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Legitimate concerns over waterfront plan

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Maria Chiulli's impassioned plea in her Wednesday letter to the editor for Yonkers' government to build now is understandable. "Let's make history," she pleads. Yet we know that those who ignore historical mistakes are doomed to repeat them. She implies that he who hesitates is lost - but I would caution us to look carefully before we leap.

We are considering a huge downtown development that will affect us all for many years to come. There are legitimate concerns about the Struever-Fidelco-Cappelli project that have not yet been fully addressed and certainly have not been adequately presented to the public. The citizens of Yonkers deserve to know what impact the great height of the buildings will have on the Hudson River waterfront; what impact the increased density will have; what affordable housing will be made available; and what consideration is given to parks, open space and historic preservation.

Historically, promises of new jobs and more tax revenue and public amenities have too often been pipe dreams floated by builders and public officials (as some of our neighboring communities have learned to their dismay). Just give us the facts.

Where are you, Journal News? We should be seeing an insert giving us these unvarnished and unbiased facts. Failing that, go to Yonkers Committee for Smart Development (yonkersqone@hotmail.com). Failing that, go to the public hearing tonight.

Nena McMahon

Yonkers