

From: martha moore < >

Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 7:48 AM

To: Diane Papan <dpapan@cityofsanmateo.org>

Subject: R-1 zoning and the importance of existing neighborhoods

My husband and I have lived here for over 25 years and raised our children here. We purchased our home in this SINGLE FAMILY NEIGHBORHOOD after scrimping and saving for 17 years. We chose this neighborhood purposely for the schools and location, away from the freeway and trains.

The one thing that has changed significantly here over the last 25 years is the ambient noise pollution. I have written to you before regarding the use of gas powered garden equipment which pollutes the air with exhaust and harms our hearing with the noise which is nearly constant at one home or another throughout the weeks. This could easily be impacted by mandating the use of electric or battery powered gardening tools. The airplane noise has also increased.

This idea of allowing zoning changes, to increase housing up to 4 units -where one home currently stands- will do irreparable harm to the quality of life in currently zoned single family neighborhoods. The increase in vehicle traffic through the area and the associated parking issues should be reason enough to prevent this change. In addition , we are all subject to the noise from neighbors as it is. Moving 4 new units next door would only increase this problem. One thing that has been evident during covid is how lucky we are to have a bit of space between neighbors. We worked and saved for many years to purchase a single family home in a single family neighborhood.

I was involved in the homeowner association during the time that the city was focused on 'Transit Oriented Development'. What has happened to this focus? Multi unit housing should be located near, and accessible to, public transportation. None of our kids have cars. They all live in other cities with excellent public transportation and access to safe bike lanes/routes throughout. Shouldn't San Mateo, given its location on the peninsula mid way between SF and San Jose, be attempting to emphasize this sort of housing and transportation adjustment?

I realize that there is a very vocal group pushing for the multi unit changes. I know there is a larger, but less noisy, group of homeowners who are absolutely opposed to this. I am sure you are aware of this.

I just wanted to put my thought in writing. I would appreciate your thoughts and response.

Martha Moore