

Communication from Public

Name: William Hughs
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Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember Imelda Padilla, As a constituent of yours living in NoHo and working in Van Nuys, I was tremendously disappointed with your recent appearance on Jon Lovett's podcast. Your comments have made it absolutely clear to me that you are not fighting for what will make our community— in fact, you are actively fighting to worsen the crisis in our community, especially as it relates to our housing and public transit shortage. You say you want to make housing more affordable, yet you force developments to take an apartment building down from 6 stories to 3 stories, halving the amount of available units. You say you're focused on transit, yet you are requiring developments to have less offices and more parking. YOUR ACTIONS HERE ARE ACTIVELY WORSENING OUR SITUATION. WE HAVE A HOUSING SUPPLY ISSUE. THIS IS WHAT ALL OF THE NUMBERS INDICATE. It is the simplest of economics. Increase supply, prices go down. This makes it easier for a family to better afford an apartment, or even a house one day. Sorry to break it to you, but the era of NIMBYism is over. The math doesn't add up. It doesn't work. I love the Valley. It has a wonderful charm to it. But let's be honest, we have our problems. Our communities are fractured by stroads (half street, half road). You can hardly walk anywhere. We are an archipelago of strip malls. We drive to work isolated from each other. Let's imagine a more beautiful vision of the future. Let's be Paris. And to do that, we are going to need to build more housing, not limit its construction. We are going to need to invest in public transit, not force developers to build more parking garages. We are going to need more mixed use spaces, not force developers to eliminate office space from their construction. To Councilmember Padilla and anyone else who is hearing this: read Abundance by Ezra Klein and Derek Thompson— or even listen to it like I did on Audible!— and you will see the path forward towards improving our community. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Regards, William "Wylie" Hughs