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Council Meeting: 10/24/23
Agenda Item No. 10

From: [Cindy Feinzimer](#)
To: [WebMail - Admin](#)
Cc: [WebMail - CCD](#)
Subject: Better Envision Whittwood Town Center Plan
Date: Thursday, October 19, 2023 10:30:43 PM

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This letter is to address the concerns of the residents of Whittier. The Whittier City Council members do not seem to understand how important the Whittwood Town Center is to the people of Whittier. The residents of Whittier would like to see the Whittwood Town Center updated, not redeveloped.

Kimco's plans for "Envision Whittwood Town Center," shown to us on September 27th at the YMCA, were presented in a diffuse manner, with each graphic shown separately to a small group of people and one Kimco representative to interpret it, instead of in a unified meeting where each graphic could have been shown simultaneously and explained to everyone in attendance, with time allowed for questions and answers.

In addition to our displeasure at how the plans were presented at the September 27th event, there were specific aspects of the plan that are objectionable to the residents of Whittier. I will cover each of those objections in separate letters, starting with this one. Here is our first objection:

More, Not Less, Shopping

Retail shopping space should not be reduced, as called for by the "Envision Whittwood Town Center" plan. Instead, it should be increased to give more shopping options to local residents and provide increased Sales Tax revenue to the City. In fact, there should be additional retail options to meet the needs and desires of the new occupants of the 1,200 new units envisioned by the planners. Both current and future residents need more retail shopping space, not less, for all of the many items that people still need and/or prefer to buy in stores, as opposed to purchasing online or having to drive out of

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Whittier to find items to buy.

The Kimco developers do not live here in California. Kimco is headquartered in Jericho, New York, and its owners have no understanding of what are the needs and desires of our community. It's up to the Whittier City Council to do what is right for the community.

When can we expect The Whittier City Council and Kimco to present a better plan for the residents to view and decide on? With everyone collaborating together, Whittier will have more to offer not only to its residents, but to the surrendering cities as well.

Respectfully,

Cynthia Feinzimer