To the Planning Commission

From: Dana Dillworth

R: Zoning Amendments RZ-2024-1 and RZ-2024-2

May 9, 2024

Don't pass these changes without asking for further studies to disclose these plans' full impacts.

Where is the map? It didn't print out. I only see text.

Rezone the whole town, with a multiplying, quadrupling effect of housing impacts, including the Brisbane Acres, with no study? No infrastructure studies, no hillside stability studies, no commercial safety set-back rules, no natural rivers assessment, no habitat studies, no nothing?

This cannot be in balance with our General Plan because it is not balanced with the other elements and community goals in our General Plan.

Where are the other city commissions and committees weighing in on quadrupling requirements for their areas of concern? Like more open space and mitigations for environmental impacts requiring native plant plantings, net-zero and solar orientation of buildings, stream setbacks, rainwater systems, etc? How about requirements for recreation and community-building opportunities per capita? Pocket gardens. Where is Open Space being mapped or do we accept 1-foot wide planters for Open Space? Where are the safety features like wildfire suppression zoning? Where's the Art Commission weighing in on 40 square foot walls as an opportunity for art or native plantings vs. fenestration through your ministerial housing-only myopic requirements?

What happened to disclosing known hazards (prior land slides at Kings and Humboldt, Harold, and Old County Road below Tulare) and new conditions of recent slides (Glenn and Buckeye Canyons) that make blanket rezoning unsafe. When do you disclose streets that are unable to handle the quadruple traffic or machinery needed for gouging the hillside?

While these documents incorporate the meetings that were presented to the public as study sessions, the impacts of these changes have never been studied by professionals. If it has been studied, please provide the report and its authors. Public comments both at the planning commission and city council level for housing element revisions included requests for studies for sea-level rise, hill and slope stability, rare and endangered species habitat restoration programs, programs to mitigate loss of solar when your neighbor's project shadows your panels, and review of toxins, should all be incorporated (by reference) into this document, including my recent comments to council about re-zoning Crocker Park and Sierra Point for housing.

Absent full knowledge or disclosure of the safety and environmental issues puts the public at risk. For this reason I object to the use of a Zoning Administrator substituting for an openly, noticed planning meeting process. An assigned regulator cannot know the nuances in this town without you disclosing them at this time. Particularly, the Brisbane Acres requirement of 60% habitat preservation; I don't see the lands contractually dedicated for Open Space mapped properly.

Your admission is that this is piecemeal. Stop. You have further revisions pending which includes unlimited heights... Can we see/study all of the impacts of all the new California laws? CEQA requires us to evaluate future and potential projects. I see no mention here. You have not provided adequate information nor proper studies to continue this zoning plan.

Some other disturbing facts is that his disallows Air b'n b uses. I know this is a contentious issue and represents an unlawful taking to citizens that have abided by the city's onerous regulations and if the intent for this passage is to provide for low- and moderate-income housing... it will not. Focus on that, the city's responsibility to all citizens AND the environment, not undermining the fabric and safety of our town to speculators.