

# The Q Line

## TRUST MUST BE EARNED

This past week, Q-line asked:

**City Hall has vowed to strictly enforce development agreements (DAs) after a comprehensive review showed that the majority of past DAs were not in compliance and that City Hall failed to properly review them. Do you trust the current City Council and staff to negotiate and properly monitor future DAs, which are expected to play a larger role under the new Land Use and Circulation Element?**

Here are your responses:

**"I DON'T, AND NEVER HAVE, TRUSTED THIS** City Council and staff. They are all in bed together with the big money developers. Back room deals abound, and payola is the name of the game. It all comes to light too late to do much about it. They all get richer, the taxpayers get screwed, and the community is a mess of over-building."

**"I TRUST THE SANTA MONICA CITY** Council as much as I do any politician, who for the most part are liars, cheats and thieves, all the way up to the White House. It is a rare bird that performs from a state of honesty, integrity and forthrightness, in this day and age. Folks may label me a cynic. Still, prove me wrong."

**"A COMMIE CITY HALL BUILDS THEIR UGLY** projects and low-income housing and import gangbangers and murderers into our community so they can have more people to vote for them. They're exempt from the strict rules we others have. If our City Council can exempt their horrible projects, then to hell with their DA's BS."

**"WE DO NOT TRUST THEM AT ALL, AND I** believe some of them ought to be investigated for taking illegal development money from developers. The decisions that are made are in favor of special interests and not the people."

**"THE CURRENT CITY COUNCIL IS SO** similar to the past City Council that neglected their duties and caused hardship on low-income people by permitting illegal gangs for building owners, and I think they need council to check them. In other words, I don't trust them."

**"TRUST THE CITY COUNCIL? NO. NO TO** the power of infinity. No."

**"GOSH, I'M ABOUT 1 PERCENT BEHIND** anything this City Council does supposedly benefiting the good citizens of this town. Why is City Hall extorting money from developers to fund socialist housing for progressive but non-Santa Monicans. Because of rampant over-development, Santa Monica is a now a very ugly extension of Los Angeles. Our city government is the enemy of our people. Find a developmental agreement that eliminates this inflamed boil."

**"DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENTS ONLY YIELD** larger, denser structures and erode public input. The council and staff commandeer the process, manipulate priorities to their agenda and fill campaign coffers. As reported in this paper, to date, council and staff have failed miserably in seeing and monitoring delivery in past agreement promises. So, tell me again how development agreements are good for Santa Monica residents? The answer to your question is no, I do not trust the current staff and council to negotiate properly or monitor further DAs, and nor do I expect other council staff to do the same."

**"NO, I DO NOT TRUST THE CITY COUNCIL** or the city of San Malicious. Heavens no, not after the things I've experienced. Years ago I was the owner of an apartment building with my husband, and we were treated very poorly, so no I do not trust them and with good merits, I do believe."

**"NO. THEY WEREN'T AWARE OF WHAT'S** going on, and they made us look like chumps. They make themselves look like chumps. And it makes me wonder what they're getting out of the deal for not enforcing it. Trust? I don't have any."

**"I THINK THAT ONE OF THINGS THE CITY** Council hopefully will conscientiously review is a development agreement presumably for a 24-hour mission on Wilshire Boulevard, at least one in Santa Monica, instead of 24-hour grocery stores, 24-hour photo-copy stores, 24-hour restaurants. They are all along Wilshire Boulevard, but not one mission for anyone to come in any time of night in a difficult situation to be able to walk in and be admitted to get rest overnight. Instead people have to try to sleep in front of these. It doesn't make any sense at all, and then they get in trouble that they're trying to sleep in front of a 24-hour restaurant, a 24-hour market, a 24-photo-copy store. How about a 24-hour mission so they can just go in."

**"NO, I DON'T BELIEVE THE CURRENT CITY** Council and staff can take care of this future DAs or any of these things. They seem to be inept when it comes to collecting our moneys or what we are entitled to. It's like we are a bunch of chumps for any developer that comes in. And it could affect our quality of life if these items that they're supposed to be giving us, the citizens — our access to certain things, to certain places, parking for people where they said they would provide parking, low income housing. All these things they promised the world and you get didley."

**"BEFORE THE SCANDAL BROKE REGARDING** the lack of enforcement by the city of Santa Monica assuring that apartments set aside for low income people are actually set aside for low income people, I was aware of a situation involving a friend whose plight was brought to the attention of the city attorney's office here in Santa Monica. A very politically connected developer managed to change the terms of my friend's lease even though he was low income, and the city attorney's office declined to take the case on behalf of my friend. My friend now is paying double — even though he is low income."

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**SANTA MONICA RENT CONTROL BOARD**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS**  
June 1, 2010



Public hearings will be conducted at the special Santa Monica Rent Control Board meeting on Tuesday, June 1, 2010, at 7:00 p.m., in the City Hall Council Chambers, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California 90401. The hearings will be on the following items:

1. Consideration and adoption of the Santa Monica Rent Control Board's Fiscal Year 2010/2011 Operating Budget.
2. Consideration and adoption of the proposed annual general rent adjustment for 2010 of 2% for mobile home spaces and all other controlled units. (Proposed Regulation 3032.)

All interested persons are invited to present their views at these hearings. Copies of the proposed budget, the staff reports and the proposed regulation are available in the Board's office in Room 202 of Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California 90401, and on the Rent Control WEB page: [www.smgov.net/rentcontrol](http://www.smgov.net/rentcontrol).



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