

ABAG housing requirements

steve.rutledge [REDACTED] >

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To: EIR Comments <eircomments@bayareametro.gov>

External Email

Hello. My name is Julie Beer, and we have rented a one-bedroom apartment in Palo Alto for over 30 years. Due to the massive development of tech offices approved by our city council in the past 10 years and the huge Google and Facebook campuses nearby, the city is barely recognizable anymore. Rich people like Mark Zuckerberg have bought multiple houses here to protect their privacy. Chinese buyers have bought houses for their children in case they go to Stanford, creating many empty ghost houses. Stanford University has also bought many houses in Palo Alto instead of building housing on their campus. Before the pandemic, we had five times as many people commuting to Palo Alto than the resident population. Traffic had become horrible, and the traffic problems are returning again. Without our knowledge or consent, my neighborhood near California Avenue became a development zone. Now ABAG is requiring Palo Alto to build about 6000 new housing units. Our city land is already fully developed, so how can that happen? Why do we need to build massive housing units just because our previous city council members sided with realtors and developers? What used to be a quiet town is now an outrageously expensive densely developed city. If I wanted to live in San Francisco or New York City, I would have moved there. We're in a major drought. Where will we find water to supply 6000 new housing units? Where will we find land to provide new schools for children? We greatly value our open spaces between Palo Alto and don't want these quiet refuges to become just more housing for the tech community. Our quality of life has already deteriorated under too much office development. Please don't make our city even less desirable by requiring such a huge increase in housing. Please stop your demands for 6000 new housing units in Palo Alto. Thank you.

Julie Beer
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Sent from my iPhone