

I want to express my satisfaction in the Ponte Vista Community Advisory Committee (CAC) that Councilwoman Janice Hahn appointed to study the Ponte Vista plan. After nearly a year of review and statements from hundreds of community members testifying about their desire to keep the current R-1 zoning, the CAC rightfully rejected the developer's two proposed plans for 2300 and 1950 condominiums and town homes and stated any development should conform to the current R-1 zoning. This was a carefully considered opinion and one that addressed the need of minimizing the density of a future development to mitigate any adverse affects of increased infrastructure demands. It seems a shame that Bob Bisno took the time to publicly thumb his nose at the CAC afterwards and let them (and us) know that he thinks he knows what's best for the community and is going to proceed with his current plans no matter what.

Worth pointing out is the fact that there are over 10,000 plus signatures, support cards and emails from community members who support R-1 density because the developer's proposed plans would unleash a traffic nightmare no matter what mitigation he purports to fund. Also worth noting, is that no R-1 petition gatherers were paid or had to resort to falsehood, subterfuge or name calling in asking for signatures. And no petition signers were treated to dinner, lunch, a barbecue, family fun day, an investment seminar or entered into a raffle. Every person involved participated because they believed that this development should conform to the current zoning R-1 for the least negative impact on our communities.

As for the supposed support of Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council, the real fact is that they do not support the proposed plans of 2300 or even 1950 units at Ponte Vista. One only has to read their motion to see that. Even the San Pedro Peninsula Chamber of Commerce doesn't support the project's proposed densities as they had to clarify after their initial press release was released and reported on in the Daily Breeze.

The developer keeps putting carrots out and hoping the community will take them without thinking of the consequences this oversize project will bring. It seems like a page out of Faust. Dreams will come true (and never mind the downside) if only you sign on the dotted line . It is heartening to know, that there are thousands of people who can see through this ruse and unfortunate that there are those who bought the story hook, line and sinker.

I encourage everyone who supports R-1 zoning at Ponte Vista to continue to follow and participate in the planning process as it wends it's way through the planning department and ultimately on to the Los Angeles City Council. It's time for the people, not developers, to help decide what's best for our communities and their futures.

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