From:

Merilie Robertson <

Sent: To: Friday, October 02, 2020 11:06 PM PublicComment-AutoResponse

Subject:

Affordable Housing

**CAUTION:** This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

**Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council Members:** 

I am writing this letter concerning Agenda Items #16 and #18 for the City Council meeting on October 5, 2020.

My name is Merilie Robertson and I am a member of Knox Presbyrian Church in Pasadena. I am pleased to say that many of our churches are beginning to see their responsibility to use their extra land to make space for affordable housing, which we very much need in Pasadena.

There are two major opportunities for affordable housing in Pasadena:

- 1. Affordable housing on the Water and Power site in the Civic Center. This site has been sitting vacant for many years and is "surplus" land which the law prioritizes for affordable housing.
- 2. Affordable housing on church land. Churches are offering their land for affordable housing, but the zoning needs to be changed for them to be able to do that. Please advise the Planning Commission to work with the Planning Department to make the necessary zoning change.

Thank you for the service you give to our community.

Merilie Robertson

From:

Anne Tipton <

Sent:

Saturday, October 03, 2020 11:22 AM

To:

PublicComment-AutoResponse

Subject:

Comments for 10/5 Meeting Agenda Items #16 & 18

**CAUTION:** This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council members,

My name is Anne Tipton and I am a member of Pasadena Mennonite Church and a long time resident of Pasadena and Altadena.

We desperately need more affordable housing in Pasadena!

So many people I know are leaving Pasadena or are struggling to afford rent. Housing costs in our area are to high and home ownership is not affordable for lots of residents.

There are two major opportunities for affordable housing:

- 1. Affordable housing on the Water and Power site in the civic center.
- 2. Affordable housing on church land.

The Water and Power site has been sitting vacant for many, many years and is certainly "surplus" land which the law prioritizes for affordable housing. Furthermore, the need for this housing is great! Please do all that you can to speed this process along!

Churches across Pasadena are stepping up to offer their land for affordable housing, but they need the zoning to be changed to let them do that! This zoning change will speed up the process of building the housing we need and will make the process considerably less expensive, which makes affordable housing dollars stretch further so that more can be built. Please advise the Planning Commission to work with the Planning Department to make the necessary zoning change.

Thank you for your service to our community!

Anne Tipton

From:

Sent:

Saturday, October 03, 2020 1:35 PM

To:

PublicComment-AutoResponse

Subject:

Affordable Housing - Agenda Items 16 and 18

**CAUTION:** This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council members,

My name is David Drum and I am a member of Throop Unitarian Church.

In my opinion, we desperately need more affordable housing in Pasadena. I have a disabled son who lives with me, and he has been unable to find housing for some time. It seems to me that people like my son should be able manage independent living in Pasadena, but with his small SSI payment as his only income, he has found this to be impossible.

Our church used to be full of Pasadena residents, but some have had to move away because housing costs are very high here locally.

As I understand it, there are two possible good sites for affordable housing in Pasadena. One is the Water and Power site at the civic center which I understand has been vacant for years. The other is affordable housing on church land. With a zoning change, some churches might be able to proceed to address this problem, at least in a small way.

Please consider these and other options for affordable housing in Pasadena. Also consider immediately advising the Planning Commission to work with the Planning Department to make the necessary zoning change.

Thank you for your service.

Sincerely, David Drum

Martinez, Ruben	
From: Sent: To:	Jacquelyn Labrie Pulido Saturday, October 03, 2020 1:38 PM PublicComment-AutoResponse
CAUTION: This email	was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.
Dear Honorable N	Mayor and City Council members,
	equelyn Labrie Pulido and I am a member ofST (your church, a club, a neighborhood association,
We desperately not were not for affor	eed more affordable housing in Pasadena! I could not live in Pasadena if it dable housing.
move • My b	church used to be full of Pasadena residents, but many of them have had to e away because housing costs are so high! usiness cannot pay enough to cover my employee housing cost. unt??? left our city to due to the cost of housing and she baby sat for me

There are two major opportunities for affordable housing:

creating a real hardship for us.

for my family or church.

- 1. Affordable housing on the Water and Power site in the civic center.
- 2. Affordable housing on church land.

The Water and Power site has been sitting vacant for many, many years and is certainly "surplus" land which the law prioritizes for affordable housing. Furthermore, the need for this housing is great! Please do all that you can to speed this process along!

• I have has to take on extra work to over the cost of housing and leaving less time

Churches across Pasadena are stepping up to offer their land for affordable housing, but they need the zoning to be changed to let them do that! This zoning change will speed up the process of building the housing we need and will make the process considerably less expensive, which makes affordable housing dollars stretch further so that more can be built. Please advise the Planning Commission to work with the Planning Department to make the necessary zoning change.

Thank you for your service to our community!

Jacquelyn Labrie Pulido

2020 OCT -5 AM 9: 41

October 3, 2020

Pasadena City Council Meeting on Oct. 5, 2020

Agenda items #16 and #18.

to: correspondence@cityofpasadena.net

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council members,

My name is Tom Petersmeyer, I am a member of Neighborhood Unitarian Universalist Church of Pasadena.

We desperately need more affordable housing in Pasadena.

My church benefits from a significant amount of privilege so that most members are able to remain living in Pasadena, but many other Pasadena church members have had to move away because housing costs are so high!

There are two major opportunities for affordable housing:

- 1. Affordable housing on the Water and Power site in the civic center.
- 2. Affordable housing on church land.

The Water and Power site has been sitting vacant for many, many years and is certainly "surplus" land which the law prioritizes for affordable housing. Furthermore, the need for this housing is great! Please do all that you can to speed this process along!

Churches across Pasadena are stepping up to offer their land for affordable housing, but they need the zoning to be changed to let them do that! This zoning change will speed up the process of building the housing we need and will make the process considerably less expensive, which makes affordable housing dollars stretch further so that more can be built. Please advise the Planning Commission to work with the Planning Department to make the necessary zoning change.

Thank you for your service to our community!

Thomas Q. Petersmeyer

From:

Chase Stafford <

Sent:

Saturday, October 03, 2020 1:57 PM

To:

PublicComment-AutoResponse; Wilson, Andy

Subject:

Items #16 & #18 on 10/5 special meeting: Support affordable housing

**CAUTION:** This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council members,

My name is Chase Stafford and I am a member of Pasadena Foursquare Church and a resident in council district 7, represented by Mr. Andy Wilson.

I believe we desperately need more affordable housing in Pasadena.

I am deeply concerned about the housing prices and homelessness crisis affecting our state and I want to see Pasadena do more to support our homeless and working class neighbors. Our church has 9 units of affordable housing but we know that more is needed.

I urge you to support affordable housing as you consider agenda items 16 & 18 on Monday. These represent two of the best opportunities for affordable housing in Pasadena: the Water & Power site and congregational land.

Churches across Pasadena are stepping up to offer their land for affordable housing, but they need the zoning to be changed to let them do that.

Thank you for your service to our community.

Chase Stafford

From:

Gloria Newton

Sent:

Saturday, October 03, 2020 2:20 PM

To:

PublicComment-AutoResponse

Subject:

Support for Church Land Overlay Zone for Affordable Housing and City Center

Affordable Housing

CAUTION: This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council members,

My name is Gloria Newton and I am a member of Pasadena Mennonite Church, located in District 4. I live in District 3, I work for a small business in District 5, and am a volunteer at Madison Elementary School, which is also in District 5.

We desperately need more affordable housing in Pasadena! Many families at Madison Elementary School share their homes with one or two more families just to make rent. This housing insecurity contributes to increased stress and hinders educational growth. Just imagine trying to do online learning with 6 or more children living in one two-bedroom apartment!

There are two major opportunities for affordable housing:

- 1. Affordable housing on the Water and Power site in the civic center.
- 2. Affordable housing on church land.

The Water and Power site has been sitting vacant for many, many years and is certainly "surplus" land which the law prioritizes for affordable housing. Furthermore, the need for this housing is great! Please do all that you can to speed this process along!

Churches across Pasadena are stepping up to offer their land for affordable housing, but they need the zoning to be changed to let them do that! This zoning change will speed up the process of building the housing we need and will make the process considerably less expensive, which makes affordable housing dollars stretch further so that more can be built. Please advise the Planning Commission to work with the Planning Department to make the necessary zoning change.

An overlay zone enabling churches to build affordable housing will provide an opportunity for the city to significantly reach affordable housing production goals and further its goal of being a diverse community. As the Pasadena Housing Element (2014-2021) vision states:

"All Pasadena residents have an equal right to live in decent, safe and affordable housing in a suitable living environment for the long-term well-being and stability of themselves, their families, their neighborhoods, and their community. The housing vision for Pasadena is to maintain a socially and economically diverse community of homeowners and renters who are afforded this right."

It is high time that our city leaders have a reflex response of "YES" to such creative solutions as these, rather than defaulting to concerns about "preserving neighborhood character." The focus on single-family dwellings as the ultimate in "neighborhood character" only protects those who are

already protected by home ownership, who already have a voice. Preserving this kind of neighborhood character also preserves the need for multiple families to cram into one home in order to stay in our city. Please listen to the voices of the less-affluent, equally hardworking families by acting swiftly to approve proposals such as the Overlay Zone for church land and affordable housing in the City Center.

Thank you for the countless hours you spend in service to our community.

Gloria Newton

Pasadena, CA 91101

\*\*\*\*\*\*

<sup>&</sup>quot;May I be the tiniest nail in the house of the universe, tiny but useful."--Mary Oliver, "Upstream."

From:

Russell Smith -

Sent:

Saturday, October 03, 2020 2:59 PM

To:

PublicComment-AutoResponse

Subject:

Affordable housing action in Pasadena

CAUTION: This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council members,

My name is Russell Smith. I am a Canadian with a life of travel experience in many cities of the Americas, Europe and Asia. I am now fortunate to be a frequent visitor to Pasadena, a city which I admire and wish well.

It is evident that there is a need here for affordable housing for the homeless.

I am told that there are two major opportunities to ameliorate the situation. A vacant land site near City Hall is surplus to the city's needs, which could be sold to developers. The law prioritizes it for affordable housing. In addition there are several churches offering their land which only requires re-zoning to let them start building.

These would appear to be economical approaches to early solutions to an urgent municipal problem. I am sure that with good will all around there must be a way to initate these moves, to solve an all too apparent discrepancy in the relative physical welfare of Pasadena's residents.

With best wishes for this beautiful city —

Russell Smith

From:

Shirley Powell <

Sent:

Saturday, October 03, 2020 6:01 PM

To:

PublicComment-AutoResponse

Subject:

Affordable Housing at the Civic Center and on Church Land

CAUTION: This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council members,

My name is Shirley Powell, and I am a member of Pasadena Foursquare Church.

We have facing an alarming housing crisis, and affordable housing in Pasadena is so desperately needed. I moved to California to be with my son, who resides in Pasadena. Even though he works full time, he has now been left with no choice but to rent a room in Pasadena because he has not been able to find an affordable apartment. I ended up having to rent a room also, but in Altadena. After submitting over 15 applications for affordable housing for seniors, after several months of waiting, I finally was able to get an apartment in an affordable senior community in Monrovia.

From the information I have been provided, there are two major opportunities for affordable housing:

- 1. Affordable housing on the Water and Power site in the civic center.
- 2. Affordable housing on church land.

The Water and Power site has been sitting vacant for many, many years and is certainly "surplus" land which the law prioritizes for affordable housing. Furthermore, the need for this housing is great! Please do all that you can to speed this process along.

Churches across Pasadena are stepping up to offer their land for affordable housing, but they need the zoning to be changed to let them do that! This zoning change will speed up the process of building the housing we need and will make the process considerably less expensive, which makes affordable housing dollars stretch further so that more can be built. Please advise the Planning Commission to work with the Planning Department to make the necessary zoning change.

Thank you for your service to our community!

Shirley D. Powell

From:

**David Winters** 

Sent:

Saturday, October 03, 2020 6:34 PM

To:

PublicComment-AutoResponse

Subject:

Affordable Housing

CAUTION: This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

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**Greetings Honorable Mayor & City Council:** 

I am a retired Presbyterian Pastor now enjoying residence in beautiful Pasadena. I am deeply concerned about homeless sisters and brothers who desperately need you to take action now to create clean, manageable housing for those not as fortunate as you and me. Please use all available resources, including unused City owned property or that of willing churches to share what we enjoy so much.

Thank you - Dave Winters, ?

From:

Meg Morrison <

et>

Sent:

Sunday, October 04, 2020 9:57 AM

To:

PublicComment-AutoResponse

Subject:

low cost housing

**CAUTION:** This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council members,

Re Agenda items 16 and 18

My name is Meg Morrison and I am a member of Pasadena Presbyterian Church. I taught in the Pasadena Unified Schools for over thirty years. Over the years I have seen an increasing need for providing support help to homeless. Our church has tried to help by providing food programs twice a week. I help support this with financial help.

At this time the council is considering several affordable housing sites. Please select one that will focus on the affordability. The YWCA was founded with the purpose of providing low cost housing to women. Let that goal go forward as the options on the table are considered.

We desperately need more affordable housing in Pasadena! Please do all that you can to speed this process along!

Thank you for your service to our community! Meg Morrison

From:

Lisa Stinstrom <

Sent:

Sunday, October 04, 2020 11:21 AM

To:

PublicComment-AutoResponse

Subject:

Community input re: Affordable Housing agenda items 10/05/2020

**CAUTION:** This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council members,

Re Agenda items 16 and 18

My name is Lisa Stinstrom and I am a Pasadena resident and member of Pasadena Presbyterian Church.

We desperately need more affordable housing in Pasadena. Our church participates in the network of organizations providing food to those in need, but that alone cannot bring those individuals and families out of their cycle of poverty. It is imperative that additional housing opportunities, accessible to those of low or no income, be facilitated by the City.

There are two major opportunities for affordable housing:

- 1. Affordable housing on the Water and Power site in the civic center.
- 2. Affordable housing on church land.

The Water and Power site has been sitting vacant for many, many years and is certainly "surplus" land which the law prioritizes for affordable housing. Please do all that you can to speed this process along.

And churches across Pasadena are stepping up to offer their land for affordable housing, but they need the zoning to be changed to let them do that. This zoning change will speed up the process of building the housing we need and will make the process considerably less expensive, which makes affordable housing dollars stretch further so that more can be built. Please advise the Planning Commission to work with the Planning Department to make the necessary zoning change.

Thank you for your attention to these urgent matters, and for your ongoing service to our community!

Lisa Stinstrom

From:

gilbert walton 4

Sent:

Sunday, October 04, 2020 12:10 PM

To:

PublicComment-AutoResponse

Subject:

Church overlay zones

CAUTION: This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Honorable Mayor and Ciry council members

My name is Gilbert Walton and I am a member of New Hope Missionary Baptist Church. We are very much need of More affordable housing in Pasadena. We have lost several church members because they could not afford housing In our city. There are two major opportunities to increase affordable housing under consideration by the Council. We are strongly in favor of building such housing on church land. We understand that approval of the overlay zones caveat be overstated! Please do all that you can do to advance this process.

We are also in favor of using the Water and Power site in the civic center which has been vacant for many years. It is clearly' surplus 'since it has been vacant for many years.

Thank you for your service to the city.

Gilbert Walton

From:

Candace Seu < c

Sent:

Sunday, October 04, 2020 12:46 PM

To:

PublicComment-AutoResponse

Subject:

Oct 5 meeting: Support for items #16 and #18

**CAUTION:** This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council members,

Our lack of affordable housing is a barrier to safety for survivors of domestic violence: faced with an apparent choice between staying with an abuser and being homeless, many survivors choose to stay (1). I advocate for affordable housing because this isn't just an academic factoid -- it was and is the reality for several of my friends and family. Access to safe housing is a safety issue, a health issue, a women's issue, a LGTBQ issue, and a children's issue (2). We need more access to housing everywhere in California, and that includes Pasadena.

Accordingly, I ask you to support two affordable-housing related items on the October 5 agenda:

Item 16: The Water and Power site has been vacant for many years and is certainly "surplus" land, which the law prioritizes for affordable housing. I support this use and ask that you please expedite this process!

Item 18: Churches across Pasadena want to build affordable housing, but are currently prevented from doing so by zoning. The proposed zoning change will speed up the process of building the housing we need and will make the process considerably less expensive, which makes affordable housing dollars stretch further so that more can be built. Please advise the Planning Commission to work with the Planning Department to make the necessary zoning change.

Thank you for your service to our community,

Candace, District 6

- (1) <a href="https://nnedv.org/spotlight\_on/impact-safe-housing-survivors/">https://nnedv.org/spotlight\_on/impact-safe-housing-survivors/</a>; see also <a href="https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/domestic-violence/">https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/domestic-violence/</a>
- (2) https://www.acf.hhs.gov/fysb/resource/dv-homelessness-stats-2016 https://www.covenanthouse.org/homeless-issues/lgbtq-homeless-youth

While I have listed women, children, and LGBTQ youth as frequent targets of domestic violence and abuse, it should be noted that survivors are not limited to these groups, and that men can also be survivors. All deserve access to safe and affordable housing.

From:

Wesley Reutimann <

Sent:

Sunday, October 04, 2020 2:05 PM

To:

PublicComment-AutoResponse

Subject:

Public Comment - Agenda Items #16 and #18

**CAUTION:** This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor and Council,

Over the past decade I've heard from too many friends, colleagues, and PUSD families who have been burdened or priced out of the City. The housing affordability problem is far larger than Pasadena and has been decades in the making. Yet we as a community, and you as our elected representatives, have the opportunity to take two more steps towards creating more affordable housing on Monday 10/5.

#### Agenda Item 16

The Water and Power site has been vacant for years. It's conveniently located in the City's walkable downtown adjacent to public transit, key services, and local jobs. It will also be directly adjacent to the City's first protected bike/rollway. In short the location is ideal for a well-designed affordable housing project, such as those currently under consideration by City staff. I strongly encourage the Council declare the property "surplus" land and advance efforts to realize a signature affordable housing project for the City on this site.

#### Agenda Item 18

Religious institutions play an outsized role in supporting members of the Pasadena community in greatest need, including unhoused families and older adults. An overlay zone that permits religious institutions to construct affordable housing is a concrete step the City can take towards reaching its affordable housing goals and addressing homelessness. This step would also come at nominal cost to the City by empowering community partners to do more to address one of our most pressing social issues. I urge the Council to direct staff to draft an overlay zone for affordable housing at religious institutions in the City.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Wes Reutimann Pasadena 91103

> 10/05/2020 Item 16 & 18

1>

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council members,

My name is Ashley Huston and I am a member of New Life Holiness Church, located at 2005 North Fair Oaks Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91103.

We desperately need more affordable housing in Pasadena!

There are two major opportunities for affordable housing:

- Affordable housing on the Water and Power site in the civic center.
- Affordable housing on church land.

The Water and Power site has been sitting vacant for many, many years and is certainly "surplus" land which the law prioritizes for affordable housing. Furthermore, the need for this housing is great! Please do all that you can to speed this process along!

Churches across Pasadena are stepping up to offer their land for affordable housing, but they need the zoning to be changed to let them do that! This zoning change will speed up the process of building the housing we need and will make the process considerably less expensive, which makes affordable housing dollars stretch further so that more can be built. Please advise the Planning Commission to work with the Planning Department to make the necessary zoning change.

I am writing to express my support for having high quality affordable housing built on congregational land. I would support churches in my neighborhood wishing to do this.

An overlay zone would allow congregations to build affordable housing. Seven churches in Pasadena are interested. This will allow churches to build affordable housing more quickly and less expensively. It could save over \$100,000 in cost per development, save at least a year getting it built, and provide the certainty needed to attract a highly qualified developer. Other cities like San Diego are also creating citywide zone changes to allow congregational land to be used for affordable housing.

I'm glad to support the desire of churches' throughout the city to help address the affordable/homeless housing crisis we are currently facing. The 2020 homeless count was 527; studies show that there is an expectation of 45% increase in homelessness due to the pandemic. Churches play a vital role in the community and are interested in contributing to quality of life improvements for all.

Thank you for your service to our community!

Sincerely.

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council members,

My name is Angela Lewis and I am a member of New Life Holiness Church, located at 2005 North Fair Oaks Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91103.

We desperately need more affordable housing in Pasadena!

There are two major opportunities for affordable housing:

- 1. Affordable housing on the Water and Power site in the civic center.
- 2. Affordable housing on church land.

The Water and Power site has been sitting vacant for many, many years and is certainly "surplus" land which the law prioritizes for affordable housing. Furthermore, the need for this housing is great! Please do all that you can to speed this process along!

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I'm glad to support the desire of churches' throughout the city to help address the affordable/homeless housing crisis we are currently facing. The 2020 homeless count was 527; studies show that there is an expectation of 45% increase in homelessness due to the pandemic. Churches play a vital role in the community and are interested in contributing to quality of life improvements for all.

Thank you for your service to our community!

Sincerely,

Angela Lewis

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council members,

ਿੰਨ ਹੈਂਟਿੰਨ ਹੈ – 5 ਮਿੰਗ ਉਹ 1,3 Holiness Church, located at 2005 North

My name is Jacqueline Gadson and I am a member of New Life Holiness Church, located at 2005 North Fair Oaks Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91103.

We desperately need more affordable housing in Pasadena!

There are two major opportunities for affordable housing:

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Thank you for your service to our community!

Sincerely.

Jacqueline Gadson

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council members,

My name is Jeffery Scott and I am a member of New Life Holiness Church, located at 2005 North Fair Oaks Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91103.

We desperately need more affordable housing in Pasadena!

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Thank you for your service to our community!

Sincerely,

Jeffery Scott

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council members,

2844007 -5 AM 5:43

My name is Deja Surrey and I am a member of New Life Holiness Church, located at 2005 North Fair Oaks Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91103.

We desperately need more affordable housing in Pasadena!

There are two major opportunities for affordable housing:

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I'm glad to support the desire of churches' throughout the city to help address the affordable/homeless housing crisis we are currently facing. The 2020 homeless count was 527; studies show that there is an expectation of 45% increase in homelessness due to the pandemic. Churches play a vital role in the community and are interested in contributing to quality of life improvements for all.

Thank you for your service to our community!

Sincerely,

Deja Surrey

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council members,

37 977 -5 PA 9: 40

My name is Antoinette Jones and I am a member of New Life Holiness Church, located at 2005 North Fair Oaks Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91103.

We desperately need more affordable housing in Pasadena!

There are two major opportunities for affordable housing:

- 1. Affordable housing on the Water and Power site in the civic center.
- 2. Affordable housing on church land.

The Water and Power site has been sitting vacant for many, many years and is certainly "surplus" land which the law prioritizes for affordable housing. Furthermore, the need for this housing is great! Please do all that you can to speed this process along!

Churches across Pasadena are stepping up to offer their land for affordable housing, but they need the zoning to be changed to let them do that! This zoning change will speed up the process of building the housing we need and will make the process considerably less expensive, which makes affordable housing dollars stretch further so that more can be built. Please advise the Planning Commission to work with the Planning Department to make the necessary zoning change.

I am writing to express my support for having high quality affordable housing built on congregational land. I would support churches in my neighborhood wishing to do this.

An overlay zone would allow congregations to build affordable housing. Seven churches in Pasadena are interested. This will allow churches to build affordable housing more quickly and less expensively. It could save over \$100,000 in cost per development, save at least a year getting it built, and provide the certainty needed to attract a highly qualified developer. Other cities like San Diego are also creating citywide zone changes to allow congregational land to be used for affordable housing.

I'm glad to support the desire of churches' throughout the city to help address the affordable/homeless housing crisis we are currently facing. The 2020 homeless count was 527; studies show that there is an expectation of 45% increase in homelessness due to the pandemic. Churches play a vital role in the community and are interested in contributing to quality of life improvements for all.

Thank you for your service to our community!

Sincerely,

Antoinette Jones

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council members,

#### Re: Agenda Item Nos. 16 and 18, Meeting on October 5, 2020

My name is Jennifer Lim. I am a resident of Pasadena, an attorney who works in downtown Los Angeles, a member of Greater Pasadena Affordable Housing Group and a board member of a non-profit organization, Urban Quality Living, founded in West Los Angeles, to provide housing solutions for the homeless and those facing housing insecurity.

We desperately need more affordable housing in Pasadena. The pandemic has taught us that the spiraling costs of rents and housing expenses are out-of-whack with the income of wage-earners and those facing sudden loss of income. If not for the rent moratorium in the city of Pasadena and the state of California, many of us would be out on the streets.

I am writing this letter because City Council is voting on two items on Monday, October 5, 2020, which are of great importance on the needs for affordable housing (Agenda Item Nos. 16 and 18):

- 1. Affordable housing on the Water and Power site in the civic center.
- 2. Affordable housing on church land.

The Water and Power site has been sitting vacant for many years and is certainly "surplus" land that can be used affordable housing. I have learnt that there is a proposal for development on this site that will provide affordable housing and permanent supportive housing. Please take this opportunity to make this development a reality, and do all that you can to speed this process along.

It is a blessing that churches across Pasadena are stepping up to offer their land for affordable housing, but they need the zoning to be changed to let them do that. This zoning change will speed up the process of building the housing that is needed by many, and will make the process considerably less expensive. Please encourage the Planning Commission to work with the Planning Department to make the necessary zoning change.

Thank you for your service to our community!

Yours Sincerely,

Jennifer Lim