

**From:** [Barb Orrock](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment - PC](#)  
**Subject:** Planning Dept.  
**Date:** Thursday, September 07, 2023 6:39:59 PM

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As a resident of Los Altos since 1967, I am deeply concerned about the proposed change in zoning for single family homes at the Rancho Shopping Center location for the following reasons:

- \* Rancho Shopping Center is a central location for those of us who do not live "downtown". Rancho allows for easier accessibility than those shops in downtown Los Altos. Rancho is a busy shopping center with both pedestrian and vehicular traffic during the day which has served the community since its development in the 50's. To include high-density housing will only magnify the problems that come along with it: Increase in traffic, parking issues, increased noise, and exponential difficulty in navigating the area of Foothill/Springer/Berry & Riverside. It is already difficult to drive in that area as it stands now. Have you completed a traffic study for Rancho and the impact for the surrounding area with a high density project in mind?
- \* While I understand the city is scrambling to be in compliance with the new state guidelines for affordable housing, I don't believe you have explored other areas in Los Altos that would have far less of an impact than those neighbors who live around Rancho - ie along El Camino Real perhaps? Woodland Park makes more sense for high density housing due to the property having a single tenant (Lucky), a large parking lot, and less impact to surrounding neighborhoods.
- \* Lastly, why is it that we are only hearing about this plan now, with no feedback from the surrounding neighborhoods? Why should we find out about this through the Daily Post article on Sept. 2-3? Don't you think the planning department should consider how the ramifications of high density housing will impact current owners and their enjoyment of the homes they purchased with the understanding that Rancho wouldn't become a 3 or 4 story high albitroth? To push this through with no transparency is deeply concerning.

Please consider engaging the surrounding neighbors and those who utilize Rancho for what it is now, before making a decision that will impact the look and feel of the area around Rancho forever.

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