

412 Australian Avenue
West Palm Beach, FL 33480

June 4, 2021

Re: zoning update and Worth Ave.

Dear Mayor and Town Council,

I understand that you will be considering possible zoning changes this week. The subject is of great interest to me as a resident of Midtown. We are very happy with the house that we have renovated in town but are very concerned about the new projects that we observe all over town.

We have always lived in this area because we enjoy walking around town. It is essential to maintain this pleasant character and not allow our sunlight and fresh breezes to be compromised by buildings that are increasingly larger and taller. In addition, increasing density will only detract from our town so we do not support the addition of more stories, such as proposed on Worth Ave.

It seems like every area of town has suffered from what I would call overdevelopment. Driving down S. Ocean, I observe new construction that stands out like a sore thumb and I observe it throughout the island. Massive new homes that sit on postage stamp lots...

We need to tighten the zoning code so that houses more closely reflect what we used to have. I know we have FEMA requirements but that does not explain the excessive mass of many new houses.

I greatly appreciate your review of the code. Thank you for your time and attention to town matters,

Sincerely,

Charles A. Smithgall III