Here Comes Deja Moo to Barrio Logan

Today’s *UT-San Diego* has the opening salvo against the Barrio Logan Community Plan ballot measure set to go before the voters for this June.

For the record, in case you forgot, or in case the local daily fishwrap neglected to tell you:

- The Barrio Logan Plan was developed over a five year period
- It replaces a 35 year old plan and places future limits on mixed use zoning. Barrio Logan is the only area in San Diego allowing industrial locations adjacent to residential properties.
- Fifty public meetings were held
- The City of San Diego spent over $4 million in studies to make sure all stakeholders were considered.
- Representatives of the ship building industry agreed to compromises negotiated by City Councilman David Alvarez last June.
- They changed their minds and sponsored a petition drive to overturn City Council approval of the plan.
- A San Diego Superior Court agreed with assertions by the Environmental Health Coalition that petition signature-gatherers misled prospective signers by claiming the new zoning regulations would lead to 46,000 job losses and $14 billion in lost revenues. Unfortunately she said her powers to to the industry measure were severely limited.
- Representatives of the ship building industry have consistently refused to make appearances at forums and news shows to debate Plan advocates.

Now, *UT San Diego* says in an editorial, they and their industry friends are the ones who are *really concerned* about pollution and children’s health issues. Drawing data selectively from a 2012 environmental analysis, they’d like us to believe implementation of the community plan would actually endanger residents.
Will these guys ever stop with the misrepresentations? If their evidence is so good, why won’t they be seen in public defending their position?

Defenders of the Barrio Logan Community Plan have “poll tested” the issues associated with the upcoming election and decided that voters are most receptive to pleas concerning the health of the children in the community. Obviously, the shipping industry and their allies have also done some polling, and this latest editorial is their response.

Children’s health issues aside, while it may only appeal to more engaged voters, I say the big concern here should be the power of big money to overturn a democratically driven process whereby residents have a say in the future of their communities.

If the industrial forces (and the vast majority of their funding is coming from out of town) prevail in Barrio Logan, what’s next? High rises in beach communities? All it takes is enough money and the willingness of most of the local media to ignore blatant lies. Or, as in the case of the *UT-San Diego*, actually fabricate the falsehoods.

*Remember, vote YES (as in I support the community plans) on measures B and C in the June election.*