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POLICY--Fwd: Richler Communities Do Not Deserve Special Protections

1 message

Council AnswerPoint <council@sunnyvale.ca.gov>

Mon, Nov 7, 2016 at 4:10 PM

To: "Davis, Jim" <winfield5064@sbcglobal.net>, Glenn Hendricks <hendricks40@yahoo.com>, "griffith@dweeb.org" <griffith@dweeb.org>, Gustav Larsson <glarsson22@gmail.com>, Larry Klein <larrykleinsunnyvale@gmail.com>, "Martin-Milius, Tara" <taraforcouncil@gmail.com>, "Meyering, Pat" <pat.meyering@gmail.com>
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Councilmembers:

Forwarding to you from Council AnswerPoint.

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From: Sharon Ashley <[REDACTED]>
 Date: Mon, Nov 7, 2016 at 11:43 AM
 Subject: Richler Communities Do Not Deserve Special Protections
 To: Council@sunnyvale.ca.gov

While I appreciate the concerns of the homeowners in the Eichler neighborhoods, I do not agree that they should singularly be protected from the taller, higher density homes, condos, apartments, and commercial building going on in Sunnyvale. This is a battle we are all facing through the city - in fact - all up and down the peninsula. And it is horrible.

No one neighborhood deserves special protection - especially at the expense of other neighborhoods/neighbors. Whatever pressures you are facing that have resulted in you approving these horrible higher density buildings - it is not right to protect one single neighborhood - while you do not protect others.

I live at 244 Liebre Court - and when the Noriega project went up two years ago, I lost my privacy and sunlight from the 35' medium density complex that went up behind my back yard. When I approached city planning - I was told the owner has the right to build to the zoning maximum and there was nothing I could do. (This was not zoned for 35' when I purchased my home 30 years ago). When I emailed my concerns to the city council - only one council member responded to me. At the city council meeting, I again raised my concerns. But the project was approved. The ONLY change was to add to more box trees to the plans. However, you can not plant 35 foot trees to protect my privacy -at 35 feet the trees would be in the power lines. And that is not allowed.

So - my privacy is gone - my beautiful park like setting I planted 30 years ago is gone. PG&E even chopped down considerable parts of the trees I have in order to put in a taller, larger pole for the new development. Further impairing my privacy. I'm saddened every day when I go outside, especially when I have a barbecue with friends. This has to have negatively impacted my property value as well.

In the perfect world - nobody would ever have to deal with this again - it's been a horrible thing. The construction phase alone resulted in 18 months of sleep deprivation for me and a massive rat infestation of my home (when the original structure was demolished).

But again - apply the same rules to all - not just to some.

And I do thank you for your service.

Sharon Ashley
408 [REDACTED]