

## These are not mere details

December 17, 2014

I got quite a wake-up call Dec. 15 owing to a guest column by Steve Brandau in The Bee.

I live in Brandau's Fresno City Council district, and he is the council president. This makes me his constituent twice over. I learned from Brandau's column several things he dislikes: government "forcing its schemes on the community" and "packing" people closer together. Also, radical change, increased reliance on bicycles and buses, the "intellectual elite," whimsical notions and Sacramento pansies. I'm guessing that Brandau does not refer to flowers my wife planted last spring, and wonder whether he represents gay people, too.

My councilman approves of letting Fresno grow larger. He likes driving cars and listening to music. I like driving with music, too. He likes common sense Walmart clerks, market-tested housing, barbecue, bigger homes and a proposed large-acre industrial park.

I hope that, once my district councilman fends off Sacramento pansies besieging him, he also will consider the following: Our need to eat, continuing sprawl over farm land, air we breathe, traffic congestion, accidents, injuries and deaths his constituents suffer, the gorgeous Sierra we rarely see and failure of his *laissez-faire* tea party dogma to address such "details."

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