

Listen to residents

The zoning ordinance does need to be overhauled because it will shape how Fresno will grow. Our leaders also need to invest in the heart of our city in south, central and west Fresno, and remove toxic industries from neighborhoods, so we can grow in a healthy way.

A recent editorial in the Bee supports this overhaul and calls on residents to voice their opinions.

Let's take this a step further: Fresno Building Healthy Communities believes residents need to be involved directly in the process. Who is part of this zoning ordinance overhaul? The city has a poor track record of community inclusion and treating residents as partners in the decision-making process —last-minute document dumps on the public (as proof, the city revealed hundreds of edits to the General Plan only a few days before a final vote in December), ignoring west Fresno residents by continuing to allow toxic industries to be placed in their neighborhoods and building poisonous parks near freeways — so what will change this time around?

This process needs real inclusion.

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