

Dear Community Development Department:

According to the July 20, 2016 issue of "The Almanac", Menlo Park could be on its way to destruction by 2040 "if the city adopts proposed zoning changes and developers take advantage of the maximum amount of growth allowed." ("Boom in Population and Jobs Raise Concerns"). Not only would Menlo Park see its city devastated, but so would the other cities on the Peninsula. Menlo Park can say "NO!"

Too much emphasis has been placed on the EFFECT - High Cost of Housing, Traffic Congestion, Noise Pollution, and Unemployment.

When our attention is turned to the CAUSE of all this mess, most of the problems will greatly lessen and some will dissolve. The issue that needs to be addressed is that of OVERPOPULATION. One does not pour oil or gasoline on a house or forest fire. One dumps water, foam, or dirt on the fire, something to cool it or suffocate it, so it has no food or oxygen. Someone who is overweight should consume less food and exchange fruit and vegetables for so many carbohydrates. We need to stop feeding the problem.

Why not teach and encourage couples to have SMALL families - one or two children and explain why this is an intelligent and caring thing to do – how it affects each individual and the health and wellbeing of our planet?

Instead of bringing in large corporations from other parts of the state/states, why not keep businesses at a reasonable size and hire only local people? When need be, pay a portion of their schooling for the job. Employees staying on for a set number of years would then be reimbursed for their education.

Again we don't need more jobs and people. We need fewer people. Packed sardines are not good company and they do nothing to enhance our environment.

Thank you for letting me share these seeds for thought.

Jackie Leonard-Dimmick