

From: George Wheeler [mailto:wheelerg@suddenlink.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 06, 2014 12:12 AM
To: Greg Orsini; Richardson, Michael
Subject: Some Thoughts after tonight's presentation

As a newly minted director, I have eyes that have not decided what there is too see?

I understand the document being prepared is a piece of paper that will be reviewed in Sacramento by folks who will never live here but, if we can make them happy with the proper boxes checked, i s dotted and t s crossed ... they might flow some money our way. Okay fine, but just between us

What I see is a model based almost entirely on historic data which I believe has little validity in a world that is changing as fast as is ours.

Where in this model is an acknowledgment of demographics? In our working lives, most of us fail to grasp that when we retire, our incomes will crash. Sure, there are always exceptions to the rule but as one of our Directors pointed out "I'm living on a VERY limited fixed income".

Well, take away the spouse, and most retired folks move into the "very" low income bracket. One serious illness and a life's savings, will vanish into the doctor's pockets.

The coming legalization of pot is going to put the grow houses out of business and it's going to kill the cash economy of our back country communities.

Wells in the King Range, never gone dry in 3 generations, dry in December.

My peers do not talk about retiring here. Taxes are too high.

My children do not intend to stay. My oldest is a surgical nurse; I was so glad she got a job at St. Joes ... thought I was going to get to see my grandchildren grow up? Nope. \$30/hr plus benefits but she had to work 3 twelves and be on call every other other weekend.

In Palo Alto, Jess is making \$57/hr, plus benefits, she works 9 to 5, Monday through Friday and they cater breakfast and lunch in the surgical center, so folks can come in early and beat traffic and don't have to leave for lunch.

The working poor can not afford to live in a bedroom community and commute to another town for work ... automobiles are expensive. Live and work in the same neighborhood; that's the future. So, live in Mack Town and work ... where?

And, of course, there is the simple question of infrastructure capacity. Nothing can happen above ground unless we first address what is in the ground.

I fail to see that this, scientifically provable, fact has been addressed? Either we have the capacity or we do not?

If we don't, what's the point of pretending we can put people/dwellings on the land?

Better solution would be to upgrade the infrastructure; we should be arguing/discussing HOW we are going to upgrade our infrastructure ... as in WHO is going to pay for it? And, how much infrastructure? Do we prepare for a perfect year, or a once in 25, or once in 50 or ????? The weather is getting crazier and crazier and the scientists say this is only the beginning. So, do we plan for the future, based on the past?
Not according to the latest scientific models!

Once we have all that figured out; I'm sure the Sundbergs, Furtados, Hoovens, Piersons, Robin, and others will find a way to build what we want and profit from the task.

I do have a question ... who owns the Martin Slough?

Sincerely,

George A. Wheeler