

Workshop

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Sarah Mayer Public Comment - Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices

From: Marie Sue Parsons <mariesueparsons@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2024 8:17 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Housing Element Presentation: Hearing Date March 19
Attachments: Housing Element Presentation Hearing Date March 19.pdf

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See attached: Please distribute to all supervisors and interested parties

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Board of Supervisors
Santa Barbara County
105 E. Anapamu St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

via e mail: sbcob@countyofsb.org.

Re:
Hearing Date: March 19, 2024
Housing Element Presentations

I came to Santa Barbara to attend UCSB, graduating in 1963 and making the Goleta area my permanent residence when my husband and I purchased our first home on Fir Tree Place. Currently one of my children has also made the Goleta area her home, purchasing a single family home and raising my grandchildren in the Goleta schools and the Santa Barbara secondary district.

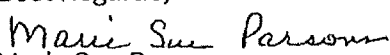
Over the years I have admired the housing projects developed by Jeff and Jason Nelson and the Oak Creek Company. I currently live near the Tree Farm project and have been pleased to see how well designed the overall development is and how nicely it is integrated into our neighborhood.

I recently had an opportunity to review the proposed project for The Orchard, the Giorgi Property fronting on Hollister Avenue, and was impressed once again with the Nelson's ability to design a development that incorporates both small and large homes and condos, as well as open space and community amenities. This proposed project will create a blend of rental homes and, unlike other nearby proposed developments, homes and condos that will be available for purchase.

County Planning, after extensive analysis, lists this property as the number one housing candidate with the designated number of units. The location of this proposed development is ideal for many reasons, a few of which include: fronting on a high quality transportation corridor, with low traffic impact both on schools as well as on other current residential neighborhoods, walkability to nearby businesses and Goleta Valley Cottage Hospital, a distance away from high fire areas, an easy bike ride to Goleta Beach, and the potential to bring new life to the Goleta Old Town area.

This new development will incorporate all that Santa Barbara and Goleta needs: the blend of rentals, plus low-income housing, entry level condos that young singles or couples can purchase for their first homes, move up properties, and those for homeowners nearing retirement. As a Realtor I have heard from many established homeowners who are anxious for a fresh new home, rather than spending their time remodeling the fifty year old house in which they raised their families. In addition, the live-work concept provides housing as well as workspace for small single owner businesses right within the neighborhood. As you are likely aware, our area has a severe shortage of homes for sale to our local residents. This project will provide a variety of quality homes to offset the shortage. I highly recommend its approval.

Best Regards,


Marie Sue Parsons

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