From: John Hanna
To: eComment

Subject: Item # 2--Request Continuance of item # 2-General Plan Amendment

Date: Monday, November 09, 2020 4:06:08 PM

My name is John Hanna, an Orange County resident for 56 years, and I am writing on behalf of the Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters, including the many members who are residents of Sant Ana.

While we understand the need to update the general plan, we feel it best to continue this matter and let the newly elected City Council and their Planning Commission appointments consider the recommended changes and Environmental Impact study.

The glaring omission in this report is a lack of any emphasis on linking the economic development described in the report to real, good paying jobs for Santa Ana residents. The report simply concludes that incentivizing development will ensure jobs for Santa Ana residents. While certain areas are zoned for fast track, almost buy rite development, no requirement is made that for that expedited process developers would need to ensure that at least part of their work force be skilled and trained as defined in the Public Contract Code. Neither does the plan require developers to hire contractors that have a process to ensure that qualified Santa Ana journeymen and apprentices would have an opportunity to work on the project. The only thing the general plan amendment does in this area is make it easier to obtain entitlements and permit a continued use of low wage, unskilled labor that does not give a priority to Santa Ana residents. Santa Ana can and should do better.

In addition, environmental justice issues need to be separately identified. Trying to suggest that environmental justice issues are dealt with through the entire report fails to give the community the opportunity to focus on this issue as an important issue area that needs to be treated separately.

The Southwest Carpenters believe that there is a role for an expedited entitlement process but only if in exchange that developers projects also ensure that a part of their workforce are skilled and trained residents of Santa Ana. In addition, put more sunshine on environmental justice areas to the entire community has confidence in the plan.

This General Plan needs adjustments. Let the new Council and Planning Commission do this.

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