



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

July 28, 2005

TO: City Council  
FROM: City Manager  
RE: Preferences for Affordable Housing

This memorandum is provided as background information for City Council's decision on local preference for affordable housing.

Based on programs in other cities, City Council has expressed an interest in giving priority to Pasadena residents, persons who work in Pasadena and/or persons in specific work categories (e.g. teachers, city maintenance workers). Based on HUD regulations, these preferences can not be placed on housing constructed with federal assistance. The City uses locally generated funding to provide affordable housing as well on which preference could be considered.


Cities such as Mammoth Lakes, South San Francisco, Scotts Valley, Livermore and Ventura County have used public policy reasons for adopting such preferences. These include the city's interest in protecting and preserving the right of its own residents. Additionally, living and working within the City supports the City's traffic management goals and having city emergency response employees living within the city provide for more effective emergency response services.

In order for the City Attorney to prepare the ordinance necessary to implement the most recently adopted amendments to the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance, staff needs direction concerning the following questions:

1. Should the City of Pasadena adopt a local preference for access to affordable housing for Pasadena residents?

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2. Should the City of Pasadena adopt a local preference for access to affordable housing for persons working in Pasadena?
3. Should specific types of employees (e.g. teachers, city maintenance workers) have preferences for affordable housing?
4. Should City Council decide to adopt any preferences, should they only apply to housing constructed with local public funding or also privately funded projects?
5. Should City Council decide to adopt any preferences, should they apply to affordable housing and workforce housing (if workforce housing is later defined by the City Council)?



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