

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Josh Lieberman

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**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Members of the PLUM Committee, I write to you today to urge you to vote NO on agenda item 19 as it is written or to delay a vote on the item to allow time for outreach and conversation about amendments that will lead to a bill that protects our environment without inequitable depression of home prices. The loss of native wildlife and the erosion of our planet is our biggest existential crisis right now. We applaud the work of Councilmembers Yaroslavsky and Raman that tackle these issues via their Wildlife Protection Ordinance but have serious concerns about unintentional consequences that will disproportionately impact low income homeowners and people struggling in building trades. We know that there is currently a battle surrounding the Wildlife Ordinance with fans of mansionization pushing to squash it entirely, harming our environment, and another group pushing to quickly and covertly pass it as written, harming homeowners and people involved in construction trades. I am writing to you today in hopes that a compromise can be reached. The idea that we have to choose between protecting our planet and protecting homeowners is a false choice. It is being proposed that basements, which do not impact wildlife, be eliminated completely from properties in hillside zones. Additionally, as written the ordinance punishes owners of sloped lots. These homeowners tend to be lower earners with smaller homes. Many of these homeowners have their life savings tied up in their land value and capping below ground buildable square feet - that does not harm wildlife in a meaningful way - would be devastating to their property values and put many of them in challenging financial positions. We recognize the language was included in an effort to curb mansions and the intention was to rein in millionaire land developers, however that will not be the impact. Without amendment, we will have another well intentioned bill that puts the responsibility of protecting our environment on lower and middle class people while the wealthy continue to find ways to build their mansions. Additionally, we are in the middle of a housing crisis and regulating buildable square footage that doesn't meaningfully further an environmental agenda will not help us create the living space needed to drive housing prices and rents down while getting people off of the streets. With Appreciation, Josh Lieberman

Homeowner