



It Could Happen Here!

## Sierra Club and Inappropriate Development in the East Bay

Your vote can change the direction of the Sierra Club

The leadership of the local SF Bay Chapter of the Sierra Club is pushing cities to build mostly market-rate housing in the Bay Area. For example, in Berkeley they support not only the Planning Dept's proposed Corridors project to heighten buildings



along the commercial streets of Solano, North Shattuck and College in Elmwood, but advise Berkeley to allow even higher buildings, "*at least 7 stories*" tall and that this height should be allowed in the *three residential blocks* surrounding each commercial street. This has been the general message elsewhere as well.

Because of the Club's long history and its reputation as a defender of the environment its advice is trusted and carries special weight with elected officials. Candidates, including Berkeley's, seek the Club's endorsement when running for office. Sierra Club's advice and positions can make a difference in cities' decisions, including those on land use. Two current or former Club office holders currently sit on the Berkeley City Council.

The current Sierra Club SF Bay Chapter election is a chance to roll back this takeover. A tiny fraction of the Chapter's 40K members vote in Club elections. Every Sierra Club member in the Bay Area is entitled to vote for SF Bay Chapter leadership.

The ballot will come in your Yodeler in mid-November. You should also receive an email with a link. If you receive neither, call the local Chapter office: (510) 848-0800. You may need your Member ID which is also in the Yodeler. If you cannot find it, call Member Services: 415 977 5653. Last year's winners were separated from those who lost by as little as 140 votes, so every vote matters!

### **Recommended candidates for SF Bay Chapter Executive Committee are:**

- Matt Morrison
- Paul Seger
- Patrisha Piras
- Mark Van Landuyt
- (leave the fifth slot empty)

### **Recommended candidates for the SF Bay Chapter, N. Alameda County Group**

- Andy Katz
- (leave the remaining slots empty)