



City of Sierra Madre

Office of the City Clerk

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Sierra Madre, CA

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THE BROWN ACT PROVIDES THE PUBLIC WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE PUBLIC COMMENTS AT ANY PUBLIC MEETING.

THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED IN ADVANCE OF THIS MEETING AND WILL BE POSTED ONTO THE CITY'S WEBSITE FOR PUBLIC ACCESS AND TRANSPARENCY.

THE COMMENTS ATTACHED ARE SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC. THE CITY DOES NOT CONFIRM THE VERACITY OF THE STATEMENTS PROVIDED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

Amber Tardif

From: Edward A Miller [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2023 8:31 AM
To: Public Comment
Subject: RE: The Referendum & The Meadows proposal

CAUTION: This message is from an EXTERNAL SENDER - be CAUTIOUS, particularly with links and attachments.

My name is Ed Miller; I served for five years on the General Plan Steering Committee, meeting monthly in the CC chambers, researching the code of other cities in our area, polling the citizens, conducting town hall meetings, neighborhood councils, readings of draft copies of the plan, and ultimately writing, editing and producing the Sierra Madre General Plan. I am an engineer/manager at JPL, and have helped put spacecraft around the Earth, 3 on Mars, one on the asteroid Ceres, and one at Saturn. Others on the GPSC were architects, lawyers, and professionals in large corporations. Several of us went on to serve on the Planning Commission and the City Council.

The overriding desire of the people we polled was the desire to preserve the small town nature of Sierra Madre, and to prevent high density housing and “mansionization”. The General Plan reflects careful consideration of how to preserve the character of our town.

That remains a concern for a high percentage of the people of this town, and through your actions and those of New Urban West, it is obvious that you know it.

Over 1200 people signed the referendum in 30 days to resist the new development. 2216 people voted Yes on HR, and many of the people we talked to when campaigning said they’d already voted NO as they thought that meant voting against the development. This is not a handful of cranks; a significant fraction of Sierra Madre is opposed to this development.

During the Measure HR campaign, you and NUW urged people to vote NO on HR because you said HR would lead to MORE building and higher density. Why would you do that unless you knew the people are against that?

And now, with NUW’s cynical threat to try to circumvent your approval by applying for an even larger development under SB330, they again are using the threat of even higher density to make their Meadows plan look attractive.

This is all about big money for developers that don’t live here, at the permanent expense of our community, for a short term 2 million dollar prize for the city coffers. That hardly will cover the impacts from the development.

Why don’t you just require the development to comply with the General Plan, like the rest of us must? It matters.