



Study to SJ: build smaller homes

By MICHAEL FITZGERALD | Published: JANUARY 24, 2013 | 2 Comments

The MoBee cites a new study saying builders in the San Joaquin Valley should break their addiction to ever-bigger homes.

The Council for Infill builders, which obviously has a dog in this fight, published, "A Home for Everyone: San Joaquin Valley Housing Preferences and Opportunities to 2050" Wednesday.

Infill reduces driving and greenhouse gas emissions. That helps Stockton comply with the General Plan Settlement Agreement. It preserves farmland. It enables government to operate more efficiently and save tax dollars. And it fits a changing Valley demographic. Nonwhites are more likely to rent, not buy, and to opt for high-density housing, the study says.

The story – worth a read – concludes with interesting bullet points. The most important:

– "The Valley's population is expected to grow three-quarters by 2050, while the rest of California could grow only one-quarter."

By three-quarters. Wow.

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Blog Author

Michael Fitzgerald



Mike Fitzgerald is The Record's award-winning metro columnist. His column runs in the paper three times a week. Born in San

Francisco, he was raised in Stockton. His column covers diverse beats including, sometimes, the offbeat. [Read Full](#)

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