

Item 7-E Public Comment Second Unit Ordinance Please confirm receipt
From: gerstle@mindspring.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2016 3:48 PM
To: NANCY McPeak
Cc: City Clerk; Allen Tai
Subject: Second Unit Ordinance [Please confirm receipt]
Attachments: Exhibit 2 - Parking Occupancy Map, Webster Street, Saturday, Evening.pdf

Please confirm receipt by Planning Board

Dear Planning Board,

I am writing to oppose the transit oriented options on Item 7-E (Second Unit Ordinance) on your July 25, 2016 agenda.

<https://alameda.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=2782560&GUID=19CD76DB-581D-40B8-9057-B50BA59D7051&FullText=1>

I live in the West End within a 1/4 mile of Webster Street and transit services. As documented by the City of Alameda (please see attached) parking is a major problem in the neighborhood. As a result, some have illegally paved over their yards or regularly park in illegal spaces. There is no requirement in this ordinance that prohibits residents in second units from owning cars. Transit service is of little use if the buses do not go where you need them to go. Job situations can change overnight and while a bus can take you to some jobs, it may not take you to the one you have at the time. Even if one takes transit to work, a car may be needed for other trips – and if one owns a car, then a space is needed to park it. The car has to be somewhere. Also, many buses are already overcrowded. By the time the bus gets to Webster Street, it is often standing room only. Sometimes the buses are so packed, they have to pass up stops on Webster Street.

While well intentioned, adding units while not adding parking only makes the parking situation worse. Even more yards will be paved for parking and parking in red zones will increase. Please look at the attached study done by our own City. Where will the residents of the new units park their cars?

Regards,

Steve Gerstle
P.O. Box 476
Alameda 94501

Exhibit 2. Parking Occupancy Map, Webster Street, Saturday, Evening

Webster Street Area - Peak Hour Occupancy, Saturday, 4 to 8 PM

