey, along with the proposed context study and updates to our historic preservation ordinance. These steps are vital to preserving San Mateo's distinctive character while accommodating the needs of a modern, growing community.

Why the Rincon Survey and Context Study Matter

Our city's preservation framework, grounded in outdated documents from 1989 and 1993, is no longer sufficient to address the challenges and opportunities of today. San Mateo needs a fresh and thorough understanding of its historical assets to inform smarter, more cohesive planning and decision-making. The context study offers several key benefits:

- **Strategic Resource Management:** By cataloging and evaluating the city's historic assets, we can make balanced and informed decisions about what to preserve and where development can proceed.
- **Laying the Groundwork for Progress:** The study will establish a solid foundation for future preservation initiatives, enabling better policies and strategies tailored to San Mateo's needs.
- **Cost-Effectiveness:** Compared to detailed surveys of individual properties, this approach provides broad, actionable insights at a much lower cost.

This effort is not about imposing new restrictions or creating districts overnight. It is about ensuring that our city's unique heritage is acknowledged and considered thoughtfully in future decisions.

The Need for an Updated Historic Preservation Ordinance

Our current ordinance no longer aligns with the realities of a dynamic and growing city. Modernizing it will allow San Mateo to:

- **Protect Cultural and Economic Value:** Preservation enhances not only the aesthetic appeal of our neighborhoods but also property values and community pride.
- **Create Clear Guidelines:** A revised ordinance will define processes for identifying and designating historic resources, ensuring transparency and consistency.
- **Address New Historic Districts:** Our existing framework does not account for newly recognized areas, such as the Yoshiko Yamanouchi House Historic District or the pending Baywood Historic District.

Ensuring Community-Centered Decision-Making

It is essential that the voices of San Mateo residents take priority in this process. Outside groups with no direct stake in our city's future should not overshadow the perspectives of those who live,

TASO ZOGRAFOS

work, and invest in our community. Residents have chosen San Mateo for its character, charm, and history, and they deserve a meaningful role in shaping its future.

With the recent repeal of Measure Y's protections through Measure T, the city must now take proactive steps to prevent overdevelopment that disregards San Mateo's unique identity. This requires the council's leadership and commitment to thoughtful, community-focused planning.

Preservation and Growth Can Coexist

Historic preservation and new development need not be at odds. Thoughtful integration of modern housing solutions—like ADUs, expansions, and remodels—into historically significant neighborhoods can meet housing needs while maintaining the city's character. The stringent criteria for historic designation ensure that only truly valuable resources are protected, leaving room for necessary growth and innovation.

A Call to Action

San Mateo stands at a crossroads. Without a clear understanding of our historic resources and updated policies to guide us, we risk losing what makes our city unique. Approving the Rincon Survey, context study, and ordinance updates is a small but impactful investment in our community's future.

Protecting the history and character of San Mateo is a cause worthy of our collective effort. I urge you to act decisively to preserve our past while planning wisely for our future.

Sincerely,
Taso Zografos
San Mateo Resident

[REDACTED]

From: Sonia Aldape [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2025 8:12 PM
To: City Council (San Mateo)
Subject: Historic designations - OPPOSE

Dear San Mateo city council,

Please reject the idea that we should establish new historic districts, in any neighborhoods. One of San Mateo's greatest liabilities is our high cost of living, and making it harder to build more homes will only make it more expensive. As a healthcare worker in the community, I see the deep and lasting impacts on our working class neighbors who suffer and sacrifice their health to endure long commutes and/or struggle to live here close to their workplaces and communities.

We have worked to pass good housing laws, both at the state and local levels, and a historic district would undermine these laws, as well as our general plan and newly-minted Measure T. Please do not support any actions to establish more historical districts. Vote no on the proposed Historic consultant RFP. This is not a priority for San Mateo.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sonia Aldape

San Mateo-Foster City resident and healthcare worker

[REDACTED]

From: Omar Arriaga <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2025 8:32 PM
To: Rob Newsom; Adam Loraine; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki; Nicole Fernandez; Lisa Diaz Nash; City Mgr; City Council (San Mateo); Clerk
Subject: NO on historic preservation

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed \$500,000 expenditure for historic preservation consultants coming to vote on January 21st.

With a \$10.6M deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure projects, this spending makes no sense. Our Central Park Playground is closed, MLK Rec Center is in shambles, and other community facilities are deteriorating.

This project, pushed by a preservationist special interest group, appears designed to block development and create more red tape. Similar efforts in Baywood were opposed 9-to-1 by residents. It would effectively undermine Measure T's housing progress and put huge burdens on homeowners and eventually increase rental prices as well.

Please prioritize our critical infrastructure needs over creating new bureaucratic barriers. Our community needs functional parks and facilities, not more development restrictions.

These historical preservation efforts do not reflect my priorities and I oppose them.

Sincerely,
Omar Arriaga

[REDACTED]

From: Katrina Castillo [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2025 2:11 PM
To: City Council (San Mateo); Clerk
Subject: Public Comment for 1/21 City Council Meeting

Hello City Council,

I am a San Mateo resident and constituent and want to express that I do not support the city council to appropriate funds for a Historic Policy Update Effort Professional Services (bullet point 10 in the 1/21 meeting agenda).

San Mateo has many underfunded infrastructure projects, and I don't believe that a historical preservation analysis should supersede funding improvement of infrastructure that San Mateo residents are actively using (or waiting to use because they are awaiting repair/renovations).

Thank you,
Katrina Castillo

[REDACTED]

From: Christina Dikas <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2025 7:54 PM
To: City Council (San Mateo); Clerk
Subject: In FAVOR of approving historic preservation project

Mayor Newsom and City Council Members,

I am a resident of the Hayward Park neighborhood and I'm also a professional historic resources planner. I am in SUPPORT of your approval of Rincon Consultants' scope of work and fee to prepare a Historic Context Statement and update the City of San Mateo's historic preservation ordinance.

I have prepared the same city planning tools for cities including San Francisco, Sacramento, Napa, Mill Valley, and Pacific Grove. I am ACTIVELY preparing a Historic Context Statement and updating the historic preservation ordinances for the cities of Mountain View and San Luis Obispo--cities that are dealing with the same development pressures as San Mateo.

A Historic Context Statement will be a useful planning tool for the Planning Department, city review bodies, historic and CEQA consultants, architects/designers, and residents. It provides a history of the city through the lens of its physical development, often highlighting and celebrating the contributions of underrepresented communities in the process. Most importantly, it sets evaluation criteria requirements for identifying historic properties that would be used by historic consultants and planners on an individual property basis or in larger historic surveys. It does not, in and of itself, identify or designate any historic properties.

Furthermore, an update to the City of San Mateo's historic preservation ordinance will clarify the City's processes for designation, treatment and alterations, or demolition of historic resources, including how the City wants to treat historic districts. The ordinance will provide needed clarity to the planning review process.

Rincon Consultants is a competent planning consultancy firm with expertise in the community outreach process. I HIGHLY recommend supporting approval of the funds for this project.

Sincerely,
Christina Dikas

[REDACTED]

From: JJ Elliott [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2025 10:12 AM
To: Rob Newsom; Adam Loraine; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki; Nicole Fernandez; Lisa Diaz
Subject: Council Agenda 21 Jan. '25: NO on \$500K Historic RFP

Dear City Council-

As the City considers whether to move forward with the historic RFP, if the City must do so, I want to encourage the Council to follow the leads of neighboring cities such as Palo Alto, San Carlos, and Burlingame, each of which I believe have considered, and adopted, owner consent as central to their historic resources programs. In particular, I want to call your attention to our next door neighbor Burlingame, which is similar to San Mateo in so many ways. In Burlingame, a private property may only be designated historic in the city's local register through consent of the property owner (See Section 25.35.040(D): "*Inclusion of a private property on the Historic Register shall only occur upon request of the property owner.*"). Also, where a property has been designated part of the local register via consent, a subsequent owner can request that the property be removed from the local register (See 25.35.060(B): "*The owner(s) of a designated historic resource may request deletion of the listed resource from the Burlingame Historic Register.*").

The idea of costly and restrictive regulations being forced upon my private property without my consent is extremely concerning and is an affront on private property rights. I ask that the Council follow the lead of so many of our neighboring communities by placing owner consent front and center in any updated historic resource program.

Regards,

JJ Elliott
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Adriana Fernandez <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2025 9:17 PM
To: Rob Newsom; Adam Loraine; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki; Nicole Fernandez; Lisa Diaz
Nash; City Mgr; City Council (San Mateo); Clerk
Subject: No on Historic Preservation

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

I'm a long time resident of North Central San Mateo. I'm here to urge you to vote for option 3. Rather than spending the money on historic preservations, I urge you to invest the money in our local parks which many need upgrades, especially our degraded King Community Center Pool which is in dire need of reparations. These essential resources will benefit many of our community members especially during these challenging times with the new administration.

Sincerely,

Adriana

Adriana Fernandez Arriaga
B.S. Environmental Science and Management
University of California, Davis 2017

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2025 3:45 PM
To: City Council (San Mateo)
Cc: Clerk
Subject: Support Option 1 - Historic Policy Update Effort Professional Services

Dear Honorable Mayor Newson and Councilmembers,

I have been a resident of San Mateo for 37 years and urge you to please vote YES for Option 1 to commission an historic resource context study and historic ordinance update project.

Historic Resources have been neglected by San Mateo for over 35 years now, it is time now, YES, NOW, to understand what resources exist and how and to what extent they should be protected. The City has committed to doing this as stated in the General Plan 2040 document – “Actively identify and preserve historic resources and concentrations of historic resources...” (page 115 Strive San Mateo General Plan 2040). Again, now is the time to follow through on this commitment.

We are excited that the City is interested in a robust public engagement program that will inform the community and allow for community input. It will provide clarity on how historic properties are defined and designated. The City, staff and public will have a clear roadmap explaining the permitting process for proposed substantial modifications to historic resources.

Why even bother with historic resources? It is because our history is what defines us, it contributes to our quality of life and it tells a story as to our shared culture. It is also a selfless act that provides a gift to subsequent generations. In short, our history as manifested by our historic resources, is the soul of our community and we need to protect it. A City that does not honor or recognize its historic past is a City without a soul – one that is all about the present and one that caters to a greedy, self-serving few.

Once historic resources decay or are destroyed, they are gone – that story and that dimension to our quality of life is gone forever.

There is opposition to this project. The opponents are deliberately misrepresenting the scope of work and the outcome of this effort – it does not prevent housing in any way. Denying this study will not make housing more affordable in San Mateo.

There are numerous benefits to launching this effort:

- This work will actually SAVE the City money and reduce risk in the long run. The resulting Context Study and updated ordinance will provide the guidelines and eliminate the guesswork of what should be protected and how it should be protected.
- It will also guide where and how new development can occur by identifying the areas of San Mateo that can be developed without destroying or degrading historic resources.
- This will guide City staff in decision-making and helps avoid irreversible catastrophic actions that potentially destroy historic resources and potentially embroil the City in costly legal action.

- It will speed up development, reduce contention and opposition that drags down approvals.

Having met and talked to most of you I know you are all honorable people of great integrity and that you will vote YES to launching this historic resource effort – something that will enhance this City Council's legacy as stewards of our history and cultural past. Vote YES on Option 1 – it will be money well spent.

With respect,

Randy Hietter

[REDACTED]

From: Yen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2025 4:22 PM
To: Rob Newsom; Adam Loraine; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki; Nicole Fernandez; Lisa Diaz Nash; City Mgr; City Council (San Mateo); Clerk
Subject: Historic Preservation is not a Priority

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed \$500,000 expenditure for historic preservation consultants coming to vote on January 21st.

With a \$10.6M deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure projects, this spending makes no sense. Our Central Park Playground is closed, MLK Rec Center is in shambles, and other community facilities are deteriorating.

This project, pushed by a preservationist special interest group, appears designed to block development and create more red tape. Similar efforts in Baywood were opposed 9-to-1 by residents. It would effectively undermine Measure T's housing progress and put huge burdens on homeowners and eventually increase rental prices as well.

Please prioritize our critical infrastructure needs over creating new bureaucratic barriers. Our community needs functional parks and facilities, not more development restrictions.

These historical preservation efforts do not reflect my priorities and I oppose them.

Sincerely,
Yen pang

January 21, 2025

TO: Honorable Mayor Newsom
Deputy Mayor Loraine
Council Members Fernandez, Cwirko-Godycki and Diaz-Nash

**RE: Item 10: Historic Policy Update Effort Professional Services – Appropriation
and Agreement
January 21, 2025 - San Mateo City Council Meeting**


Please Vote to APPROVE Item 10 -Option 1 as it appears on tonight's Agenda.

An annual "Blue Sky" Session is held early each year by City Council. The purpose is for Council members to: share their priorities for the Council during the coming year; review/discuss/update or delete items from the previous year's list; and to gather input from the public on their priorities. Updating the *City's 1989 Historic Building Survey* has consistently appeared on one, if not more, of Councilmembers' list. Yet, no forward progress has been made. Please make a move in the positive direction by Approving Item 10 on tonight's Agenda.

Soon after my appointment to the Planning Commission in 2011, I requested a copy of the City of San Mateo Historic Building Survey Final Report, January 1989, from then Chief of Planning Ron Munekawa. This survey and resulting 96 page document was a joint effort of the City of San Mateo's Planning Department and the San Mateo County Historical Association.

Common wisdom says that such documents should be updated every five years. San Mateo's 1989 Survey has not been updated in 36 years; the existing San Mateo Historic Building Ordinance has not been updated in 32 years.

Please make a move in the correct direction tonight by Approving Item 10 – Option 1.

Thank You,
Dianne Whitaker, Architect
San Mateo


[REDACTED]

From: tjstodgel <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2025 2:40 PM
To: City Council (San Mateo)
Subject: Opposition to making San Mateo Park part of any historic districting.

I live at 610 Occidental Ave in San Mateo Park. My husband Tom + I oppose spending money on a consultant and oppose any historic districting in San Mateo Park.

Thank you,
Joanne + Tom Stodgel

Sent from my Galaxy

[REDACTED]

From: Jennifer Strauss [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, January 19, 2025 7:03 PM
To: Rob Newsom; Adam Loraine; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki; Nicole Fernandez; Lisa Diaz Nash; City Mgr; City Council (San Mateo); Clerk
Subject: Historic Preservation is not what we need right now

Dear City Council Members,

I am a homeowner of a property in San Mateo. I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed \$500,000 expenditure for historic preservation consultants coming to vote on January 21st.

With a \$10.6M deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure projects, this spending makes no sense. Our Central Park Playground is closed, MLK Rec Center is in shambles, and other community facilities are deteriorating.

This project, reads like a special interest group way around hosting development and is anti family.

Please prioritize our critical infrastructure needs over creating new bureaucratic barriers. Our community needs functional parks and facilities, not more development restrictions.

These historical preservation efforts do not reflect my priorities and I oppose them.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Strauss

Council Meeting Speech 1/21/25

Jay Kuhre

I have not been allotted enough time to address my credentials or background so I will simply include the requirement mandated by the historic process:

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that what I have said in the past and am about to say is true and correct.



Signature

1/21/2025

Date

I am not going to build a high rise on my property. I do not support high density housing or commercial development in any neighborhood.

The Inconvenient Truth about historical preservation is that it takes a great deal of time and money.

To repair or replace a historic Slate or Spanish tile roof requires that the same materials be used. That cost is double or triple the cost of conventional.

Replacing single pane - divided light wooden window is equally cumbersome. Find it; buy it which will take an extraordinary amount of time and money followed by continual maintenance. Don't forget the environmental impact of scraping, sanding, priming and repainting every few years.

The fires in LA highlight the fact that historic homes are tinderboxes. An owner in need of repair and or replacement will have fewer options that take longer and command higher prices. Fire Resistant, Environmentally Friendly materials and Sprinklers name a few of what is required by current codes.

These things don't apply to me you say. Oh yes they do! ALL OF THIS AND MORE HAS BEEN APPLIED TO ME!

Historic preservation should only be undertaken by owners that are aware of the property's historic significance before they purchase the property. They must understand, be qualified and able to afford the time and cost of The Inconvenient Truth

No Consent No Historic!

Please Read The email attachment sent earlier Today



GUIDE FOR PROFESSIONALS USING THE HISTORIC CONTEXT STATEMENT FOR PROPERTY EVALUATIONS

Revised August 2020

GETTING STARTED

Los Angeles' citywide Historic Context Statement (HCS) is designed for use by SurveyLA field surveyors and by all agencies, organizations, and professionals completing historic resources surveys in the city of Los Angeles.

The context statement is organized using the Multiple Property Documentation (MPD) format developed by the National Park Service for use in nominating properties related by theme to the National Register of Historic Places. This format provides a consistent framework for evaluating historic resources. It has been adapted for local use to evaluate the eligibility of properties for city, state, and federal designation programs and to facilitate environmental review processes. Familiarization with the structure and content of the HCS is critical to applying it properly. For more information see: <http://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb16b/>.

SELECTING THE APPROPRIATE CONTEXT(s) AND THEME(s)

The first step to property evaluation is the identification of the appropriate context/theme combination using the context statement outline available at <https://planning.lacity.org/preservation-design/historic-resources/historic-themes>. Note that historic contexts cover both individual resources and historic districts.

Properties may be significant under more than one context/theme combination and surveyors and other evaluators should use all that apply. For example, a single-family residence may be a significant example of a Craftsman Bungalow under the context/theme "Architecture and Engineering: Arts and Crafts Movement" and may also be the residence of a noted person in the entertainment industry under the context/theme "Entertainment Industry: Residential Properties Associated with the Entertainment Industry." Or a Post WWII car wash may be a significant example of a property type under the context/theme "Commercial Development and the Automobile: Car and Car Services" and an excellent example of the Googie style under the context/theme "Architecture and Engineering: "Postwar Modernism: Mid-Century Modern."

NARRATIVE HISTORIC CONTEXTS

Theme narratives published to date are organized by context in accordance with the outline referenced above, and are available at <https://planning.lacity.org/preservation-design/historic-resources/historic-themes>. In cases where the narratives are not available contact the Office of Historic Resources for guidance.

USING THE ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS, CHARACTER-DEFINING FEATURES, AND INTEGRITY ASPECTS

Using the Multiple Property Documentation approach, each of the theme narratives is followed by a discussion of related property types and their associated eligibility standards, including character-defining/associative features and integrity aspects, which are applied in the evaluation process. (Note: In cases where narrative context is not available contact the Office of Historic Resources for guidance.)

The eligibility standards, character-defining/associative features, and integrity aspects are guidelines for field surveyors making property evaluations. They represent the strength of the association of a resource to a theme and identify physical and associative features a property must have to be a good example of a type within a theme.

- Properties do NOT need to meet ALL eligibility standards and character-defining/associative features to be eligible; these are guidelines based on knowledge of known significant examples of property types.
- Integrity aspects and considerations are guidelines for assessing resource integrity within a specific context/theme. There are many variables to consider in assessing integrity depending on WHY a resource is significant.

USING THE PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE

Periods of Significance (POS) for contexts and themes were developed early on in the SurveyLA process to guide field evaluations and were based, at that time, on designated resources and known resources identified through research and previous survey evaluations. Many of these have been revised/refined based on actual survey findings and additional research conducted for developing theme narratives.

Surveyors and other evaluators are advised to use professional judgment in applying a POS to properties as it is possible that resources may be identified over time that fall outside a POS and still meet eligibility standards. For example, a 1961 example of Late Colonial Revival style architecture may be determined eligible although it is outside the 1960 end date for this theme.

POS end date of 1980: The end date for SurveyLA is 1980 and, therefore, has been used as the end date of the POS for many themes. In these cases, the end date is arbitrary and should be extended over time. For example, the 1980 POS end date for the context/theme "Institutional Development: Social Clubs and Organizations" should be expanded over time to include organizations and meeting places significant beyond 1980.

Good evening. My name is Richard Delaney and I represent the

no consent.... no historic group.

When I think about tonight's meeting I am reminded of the Boston Tea Party and the American Revolution. "No taxation without representation". The primary grievance was most believed they were taxed by people without having a voice in the decision. I think we have the same situation here. We are paying for a study we don't want, advocated by a small group many who are not affected. This is exactly what is proposed tonight. This is not what America is about. The democratic process is about representation at the table. Yes, it is our tax money that we sorely need for other projects and no, we did not get a chance to be represented. We voted but our vote was not heard. I ask you to put a stop to this tonight and reject the proposal to do a neighborhood study.

OPTION 3

Urgent Appeal: SAY NO to the \$500K Historic RFP

From Paul Labagh [REDACTED]

Date Tue 1/21/2025 5:06 PM

To Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear Honorable Mayor Newsom and City Council Members,

I am writing regarding the proposed \$500,000 Historic Resources RFP. As a San Mateo resident, I have several serious concerns:

Financial Impact:

- City faces \$10.6M budget deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure needs
- \$500,000 could be better spent on deteriorating parks and facilities
- Less than 0.03% of San Mateo's 101,327 residents are driving this expensive initiative

Community Opposition & Consensus:

- In Baywood, 9 out of 10 residents weighing in oppose historic districting
- No broad community consensus exists for such a consequential decision
- City has conducted no community outreach to determine if this is a citywide priority

Legal Concerns:

- JMBM Attorneys warn of permanent, irreversible consequences in this RFP format
- Historical context statement with potential for CEQA obligations
- Potential impacts exceed those of general plan or zoning changes
- Council is putting the cart before the horse - community outreach should precede signing this RFP

Alternative Solution:

- Implement staff-driven community engagement process
- Focus on voluntary participation rather than mandatory impositions
- Develop consent-driven historic preservation ordinance
- Prioritize infrastructure benefiting all residents

I urge you to vote NO on this \$500,000 RFP and instead support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
[Paul Labagh]

Sent from my iPhone

FW: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP

From: Karen Stokes <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Sunday, January 26, 2025 12:58 PM

To: Rob Newsom <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; Nicole Fernandez <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

-
- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
 - Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
 - This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
 - This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
 - Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

Sent from my iPhone



Historic district item on tonight's agenda

From Eldridge, Karyl <[REDACTED]>

Date Tue 1/21/2025 3:03 PM

To Rob Newsom <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; Lisa Diaz Nash <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>;
nfernandize@cityofsanmateo.org <nfernandize@cityofsanmateo.org>; Adam Loraine
<aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; Danielle Cwirko-Godycki <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>

Cc City Mgr <citymgr@cityofsanmateo.org>; Clerk <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear Members of the San Mateo City Council,

I am writing to express my concern about Item #10 on tonight's meeting agenda, "Historic Policy Update Effort Professional Services—Appropriation and Agreement."

My concern is that the survey under consideration is introductory to encouraging widespread creation of historic districts. This, in turn, would have the effect of freezing in place wide swaths of our city and rendering them unable to respond to evolving housing needs. It would hinder our ability to meet RHNA targets, as well as handcuffing the city as it works to reverse historical patterns of exclusion and fulfill its obligation to Affirmatively Further Fair Housing.

As I witnessed the effort that was initiated in Baywood, I had special concern about the ability of a handful of folks to create burdensome requirements that would apply to literally hundreds of others. At the very least, I would hope the city would prevent this from happening in the future. I would propose that before a neighborhood could be deemed historic, a majority of homeowners in the neighborhood would be required to give their consent, thereby making the process more democratic and consensus-driven.

Thank you for your consideration.

Karyl Eldridge
Vice Chair of One San Mateo

***Wire Fraud is Real*. Before wiring any money, call the intended recipient at a number you know is valid to confirm the instructions.** Additionally, please note that the sender does not have authority to bind a party to a real estate contract via written or verbal communication.

[REDACTED]

From: Katrina Castillo <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2025 2:18 PM
To: City Council (San Mateo); Clerk
Subject: Support for bike lanes

Hello City Council,

I am a San Mateo resident and constituent. I would like to voice my support for bike lanes and urge the city council to not remove bike lanes on Humboldt Street.

As we move forward into the future with our changed climate, we should be encouraging more people to use bikes, not discourage them by making it unsafe to use a bicycle.

We should not be prioritizing cars over people.

Thank you,
Katrina Castillo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: Parks over wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:43:12 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Amy Hansell <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 19, 2025 at 4:42 PM
Subject: URGENT: Parks over wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Parent and Taxpayer of San Mateo

Sent from my iPhone. Please pardon any typos/auto correct errors.

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: City council members: please SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:49:41 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Anna McLean** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 1:29 PM
Subject: City council members: please SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: newsom@cityofsanmateo.org <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
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- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

Sent from my iPhone

Attention: This message is sent by a law firm and may contain information that is privileged or confidential. If you received this transmission in error, please notify the sender by reply e-mail and delete the message and any attachments.

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: Subject: URGENT: Parks over wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:48:46 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Anna Yun <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 10:39 AM
Subject: Subject: URGENT: Parks over wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Parent and Taxpayer of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: District 3 SAYS NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey spending
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:56:17 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Ashley Frambach <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 9:01 PM
Subject: URGENT: District 3 SAYS NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey spending
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Mayor Newsom and San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT spending ANY money on historic surveying in San Mateo.

- There are SO MANY more important parks and safety priorities for the City. I would much rather see these funds go toward park and playground improvements for neighborhood children.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend without their input and over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots who obsess about other people's houses.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility especially when there are MUCH CHEAPER alternatives to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message. She already goes against the will of her own district and would likely go against our wishes on this as well.

In summary, I urge you to REJECT spending ANY budget on historic surveys.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: District 2 SAYS NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:57:33 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Barbara Pavicic <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 10:28 PM
Subject: URGENT: District 2 SAYS NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>, ICE <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

We are respectfully calling on you to REJECT spending ANY money on the proposed Historic Resources RFP or any other historic surveying in San Mateo. We live near Borel Middle Svchool and believe this survey is an unnecessary expenditure, put forward by a very small and self-serving vocal group called the San Mateo Heritage Alliance. When Baywood homeowners overwhelmingly rejected the no-consent historic districting by a ratio of 9 to 1, the group switched to a new tactic to control houses and remodels in the entire City of San Mateo via a local "historic resources survey."

This survey is very expensive and not needed. It can also be very harmful, as insurance companies drop houses receiving historic significance designations. It can also add more bureaucracy and increase costs on sensible owners upgrading their property.

Please prioritize safety, security and infrastructure as you allocate scarce resources. And use this opportunity to put an end to the maneuvering of this very small group of zealots.

Thank you for your consideration.

Barbara and Nikola Pavicic

- There are SO MANY more important parks and safety priorities for the City.

- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend without their input and over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots who obsess about other people's houses.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility especially when there are MUCH CHEAPER alternatives to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message. She already goes against the will of her own district and would likely go against our wishes on this as well.

In summary, I urge you to REJECT spending ANY budget on historic surveys.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:47:30 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Beryl Kim Tang <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 8:40 AM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: Please vote NO on the Historic Resources Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:49:52 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Brad Goodwin <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 1:54 PM
Subject: Please vote NO on the Historic Resources Survey RFP
To: <mnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

Please REJECT the proposed Historic Resources Survey RFP.

As a long time Baywood resident I deeply value its unique character and have invested in my home to preserve that character for myself and my community. Recently a small group tried to force a Baywood Historic District upon 440 Baywood residents without their knowledge or consent in an extraordinary anti-democratic process. Our Baywood neighborhood mobilized itself and voted 9 to 1 against the historic district. The amount of grassroots effort needed to overturn this misguided effort was immense and a vocal rejection of its NIMBY-ism and authoritarianism.

Councilperson Linda Diaz Nash, as the District 1 representative, I would have thought you would have been sufficiently in touch with your constituents to know their opposition to the Baywood Historic District and would have led the efforts to overturn. Unfortunately that was a missed opportunity. Instead you have turned your attention to advancing another disconnected-from-voter-will overreach: this wasteful Historical Resources RFP. It is my hope you will reflect on the clear voice of your constituents and adjust your priorities for San Mateo accordingly, withdrawing this proposal.

Mayor Newsom, I welcome your stated focus on fiscal responsibility. Please use that to identify simpler and less expensive alternatives for targeted historic preservation goals.

In summary, I urge all council members vote NO on the Historic Survey RFP. Please find a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents.

Sincerely,

Brad Goodwin

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:43:30 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Brian Kilroy** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 19, 2025 at 5:33 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

Brian and Gillian Kilroy
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:56:00 PM
Attachments: [image983034.png](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Brooks Stough <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 8:06 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: mewsom@cityofsanmateo.org <mewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

Sent from my iPhone

Brooks Stough

[REDACTED]
Direct: [REDACTED]
Silicon Valley
[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

Primary Office: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

This email and any attachments may contain private, confidential and privileged material for the sole use of the intended recipient. If you are not the intended recipient, please immediately delete this email and any attachments.

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:48:36 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **CAROL PERUSSE** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 10:27 AM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

The city council should not be involved in nor should the taxpayers pay for a private bid for historical designation. Individuals can apply for it on their own if they think it is such a good idea. Others should not be forced into something they do not want.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic resources RFP. Surely the city has more important issues to spend time and money on!

Sincerely,
Carol Perusse

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: Urgent Appeal: REJECT the \$500K Historic RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:59:48 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Casey Dougan** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jan 21, 2025 at 11:05 AM
Subject: Urgent Appeal: REJECT the \$500K Historic RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Honorable Mayor Newsom and City Council Members,

I am writing to request you **REJECT** the proposed \$500,000 Historic Resources RFP. As a San Mateo resident, I have several serious concerns:

****Financial Impact:****

- City faces \$10.6M budget deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure needs
- \$500,000 could be better spent on deteriorating parks and facilities
- Less than 0.03% of San Mateo's 101,327 residents are driving this expensive initiative

****Community Opposition & Consensus:****

- In Baywood, 9 out of 10 residents weighing in oppose historic districting
- No broad community consensus exists for such a consequential decision
- City has conducted no community outreach to determine if this is a citywide priority

****Legal Concerns:****

- JMBM Attorneys warn of permanent, irreversible consequences in this RFP format
- Historical context statement with potential for CEQA obligations
- Potential impacts exceed those of general plan or zoning changes
- Council is putting the cart before the horse - community outreach should precede signing this RFP

****Alternative Solution:****

- Implement staff-driven community engagement process
- Focus on voluntary participation rather than mandatory impositions
- Develop consent-driven historic preservation ordinance
- Prioritize infrastructure benefiting all residents

I urge you to vote NO on this \$500,000 RFP and instead support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

Casey Dougan



From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: Parks over wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:48:28 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Cecilia Wong <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 10:16 AM
Subject: URGENT: Parks over wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Parent and Taxpayer of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:44:04 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Charlene Alfson** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 19, 2025 at 6:17 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:55:25 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Susie** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 7:10 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
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- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

Charles and Suzanne Schafer

Concerned Residents of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: VOTE NO to wasteful 'Historic' Resources RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:58:12 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Chris Battles** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jan 21, 2025 at 4:56 AM
Subject: URGENT: VOTE NO to wasteful 'Historic' Resources RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Opposition to the Proposed Historic Resources RFP

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to strongly urge you **to REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP**, as it does not align with the will of the community or the city's most pressing priorities.

Key considerations:

- **Lack of Baywood Community Support:** The Baywood community voiced overwhelming opposition to the proposed historic district, with a **9-to-1 stance against it**. Support for this initiative appears limited to a small, highly vocal group.
- **Fiscal Responsibility & City Priorities:** This initiative contradicts Mayor Newsom's commendable focus on prudent financial management. Approving this expenditure in the face of a \$10.6 million budget shortfall will likely generate significant -- and well deserved -- anger among your constituents. Our resources should be allocated to higher-priority initiatives such as public safety and parks, which better reflect the needs and expectations of our community.
- **Unnecessary Bureaucracy and Risk:** The proposed non-consensual historic survey introduces unnecessary bureaucracy and could expose the city to increased legal costs, further straining the budget and personnel.
- **Better Alternatives:** There are more cost-effective alternatives available to achieve historic preservation goals without burdening taxpayers.

[Note: Lisa Diaz Nash has been intentionally omitted from this message as she ignores the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.]

In closing, I strongly request that you **VOTE "NO" against the Historic Resources RFP**.

Respectfully,

Christopher Battles
Concerned Baywood Resident

,

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: Urgent Appeal: REJECT the \$500K Historic RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:42:09 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Christine Barulich <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sat, Jan 18, 2025 at 10:38 AM
Subject: Urgent Appeal: REJECT the \$500K Historic RFP
To: <alorraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Honorable Mayor Newsom and City Council Members,

I am writing to request you **REJECT** the proposed \$500,000 Historic Resources RFP. As a San Mateo resident, I have several serious concerns:

****Financial Impact:****

- City faces \$10.6M budget deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure needs
- \$500,000 could be better spent on deteriorating parks and facilities
- Less than 0.03% of San Mateo's 101,327 residents are driving this expensive initiative

****Community Opposition & Consensus:****

- In Baywood, 9 out of 10 residents weighing in oppose historic districting
- No broad community consensus exists for such a consequential decision
- City has conducted no community outreach to determine if this is a citywide priority

****Legal Concerns:****

- JMBM Attorneys warn of permanent, irreversible consequences in this RFP format
- Historical context statement with potential for CEQA obligations
- Potential impacts exceed those of general plan or zoning changes
- Council is putting the cart before the horse - community outreach should precede signing this RFP

****Alternative Solution:****

- Implement staff-driven community engagement process
- Focus on voluntary participation rather than mandatory impositions
- Develop consent-driven historic preservation ordinance
- Prioritize infrastructure benefiting all residents

I urge you to vote NO on this \$500,000 RFP and instead support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
Christine Barulich

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: REJECT the \$500K Historic RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 8:00:53 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Christine Montenegro <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jan 21, 2025 at 2:22 PM
Subject: REJECT the \$500K Historic RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Dear Mayor Newsome and City Council Members,

I am a 61 year old native resident of San Mateo. Our great city is in dire need of multiple internal infrastructure projects such as the outdated and broken sewage system which affect me and my family.

We already have a million dollar plus budget deficit. Please do not waste money to hire a \$500,000.00 consultant for the historical district of our city. This would be a complete waste of funds that could be better spent on vital projects which are necessities such as parks and facilities maintenance and repairs.

Furthermore, I believe that the homeowners should be able to make their own decisions regarding their personal property.

Please REJECT the historic RFP!!!

Sincerely,

Christine Naples Montenegro, MA

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:59:56 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Crystal Matye** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jan 21, 2025 at 1:40 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

Crystal Matye

[REDACTED]

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: District 3 SAYS NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey spending
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:52:23 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Daniel Schonberg <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 5:00 PM
Subject: URGENT: District 3 SAYS NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey spending
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Mayor Newsom and San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT spending ANY money on historic surveying in San Mateo.

- There are SO MANY more important parks and safety priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend without their input and over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots who obsess about other people's houses.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility especially when there are MUCH CHEAPER alternatives to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message. She already goes against the will of her own district and would likely go against our wishes on this as well.

In summary, I urge you to REJECT spending ANY budget on historic surveys.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

--
Dan Schonberg

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:59:10 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Daniela N** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jan 21, 2025 at 8:51 AM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP. - Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.

Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.

This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation. This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.

Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo. In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:57:43 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Darren Woulfe** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 11:35 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
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- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority

Darren Woulfe
Baywood Resident

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:44:35 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Derek Cummings <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 19, 2025 at 7:09 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: newsom@cityofsanmateo.org <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

Derek Cummings

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 8:01:48 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Don Holland <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jan 21, 2025 at 5:01 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City. We also need to address climate change and social services for the economically disadvantaged.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
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In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely, Don Holland

[REDACTED]

A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:53:06 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Elaine Salinger** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 5:33 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
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- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

Elaine Salinger, San Mateo County Chapter Leader

Citizens Climate Lobby

[REDACTED]

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: District 2 SAYS NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey spending
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 8:01:42 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Els <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jan 21, 2025 at 4:41 PM
Subject: URGENT: District 2 SAYS NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey spending
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT spending ANY money on historic surveying in San Mateo.

- There are SO MANY more important parks and safety priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend without their input and over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots who obsess about other people's houses.
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- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility especially when there are MUCH CHEAPER alternatives to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message. She already goes against the will of her own district and would likely go against our wishes on this as well.

In summary, I urge you to REJECT spending ANY budget on historic surveys.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:52:56 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Erin Livingston** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 5:32 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
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- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: Parks over wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:46:39 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Erin Stallings** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 7:43 AM
Subject: URGENT: Parks over wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City. Our CENTRAL PARK PLAYGROUND is currently closed and I've been WAITING 12 years FOR IMPROVEMENTS!!
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Parent and Taxpayer of San Mateo

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:48:08 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Esmat Rafizadeh** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 9:41 AM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
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- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

Esmat Rafiezadeh, A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 8:00:00 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Ex Sx <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jan 21, 2025 at 2:00 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
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In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:43:56 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Floyd Alfson** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 19, 2025 at 6:16 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
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In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: District 5 SAYS NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey spending
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 8:01:16 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Gary Phipps** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jan 21, 2025 at 3:39 PM
Subject: URGENT: District 5 SAYS NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey spending
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT spending ANY money on historic surveying in San Mateo.

- There are SO MANY more important parks and safety priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend without their input and over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots who obsess about other people's houses.
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- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message. She already goes against the will of her own district and would likely go against our wishes on this as well.

In summary, I urge you to REJECT spending ANY budget on historic surveys.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

Gary Phipps

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: I urge you to vote NO on 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:47:13 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Gene Alston <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 8:01 AM
Subject: I urge you to vote NO on 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: newsom@cityofsanmateo.org <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Dear Members of the San Mateo City Council,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed allocation of \$500,000 for developing a historic context statement for the Baywood neighborhood. While I understand the importance of preserving our city's history, I believe this expenditure is neither necessary nor justifiable at this time, especially given competing priorities and the lack of consensus among residents.

Concerns Regarding the Proposed Allocation

1. Cost vs. Benefit

Spending half a million dollars on a historical context statement seems disproportionate to the potential benefits. Many cities achieve similar outcomes through more cost-effective means, such as public-private partnerships or leveraging grant funding from preservation organizations. Allocating such a large sum from the city's budget could divert resources from essential services like public safety and infrastructure which currently have a **\$306 Million funding gap**.

2. Community Division

The proposal has already caused significant division within the Baywood neighborhood and beyond. Many residents are concerned about the implications of a historic designation, including potential restrictions on property rights, increased maintenance costs, higher insurance premiums, **and lack of homeowner consent in any designation**. In fact, as measured by the objections received by the State Office of Historic Preservation, we know that **Baywood homeowners object to the historic district 9:1 over those that support it**. Moving forward with this expenditure without broader community support risks further polarizing the neighborhood.

3. Uncertain Outcomes

It is unclear whether creating a historical context statement will bring tangible benefits to the city or its residents. Without a clear roadmap for how this document would enhance the neighborhood or contribute to citywide goals, the expenditure appears premature and speculative. As we've seen, a few individuals have sought to circumvent any local process through their filing with the State. Certainly, based on the stated goals of this group, they seemed to be poised to leverage the historical context statements paid for by the City to

make their own Historical District Designations with the State.

Call to Action

I urge the Council to reconsider this allocation and prioritize more pressing needs that have a direct and measurable impact on the well-being of San Mateo residents. If there is a genuine interest in preserving Baywood's history, I encourage the Council to pursue cost-efficient, inclusive, and community-supported approaches that respect the diverse perspectives of those who call this neighborhood home (not an expensive study paid for by a historical consultant who stands to benefit from a local designation). At a minimum, we must incorporate homeowner consent in any designation process as a fundamental safeguard for homeowner property rights - **No Consent, No Historic.**

Thank you for considering my concerns. Please take this feedback into account as you deliberate on this matter.

Sincerely,
Gene Alston

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:47:40 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Gerald Stokes** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 9:06 AM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: newsom@cityofsanmateo.org <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: Parks over wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:42:30 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Hanish Rathod** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 19, 2025 at 12:12 PM
Subject: URGENT: Parks over wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
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In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

Hanish

A Concerned Parent and Taxpayer of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:58:12 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Heather Brien <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jan 21, 2025 at 4:08 AM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

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- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
Heather Brien

Heather Brien
[REDACTED]



From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:57:56 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Heather Brien <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jan 21, 2025 at 4:04 AM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: [REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
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In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
Heather Brien, A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: Urgent Appeal: REJECT the \$500K HIsoric RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:48:56 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Heidi Bianchi <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 11:02 AM
Subject: Urgent Appeal: REJECT the \$500K HIsoric RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Honorable Mayor Newsom and City Council Members,

I am writing to request you **REJECT** the proposed \$500,000 Historic Resources RFP. As a San Mateo resident, I have several serious concerns:

****Financial Impact:****

- City faces \$10.6M budget deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure needs
- \$500,000 could be better spent on deteriorating parks and facilities
- Less than 0.03% of San Mateo's 101,327 residents are driving this expensive initiative

****Community Opposition & Consensus:****

- In Baywood, 9 out of 10 residents weighing in oppose historic districting
- No broad community consensus exists for such a consequential decision
- City has conducted no community outreach to determine if this is a citywide priority

****Legal Concerns:****

- JMBM Attorneys warn of permanent, irreversible consequences in this RFP format
- Historical context statement with potential for CEQA obligations
- Potential impacts exceed those of general plan or zoning changes
- Council is putting the cart before the horse - community outreach should precede signing this RFP

****Alternative Solution:****

- Implement staff-driven community engagement process
- Focus on voluntary participation rather than mandatory impositions
- Develop consent-driven historic preservation ordinance
- Prioritize infrastructure benefiting all residents

I urge you to vote NO on this \$500,000 RFP and instead support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
Heidi and Aldo Bianchi
Residents of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: District 2 SAYS NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey spending
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:50:56 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Helaine Blumenthal <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 4:10 PM
Subject: URGENT: District 2 SAYS NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey spending
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT spending ANY money on historic surveying in San Mateo.

- There are SO MANY more important parks and safety priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend without their input and over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots who obsess about other people's houses.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility especially when there are MUCH CHEAPER alternatives to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message. She already goes against the will of her own district and would likely go against our wishes on this as well.

In summary, I urge you to REJECT spending ANY budget on historic surveys.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:48:21 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **James Isaacs** [REDACTED] >
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 10:12 AM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

Thank you for all of your hard work looking out for our interests. I and my family have lived in San Mateo since 1989. My wife and I raised our family here. We appreciate how you have effectively managed change and expansion so well.

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.

- My understanding is that we have a \$10 Million deficit on our budget right now. It seems unwise to do this RFP. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.

- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation. We have lived in San Mateo Park for 20 years and in Baywood for 8 years before that and Shoreview before that. I think the gambit on historic district will create a lot of restriction on building, upgrading and remodeling.

- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

James Isaacs

A long term San Mateo Resident

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:45:59 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jeane Makar** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 19, 2025 at 10:20 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: Please REJECT the wasteful Historic Resources Survey
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:50:24 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Joanne Spetz <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 2:36 PM
Subject: Please REJECT the wasteful Historic Resources Survey
To: newsom@cityofsanmateo.org <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

This is an unwise and wasteful use of our city resources. City resources should be prioritized for traffic, parks, and safety.

Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. The Baywood neighborhood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of people who do not represent the majority of homeowners.

This proposed historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation. The proposed survey goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there are much less expensive alternatives to historic preservation goals, including standard processes associated with permitting remodeling and renovations.

Please note that I have not included Lisa Diaz Nash from this message because she is on record as supporting this RFP, even though it does not align with the preferences of members of her own district.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
Joanne Spetz



From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: Vote NO on Historic Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:44:16 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Joe Godfrey** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 19, 2025 at 6:27 PM
Subject: Vote NO on Historic Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

San Mateo City Council Members,

Spending \$500k on a "historic resources survey" seems like a tremendous waste of money. The San Mateo Heritage Alliance ran an incredibly misleading process to try and sneak through an application for Baywood to become a historic district, and once residents were actually engaged and informed, they OVERWHELMING objected. Lisa Nash and her husband were central to this effort, and now it feels like Mrs Nash is trying a different path to prioritize her own desires over the wishes of her own constituents.

There is no demonstrated broad community support for establishing historic designation to areas of San Mateo. Our taxpayer funds should be applied to the things our citizens need and want - improved parks, public safety, schools, Fire, Police, and public works. San Mateo has lots of needs that require government funds. A back-door attempt to subvert the will of a community who have stated resoundly that they do NOT want historic designation is not one of them.

Sincerely,

Joe Godfrey

San Mateo resident, Little League board member, PTA board member, and concerned citizen

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:49:09 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Joe Volponi <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 11:38 AM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: Support User <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members

I AM WRITING TO REQUEST YOU REJECT THE PROPOSED HISTORIC RESOURCES RFP. I OPPOSE ANY ESTABLISHMENT OF BLANKET HISTORIC DISTRICTS WITHOUT OWNER CONSENT.

I'm not opposed to historical things, but the world changes rapidly whether we like it or not. Trying to keep things static in a dynamic environment doesn't make sense. Changes often happen in ways we never foresee. For most people, their home is their most valuable asset and the owners need to have the flexibility to make changes to their property to accommodate the specific needs of their family. With all the change we've seen in our lifetime and the impact it has had on the requirements for our homes (i.e., additional rooms for the home office, larger garage needs, increased demand for technology, etc.), isn't it reasonable to think that the requirements for our homes will need to change going forward in ways we can't even imagine today?

On top of that, consider the criteria required for an historic designation that aren't being met:

1. Baywood is a wonderful neighborhood, but as a whole, it isn't associated with events that have made a significant contribution to local or regional history.
2. I don't know the history of every home in Baywood and some may be associated with a person that made a significant contribution to local, California or national history, but if that is the case the owners of those homes have the absolute right to apply for an historical designation.
3. Homes must embody the distinctive characteristics of a certain period or method of construction that represents the work of a master or has high artistic values. Baywood is an eclectic mix of homes built at different times with many substantially remodeled along the way.

When it is clear that Baywood shouldn't qualify for an Historic District designation on its merit, one certainly has to question the motivation of those who push for it. Are they just seeking control? The proponents would have you believe that it imposes no restrictions on homeowners. That completely defies logic and common sense. If that were the case, why have it at all?

If Baywood becomes a National Historical District, many hidden consequences come with it for both current homeowners and future owners. It severely restricts the improvements a homeowner can make, creates a more bureaucratic approval process and ultimately

lengthens the time required and cost to make home improvements. Further, it burdens all future owners with unreasonable limitations. This adversely impacts resale value. When a potential buyer realizes that they can't modify the home to meet the changing needs of their family, they will not buy the property. Most significantly, it grants a small committee the authority to impose requirements on homeowners without regard to practicality, difficulty, or the cost that will be borne by the homeowner.

A historic district designation is not something we need. **The majority of Baywood residents oppose it.** Consequently, it is an issue that is dividing our community without a lot of upside and potentially significant downside. Individual homeowners purchase homes in Baywood for a variety of reasons but virtually all of them are looking to increase their property values. They should be the ultimate deciders as to what happens to their properties. There isn't a shred of evidence to suggest that the new construction in Baywood has done anything other than enhance property values.

From an insurance standpoint, California is in the midst of a serious homeowner insurance crisis. Evidence of this is the exponential growth in applications to the California FAIR Plan (the insurer of last resort for individuals that can't get coverage in the voluntary market). Many companies have left the state entirely while some of the largest remaining companies have non-renewed huge numbers of existing policies and stopped writing new business altogether. All these actions make homeowners insurance difficult, if not impossible, for individuals to get. Even if coverage is available, it has become extraordinarily expensive. The recent fires in Los Angeles County are almost certain to make this situation far worse. For most people, their home is their most expensive asset and it is a scary proposition when they struggle to find ways to protect it.

In a market where availability is already an issue exacerbated by the levels of bureaucracy; it makes no sense to impose the restrictions that come with Historic Districting. At a minimum, it severely restricts the improvements a homeowner can make, creates a more extensive approval process and ultimately lengthens the time required and cost to rebuild or remodel. This is the very thing that insurers are objecting to now. Historic homes are often more costly to insure than modern homes because they generally are constructed with older, rarer, and more expensive materials that aren't common in modern homebuilding. Furthermore, historic homes are typically constructed using labor intensive methods that require specialized craftsmen and can be slower than modern construction methods.

Even if you are able to insure your home today, that may not be the case going forward in a dynamic market. Insurance companies often have different underwriting rules for "renewal" business than they do for "new" business. Therefore, if a home has been covered by an insurer for a number of years, the agent may have latitude to treat it differently than a piece of "new" business with the same characteristics. In other words, if that same home were sold, and the new owners approached the very same carrier, they might get a very different answer. This is a problem all homeowners could face when they ultimately try to sell their home and the potential buyer can't get coverage (at least 13% of real estate agents in California had a contract canceled in 2024 when a buyer couldn't get insurance).

Also, since some companies have already said they would not renew a policy if it were in a historic district, carriers that accept business today could easily change their stance over time. There is a limit to the amount of exposure a single company can take on in a given area. If other companies pull out, a small number of remaining companies couldn't afford to be the writer for all that is left. Once they see their competitors refusing to write this business, they would almost certainly tighten their stance.

In an already troubled market made worse by unwieldy regulation, if there is even the possibility that creating a Historic District designation would either limit the availability or increase the cost of coverage, it just doesn't make sense. **It simply isn't necessary to impose a blanket designation on all Baywood homeowners or any other neighborhood without their permission.**

In summary, I urge you to **VOTE NO on the historic RFP** and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority. The city has far higher priorities, especially with a \$10.6M budget shortfall!

Sincerely

Joe Volponi

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: District 2 SAYS NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey spending
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:52:59 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **John ODA** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 5:33 PM
Subject: URGENT: District 2 SAYS NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey spending
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT spending ANY money on historic surveying in San Mateo.

- There are SO MANY more important parks and safety priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend without their input and over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots who obsess about other people's houses.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility especially when there are MUCH CHEAPER alternatives to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message. She already goes against the will of her own district and would likely go against our wishes on this as well.

In summary, I urge you to REJECT spending ANY budget on historic surveys.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

John Oda

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:45:03 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **John-Katy Bejarano** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 19, 2025 at 7:45 PM
Subject: Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: newsom@cityofsanmateo.org <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>, CC: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

Katy Bejarano, a concerned resident of Baywood

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: Parks over wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:57:11 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Joyce Chow** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 9:45 PM
Subject: URGENT: Parks over wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Parent and Taxpayer of San Mateo

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:44:47 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kamal Nabijee** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 19, 2025 at 7:38 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

K A M A L N A B I J E E

[REDACTED]

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: Parks over wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:47:45 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Karen E. Hummel <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 9:08 AM
Subject: URGENT: Parks over wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Parent and Taxpayer of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:50:00 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Karen Stokes** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 2:13 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: newsom@cityofsanmateo.org <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:43:49 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kathy Liberatore** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 19, 2025 at 6:07 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
Kathy Liberatore
[REDACTED]

A Concerned Resident of San Mateo 38 years

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: REJECT the \$500K Historic RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 8:02:21 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <[REDACTED]>
Date: Wed, Jan 22, 2025 at 7:24 PM
Subject: REJECT the \$500K Historic RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Honorable Mayor Newsom and City Council Members,

I am writing to request you **REJECT** the proposed \$500,000 Historic Resources RFP.

Really, this is just silly.

Does the majority of the neighborhood really want this? I don't think so.

Is this a high priority for city funds? I don't think so.

Are there less expense options? Others have been proposed.

I urge you to vote NO on this \$500,000 RFP and instead support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
Kevin Laughlin and Kathleen Navarra

[REDACTED]

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:45:42 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Lance Smith <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 19, 2025 at 10:04 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <mnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP. As a local business owner/operator, which services close to 2,500 families in the City of San Mateo through youth programs and offerings - this is a nonsensical use of funds which takes away from the enrichment within the City.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City. Why would we as tax payers waste this capital on a survey to combat a guided vote against this movement? Would these funds not be better suited to enable our community development - perhaps the youth and families our business serves immediately and directly?
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Resident of San Mateo as well as a local business owner operating in the City of San Mateo.

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: Fw: REJECT THE \$500K HISTORIC RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:40:34 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Lauren Lum <[REDACTED]>
Date: Fri, Jan 17, 2025 at 4:09 PM
Subject: Fw: REJECT THE \$500K HISTORIC RFP
To: dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Please see the below

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Lauren Lum <[REDACTED]>
To: newsom@cityofsanmateo.org <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>; aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>; dcirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org <dcirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>; nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2025 at 04:03:27 PM PST
Subject: REJECT THE \$500K HISTORIC RFP

Dear Honorable Mayor Newsom and City Council Members,

I am writing to request you **REJECT** the proposed \$500,000 Historic Resources RFP. As a long-time San Mateo resident, I have several serious concerns:

****Financial Impact:****

- City faces \$10.6M budget deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure needs
- \$500,000 could be better spent on deteriorating parks and facilities
- Less than 0.03% of San Mateo's 101,327 residents are driving this expensive initiative

****Community Opposition & Consensus:****

- In Baywood, 9 out of 10 residents weighing in oppose historic districting
- No broad community consensus exists for such a consequential decision
- City has conducted no community outreach to determine if this is a citywide priority

****Legal Concerns:****

- JMBM Attorneys warn of permanent, irreversible consequences in this RFP format
- Historical context statement with potential for CEQA obligations
- Potential impacts exceed those of general plan or zoning changes
- Council is putting the cart before the horse - community outreach should precede signing this RFP

****Alternative Solution:****

- Implement staff-driven community engagement process
- Focus on voluntary participation rather than mandatory impositions
- Develop consent-driven historic preservation ordinance
- Prioritize infrastructure benefiting all residents

I urge you to vote NO on this \$500,000 RFP and instead support a less expensive, community-driven

alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
Lauren Lum

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: REJECT the \$500K Historic RFP - Urgent Appeal
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:50:33 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Lynn Fischbach <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 3:10 PM
Subject: REJECT the \$500K Historic RFP - Urgent Appeal
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Honorable Mayor Newsom and City Council Members,

I am writing to request you **REJECT** the proposed \$500,000 Historic Resources RFP. As a San Mateo resident, I have several serious concerns:

****Financial Impact:****

- City faces \$10.6M budget deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure needs
- \$500,000 could be better spent on deteriorating parks and facilities
- Less than 0.03% of San Mateo's 101,327 residents are driving this expensive initiative

****Community Opposition & Consensus:****

- In Baywood, 9 out of 10 residents weighing in oppose historic districting
- No broad community consensus exists for such a consequential decision
- City has conducted no community outreach to determine if this is a citywide priority

****Legal Concerns:****

- JMBM Attorneys warn of permanent, irreversible consequences in this RFP format
- Historical context statement with potential for CEQA obligations
- Potential impacts exceed those of general plan or zoning changes
- Council is putting the cart before the horse - community outreach should precede signing this RFP

There are so many more important things we should be spending the city's money on like schools, roads, more fire and police staff.

With all of the new condos that are going up it seems contradictory to then require homes to be historical. Not a good use of our very limited funds.

I urge you to vote NO on this \$500,000 RFP and instead support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
Lynn Fischbach

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:55:12 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **marialena roussere** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 6:34 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: newsom@cityofsanmateo.org <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
Marialena Malejan-Roussere
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:49:16 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mark Pietrofesa** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 11:42 AM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

Mark Pietrofesa
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:58:29 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mary Crawford** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jan 21, 2025 at 7:57 AM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: [REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:45:49 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 19, 2025 at 10:19 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo
Mary Gerritsen
Baywood homeowner and 27 year resident if San Mateo

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:44:55 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Matthew Wes** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 19, 2025 at 7:39 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group.
- This non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

--

Matthew Wes
[REDACTED]

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: District 2 SAYS NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey spending
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:59:37 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Matthew Bugna** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jan 21, 2025 at 10:45 AM
Subject: URGENT: District 2 SAYS NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey spending
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT spending ANY money on historic surveying in San Mateo.

- There are SO MANY more important parks and safety priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend without their input and over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots who obsess about other people's houses.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility especially when there are MUCH CHEAPER alternatives to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message. She already goes against the will of her own district and would likely go against our wishes on this as well.

In summary, I urge you to REJECT spending ANY budget on historic surveys.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:54:30 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Maureen Goldrath** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 6:29 PM
Subject: RFP
To: newsom@cityofsanmateo.org <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Subject:
Urgent Appeal: REJECT the \$500K Historic RFP

Dear Honorable Mayor Newsom and City Council Members,

I am writing to request you **REJECT** the proposed \$500,000 Historic Resources RFP. As a San Mateo resident, I have several serious concerns:

****Financial Impact:****

- City faces \$10.6M budget deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure needs
- \$500,000 could be better spent on deteriorating parks and facilities
- Less than 0.03% of San Mateo's 101,327 residents are driving this expensive initiative

****Community Opposition & Consensus:****

- In Baywood, 9 out of 10 residents weighing in oppose historic districting
- No broad community consensus exists for such a consequential decision
- City has conducted no community outreach to determine if this is a citywide priority

****Legal Concerns:****

- JMBM Attorneys warn of permanent, irreversible consequences in this RFP format
- Historical context statement with potential for CEQA obligations
- Potential impacts exceed those of general plan or zoning changes
- Council is putting the cart before the horse - community outreach should precede signing this RFP

****Alternative Solution:****

- Implement staff-driven community engagement process
- Focus on voluntary participation rather than mandatory impositions
- Develop consent-driven historic preservation ordinance
- Prioritize infrastructure benefiting all residents

I urge you to vote NO on this \$500,000 RFP and instead support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Thank you

Maureen

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:45:22 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **P Mayers** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 19, 2025 at 8:42 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:57:02 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Michael Ischay** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 9:43 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of individuals with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:53:49 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Michael Flynn** [REDACTED] >
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 5:41 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: newsom@cityofsanmateo.org <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. **Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district.** We do not want this.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of Baywood, San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:55:45 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 7:25 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>, Michele Cinq Mars <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

Please REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

I am concerned that you are considering the expenditure of \$500,000 on a Historic Resources RFP, when we are facing a \$10.6 million dollar budget shortfall. San Mateo residents do not want, or need, their neighborhoods turned into Historic Districts. When a Historic District was proposed for Baywood, residents voted 9 to 1 AGAINST this classification in District 1. Additionally,

- A historic survey will use financial and administrative resources the City does not have.
- There are CHEAPER, BETTER, and more DEMOCRATIC ways to pursue historic preservation.
- Parks and public safety are pressing priorities that require more resources.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is not representing the will of our District in this matter. The small group of residents who want Historic Districts, do not reflect the opinions of the majority of residents in our community.

I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP! A less expensive, community-driven alternative should meet the needs of all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

Michele A. Cinq Mars

A Concerned City of San Mateo and Baywood Knolls Resident

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:49:31 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Michelle Hudson** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 1:14 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <mnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, Adam Loraine <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>, <clerk@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request that you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP for the following reasons:

- Other matters should be higher priorities for the city, such as addressing the climate crisis, parks, safety and housing.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of residents who wish to circumvent the will of the majority.
- This non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
Michelle Hudson
Baywood Resident

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:46:15 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Michelle Quinn** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 2:51 AM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:50:15 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mignon O'Young** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 2:35 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:52:39 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Mike Feng <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 5:11 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This unneeded non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

-Michael Feng

A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: Parks over wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:46:50 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mo Lehman** [REDACTED] >
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 7:57 AM
Subject: URGENT: Parks over wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Parent and Taxpayer of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:47:56 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mohammad Jahangoshahi** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 9:32 AM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

Mohammad Jahangoshahi, A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:46:07 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Douglas Morais <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 19, 2025 at 10:21 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo
Douglas and Christiane Morais
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:52:46 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nancy Trio** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 5:28 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
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In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 8:01:25 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Nancy Whelan <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jan 21, 2025 at 4:39 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
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- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:46:29 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nkia Richardson** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 7:22 AM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
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- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:50:08 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Oliver Shay** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 2:34 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
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- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:44:24 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Patty Anixter** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 19, 2025 at 6:53 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

Patty Anixter

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:54:15 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Peter Stone <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 6:16 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you **REJECT** the proposed Historic Resources RFP. I can't believe that you are wasting tax dollars on this where there are much more important issues that need to be addressed. For example, our roads, especially El Camino Real, are in terrible condition. In addition, the Parks and Public Safety should be higher priorities for the City.

Every year my property taxes increase, and I don't see any improvement in our community. In my view, you increase taxes, give yourselves raises, and accomplish nothing! Quit wasting money! This non-consent historic survey will only add to government bureaucracy and accomplish nothing! I am sick of "too much government" – federal, state, and local.

I understand that you already have a \$10.6 MM budget shortfall, and you want to spend \$500K on a moronic study? Baywood was 9 to 1 **AGAINST** the proposed historic district. Do your jobs and try doing "more with less!"

I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

Peter R. Stone

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: Urgent Appeal: REJECT the \$500K Historic RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:42:47 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Elisa Radice** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 19, 2025 at 3:33 PM
Subject: Urgent Appeal: REJECT the \$500K Historic RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Honorable Mayor Newsom and City Council Members,

I am writing to request you **REJECT** the proposed \$500,000 Historic Resources RFP. As a San Mateo resident, I have several serious concerns:

****Financial Impact:****

- City faces \$10.6M budget deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure needs
- \$500,000 could be better spent on deteriorating parks and facilities
- Less than 0.03% of San Mateo's 101,327 residents are driving this expensive initiative

****Community Opposition & Consensus:****

- In Baywood, 9 out of 10 residents weighing in oppose historic districting
- No broad community consensus exists for such a consequential decision
- City has conducted no community outreach to determine if this is a citywide priority

****Legal Concerns:****

- JMBM Attorneys warn of permanent, irreversible consequences in this RFP format
- Historical context statement with potential for CEQA obligations
- Potential impacts exceed those of general plan or zoning changes
- Council is putting the cart before the horse - community outreach should precede signing this RFP

****Alternative Solution:****

- Implement staff-driven community engagement process
- Focus on voluntary participation rather than mandatory impositions
- Develop consent-driven historic preservation ordinance
- Prioritize infrastructure benefiting all residents

I urge you to vote NO on this \$500,000 RFP and instead support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
Elisa Radice
[REDACTED]

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: Vote NO on 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:54:08 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Rebecca Smith** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 5:55 PM
Subject: URGENT: Vote NO on 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- At a time when the city is running a budget deficit, it makes no sense to spend scant resources on this survey. The City should prioritize spending on parks and safety.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over priorities that are critical to the quality of life in San Mateo. The overwhelming majority of Baywood residents are AGAINST the proposed historic district (by 9:1). A small minority of residents should not get to force their will on the majority.
- This non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and it will likely result in additional ongoing costs to the City as it is litigated.
- This initiative runs counter to Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility. Moreover, there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to achieve these historic preservation goals.
- I have deliberately omitted Lisa Diaz Nash from this message as she is ignoring the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Parent and Taxpayer of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: Vote No on wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:59:19 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Richard Dickson <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jan 21, 2025 at 10:10 AM
Subject: Vote No on wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: newsom@cityofsanmateo.org <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, Adam Loraine
<aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org
<dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org
<nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

I, and many other of your constituents, will be angry should they find out that you approved this spend over other priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands. Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo. Her hypocrisy is shameful, and I predict that she will be voted out of office soon enough.

This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy, and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.

VOTE NO on the Historic Resources RFP. If any of you vote in favor of such a measure, I respectfully request that you write me to explain your decision including why you prioritized spending money on it over the many other priorities of our community.

Sincerely,

Richard Dickson
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

be confidential and/or privileged. If you are not the intended recipient you may not copy, disclose or use the contents of this email. If you believe that you have received this email in error, notify the sender or contact [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] and then delete or destroy any copy of this email and its attachments.

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:58:53 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Rick Bonilla <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jan 21, 2025 at 8:22 AM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <mnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>, Alex Khojikian <akhojikian@cityofsanmateo.org>, PRASANNA RASIAH <prasiah@cityofsanmateo.org>, Zachary Dahl <zdahl@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members, I am writing to STRONGLY DEMAND that you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP. - Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City. - Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands. - This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation. - This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals. - Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo. In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

Rick Bonilla
Chair, Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo County
Former Mayor, City of San Mateo
Director, Housing Action Coalition

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:55:17 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Rob DeContreras <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 6:59 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

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- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
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In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

photo



Rob DeContreras

[REDACTED]

Mobile [REDACTED] | Email [REDACTED]

Website [REDACTED]

Address [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]





From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:43:42 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Robert Liberatore** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 19, 2025 at 6:04 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
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- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
Robert Liberatore

[REDACTED]

A Concerned Resident of San Mateo
38 years

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: Parks over wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:42:38 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Ryan Chow <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 19, 2025 at 2:13 PM
Subject: URGENT: Parks over wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
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In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Parent and Taxpayer of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:47:21 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sandy Jensen** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 8:12 AM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
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- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:48:01 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Sara Shahi <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 9:38 AM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
Sara Shahi, A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: Item 10 - Historic Designations Work - OPPOSE
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:41:37 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nancy Schneider** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Fri, Jan 17, 2025 at 5:11 PM
Subject: Fwd: Item 10 - Historic Designations Work - OPPOSE
To: <[REDACTED]>

This is the email that I sent to the city council.

Nancy Schneider
[REDACTED]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nancy Schneider** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Thu, Jan 16, 2025 at 4:23 PM
Subject: Item 10 - Historic Designations Work - OPPOSE
To: <citycouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear Members of the San Mateo City Council,

I am writing to you as a resident of San Mateo and a homeowner in the Baywood neighborhood. I oppose the designation of Baywood as an historic district for a multitude of reasons, primarily that I don't think the neighborhood should be exempt from policies to increase housing production in San Mateo. Every neighborhood should do its part.

I acknowledge that this agenda item is not concerned with Baywood specifically, but about hiring the consultant for the historic work and deciding on which option.

I urge you to pick Option 3 and not approve an appropriation Resolution or an agreement with Rincon Consultants and vote not to proceed with the historic policy update effort at this time. .

We have worked to pass good housing laws, both at the state and local levels, and a historic district would undermine these laws, as well as our general plan and newly-minted Measure T. Please do not support any actions to establish more historical districts. San Mateo has many more pressing concerns. The money allocated for this project could be put to better use.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my input.

Nancy Schneider

--

Nancy Schneider



From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: Please Reject the Proposed Historic Resources RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:46:45 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Joel Scott** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 7:57 AM
Subject: Please Reject the Proposed Historic Resources RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to urge you to reject the proposed Historic Resources RFP. Approving this measure would divert attention and resources away from more pressing priorities for our city, such as parks and safety, while further exacerbating the \$10.6 million budget shortfall.

Key concerns include:

1. **Fiscal Responsibility:** This proposal is at odds with Mayor Newsom's focus on fiscal responsibility. There are far more cost-effective ways to achieve historic preservation goals that better balance the needs of the broader community.
2. **Misaligned Priorities:** Parks and public safety are far more critical to San Mateo residents. Allocating funds to this RFP disregards the needs and desires of the community, as evidenced by the overwhelming 9-to-1 opposition in Baywood to the proposed historic district.
3. **Increased Litigation and Bureaucracy:** A non-consensual historic survey will likely lead to costly legal challenges and create layers of unnecessary bureaucracy, further straining the city's resources.
4. **Community Backlash:** Approving this initiative risks alienating your constituents, who will rightly feel that their priorities have been overlooked in favor of a small but vocal group advocating for this costly and unnecessary measure.

Finally, I want to highlight my deep disappointment with Councilmember Lisa Diaz Nash for ignoring the clear opposition of her own district and the broader San Mateo community on this issue.

In summary, I urge you to vote NO on the Historic Resources RFP and instead pursue a less expensive, community-driven alternative that reflects the priorities of all San Mateo residents—not just a small minority.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Joel Scott
Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: Urgent Appeal: REJECT the \$500K Historic RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:40:49 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: John Segall <[REDACTED]>
Date: Fri, Jan 17, 2025 at 4:56 PM
Subject: Urgent Appeal: REJECT the \$500K Historic RFP
To: newsom@cityofsanmateo.org <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>, CC: <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Reva Segall <[REDACTED]>

Dear Mayor Newsom and City Council Members,

I respectfully urge you to reject the proposed \$500,000 Historic Resources RFP. As a San Mateo Baywood resident for more than 50 years, I believe the proposed expenditure would be a complete waste of taxpayer funds. Moreover, should this matter end up in the court system, the cost to the taxpayers could easily exceed the \$500,000 figure. A constitutional challenge to the entire process used in this controversy to date is not difficult to imagine.

I have no problem if an individual homeowner wishes to have his/her property designated as a historic site. But why should my wife and I be required to participate? I understand I am not alone in feeling this way. Why would you alienate most of the voters in Baywood by proceeding with an ill conceived proposal put forth by a few local homeowners? Surely the Council can come up a better use for these funds.

If the members of this Council are planning to support this proposal, I would urge them to reconsider.

Sincerely,

John B. Segall

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: PLEASE VOTE NO to ridiculous Historic Designation for San Mateo
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:53:39 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Selena Trotter** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 5:37 PM
Subject: PLEASE VOTE NO to ridiculous Historic Designation for San Mateo
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I strongly urge you to vote against the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- The City should focus on more pressing issues like parks and public safety.
- I think approving this expenditure will anger your constituents, particularly in light of the \$10.6 million budget shortfall. Baywood residents were overwhelmingly opposed to the proposed historic district, with a 9-to-1 majority against it. This initiative is being pushed by a small, overly passionate group—not the broader community.
- The proposed non-consent historic survey will add unnecessary red tape and likely lead to costly litigation, further straining the budget.
- Mayor Newsom's focus on fiscal responsibility has been appreciated, and this proposal contradicts that. There are much more cost-effective ways to achieve historic preservation goals.
- I am excluding Lisa Diaz Nash from this message because her stance does not reflect the views of her district or San Mateo.

In conclusion, I would like to ask you to vote NO on the Historic RFP and instead explore a more affordable, community-centered alternative that aligns with the needs and priorities of all San Mateo residents.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Selena Trotter

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:56:09 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: shawn [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 8:27 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: newsom@cityofsanmateo.org <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

[REDACTED]

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 8:01:04 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Shelly DeCorte** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jan 21, 2025 at 3:08 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: District 2 SAYS NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey spending
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:54:00 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Stacey Kepler** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 5:53 PM
Subject: URGENT: District 2 SAYS NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey spending
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Mayor Newsom and San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT spending ANY money on historic surveying in San Mateo.

- There are SO MANY more important parks and safety priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend without their input and over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots who obsess about other people's houses.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility especially when there are MUCH CHEAPER alternatives to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message. She already goes against the will of her own district and would likely go against our wishes on this as well.

In summary, I urge you to REJECT spending ANY budget on historic surveys.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo
Stacey Kepler

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: District 5 SAYS NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey spending
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:51:19 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Stephanie Moy** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 4:56 PM
Subject: URGENT: District 5 SAYS NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey spending
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT spending ANY money on historic surveying in San Mateo.

- There are SO MANY more important parks and safety priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend without their input and over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots who obsess about other people's houses.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility especially when there are MUCH CHEAPER alternatives to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message. She already goes against the will of her own district and would likely go against our wishes on this as well.

In summary, I urge you to REJECT spending ANY budget on historic surveys.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: District 3 SAYS NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey spending
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:51:50 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **stephanie** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 4:56 PM
Subject: URGENT: District 3 SAYS NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey spending
To: newsom@cityofsanmateo.org <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Dear Mayor Newsom and San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT spending ANY money on historic surveying in San Mateo.

- There are SO MANY more important parks and safety priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend without their input and over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots who obsess about other people's houses.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility especially when there are MUCH CHEAPER alternatives to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message. She already goes against the will of her own district and would likely go against our wishes on this as well.

In summary, I urge you to REJECT spending ANY budget on historic surveys.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: "Historic" neighborhoods? Not this again!
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:53:26 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Stephen Howard-Sarin** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 5:34 PM
Subject: "Historic" neighborhoods? Not this again!
To: <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>, <ldiaznash@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear City Council,

Please reject the proposed funding for an RFP to analyze classification of any San Mateo neighborhoods as historic districts. It's a badly veiled attempt to block housing expansion, which is so crucially important to our future as a community.

I've seen such a groundswell of resident opposition to the idea that whole neighborhoods in our city are "historic" — surely you have seen it also? While it might be tempting to kick the can, allocate funding to study options, and return to this topic (much) later, please don't. Just stop this undemocratic, bad faith, busybody intrusion into our lives once and for all.

— Stephen Howard-Sarin
[REDACTED]

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:51:07 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <[REDACTED].com>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 4:48 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:59:01 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Rustard Mustard** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jan 21, 2025 at 8:51 AM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: newsom@cityofsanmateo.org <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>, Alex Khojikian <akhojikian@cityofsanmateo.org>, PRASANNA RASIAH <prasiah@cityofsanmateo.org>, Zachary Dahl <zdahl@cityofsanmateo.org>, citycouncil@cityofsanmateo.org <citycouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I strongly implore you to **REJECT** the proposed Historic Resources Request For Proposals on tonight's agenda.

There is a \$10.6M budget shortfall.

This is absolutely **NOT any type of priority if 9 to 1 Baywood residents are against** the proposal of making their neighborhood a historic district. It is my strongly held belief that, once informed, all San Mateo residents would reject this proposal.

Mayor Newsom wants fiscal responsibility. So Council step up to the plate and **put an end to this divisive chaos** that you will be continuing to instigate. Instead find a way to solve the deficit.

Once again, **VOTE NO** on the Historic Request for Proposals.

Sincerely,

Dr. Suzanne Bonilla
San Mateo Resident

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: District 3 SAYS NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey spending
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:55:33 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Tim D** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 7:16 PM
Subject: District 3 SAYS NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey spending
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Mayor Newsom and San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT spending ANY money on historic surveying in San Mateo.

- There are more important parks and safety priorities for the City.
- This ridiculous historic survey creates unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation. I've seen ridiculous turn around times for permits from other families with our current processes and can't imagine it getting worse.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility especially when there are more pressing needs facing San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to REJECT spending ANY budget on historic surveys.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: Parks over wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:45:31 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Priya Varma <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 19, 2025 at 9:04 PM
Subject: URGENT: Parks over wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
Priya Varma, MD, MPH
A Concerned Taxpayer of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: Urgent Appeal: REJECT the \$500K Historic RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:40:15 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Anya Wes** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Fri, Jan 17, 2025 at 3:05 PM
Subject: Fwd: Urgent Appeal: REJECT the \$500K Historic RFP
To: <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>, Anya Wes <[REDACTED]>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Anya Wes** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Fri, Jan 17, 2025 at 3:01 PM
Subject: Urgent Appeal: REJECT the \$500K Historic RFP
To: <rnewsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>, Anya Wes <[REDACTED]>

Dear Honorable Mayor Newsom and City Council Members,

I am writing to request you **REJECT** the proposed \$500,000 Historic Resources RFP. As a San Mateo resident, I have several serious concerns:

****Financial Impact:****

- City faces \$10.6M budget deficit and \$306M in unfunded infrastructure needs
- \$500,000 could be better spent on deteriorating parks and facilities
- Less than 0.03% of San Mateo's 101,327 residents are driving this expensive initiative

****Community Opposition & Consensus:****

- In Baywood, 9 out of 10 residents weighing in oppose historic districting
- No broad community consensus exists for such a consequential decision
- City has conducted no community outreach to determine if this is a citywide priority

****Legal Concerns:****

- JMBM Attorneys warn of permanent, irreversible consequences in this RFP format
- Historical context statement with potential for CEQA obligations
- Potential impacts exceed those of general plan or zoning changes
- Council is putting the cart before the horse - community outreach should precede signing this RFP

****Alternative Solution:****

- Implement staff-driven community engagement process

- Focus on voluntary participation rather than mandatory impositions
- Develop consent-driven historic preservation ordinance
- Prioritize infrastructure benefiting all residents

I urge you to vote NO on this \$500,000 RFP and instead support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
Anya Wes



From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:52:32 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Whitney Kirschbrown** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 5:08 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Mayor Newsom and San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT spending ANY money on historic surveying in San Mateo.

- There are SO MANY more important parks and safety priorities for the City. **Especially Sunnybrae Park!!**
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend without their input and over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots who obsess about other people's houses.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility especially when there are MUCH CHEAPER alternatives to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message. She already goes against the will of her own district and would likely go against our wishes on this as well.

In summary, I urge you to REJECT spending ANY budget on historic surveys.

Sincerely,
Whitney Kirschbrown, a Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:43:21 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **rick.wysong** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 19, 2025 at 5:32 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: Parks over wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 8:00:47 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Yao <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jan 21, 2025 at 2:17 PM
Subject: URGENT: Parks over wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Parent and Taxpayer of San Mateo

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:45:13 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Yuanxuan Wang <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 19, 2025 at 8:41 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

From: [Support User](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:44:41 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Will Howekamp <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Jan 19, 2025 at 7:19 PM
Subject: URGENT: SAY NO to wasteful 'Historic' Survey RFP
To: <newsom@cityofsanmateo.org>, <aloraine@cityofsanmateo.org>, <dcwirkogodycki@cityofsanmateo.org>, <nfernandez@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear San Mateo City Council Members,

I am writing to request you REJECT the proposed Historic Resources RFP.

- Parks and safety should be higher priorities for the City.
- Your District Constituents will be angry when they find out that you approved this spend over their priorities especially given the \$10.6M budget shortfall. Baywood was 9 to 1 AGAINST the proposed historic district. No one wants this except a small group of zealots with too much time on their hands.
- This ridiculous non-consent historic survey will create unnecessary bureaucracy and the City will end up spending even more budget on litigation.
- This goes against Mayor Newsom's much welcomed focus on fiscal responsibility and there is a MUCH CHEAPER alternative to historic preservation goals.
- Lisa Diaz Nash is omitted from this message because she goes against the will of her own district and all of San Mateo.

In summary, I urge you to VOTE NO on the Historic RFP and support a less expensive, community-driven alternative that serves all San Mateo residents, not just a vocal minority.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Resident of San Mateo

Sent from my iphone