

May 11, 2008 HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY ACTION ALERT!

COME TO THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MAY 12, 2008 7PM

SIGN THE CITIZENS' REFERENDUM

THIS IS AN URGENT MESSAGE FOR ALL SEAL BEACH HOMEOWNERS:

OUR REFERENDUM PETITION DRIVE IS SUCCEEDING! PROPERTY OWNERS IN SEAL BEACH HAVE DISCOVERED THE CITY'S PLANS TO DOWNZONE AND DEVALUE OUR HOMES THROUGH WILDLY EXCESSIVE "TAKINGS" WRITTEN INTO THE NEW ZONING CODE, ORDINANCE 1569.

The Seal Beach City Council voted Monday night (April 21, 2008) to take away from you on average at least 16% and as much as 47% of what you can build on your property, through residential zoning restrictions buried within a massive revision of the whole City zoning code. They have dragged their feet on publicly comparing the old and new Codes, deliberately muddied the data with complicated "FARs" and formulas, but the facts are NOT disputed:

Square footage losses are as follows:

- 16% Average Loss for College Park East, College Park West, and the Hill
- 30% Average Loss for Single Lots in Old Town
- 47% Average Loss for Lot and a Half or Greater Lots in Old Town

Eight out of ten Seal Beach voters responding to SOSB had no idea Citywide Downzoning was even under consideration by City Hall, and they are rejecting it by overwhelming margins in every City District. Residents with expensive home improvement building plans already "in the Pipeline" for approval with the City Planning and Permits Departments were thrown under the bus with pending enactment of the new Ordinance, in contravention of prior determinations by earlier City Council votes – again without ANY proper Brown Act advance public notification that those standards were going to be ignored or overridden – which really means reneged on, dumped, jettisoned – by our little Czars of the "new" City Council.

Now we are suddenly informed in a "REVISED AGENDA" for the City Council Meeting, tomorrow night, May 12, 2008 that some of the "questions" raised by the odious Ordinance 1569 are going to be "revisited"! Is it possible Antos, Shanks and their two new APPOINTED Council Member Downzoners finally READ what they voted for and share YOUR concerns??!! Don't bet on it. We predict another agonizing evening of the City Council's bullying of homeowners combined with attempts to appease affected individuals or small factions of interests, in hopes of diffusing widespread popular rejection of their super-aggressive Downzoning agenda. Their antics will be ineffectual, because DOWNZONING IS SIMPLY BAD FOR EVERYONE; IT HURTS THE ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY VITALITY OF OUR SEAL BEACH; it creates two classes of property owners and ownership inequities in the housing market; AND it is fundamentally unjust and wrong.

Had enough of little dictators who violate YOUR property rights with impunity, use YOUR money to do it, and then run around town congratulating themselves on how cleverly they managed to lie, cheat and steal from YOU to benefit their buddies, at YOUR expense?

WE HAVE! LET'S PUT DOWNZONING TO A VOTE OF THE PEOPLE!

PLEASE JOIN WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS WHO SUPPORT FAIR PLAY AND THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS, NOT BACKROOM DEALS AND BACKSTABBING POLITICIANS!

SIGN THE REFERENDUM ON DOWNZONING ORDINANCE 1569 TODAY, AND LET THE PEOPLE OF SEAL BEACH DECIDE!

Call Save Our Seal Beach if we have missed you, or you cannot get out to one of our community's markets to sign the Referendum: 562-431-0950 – We are getting many calls, so please leave your name and telephone number, and we will call you back to arrange bringing the Referendum Petition to your home.