

PLEASE VOTE NO ON CARLSBAD'S MEASURE A

I've received a lot of calls from friends in Carlsbad who don't seem to get it: Proposition A is NOT good for the environment. I would urge all of you who live there to VOTE NO ON MEASURE A.

Caruso's henchmen contacted me early on to help garner public and environmental group support for the project. However, from the beginning it was his intention to try to get the project through (a) without having to go through the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); and (b) without fully committing to project elements that would accurately disclose what exactly would be built on the current strawberry fields. I said NO.

Except for maybe the Coastal Act, CEQA is the most important environmental law in the state. It dictates public participation in project consideration, transparency with respect to environmental impacts, mitigation for such impacts whenever possible, and governmental accountability for decision makers. Without strict adherence to CEQA, we simply cannot succeed in balancing our need for housing, transportation alternatives, and economic vitality with our moral obligation to protect our natural environment for future generations. You should not support this end-run around CEQA.

Complying with CEQA doesn't mean a project can never be built here. It does, however, mean that Caruso would have to play by the same rules as everyone else, and not shortcut a process that has proven vital to the quality of life we enjoy in North County every single day. Send him this message with your vote!

For the environment, for good government, and because really, do we need another mall? Please VOTE NO ON MEASURE A if you live in Carlsbad.

–Marco Gonzalez
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