

From: [REDACTED]
To: [-- City Council](#); [-- City Clerk](#)
Subject: please protect community engagement - Item #11
Date: Sunday, December 4, 2022 11:48:46 AM

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Dear City Council,

Please do not move parking (and any other type of) decision making to ministerial.

Petaluma is strong because of our excellent community engagement. The Petaluma community cares and is smart. We are leaders of efforts for climate action, tree canopy restoration, and getting safer streets. Where NIMBYism may be a concern some instances, I think Petaluma is stronger with ensured social equity through more robust community discussion. This is especially true given our growing senior citizen population (which is less mobile and less able to safely park and load/unload on busy streets).

Reducing or eliminating neighborhood input on parking requirement decisions is unnecessary. Neighbors know their neighborhoods best. Further, proposed use of developers' own parking studies is a flawed model due to bias likelihood. Also, we do not want to risk a repeat of the parking disaster/danger like Altura Apartments on Baywood.

Please VOTE NO on Item #11 tomorrow night -- switching to staff "ministerial" approval (via Conditional Use Permit) rather than Public Hearing at Planning Commission and City Council meetings. In the past 6 months so many PC meetings have been cancelled due recent IZO Chapter 24 changes -- because staff now has more authority to approve decisions, such as all CUPs (this includes Cell towers!). Please reverse this trend.

Thank you,
Taryn