

October 28, 2009

Dear friends, neighbors and fellow concerned citizens of Santa Barbara:

We have reached a tipping point in determining the vision for Santa Barbara. The question before us is whether to maintain Santa Barbara's unique small town character, charm and beautiful views, or whether to allow high-rise development and its associated traffic, density and canyonization. There will be no going back!

Unfortunately, opponents of Measure B continue to use scare tactics and spread false and misleading information.\*

For example, they criticize Measure B for not having a "grandfather clause" to allow rebuilding in case of a disaster to the existing height. Such a clause is not needed. It already exists in the city's municipal code in an ordinance regulating re-building. Cottage and other tall buildings CAN be rebuilt in the event of a disaster.\*\*

It is important this information, the truth, reach the voters of Santa Barbara as quickly as possible so they are not misled. I have linked below an op-ed signed by four Santa Barbara mayors, present and past, Mayor Marty Blum, former Mayor Harriet Miller, former mayor Hal Conklin, and myself. Please talk with your friends, neighbors and all those you know who care about Santa Barbara. I urge you to join me in voting "Yes" on Measure B.

Thank you,  
Sheila Lodge