

Gautho, Julia

From: John <jxmuly@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 4:24 PM
To: City Council; Gautho, Julia; PLANNING COMMISSION
Subject: Item 9B

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hey folks,

I just read the letter Santa Cruz's Yimby Action chapter wrote in support of item 9B on the upcoming agenda and I couldn't agree more with their policy statements. Specifically regarding objective standards in all building codes. Vague outdated language about 'community benefits' is associated with sundowner towns and our community no longer should sustain racist policy language like it from our past. It also makes us a less attractive place to private investors and businesses, contributing to the budgetary cliff we have trended towards for years now.

Upside the community benefits here are obvious. The greatest crisis in our county is the demographic one, and Capitola is ground zero for it. With only a hundred or so children under age 5 residing in the city and an average resident age of 50 years, senior housing is a pressing need.

Infrastructure projects take forever, especially in areas where older wealthy white homeowners object to even basic things with no downsides like roundabouts, and our town's tax base is already shrinking as we hemorrhage full time residents, families and young people, whose labor and consumption is the engine of healthy resilient economies.

Capitola peaked in population in 1990 and since Covid most of our home sales have been vacation or investment homes. Our local displacement is worse than 99% of cities in the US, and seniors are particularly affected because our city zoning codes have stymied all growth that isn't multi million dollar 3 bedroom or larger single family homes so when they seek to downsize to reflect their state in life they are unable to find local housing because it doesn't exist.

This project is exactly the sort of thing one would expect a pro Democrat, pro housing, pro seniors and pro community city council to pass, I am curious to see what y'all will do.

(To be fair our local GOP is dedicated to creating senior housing and I imagine support this project as well).

Long way to say creating economic accessibility starts with removing outdated, racist policies like 'community benefits' and I ask y'all to live up to your pledge in our current Housing Element y'all just created.

Remove the racist policy and do not let it be misinterpreted until then by a small group of anti future residents who literally oppose everything. Even roundabouts. Again. Something with no downsides.

Warmly John

Gautho, Julia

From: Susan Steely <susansteely@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 5:54 PM
To: City Council
Subject: 3720 Capitola Rd Development and 1620 Bulb Ave. Annexation
Attachments: Bulb Ave and Capitola Rd..docx

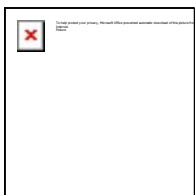
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Dear Council Members,
Please review and submit my comments regarding this proposed annexation and development which will be discussed at your meeting this Thursday, January 25th. My letter is attached below.

Best regards,

Susan Steely

1475 Bulb Ave, Santa Cruz, CA 95062



January 23, 2024

Attention: Capitola City Council Members and Mayor Kristen Brown

Re: Development of 3720 Capitola Rd., Capitola & Annexation of 1610 Bulb Ave., Santa Cruz

Dear Council,

I am a resident of 1475 Bulb Ave and have previously submitted a letter of dissent that is included in the packet.

I have reviewed the new packet and have made the following observations and arguments against the new design.

1. First, Bulb Ave has not changed in any way good since the previous discussion in 2022. It is not a legitimate 2 lane road. Vehicles must cross the middle line to traverse up and down because of the various widths of the road. The cut through speeding traffic to parts of Capitola has intensified. There are no contiguous sidewalks down the street. An entrance/exit from Bulb Ave. for this 93-room facility would only cause further congestion, noise, and danger to the residents. Bulb Ave. cannot absorb the impact of medical staff, administrative staff, kitchen staff, cleaning staff, recreational staff, delivery trucks, ambulances, medical and recreational transportation required by the residents, uber and Amazon deliveries and not least of all, waste management. This or any entrance and exit on Bulb is still unacceptable and unworkable.
2. The "token guest parking", for guests and residents, relocated to Capitola Rd. does absolutely nothing to reduce the impact to Bulb traffic. One must just "google" google maps from the Capitola Police Department, for example, to the facility and the fastest route is not up Capitola Rd and flip a u turn at Thompson Ave. No, google maps sends you up Brommer from 41st Ave. and down Bulb Ave. The same is true upon exiting to get to downtown Santa Cruz. Google maps will have you exit onto Bulb and go to Brommer. The traffic impact, before increasing to 93 units, was and remains unacceptable.
3. The new design does not show any design for the rear of the building with docks, entrances, and parking spaces. Is it very similar to the original and does this Bulb Entrance service most of traffic?
4. The new design still does not meet Capitola Affordability Requirements, prove the Benefit to the Community, nor "Minimize Adverse Impact to Neighbor's Properties to the greatest extent possible".
5. We know we have no say in the annexation, but we hope our concerns will impact the acceptance of this design with any entrance/exit from Bulb Ave. to this facility.

Best regards,

Susan Steely,

1475 Bulb Ave. 831-713-8818

I hope that all the letter previously submitted will be included in this discussion.