

From: Akshatha Puthuraya [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2026 12:00 PM
To: Planning Info <planninginfo@sanmarcostx.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Case AC-25-09 Citizen Comment

Hi,

My name is Akshatha and I would like to submit a citizen comment concerning case AC-25-09 for the public hearing this evening.

The request from the builder is to increase the permitted building height from five to seven stories. I live in the Maple Creek condo complex next to this construction and this decision directly effects me. I own my unit and one of the main factors in choosing my home was how much natural light comes in through my living area windows. These windows face the lot where the new building will be. Five stories is a reasonable amount for a housing project, but going taller in a small residential area casts a huge shadow on the surrounding homes. There is already a seven story parking garage behind my complex, that darkens the back half of my house all day. If another seven story building is constructed to the right of my complex, it effectively turns my home into a dark cave. I do not want to live in a dark cave.

Having lots of natural light in my living environment is crucial to my well being and mental health. I work remotely and so spend more time than most at home. Being able to work in a space with lots of natural light keeps me focused and helps reduce my stress. Living in a space with natural light makes me happy, especially during spring & summer when it is the brightest, and helps me fight off the winter blues during the colder months (also known as seasonal affective disorder).

I invested in my home when I made the decision to purchase it. I can't simply pack up my things and go to a different place like I would when an apartment lease ends. Constructing another seven story building which would darken everything around it directly impacts my professional and personal life. My plea is a personal one, but I know I'm not the only one who has to spend extra time at home due to work or school, and having access to regular natural light is a key part of our well being. I am sincerely asking you to not approve this request.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,

Akshatha