

## Rogers, Thomas H

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**From:** Heineck, Arlinda A  
**Sent:** Monday, May 09, 2011 10:13 AM  
**To:** Rogers, Thomas H  
**Subject:** FW: Downtown plan

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**From:** Pat Marriott [mailto:patmarriott@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 07, 2011 4:09 PM  
**To:** \_CCIN  
**Subject:** Downtown plan

Council Members:

I find it difficult to believe that you would move ahead with the downtown plan with an environmental report that says:

- The development will have "significant and unavoidable" impacts on traffic.
- An additional 13,385 daily car trips will be generated, thus adding significant and unavoidable levels of noise and greenhouse gases.

I like shopping in Menlo Park because Santa Cruz Avenue has the best home furnishing stores and the street-level parking plazas are convenient. (I'm sure you've read the reports from Palo Alto regarding its parking study showing that garages are under-utilized.)

What I do NOT like, is getting to the downtown area. El Camino narrows to 2 lanes through MP, which creates traffic jams all at all hours. Also, the left turn lanes are not long enough, so excess cars wanting to turn left cause backups for through traffic. An additional 13,000 daily car trips would be a disaster!

Whenever possible, I take Middlefield Road to get to Menlo Park and/or I cut through residential side streets to avoid El Camino. I'm sure that more people will take these detours as traffic worsens.

Frankly, I cannot imagine why you would consider a "central plaza" in the middle of your prime shopping district. This is completely counter-intuitive, unless you are hoping to destroy your tax base.

Your misguided plan to "fix" downtown is only going to break it.

Pat Marriott  
Los Altos