

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Sunday, October 18, 2020 7:56 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on October 19, 2020 about Agenda Item 26

Public Comment for Meeting on October 19, 2020 about Agenda Item 26

Name: Sonja K Berndt **Email:** **Address:** Pasadena, CA 91107

Comments:

My name is Sonja Berndt. I am a long-time resident of Pasadena and an advocate for affordable and supportive housing, which is desperately needed in our City. I am so thankful that the City Council has decided to have affordable housing in the Civic Center near City Hall and is currently considering a proposal for 112 units of affordable housing for seniors, with 10% of the units set aside for those experiencing homelessness. Please approve this proposal. Affordable housing helps prevent our elderly neighbors from falling into homelessness. Setting aside 10% of the units for unsheltered seniors will bring much-needed relief to our most-vulnerable neighbors. Thank you and many thanks to our Housing and Planning Departments for the work expended thus far in bringing this proposal to the Council.

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

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Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 9:36 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on October 19, 2020 about Agenda Item 26

Public Comment for Meeting on October 19, 2020 about Agenda Item 26

Name:	Email:	Phone:	Address:
Erika Foy			Pasadena, CA 91106

Comments:

We have an adjacent, failing mall (Paseo) which has been made even more transparent by COVID and here we are discussing more affordable housing. This mall is going to be a public dinosaur especially if the movie theater leaves. Regal Theaters are closing 536 theaters. Is Archlight next? Seems like a museum or a park to attract visitors would be a better use at this time since we have homeless housing at the Civic Center already. Can the public be made aware of the scoring process for the 5 applicants? Seems like this should be part of the public discussion of showing why you are choosing this developer tonight. Why was National Core in fact selected? We had way more public process for marijuana dispensaries with scoring and here we are discussing our very precious public land use. This is extremely troubling. Will these units be used only for Pasadena residents or are we providing more homeless housing for LA County and beyond? I would like council to consider the economic concerns of our city and how we are going to stay afloat when all it seems we do is discuss affordable housing. Please at least provide the scoring for the public..

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 11:48 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on October 19, 2020 about Agenda Item 26

Public Comment for Meeting on October 19, 2020 about Agenda Item 26

Name:	Email:	Phone:	Address: . . .
Bert			
Newton		. . .	Pasadena, CA 91101

Comments:

Dear Mayor and City Council,

Thank you so much for prioritizing affordable housing at the "Water and Power Site." Special thanks to Mayor Tornek who introduced the idea almost 2 years ago and has remained its steady champion.

While we were originally excited about renovating the old YWCA building for affordable housing, 112 brand new units is even better!

Since seniors are the fastest growing segment of those experiencing homelessness, this senior affordable housing project, with 10% permanent supportive housing units, makes sense.

Families and those under 55 also need affordable housing. So I hope that we can continue to approve more affordable housing developments and policies, such as to change church zoning to allow for affordable housing to be built there.

Let's turn Pasadena into a city where no one gets displaced and everyone has a home!

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 11:52 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on October 19, 2020 about Agenda Item Civic Center

Public Comment for Meeting on October 19, 2020 about Agenda Item Civic Center

Name: Margaret Lee
Email:
Phone:
Address: Pasadena,
CA 91101

Comments:

“Dear Mayor and City Council members,

My name is Margaret Lee. I'm a social work professor at Azusa Pacific University and teach courses in public policy. I am also a board member of Pasadena-based Making Housing and Community Happen. I have been following the Council's deliberations regarding alternative uses for the Civic Center and I am thrilled that the Council is seriously considering to build an affordable housing complex for seniors, with 10% set aside for unhoused seniors. I urge you to please approve this proposal as it will bring much needed relief to the many older adults in our community who are in danger of becoming homeless. Homelessness among seniors is a growing epidemic in Southern California but we cannot solve this problem unless cities help to build affordable housing. The Civic Center is an ideal location for seniors as it is close to public transportation, the Senior Center, and within walking distance to many resources and recreational activities. Thank you for helping to reduce our homelessness problem. I'm proud to be a resident in a city that takes effective action to reduce homelessness and chronic poverty.

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

Martinez, Ruben

From: Suzanne Bruins <[redacted]>
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 11:06 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Senior Affordable Housing Proposal

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 City Council Members,

I am Suzanne Bruins. I taught in the Pasadena Unified School District for 39 years, the last 28 at John Muir High School. I am now retired. My husband and I are active members of Pasadena Presbyterian Church. We have lived at the same address in Altadena since 1983. Nothing would give me a better sense that our community is indeed a caring community than to see the numbers of homeless (unsheltered) greatly lessened in the Pasadena area.

I was quite pleased that the City Council is currently working with National Core for a proposed 112 units of affordable senior housing, 10% of the units earmarked for unhoused seniors. **PRETTY PLEASE APPROVE THIS PROPOSAL!** A large percentage of our unhoused are seniors and also many of our seniors may be close to losing their homes in these times. This will add some community life to our Civic Center! And the seniors would be close to many services.

Thanks for doing what you have done in the past to reduce the homeless count in Pasadena. This is one more opportunity to continue to do this work and to provide some affordable housing for our community seniors
Thank you!

Suzanne Bruins

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Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 12:06 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on October 19, 2020 about Agenda Item 18

Public Comment for Meeting on October 19, 2020 about Agenda Item 18

Name:	Email:	Phone:	Address:
Allison	-	-	, Pasadena, CA
Henry	-	-	91104

Comments:

Dear Council,

I am a resident of District 3 and know that advocating on a local level is the best way to preserve housing and undue the wave of homelessness. Regarding agenda item #18 I write with many in the community to say WE WANT AFFORDABLE HOUSING and support the current proposal for the Civic Center—112 units for seniors, a fast growing portion of our unhoused neighbors. I am also glad to see 10% of those going to those experiencing homelessness.

As an organizer with Everyone In, I have learned more about our region's unhoused population. I have also participated in the Pasadena Homeless Count. I fear aging and being poor in America—I see it on the streets now. I am grateful for the Pasadena community coming out and saying YES to this proposed project at the Civic Center. But I also say DO MORE. We have vacant properties in Pasadena.

But for now, I say thank you for moving this proposal forward with the aim of housing who needs housed!

Sincerely,

Allison Henry

10/19/2020
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From: City Web
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 12:14 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on October 19, 2020 about Agenda Item 26

Public Comment for Meeting on October 19, 2020 about Agenda Item 26

Name: Ferne Hayes **Email:** **Phone:** **Address:** Pasadena, CA 91106

Comments:

I wish to express my appreciation for the Council moving forward quickly regarding the development of an affordable housing project at 280 Ramona St. and for the selection of the National Core proposal. Pasadena is a vibrant, beautiful city and with our Council's guidance will remain so for all residents, not just for the young and wealthy. The City Center will exemplify the real heart of Pasadena showing we can care for the elderly and less fortunate among us alongside Old Pasadena's deluxe residences and retail stores. National Core/Union Station has a proven record of design, property management and maintenance, and provision of resident services. Its proposal of beautiful landscaped buildings and open courtyard should please those who may initially come with a bias against affordable housing.

I feel fortunate to live in a city where the leaders work to maintain a city beneficial to all.

Sincerely,

Ferne Hayes

Pasadena resident for 50 years

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 2:12 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on October 19, 2020 about Agenda Item #26 - ENA WITH NATIONAL COMMUNITY RENAISSANCE

Public Comment for Meeting on October 19, 2020 about Agenda Item #26 - ENA WITH NATIONAL COMMUNITY RENAISSANCE

Name:	Email:	Phone:	Address:
MARSHA ROOD			Pasadena, CA 91101

Comments:

The developer selection process lacks significant transparency and public involvement, which differs from other City selection processes like Heritage Square South which had a review committee, including community representatives.

Before approving staff's recommendations:

On the process:

- Provide written summaries for each proposed project and the credentials for each proposer.
- Provide the public with the selection criteria, scoring, weighting, and ranking of the proposals.
- Provide a summary and conclusions for all Economic Analyses performed; in particular, Keyser Marston Associates' analysis.
- Provide the rationale for selecting the recommended developer.

On the ENA:

- List the obligations of the City and the Developer during the negotiation period.
- Provide that Affirmative Action and Local Contractor Participation Plans and/or requirements will be addressed during exclusive negotiations.
- Make public the proposed ENA document (without proprietary information) before its approval.

Without providing the information as outlined above, it appears that the City Council has pre-selected the Developer in Closed Session and this public process is a mere formality. The public's business should be done in public.

2. Is this property owned by Pasadena Water and Power? If so, has the recommended ENA been approved by the PWP Board for disposing of its property and have all other requirements been met?

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 2:15 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on October 19, 2020 about Agenda Item 26

Public Comment for Meeting on October 19, 2020 about Agenda Item 26

Name: Joe and Pepi Feinblatt **Email:** **Phone:** **Address:** Pasadena, California 91104

Comments:

Dear Mayor and Council, Re: Item 26

The National Community Renaissance proposal has much potential if the process is open to serious consideration of public comments and discussion at all stages of the City's negotiation with the proposed developer and operator. We plan to add our insights and critiques as the process continues.

1. The preliminary design must be modified to reduce its impact on Centennial Plaza. For example, a five-story building terminating a flat roof has a much more imposing impact on the space than the equally high City Hall with its sloping roof. The stellar staff working on this proposal should be able to add creative solutions.
2. This city likes to find that almost all projects have little environmental impact. In an era when global warming affects life in Pasadena as well as the rest of the world, we should ensure that all projects have a positive impact.
3. This project should be open to residents who are not yet seniors, who can benefit from a home in this facility.
4. The commercial space should be a contribution to the residents in this facility and neighborhood. For example, there is no grocery within easy walking distance from the Civic Center.

Thanks,

Joe and Pepi Feinblatt

10/19/2020

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 2:17 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on October 19, 2020 about Agenda Item 26

Public Comment for Meeting on October 19, 2020 about Agenda Item 26

Name: Pasadenans

Organizing for Progress

(POP) Housing Justice

Committee (Ed Washatka,

Kimberly Douglas, lorynne

Young, Rick Cole)

Address:

Pasadena, Ca.

91104, Pasadena,

California 91104

Phone:

Email:

Comments:

Pasadenans Organizing for Progress believes housing is a human right. We thank the Council for the recent unanimous decision to devote the Ramona site to affordable housing. POP supports the staff recommendation to proceed with exclusive negotiations with National Core to finalize an agreement to build. While all three submissions offered unique advantages, the mix of senior and at least 15% permanent supportive housing units seems to be best suited to the site.

We hope the positive elements of the other two proposals will get consideration during the negotiations with National Core to ensure the best possible project for the Civic Center and the project's future residents. We particularly emphasize the importance of quality architecture to benefit those residents and to overcome the resistance to affordable housing that exists in some elements of our community. This project can and should address the regional affordable housing crisis by providing a home to be proud of for seniors and homeless people in our community. It can and should be an asset to the historic heart of our city, upholding our community's values of inclusion, diversity and civic beauty.

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Thank you again for the leadership of the Mayor, Council and staff.

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 2:33 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on October 19, 2020 about Agenda Item 26

Public Comment for Meeting on October 19, 2020 about Agenda Item 26

Name: Anthony **Email:** **Phone:** **Address:**
Manousos Ave, Pasadena, CA 91104

Comments:

I want to thank you on behalf of Making Housing and Community Happen (MHCH), and more than 100 community members who wrote you last week, and hundreds more who've shown up at Council meetings, written letters, attended vigils and in many other way expressed their support for affordable housing at the Civic Center. We're thrilled that you're moving forward so quickly with National Core's proposal for affordable senior housing, with at least 10% set aside for permanent supportive housing. This excellent proposal will help prevent homelessness by providing affordable housing to seniors, the fastest growing segment of the unhoused. According to the 2020 Homeless Count, 30% of those experiencing homelessness in our city are over 55 years old. Most ended up homeless because of rising rents and fixed income. This proposal also sets aside at least 10% of units for our homeless neighbors, many of whom live near the Civic Center.

We applaud you and our Housing Department for your commitment to reduce homelessness by approving affordable/supportive housing here at the Civic Center, as well as Heritage Square South and the Salvation Army Hope Center. Thank you for making us proud of our city and our beautiful Civic Center!

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 2:44 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on October 19, 2020 about Agenda Item 26

Public Comment for Meeting on October 19, 2020 about Agenda Item 26

Name: Jill Suzanne Shook	Email:	Phone:	Address: Pasadena, CA 91104, Pasadena, CA 91104
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Comments:

Honorable Mayor and City Council

I'm so proud to be in a city that sees affordable housing as a valuable tool to address the disparity in our city--with about half of Pasadena spending more than 50% of their income on housing, but also as a tool to beautify and bring investment into our city. With only 1.3 million allocated for our housing department, a savvy award winning affordable housing developer like National Core can multiply our housing resources by bringing outside financial resources. I support the staff's recommendation and ask that you vote today to enter exclusive negotiations with National Core. There have been countless meetings over the past 1.5 years about this project. Now its time to move swiftly. Thank you!

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes