

Spencer, Martha

From: steve lowe [steveplowe@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2009 5:51 PM
To: Spencer, Martha
Subject: Housing Component of the General Plan

Dear Planning Commissioners,

I am writing you to express my solidarity with Healthy Humboldt on the need to ensure environmental and social justice in our county's general plan. I feel it is vitally important for you to consider the impact on our local bioregion's beneficial functions of sprawl type housing development. I feel that this end, as well as the aim of easily accessible goods and services, is best met through infill development within existing cities.

Furthermore, I feel that it is strongly in the best interest of Humboldt County neighborhoods to employ inclusive zoning requirements in the county plan. It is important that Humboldt as a community avoid the historic ghettoization of low income and minority groups that has affected many other American communities. We must insure equal access to the goods and services provided within our communities to all members of those communities regardless of their socioeconomic class. Also, inclusive zoning will help ensure that face to face contact is made across class boundaries which will support an increased sense of community.

Given the social and environmental benefits of alternative A - as well as inclusive zoning and infill development generally - I feel that it is patently obvious that it is the best, if not the necessary, choice for our county in moving forward. I hope that your commission will not fall prey to the persuasive language of predatory business interests whose goals are not strengthening the community or protecting individual rights but individual profit. Please remember that Humboldt County is first and foremost a working class community and affordable housing close to the goods and services we need to live is of utmost importance and must take precedence over wealthy interests (business or personal) from the outside.

Sincerely,

Steve Lowe

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