

From: Amy Jussel, Shaping Youth [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 2:55 PM
To: Planning <planning@cityofsanmateo.org>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@cityofsanmateo.org>; Patrice Olds <polds@cityofsanmateo.org>
Cc: City Council (San Mateo) <CityCouncil@cityofsanmateo.org>
Subject: 8/8 Planning Commission agenda item inquiry

Can't attend this eve due to an HOA Board meeting so will submit my query concerning this:

"Ordinance Recommendation Recommend to the City Council adoption of an Ordinance to amend San Mateo Municipal Code Section 27.08.087 (Planning Approval Extension) to allow for extensions of up to two years for approved planning application; and determine the amendment is exempt from further environmental review pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Section 15061(b)(3)"

This is disconcerting and raised my eyebrows as it reads as if this would be a 'precedent' ordinance? Altering codes future forward in perpetuity by allowing being them to be exempt from CEQA is alarming, I am totally against this being a Municipal code change...how is this even legal?

Also, I'm not sure what this planning extension refers to but it sure sounds like Block 21.

Many in our community are totally against leaving a barren, chain linked hole in the ground with all trees cut down and wrapped in plastic as the 'welcome to San Mateo' view...At the very list, the city should consider mandating that the developer adhere to their timeline or default to a "community use" in the interim, rolling out sod for a park or play area or something more visibly appealing than the destruction of all the trees to put up yet another unnecessary office building the community doesn't need or desire. sigh.

As usual, public has very little say in this steamrolling and over-reach, but we are certainly watching. Please include my comments in your 'packet' if that's an option.

Thank you, Amy Jussel Bedard

MGA#1, District 4 [REDACTED]