

Heather Flores

From: Patty Clark [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 2, 2022 12:34 AM
To: PlanningCommissioners
Subject: Public comments for the Planning Commission

-EXTERNAL-

Dear Commissioners,

I am Patricia Clark, a resident of Long Beach, 20 years in District 2. I have a couple of issues that I would like to bring to the commission's attention regarding the Anaheim Corridor zoning.

One group of people that risk being forgotten in our city planning are our elder residents. Housing for elder people has gotten harder to find, and people on fixed incomes are being priced out of the city. There are several Section 8 housing units that are timing out with the federal government, and a lot of the tenants are elderly and will have no place to go. One of the large groups among the homeless population are elderly people. We need to keep this group in mind with any plans going forward.

As we transition into a "lesser car" society we need to upgrade the public transit to accommodate people that have special needs. An older person cannot stand for long times waiting for a bus, and we need to provide benches. And those benches should have protection from the weather, either sun or rain.

I love Long Beach, and one of the key reasons is it's diversity. All income levels, all ethnic groups, all ages are represented in our city, and that is what gives it its soul and personality. We are not a bedroom suburb, but a thriving city! As we re-zone we need to make sure that we think of diversity in housing. There is no reason for buildings to have only one income level, or age group. It is much more healthy and more representative of our city to have a diverse group. Families along with single people along with older people make up a community. And the communities that are established should be kept strong and not demolished in some kind of urban renewal. Upgrading without gentrification should be our goal.

I am concerned that all new housing is being planned in areas and districts where density is already an issue. The land use policies should be revisited to make a more equitable housing growth throughout the city. We are one city, not a series of special interests.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Patricia Clark
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"I am no longer accepting the things I cannot change, I am changing the things I cannot accept."
Angela Davis