

## Lenzi, Chelsea

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**From:** Board Letters  
**Subject:** FW: The Miramar

**From:** Dave Carpenter <[660drcarpenter@gmail.com](mailto:660drcarpenter@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** April 13, 2015 at 10:33:22 AM PDT  
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**Subject:** The Miramar

I had hoped to attend your meeting tomorrow, but my schedule will not allow it. My family has lived in Montecito for the past 18 years. I was on the Montecito Association Board when Rick Caruso made his first appearance to announce his plans for the Miramar. I have been to many of the subsequent meetings, including meetings of the Montecito Planning Commission. I was at the Montecito Association meeting a few months back when the current plan received unanimous approval. The atmosphere in the room indicated overwhelming crowd approval.

We can study this project for years (which we already have) and there will always be some doubts. With the passage of time, new issues are bound to arise. This is exactly the reason why I encourage you to look at this issue from a different perspective.

I ran a large company in Los Angeles back in the 1980s and 1990s. I have known Rick Caruso since the early 80's. The general perception of the man in Montecito and Santa Barbara is that he is a billionaire developer. My purpose in writing today is to bring attention to the fact that he is much more. While he was building his real estate development firm, Rick found the time while still in his 20s to serve as Commissioner for the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. A little over a decade later, he was appointed to the LA Board of Police Commissioners and served as its President. During his tenure as President, the crime rate in Los Angeles dropped significantly. He also found time to serve on the Los Angeles Coliseum Commission, a couple of local universities and two well known hospital boards.

Without going into any great detail, the Caruso family has dedicated their time and financial support to various organizations in the community that have improved the lives of many, especially children. I could go on and on, but I believe you get the point.

The point is that the time is right to join together with Caruso Affiliated and encourage them to bring a positive attitude to Montecito and the Miramar and create an overall environment which will make all of us proud. There will always be problems that need to be solved, and some of them may not have to do specifically with the Miramar. But when you have a person of Rick Caruso's caliber in your corner, the records indicate without a doubt that good things happen.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. I hope the meeting goes well.

Respectfully,

David R. Carpenter