
From: Poling, Jeanie (CPC)
Sent: Thursday, September 12, 2019 7:32 PM
To: Balboa Reservoir Compliance (ECN)
Subject: FW: Please support more homes and less parking at the Balboa Reservoir!

From: Zack Subin <zack.subin@fastmail.fm>
Sent: Wednesday, September 11, 2019 9:59 PM
To: Fung, Frank (CPC) <frank.fung@sfgov.org>; richhillissf@gmail.com; Melgar, Myrna (CPC) <myrna.melgar@sfgov.org>; Johnson, Milicent (CPC) <milicent.johnson@sfgov.org>; Koppel, Joel (CPC) <joel.koppel@sfgov.org>; Moore, Kathrin (CPC) <kathrin.moore@sfgov.org>; Richards, Dennis (CPC) <dennis.richards@sfgov.org>
Cc: CPC.BalboaReservoir <CPC.BalboaReservoir@sfgov.org>; Poling, Jeanie (CPC) <jeanie.poling@sfgov.org>
Subject: Please support more homes and less parking at the Balboa Reservoir!

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Dear Commission Members,

I recently moved to Ocean View with my husband in 2018 after my parents'-in-law helped us buy a house, after 2 years of living at their house. It is a small house (1000 square feet), and one of the few places we could afford in SF-- even with pretty good incomes. As an older Millennial, many of my peers and colleagues are not so lucky, and I keep seeing them move away or continue to live with parents because of the cost of housing-- not to mention the surge in homelessness and the new class of supercommuters.

Under these conditions, building new housing on a vast surface parking lot near a college and the biggest transit hub in the western half of the city, with 50% dedicated affordable housing, should be an absolute no-brainer. I would love to have seen more units than the 1,500 units considered, but we should absolutely have 1,500 rather than 1,100: we need homes for people, not cars! Reserving large amounts of off-street parking does not effectively reduce congestion and parking scarcity but rather facilitates continued car-dependence-- which is in direct contradiction to the city's recently published "Focus 2030" report that set a strong goal for getting people out of cars into healthier, more sustainable modes of transportation. I hope that the draft EIR appropriately considered this: the reductions in greenhouse gas emissions associated with allowing more dense urban infill in a transit-rich neighborhood, rather than seeing those same people housed in distant sprawl, have been well-documented and should be noted.

Finally, these new homes would be a great improvement to the neighborhood-- I would get access to new green space, new bike routes, and have more people on the street to make for safe, vibrant conditions on Ocean Ave. that will help local businesses thrive.

Sincerely,
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