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Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2023 11:51 AM
To: Kim Dominguez <kdominguez@cityofgoleta.org>
Subject: Growth

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Greetings

My name is Richard Worth. I have been a resident and homeowner in Goleta for about 23 years now..

Goleta is my home. I have a wife, and a son who was born in our area. I was married in Santa Barbara and my son was born in Santa Barbara. Santa Barbara and Goleta have since been considered home. As we all know the weather here is wonderful and the open space is precious.

It disturbs me to no small the degree to see the density being pushed primarily by the influence of the universities presence, and probably equally by the pressures mandated by state I assume. I sit under the path of one of the many flight paths to our airport, and I see these choppers perusing our hillsides. I can only assume they are scouting for rich developers, looking to buy off the pristine foothills to develop upon. These hills, undeveloped are some of the most glorious mountains in California. They, like the Pacific are the jewel of the area. I also know this panel likely has pressures from the state to grow. What I do see because I'm here every day and I'm now retired, is the selling off of what little open space there is to gaze out upon for both residents and tourists. I also know that you can only put so many potatoes in a bag for it bursts at the seams. We need to fight back when it comes to growth and density. We need to know that there is only so much income that this small area is going to have before it becomes subject to pressures by big money such as the University.

For the sake of our town, it's kids and future residence, we need to do our best to preserve what is left of this jewel of California. All one needs to do is go up to other vacation spots such as Morro Bay, Cayucos, San Simeon, and see the absolute horror that overdevelopment has brought upon the once treasures areas, these jewels of California, and indeed, the United States.

I urge you to restrain and fight back when it comes to allowing more dense development and the dense populations they invite in the name of bolstering city coffers. As homes become available here, then sure, the free market should take precedence. But to allow the free space upon which our area is known for and defined by to be sold with no regard to the horrible transformation and resulting loss that is taking place, leaves our citizens nowhere to look upon to take their minds off of the already overcrowded landscape. To allow the county and city to be bought and sold to big money is a direct result of the city rolling over with spineless decisions. It is appalling.

Rick Worth

Goleta resident of 24 years.

Sent from my iPhone