

**From:** [Patty Costantini](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** 950 Monroe - OPPOSED!!  
**Date:** Sunday, August 20, 2023 9:05:39 PM

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City Council and Officials,

We are strongly opposed to the proposed development at 950 Monroe for these reasons:

- 1) it is presented PRIOR to the adoption of a downtown plan and form-based code;
- 2) It is highly intrusive into the beautiful surrounding neighborhood with many historic homes;
- 3) Narrow streets border the property on 3 sides - the traffic impact will be horrendous;
- 4) Adequate parking spaces are NEVER required and our streets will be severely negatively impacted;
- 5) It is too high, not set back enough, and the design is ugly;
- 6) Previous dwelling over retail projects have yielded nothing but empty retail space; and finally
- 7) In past projects (e.g. The Benton) the final result does not resemble what the city and developers have shown in renderings. There is NO trust that what is agreed to will be in the final result.

Shame on the Planning Commission for passing this project to the Council. It is NOT in the best interest of our city, and it will NOT be in harmony with what citizens hope will be a downtown of proper scale, design and benefit to the whole community, NOT DEVELOPERS.

City Council Members, please do not pass this project before the form-based code is adopted and please do not ruin the quality of the distinctive OLD QUAD neighborhood.

Patty and Charlie Costantini  
648 Frederick Avenue

**From:** [Narayana Myneni](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** 2323 Villa Place Santa Clara CA 95054  
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 4:40:51 PM

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I am the owner of the property and it is vacant from today 8/21/2023.

Please send all billing to the address given below  
Narayana Rao Myneni  
Executor  
281 E Angelina Ave, Tracy, CA 95391

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [Mark Kelsey](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#)  
**Cc:** [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 8, 23-810, 906-950 Monroe Street and 1341 Homestead Road  
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 9:43:18 PM

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Mayor and Council,

We are writing you to oppose approval of the project and the general plan amendment for 906-950 Monroe Street. The project is another case of an individual project plan that does not conform to the larger development plan. It will result in another lackluster building that enriches the developer and does not enrich the community. In addition, the general plan amendment proposed for this project opens the door for unplanned development that is not in conformance with the Downtown Plan. At the very least, this project should be asking for an amendment specific to the project, not to a larger area.

A general plan amendment for a single project certainly should not include changes which affect the larger area by increasing density of parcels, exempting projects from having an appropriate transition to the neighborhood, changing architectural guidelines and raising building heights significantly.

The 950 Monroe Street project is asking for all the above. Why do we have a general plan at all? We are in the process of completing the Downtown Specific Plan. At least this project should be asked to conform to the guidelines of this plan. The city has complete discretion in approving this plan and should exercise the discretion NOT to approve it.

This developer knows what they got when they purchased the property, and what they could build. The city council is not required to grant them anything different.

Stand up for Santa Clara and show that the Council stands behind its citizens and the long-term planning of our City. Please deny the requested General Plan Amendment and maintain our community vision for downtown.

Mark & Kathy Kelsey

**From:** [Patty Costantini](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Sunday, August 20, 2023 8:45:44 PM

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Dear City Council,

I'm writing you to oppose the general plan amendment for 950 Monroe Street. A charter city is under no obligation to approve a general plan amendment for a development, and updates to the general plan are one of the last discretionary powers left to the City Council. Any update to the general plan should be done with consideration to not just a single development, but the City as a whole.

Most importantly an amendment for a single project certainly should not include changes which:

- More than double the allowed density of a parcel.
- Exempt a property from a requirement that new development provide an appropriate transition to surrounding neighborhoods.
- Change architectural guidelines such as removing requirements for buildings of three stories or greater, increase the setback of upper stories where they abut lower-intensity residential uses.
- Raise building heights above what was done through an area or city-wide planning process.

The 950 Monroe Street project is asking for all the above. Such an ask is the most extreme of variance in that we're rewriting the general plan to make exceptions. If we're willing to grant this sort of exception, why not exceptions to build 10-story towers in all the other single-family neighborhoods? Why do we have a general plan at all?

This developer knows what they got when they purchased the property, and what they could build. The city council is not required to grant them anything different.

Stand up for Santa Clara and show that the Council stands behind its citizens and the long-term planning of our City. Please deny the requested General Plan Amendment and maintain our community vision for downtown.

**From:** [Noah MacDonald](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 22, 2023 11:30:00 AM

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Dear City Council,

I'm writing you to oppose the general plan amendment for 950 Monroe Street. A charter city is under no obligation to approve a general plan amendment for a development, and updates to the general plan are one of the last discretionary powers left to the City Council. Any update to the general plan should be done with consideration to not just a single development, but the City as a whole.

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**From:** [Michael Prioste](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Sunday, August 20, 2023 8:23:17 PM

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**From:** [Tim Thompson](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Sunday, August 20, 2023 8:11:49 PM

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Dear City Council,

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Stand up for Santa Clara and show that the Council stands behind its citizens and the long-term planning of our City. Please deny the requested General Plan Amendment and maintain our community vision for downtown.

Listen to the citizens who live in the surrounding area this doesn't fit in our city.

Please don't approve this it's WRONG LURN TO SAY NO.

TIM THOMPSON

**From:** [Anne King](#)  
**To:** [Mayor and Council](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [Clerk](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Public Comment](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Sunday, August 20, 2023 7:32:42 PM

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Dear Council Member,

Please, please vote AGAINST amending the general plan. Do not allow a change to the general plan for the downtown area. Please vote against the amendment before the Council on August 22, 2023.

1). The city has invested time and money in polls and discussions with City residents, and residents have asked for a consistent plan to create a vibrant downtown that the City can be proud of.

2). This amendment will allow a piecemeal approach that years from now will be condemned as being as harmful for the City as the original decision to destroy the old Downtown.

3). It also allows higher buildings which will significantly overshadow the historic homes that define the wider downtown area.

4). The downtown precise plan may be approved soon and will create a consistent vision that developers can use to design projects that won't alienate the residents of this historically significant area.

PLEASE VOTE NO ON ANY AMENDMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN FOR THE DOWNTOWN

Thank you,  
Anne and Dennis King

**From:** [MARIA Barnard](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Sunday, August 20, 2023 6:12:24 PM

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Get [Outlook for Android](#)

**From:** [Judy Ross](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Sunday, August 20, 2023 5:13:45 PM

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Stand up for Santa Clara and show that the Council stands behind its citizens and the long-term planning of our City. Please deny the requested General Plan Amendment and maintain our community vision for downtown.

Judy Ross  
Old Quad Resident since 1978

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Paul](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Sunday, August 20, 2023 5:00:45 PM

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Dear City Council,

I'm not pleased that this developer is shoehorning in changes to the downtown general plan. I understand that we need more housing in Santa Clara, but the changes in density and exemptions for appropriate transitions isn't fair to local residents and only benefits the developer.

It was my impression that the neighborhood was going to work together with the city council and to create a fair plan, NOT have the developers dictate their extreme needs. Additionally, I'm shocked to see there are variance requests for properties outside of the marked downtown general area (like the Wells Fargo building and the Franklin strip near the Convent.)

I'm writing you to oppose the general plan amendment for 950 Monroe Street. A charter city is under no obligation to approve a general plan amendment for a development, and updates to the general plan are one of the last discretionary powers left to the City Council. Any update to the general plan should be done with consideration to not just a single development, but the City as a whole.

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Stand up for Santa Clara and show that the Council stands behind its citizens and the long-term planning of our City. Please deny the requested General Plan Amendment and maintain our community vision for downtown.

I appreciate your time and all your hard work.

Paul Rebello  
Old Quad resident

**From:** [Carol Parkinson](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Sunday, August 20, 2023 4:48:08 PM

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Dear City Council,

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Stand up for Santa Clara and show that the Council stands behind its citizens and the long-term planning of our City. Please deny the requested General Plan Amendment and maintain our community vision for downtown.

We moved to Santa Clara from San Jose, 8 years ago, because their city government disregarded the voted upon requirements for city planning and made a mess, which resulted in reduced quality of living for residents.

I implore you all not to make the same mistakes and comply with Santa Clara voters in regards to our city planning.

Kind regards,  
Carol Parkinson and Jim Wilhelm  
465 Jefferson Street, Santa Clara 95050

Sent from my iPhone. Please forgive any grammatical errors or misspellings.

**From:** [Noreen](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Sunday, August 20, 2023 4:34:59 PM

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Dear City Council,

Our historic neighborhood needs your support in saying no to this development. All you need to do is drive down Monroe going north from El Camino and see the one story houses that back the data center. Despite the 146' setback from the residence, that 85' building with the metal mess that is inset on roof making it 99' looms as a giant wall. I feel for those residence. Although it was legal since it was built on commercial space.

This proposed plan will be 84' tall with a 73' setback to residence and barely 5' set back to building next to it on Franklin.

This will look like a skyscraper. These allowances they are asking for are honestly ridiculous, and it will not be affordable housing to boot.

In the past I and neighbors met and worked with The Gateway developer and Prometheus. We supported their developments and they went before counsel without anyone opposing from our group.

I am not against development. What they are asking for is unreasonable and will set a precedent that will hurt our neighborhood adversely.

Below is more from our group and I'm thankful to have neighbors who care what happens to the Old Quad. Neighbors that are in the industry and understand development and use that knowledge to help our city get the most for our residence.

We have a vested interest, we live here and love our neighborhoods.

This developer does not live here and would never approve this project in his city. His voting record proves it over and over. Please stand up for the people.

Thank you,  
Noreen Carlson  
1159 Madison St.

I'm writing you to oppose the general plan amendment for 950 Monroe Street. A charter city is under no obligation to approve a general plan amendment for a development, and updates to the general plan are one of the last discretionary powers left to the City Council. Any update to the general plan should be done with consideration to not just a single development, but the City as a whole.

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This developer knows what they got when they purchased the property, and what they could build. The city council

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Stand up for Santa Clara and show that the Council stands behind its citizens and the long-term planning of our City.  
Please deny the requested General Plan Amendment and maintain our community vision for downtown.

Noreen

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [charlotte evans](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Sunday, August 20, 2023 4:22:39 PM

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Dear City Council,

My home is next door to the Wells Fargo Bank parking lot. A high density building at the corner of Benton and Lafayette is totally inappropriate. This plan completely ruins the charm of the old quad area. I'm writing you to oppose the general plan amendment for 950 Monroe Street. A charter city is under no obligation to approve a general plan amendment for a development, and updates to the general plan are one of the last discretionary powers left to the City Council. Any update to the general plan should be done with consideration to not just a single development, but the City as a whole.

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Charlotte Evans

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Linda Pascoal](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Sunday, August 20, 2023 3:59:16 PM

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Regards,  
Linda

**From:** [Rodger Waldorf](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 8:44:44 AM

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Dear City Council,

I am writing to express my opposition to the new housing project 950 Monroe that is being proposed in our neighborhood. We believe that this project is premature and should not proceed until the city's comprehensive plan is approved. I also have concerns about the proposed demolition of two 100 year old homes in our neighborhood. These homes are part of our heritage and have historical and architectural value.

They should be preserved and protected, not torn down to make way for new developments. I urge you to reconsider your plans and to respect the wishes of the residents who want to keep these homes intact. These homes are not only beautiful, but also provide a sense of community and identity for our area. They are irreplaceable and should not be sacrificed for short-term profit.

The project would increase the density and height of the buildings in our area, creating traffic congestion, noise pollution and reduced quality of life. The project would also undermine the character and identity of our neighborhood, which is known for its historic charm and diversity.

We urge you to reject this project until the city's plan is finalized and adopted. We believe that any development in our city should be aligned with the plan and respect the wishes of the people who live here.

Rodger Waldorf  
1745 Market Street  
Old Quad resident

**From:** [KYLA](#)  
**To:** [Anthony Becker](#); [Clerk](#); [contactoqra@gmail.com](mailto:contactoqra@gmail.com); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Public Comment](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 1:41:28 PM

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Dear City Council, I'm writing you to oppose the general plan amendment for 950 Monroe Street. A charter city is under no obligation to approve a general plan amendment for a development, and updates to the general plan are one of the last discretionary powers left to the City Council. Any update to the general plan should be done with consideration to not just a single development, but the City as a whole. Most importantly an amendment for a single project certainly should not include changes which:

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The 950 Monroe Street project is asking for all the above. Such an ask is the most extreme of variance in that we're rewriting the general plan to make exceptions. If we're willing to grant this sort of exception, why not exceptions to build 10-story towers in all the other single-family neighborhoods? Why do we have a general plan at all? This developer knows what they got when they purchased the property, and what they could build. The city council is not required to grant them anything different. Stand up for Santa Clara and show that the Council stands behind its citizens and the long-term planning of our City. Please deny the requested General Plan Amendment and maintain our community vision for downtown.

**From:** [Julie Roedell](#)  
**To:** [Mayor and Council](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [Clerk](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Public Comment](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 2:28:59 PM

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Dear City Council, I'm writing you to oppose the general plan amendment for 950 Monroe Street.

A charter city is under no obligation to approve a general plan amendment for a development, and updates to the general plan are one of the last discretionary powers left to the City Council. Any update to the general plan should be done with consideration to not just a single development, but the City as a whole. Most importantly an amendment for a single project certainly should not include changes which:

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Please deny the requested General Plan Amendment and maintain our community vision for downtown.

Most sincerely,

Julie Roedell  
1420 Lexington Street  
1410 Lexington Street

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Take Care,

Julie

**From:** [Julie Roedell](#)  
**To:** [Mayor and Council](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [Clerk](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Public Comment](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 2:31:40 PM

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Dear City Council,

I am writing you to oppose the general plan amendment for 950 Monroe Street.

A charter city is under no obligation to approve a general plan amendment for a development, and updates to the general plan are one of the last discretionary powers left to the City Council. Any update to the general plan should be done with consideration to not just a single development, but the City as a whole.

Most importantly, an amendment for a single project certainly should not include changes which:

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Please deny the requested General Plan Amendment and maintain our community vision for downtown.

Sincerely,

Julie Roedell  
1420 Lexington St, Santa Clara, CA 95050  
1410 Lexington St, Santa Clara, CA. 95050

--

Take Care,

Julie

**From:** [Julie Roedell](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 2:48:36 PM

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Dear City Council,

I'm writing you to oppose the general plan amendment for 950 Monroe Street. A charter city is under no obligation to approve a general plan amendment for a development, and updates to the general plan are one of the last discretionary powers left to the City Council. Any update to the general plan should be done with consideration to not just a single development, but the City as a whole.

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This developer knows what they got when they purchased the property, and what they could build. The city council is not required to grant them anything different.

Stand up for Santa Clara and show that the Council stands behind its citizens and the long-term planning of our City. Please deny the requested General Plan Amendment and maintain our community vision for downtown.

Julie Roedell  
1420 Lexington Street  
1410 Lexington Street

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Dawn Thompson](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 3:19:46 PM

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Dear City Council,

I'm writing you to oppose the general plan amendment for 950 Monroe Street. A charter city is under no obligation to approve a general plan amendment for a development, and updates to the general plan are one of the last discretionary powers left to the City Council. Any update to the general plan should be done with consideration to not just a single development, but the City as a whole.

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This developer knows what they got when they purchased the property, and what they could build. The city council is not required to grant them anything different.

Stand up for Santa Clara and show that the Council stands behind its citizens and the long-term planning of our City. Please deny the requested General Plan Amendment and maintain our community vision for downtown.

Sincerely,

Dawn Thompson  
Resident of Santa Clara for over 43 years

**From:** [Jane DeRosa](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 4:02:44 PM

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Dear City Council,

I'm writing you to oppose the general plan amendment for 950 Monroe Street. A charter city is under no obligation to approve a general plan amendment for a development, and updates to the general plan are one of the last discretionary powers left to the City Council. Any update to the general plan should be done with consideration to not just a single development, but the City as a whole.

The proposed amendment would allow a development that would be dramatically different from what is currently allowed.

This developer knew what they were buying when they purchased the property, and what they could build. Any development at 950 Monroe should compliment the existing buildings and blend pleasingly into the neighborhood.

I hope you will deny the requested General Plan Amendment and maintain our community vision for downtown.

Sincerely,  
Jane De Rosa

**From:** [Donna West](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 5:08:41 PM

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Dear City Council,

I'm writing you to oppose the general plan amendment for 950 Monroe Street. A charter city is under no obligation to approve a general plan amendment for a development, and updates to the general plan are one of the last discretionary powers left to the City Council. Any update to the general plan should be done with consideration to not just a single development, but the City as a whole.

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This developer knows what they got when they purchased the property, and what they could build. The city council is not required to grant them anything different.

Stand up for Santa Clara and show that the Council stands behind its citizens and the long-term planning of our City. Please deny the requested General Plan Amendment and maintain our community vision for downtown.

Sincerely  
Donna West  
Research with  
Reclaiming Our Downtown  
408-489-4651

3561 Homestead Rd No 483  
Santa Clara CA 95951

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Helen Ostrander](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 5:44:02 PM

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Dear Santa Clara City Council,

I oppose the general plan amendment for 950 Monroe Street. A charter city is under no obligation to approve a general plan amendment for a single request to ask for the most extreme of variances. You will be rewriting the general plan to make exceptions, with no citizen approval. I know that I do not want a 10 story tower next to my single family home and neighborhood. You need to remember who your constituents are, why they voted for you, and their interest in saving a little bit of Santa Clara that our forefathers mistakingly tore down. The Old Quad area would be changed permanently! A pure example of the Santa Clara Spirit was on Aug. 4 when the Annual Street Dance occurred. Citizens enjoyed meeting, seeing, talking with other citizens. If you permit the variance, how many more will you approve. The person who purchased the property new in advance what the restrictions were and now they want to change them. For their personal gain, not that of Santa Clarans!! Please keep the Old Quad area alone from high rises, high density parcels, and away from the citizens' back yards and front yards.

As a long time citizen of Santa Clara, a granddaughter of a 1926 councilman, as a daughter of the first police woman in Santa Clara, I urge you to keep a little of what is left of downtown Santa Clara.

Sincerely,  
Helen Mirrione Ostrander  
626 Los Padres Blvd.  
Santa Clara, CA 95050

**From:** [ANTHONY MUSUMECI](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 7:11:05 PM

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Dear City Council,

I'm writing you to oppose the general plan amendment for 950 Monroe Street. A charter city is under no obligation to approve a general plan amendment for a development, and updates to the general plan are one of the last discretionary powers left to the City Council. Any update to the general plan should be done with consideration to not just a single development, but the City as a whole.

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- Raise building heights above what was done through an area or city-wide planning process.

The 950 Monroe Street project is asking for all the above. Such an ask is the most extreme of variance in that we're rewriting the general plan to make exceptions. If we're willing to grant this sort of exception, why not exceptions to build 10-story towers in all the other single-family neighborhoods? Why do we have a general plan at all?

This developer knows what they got when they purchased the property, and what they could build. The city council is not required to grant them anything different.

Stand up for Santa Clara and show that the Council stands behind its citizens and the long-term planning of our City. Please deny the requested General Plan Amendment and maintain our community vision for downtown.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [randy roedell](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 7:49:28 PM

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Dear City Council,

I'm writing you to oppose the general plan amendment for 950 Monroe Street. A charter city is under no obligation to approve a general plan amendment for a development, and updates to the general plan are one of the last discretionary powers left to the City Council. Any update to the general plan should be done with consideration to not just a single development, but the City as a whole.

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This developer knows what they got when they purchased the property, and what they could build. The city council is not required to grant them anything different.

Stand up for Santa Clara and show that the Council stands behind its citizens and the long-term planning of our City. Please deny the requested General Plan Amendment and maintain our community vision for downtown.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter,  
Randy Roedell

From [randysworkshop@gmail.com](mailto:randysworkshop@gmail.com)

**From:** [Becca Fung](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 9:32:16 PM

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Dear City Council,

As a Santa Clara resident and home owner so close to this development, I oppose the general plan amendment for 950 Monroe Street. A charter city is under no obligation to approve a general plan amendment for a development, and updates to the general plan are one of the last discretionary powers left to the City Council. Any update to the general plan should be done with consideration to not just a single development, but the City as a whole.

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The 950 Monroe Street project is asking for all the above. Such an ask is the most extreme of variance in that we're rewriting the general plan to make exceptions. If we're willing to grant this sort of exception, why not exceptions to build 10-story towers in all the other single-family neighborhoods? Why do we have a general plan at all?

This developer knows what they got when they purchased the property, and what they could build. The city council is not required to grant them anything different. PLEASE DO NOT!

Stand up for Santa Clara and show that the Council stands behind its citizens and the long-term planning of our City. Please deny the requested General Plan Amendment and maintain our community vision for downtown!

Rebecca and Andrew Fung  
834 Main Street

**From:** [Jonathon Evans](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [Old Quad Residents Association](#); [Planning Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 9:56:43 PM

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Dear City Council,

I'm writing you to oppose the general plan amendment for 950 Monroe Street. The City council has full discretion to deny the amendment and it should use that discretion.

If you got this far let me explain why.

The Old Quad Residents Association, and many other members of the community have been working tirelessly to create a vibrant downtown in our neighborhood. We recognize that with a vibrant downtown comes density and more people to the neighborhood to make the place sustainable. We have been willing to make this tradeoff, but in doing so we want the downtown to respect the historic nature of the Old Quad and have a transition between the downtown core and the surrounding historic homes.

The proposed 950 Monroe Street development falls far short of meeting the goals and needs of the community and is the same "Old Santa Clara" parcel-by-parcel development. Rather than respecting the open professional planning process by which we've been developing a downtown precise plan and working with the community to meet the community's vision for downtown this is a developer insisting their way is the only way, and that they need a "super-variance" via a general plan amendment and rezone to make the design fit.

It's especially concerning that this project couldn't find an existing zoning type or general plan designation to be built under and that the 950 Monroe project had to go so far as to remove general plan guidelines such as:

- New development provide an appropriate transition to surrounding neighborhoods.
- Buildings of three stories or greater, increase the setback of upper stories where they abut lower-intensity residential uses.

This sets a precedent that we should allow developments anywhere even if they are incompatible with the surrounding uses, or even toss out an objective design standard. Once the City Council approves such exemptions how is it fair to not approve this for any future application?

The proposed parcel changes also create substandard residential lots, by chopping up the current historic single-family home parcels, and hiding townhomes in their backyards.

As far as community benefits go, we don't need yet another "community room" that no one will be able to use. I'm still waiting to book the community room in Levi's stadium as outlined in section 4.7.2 of the stadium lease<sup>1</sup>.

If the council wants to know what the community wants, we've put it in the downtown precise plan,

but we **cannot require the applicant to conform to the downtown precise plan.** Instead, we must compare the development to what the current general plan and zoning requires, and it fails to meet that. The Council should deny the general plan amendment.

-Jonathon Evans  
President OQRA

Citations:

1. <https://www.santaclaraca.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/46687/636071428735770000>

**From:** [lizloyal@aol.com](mailto:lizloyal@aol.com)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 22, 2023 12:58:34 AM

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Dear City Council,

I'm writing you to oppose the general plan amendment for 950 Monroe Street. A charter city is under no obligation to approve a general plan amendment for a development, and updates to the general plan are one of the last discretionary powers left to the City Council. Any update to the general plan should be done with consideration to not just a single development, but the City as a whole.

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Stand up for Santa Clara and show that the Council stands behind its citizens and the long-term planning of our City. Please deny the requested General Plan Amendment and maintain our community vision for downtown.

**From:** [Tom Yetter](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 22, 2023 9:28:25 AM

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Dear City Council,

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Stand up for Santa Clara and show that the Council stands behind its citizens and the long-term planning of our City. Please deny the requested General Plan Amendment and maintain our community vision for downtown.

Thank you for your time,  
Tom Yetter, Old Quad resident

**From:** [tim@bayprospect.com](mailto:tim@bayprospect.com)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 - 950 Monroe St Project.  
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 8:11:08 PM

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Tim Clay

**From:** [Silin Chen](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Sunday, August 20, 2023 11:52:57 PM

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Dear City Council,

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--

Silin Chen  
Email: [silinchen22@gmail.com](mailto:silinchen22@gmail.com)

**From:** [Ann MacDonald](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810 – 950 Monroe St Project  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 22, 2023 11:34:02 AM

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Dear City Council,

I'm writing you to oppose the general plan amendment for 950 Monroe Street. A charter city is under no obligation to approve a general plan amendment for a development, and updates to the general plan are one of the last discretionary powers left to the City Council. Any update to the general plan should be done with consideration to not just a single development, but the City as a whole.

Most importantly an amendment for a single project certainly should not include changes which:

- More than double the allowed density of a parcel.
- Exempt a property from a requirement that new development provide an appropriate transition to surrounding neighborhoods.
- Change architectural guidelines such as removing requirements for buildings of three stories or greater, increase the setback of upper stories where they abut lower-intensity residential uses.
- Raise building heights above what was done through an area or city-wide planning process.

The 950 Monroe Street project is asking for all the above. Such an ask is the most extreme of variance in that we're rewriting the general plan to make exceptions. If we're willing to grant this sort of exception, why not exceptions to build 10-story towers in all the other single-family neighborhoods? Why do we have a general plan at all?

This developer knows what they got when they purchased the property, and what they could build. The city council is not required to grant them anything different.

Stand up for Santa Clara and show that the Council stands behind its citizens and the long-term planning of our City. Please deny the requested General Plan Amendment and maintain our community vision for downtown.

**From:** [HELEN OSTRANDER](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Public Comment](#); [Mayor and Council](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda item 8. 23-810 950 Monroe Street Project  
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 5:12:52 PM

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City Council,

I oppose the general plan amendment for 950 Monroe Street. A charter city is under no obligation to approve a general plan amendment for a single request to ask for the most extreme of variances. You will be rewriting the general plan to make exceptions, with no citizen approval. I know that I do not want a 10 story tower next to my single family home and neighborhood. You need to remember who your constituents are, why they voted for you, and their interest in saving a little bit of Santa Clara that our forefathers mistakingly tore down. The Old Quad area would be changed permanently! A pure example of the Santa Clara Spirit was on Aug. 4 when the Annual Street Dance occurred. Citizens enjoyed meeting, seeing, talking with other citizens. If you permit the variance, how many more will you approve. The person who purchased the property new in advance what the restrictions were and now they want to change them. For their personal gain, not that of Santa Clarans!! Please keep the Old Quad area alone from high rises, high density parcels, and away from the citizens' back yards and front yards.

As a long time citizen of Santa Clara, a granddaughter of a 1926 councilman, as a daughter of the first police woman in Santa Clara, I urge you to keep a little of what is left of downtown Santa Clara.

Sincerely,

Helen Mirrione Ostrander  
626 Los Padres Blvd.  
Santa Clara, CA 95050

**From:** [Joe Agu](#)  
**To:** [Mayor and Council](#); [Anthony Becker](#); [Clerk](#); [contactogra@gmail.com](mailto:contactogra@gmail.com); [Karen Hardy](#); [Kevin Park](#); [Kathy Watanabe](#); [Lisa Gillmor](#); [Public Comment](#); [Raj Chahal](#); [Sudhanshu Jain](#)  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item 8. 23-810-950 Monroe St. Project  
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 4:29:27 PM

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Dear City Council,

I'm writing you to oppose the general plan amendment for 950 Monroe Street. A charter city is under no obligation to approve a general plan amendment for a development, and updates to the general plan are one of the last discretionary powers left to the City Council. Any update to the general plan should be done with consideration to not just a single development, but the City as a whole.

Most importantly an amendment for a single project certainly should not include changes which:

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- Change architectural guidelines such as removing requirements for buildings of three stories or greater, increase the setback of upper stories where they abut lower-intensity residential uses.
- Raise building heights above what was done through an area or city-wide planning process.

The 950 Monroe Street project is asking for all the above. Such an ask is the most extreme of variance in that we're rewriting the general plan to make exceptions. If we're willing to grant this sort of exception, why not exceptions to build 10-story towers in all the other single-family neighborhoods? Why do we have a general plan at all?

This developer knows what they got when they purchased the property, and what they could build. The city council is not required to grant them anything different.

Stand up for Santa Clara and show that the Council stands behind its citizens and the long-term planning of our City. Please deny the requested General Plan Amendment and maintain our community vision for downtown.

Thank you,

Joe Agu

**From:** [Louis Mirante](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Cc:** [Matt Regan](#)  
**Subject:** Support - Project Located at 950 Monroe (Item 8 Tomorrow)  
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 1:09:45 PM

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Santa Clara City Council,

I write on behalf of the Bay Area Council to support the project located at 950 Monroe. We support staff's recommended actions to approve the project. Please see our attached letter of support. If you have any questions about our support, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best,  
Louis

**From:** [Louis Mirante](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Cc:** [Matt Regan](#)  
**Subject:** Support - Project Located at 950 Monroe (Item 8 Tomorrow)  
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 1:12:54 PM

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Santa Clara City Council,

I write on behalf of the Bay Area Council to support the project located at 950 Monroe. We support staff's recommended actions to approve the project. Please see our attached letter of support. If you have any questions about our support, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best,  
Louis

**From:** [Louis Mirante](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Cc:** [Matt Regan](#)  
**Subject:** Support - Project Located at 950 Monroe (Item 8 Tomorrow)  
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 1:14:59 PM

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Santa Clara City Council,

I write on behalf of the Bay Area Council to support the project located at 950 Monroe. We support staff's recommended actions to approve the project. Please see our attached letter of support. If you have any questions about our support, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best,  
Louis

**From:** [Louis Mirante](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Cc:** [Matt Regan](#)  
**Subject:** Support - Project Located at 950 Monroe (Item 8 Tomorrow)  
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 1:18:42 PM  
**Attachments:** [BAC - 950 Monroe.pdf](#)

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Santa Clara City Council,

I write on behalf of the Bay Area Council to support the project located at 950 Monroe. We support staff's recommended actions to approve the project. Please see our attached letter of support. If you have any questions about our support, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best,  
Louis

**From:** [Louis Mirante](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Cc:** [Matt Regan](#)  
**Subject:** Support - Project Located at 950 Monroe (Item 8 Tomorrow)  
**Date:** Monday, August 21, 2023 1:06:02 PM

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Santa Clara City Council,

I write on behalf of the Bay Area Council to support the project located at 950 Monroe. We support staff's recommended actions to approve the project. Please see our attached letter of support. If you have any questions about our support, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best,  
Louis

**From:** [Eric Mosinger](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Written Comment on Item 23-810  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 22, 2023 10:34:40 AM

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Dear City Council,

I'm writing to support the construction of a mixed-use development at 906-950 Monroe Street. This building will be a wonderful start to Santa Clara's project of reviving a vibrant, walkable downtown. More importantly, it will embody Santa Clara's commitment to building affordable housing for families.

I am writing as a member of the Santa Clara community raising three young children just a few blocks from the proposed development. We currently rent a small two-bedroom house. One day we dream of upgrading to a three bedroom house or apartment; however, at current housing prices it's hard to see how we'd make ends meet. As it is, we are lucky. Many if not most of the other parents at Westwood Elementary, where our daughters attend second grade, make due in much smaller apartments.

We are not low-income. I am a tenure-track professor at Santa Clara University, hired after the university conducted a nationwide search, making a salary that would be enviable in most US metropolitan areas. I want to raise my son and daughters in Santa Clara. Yet I wonder how long we will be able to afford to live here.

To the homeowners and community organizations who oppose this development on the grounds that it is inconsistent with the "neighborhood character," I ask: What kind of "neighborhood character" will we have here when families can't afford to live in the neighborhood? When middle-income families like ours are forced to move out? When teachers, healthcare workers, and professors are replaced by retirees and AirBnBs?

I hope this building is just the first of several six to eight story apartment buildings that will make central Santa Clara a future-oriented community for young families, with a dense walkable downtown and thriving retail.

yours,  
Eric Mosinger

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**Eric S. Mosinger** (he / him / his)  
Assistant Professor  
Political Science Department Santa Clara University