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Sent: Wednesday, July 5, 2023 9:20 AM

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Subject: Petaluma Citizens Are Watching

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Dear Council Members and Petaluma City Officials, now that the holiday is over, I am writing as a 29 year Petaluma resident and homeowner to alert you that I have had many discussions with other citizens here regarding the Grand Jury Report, and the resultant realization that the our city has no Planning Department of its own, that we are at the mercy of a group that, indeed, gets paid the most money when developments are approved. That one fact makes the entire situation alarming - other facts discovered make the situation even more alarming.

How did a group that is supposed to be serving Petaluma miss a deadline with the State of California that they had plenty of time to meet? How did the Mayor and the City Council allow this to happen? The result being a hotly contested development on a site in Petaluma that should not be built on being approved.

This is only one of many concerns, one of the others being the consideration of adding height to a hotel being considered which would be built at a gateway to our historic district - and then making that height, if approved, to overlay the entire historic district!

Please know that I, and so many of your constituents, are waiting for your response to these issues. All those I have spoken with very much want transparency where there has been none, a cost analysis to show why the M Group is even more financially feasible than having our own planning department, and more.

We are watching, and waiting, and not patiently. We are alarmed.

Respectfully,

Claudia Aron Ross