

Jessica Lynch

From: Dan Cornford <dcornford@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2021 11:37 AM
To: Planning Commission
Cc: City Council Members
Subject: My Comments on The Agenda for Tonight ESPECIALLY THE POLITICAL PITFALLS OF ENDING SINGLE FAMILY ZONING. YOU ARE AT RISK OF AIDING AND ABETTING AN ISSUE THAT WILL BE A SURE WINNER FOR THE REPUBLICAN PARTY, STATEWIDE AND NATIONALLY

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Dear Planning Commission,

I am under huge time pressure and do not have time to write a full submission. I wrote this to a friend of mine in Davis today which sums up the impossibility of my covering all these issues: “[I can think of about eight major arguments to be used against the DHEC recs and those pursued by Wiener at the state level. It would take me multiple articles to cover this ground with supporting evidence, or even a PhD dissertation. “](#) My comment will also be from a post I just made on one of our city blogs and will focus exclusively on the major political dangers of, in whatever form it takes, getting rid of single family zoning.

[THE POLITICAL PERIL OF ENDING SINGLE FAMILY ZONING](#)

I want to raise a much larger question or issue: It seems likely that some version of SB 9 or 10 will pass effectively ending single family zoning in CA—whatever Davis does. How many people have thought about the massive political backlash at the state level, and far far beyond that, that this could cause, not so much in Davis.

Sure the Republicans purport to be anti-regulation, but they rightly see a huge opportunity here for massive voter backlash—and backlash at supposed “progressive” YIMBY Dems which Newsom et al. will have rightly be seen as has having caved into. Anyone remember the 2020 presidential campaign and Trump trying to make the most of the fact that CA would abolish single family zoning? (Google it if you don’t believe me). Think that won’t happen again even if it is not Trump?

A few of us take it for granted that a lot of Davisites are flat earthers, but all those young, predominantly white YIMBY's, with their developer backers, are also. And our CC and Commissions caved into them long ago.

If this all seems too abstruse and theoretical, let me put it another way: To begin with circa 90% of Davis and California residents are completely unaware that single family zoning could be abolished where they live.

As I put it in an email to a reporter at the Davis Enterprise (begging the reporter and the DE to give more coverage to the issue) yesterday: "How many people know that, imminently, SFH zoning could end, both in Davis and statewide; that one day they could wake up to the sound of bulldozers and jackhammers as 2-4 units building (or even more in some cities) are put up next door to them (as their former neighbor has sold for top dollar to, knowingly, or unknowingly, a developer)?"

Whatever your politics, whatever your position on all the DHEC recommendations, does anyone really doubt that the ending of single family zoning, in some form or other, will not have serious political consequences?

Sincerely,

Dan Cornford