Flores, Valerie

Subject: FW: Support Affordable Housing in the Civic Center

From: Donna Sider <dsider13@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 01, 2019 9:18 PM
To: Hampton, Tyron <THampton@cityofpasadena.net>; McAustin, Margaret <mmcaustin@cityofpasadena.net>; Kennedy, John <JohnJKennedy@cityofpasadena.net>; Masuda, Gene <gmasuda@cityofpasadena.net>; Gordo, Victor <vgordo@cityofpasadena.net>; Madison, Steve <smadison@cityofpasadena.net>; Wilson, Andy <awilson@cityofpasadena.net>; Tornek, Terry <ttornek@cityofpasadena.net>; Morales, Margo <mlmorales@cityofpasadena.net>; Porras, Susana <sporras@cityofpasadena.net>; Sullivan, Noreen <nsullivan@cityofpasadena.net>; De La Cuba, Vannia <VDeLaCuba@cityofpasadena.net>; Suzuki, Takako <tsuzuki@cityofpasadena.net>; Thyret, Pam <pthyret@cityofpasadena.net>; Bell, Cushon <cbell@cityofpasadena.net>
Subject: Support Affordable Housing in the Civic Center

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We are experiencing a housing affordability and housing crisis. We need Pasadena to help address this growing crisis. Developing supportive housing and affordable housing as the Ratkovich Co and National Community Renaissance have proposed will bring much needed housing to Pasadena and help solve our homelessness crisis.

Cities throughout the County look to Pasadena for leadership. Please be the leaders that the rest of the state needs you to be.

Regards,

Donna
Please forward to the City Council for the November 4 meeting, agenda item #7, thanks!

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers:

I am writing to encourage the City Council to engage in a thorough, public process in evaluating the Civic Center proposals received. Specifically,

1) Make available the criteria, points calculations, and ranking for each proposal just like other RFP processes conducted in the City
2) Clearly communicate the goals of the RFP process to the public – what is the vision for the Civic Center and how does each proposal compare to this vision? How does this vision fit into the goals and vision of our City?
3) Explain how each proposal will respect the context of our historic City Hall and surroundings and eliminate any proposal that does not achieve this objective
4) Identify how much of the appropriated funds have been spent on protecting the YWCA building, and the plan for future spending

I am very concerned that the City will end up back at square one with requests for onerous subsidies from private developers to meet the equity return targets for their investors. If it turns out a public subsidy is needed for a private development on the site, I hope the City re-considers and invests public dollars in a civic, non-profit use that will provide an equity return to the citizens.

Sincerely,

Felicia Williams, District 2
We Support Homeless Housing and Public Use of the Julia Morgan YWCA

We, the undersigned people of faith and conscience, are concerned that the City's Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Julia Morgan YWCA Adaptive Use Project requires 45-foot "setback" that would encroach on the 108 foot space adjacent to City Hall that many consider an historic garden/park space. The RFP also provides virtually the same concessions that were granted to the failed Kimpton Hotel project, which aroused fierce opposition from many in our city. Many strongly oppose using the 108-foot Robinson Garden space as a setback and filed a lawsuit against the city, which is still pending.

We are concerned that this RFP favors commercial development rather than homeless housing. As the Mayor pointed out, this will divide the City and delay this much needed project. We urge the City Council to reconsider this RFP and give preferential consideration to mixed use development that includes homeless housing and nonprofit use of public space at the Y.

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11/04/2019