



Bayview Hunters Point Mothers & Fathers Committee



SPEAK SUNSET PARKSIDE EDUCATION AND ACTION COMMITTEE

July 24, 2023

To: City and County of San Francisco Decision Makers - 1 Dr Carlton B Goodlett Pl, San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: **OPPOSE** Engardio-Breed-Dorsey "Constraints Reduction Ordinance" ("Housing Production") **File #230446**
and **OPPOSE** Melgar-Engardio "Family Housing Opportunity Special Use District Ordinance" **File #230026**

Dear San Francisco Decision Makers:

The undersigned environmental, housing, economic justice, community, and climate crisis response organizations write to voice our strong opposition to the Engardio-Breed-Dorsey "Constraints Reduction" and the Melgar-Engardio "Family Housing Opportunity Special Use District" ordinances. They would enact drastic and sweeping exceptions to San Francisco's environmental and community review of real estate projects and would undermine health, environmental, economic and neighborhood protections.

The Engardio-Breed-Dorsey "Constraints Reduction Ordinance" (aka "Housing Production Ordinance") contains massive unprecedented waivers of local environmental, community and demolition review that are absolutely unacceptable, all in the name of producing housing called "affordable" when most of that housing would be for families making \$150,000 to \$190,000 per year!

The Melgar-Engardio "Family Housing Opportunity Special Use District Ordinance" unacceptably waives nearly all environmental and community review for housing expansions in its large target project area to allow sweeping height increases, project design exemptions, open space requirement reductions, and condo conversions that will remove badly needed affordable rental housing!

Together these ordinances would worsen:

- **The Unaffordable Housing Crisis** - These ordinances promote building new high priced housing that is *not* affordable, and condo conversions that displace rental housing. It is ridiculous that the Engardio-Breed-Dorsey ordinance calls housing built mostly for families making \$150,000 to \$190,000 dollars per year "affordable". We already have a 50% *oversupply* of housing for those income levels!

And the Melgar-Engardio ordinance relies on existing “affordable” standards that are not working and have already allowed gentrification to destroy San Francisco neighborhoods.

- **The Homelessness Crisis** - The gentrification spurred by these ordinances would push most rents citywide even higher, driving more middle, working and lower class San Franciscans either out of the city, or onto our streets where they will face unacceptable dangers of declining health, street crime, and underemployment.
- **The Vacant Housing Crisis** - San Francisco has at least 40,000 vacant housing units, most of them *far* overpriced. We also have empty office space that can be converted into thousands more apartments. We do not need more housing construction, we need to make our existing housing space affordable!
- **The Environmental Justice & Equity Crisis** - These ordinances would gut environmental and community review protections and would establish “Urban Renewal” style redevelopment zones, setting precedents that would allow corporate real estate giants to even more easily build unhealthy housing on toxic and radioactive waste sites like those in Bayview Hunters Point and on Treasure Island (which local, state and federal agencies have falsely declared “cleaned up”).
- **The Climate Crisis** - These bills are bad for the environment. Allowing sweeping demolitions and expansions of existing homes and apartments, to replace them with luxury condo and rental towers, will use massive amounts of new cement and other building materials releasing *more* greenhouse gases, not less.

These ordinances would build housing for the wealthy, create more homelessness, and are an environmentally destructive giveaway to rapacious Wall Street and corporate real estate speculators. Please vote DOWN these unacceptable corporate attacks on San Francisco’s environmental, economic, cultural, and community integrity!

Sincerely:

Bayview Hunters Point Mothers & Fathers Committee
California Alliance of Local Electeds
Californians for Energy Choice
Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods
Concerned Residents of the Sunset
East Mission Improvement Association
Extinction Rebellion SF Bay Area
Greenaction for Health & Environmental Justice
Mid-Sunset Neighborhood Association
Our City SF
Our Neighborhood Voices
San Franciscans for Urban Nature
San Francisco Green Party
San Francisco Tomorrow
Save Our Neighborhoods SF
Sunflower Alliance
Sunset Parkside Education & Action Committee