

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2020 10:39 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on October 26, 2020 about Agenda Item 1

Public Comment for Meeting on October 26, 2020 about Agenda Item 1

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

Comments:

I urge the Council to address Pasadena's severe affordable housing crisis in a productive way, rather than file a meritless appeal of SCAG's draft RHNA Allocation. The new Allocation Plan will help our City to become a thriving, vibrant community, which requires residents of all income levels. Fighting the State in a losing battle on RHNA Allocation does nothing to solve our affordable housing crisis. We recently closed several public schools due to declining enrollment caused, in part, by our high housing costs. Families are moving away because they cannot afford to live here. We know that our economic disparities fall harder on women and people of color. Pasadena's employers and institutions rely on people being able to live here, and live here affordably. The housing nonprofit organization Making Housing and Community Happen submitted a letter to the Council dated September 14, 2020, demonstrating how the City can meet the draft RHNA allocation if it wants to. And I urge the Council to read former Pasadena Mayor Rick Cole's opinion in the Pasadena Star-News, dated October 25, 2020, for a thoughtful, cooperative approach to ensuring our City is affordable for residents at all income levels. Thank you.

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

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Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2020 1:30 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on October 26, 2020 about Agenda Item Special 1

Public Comment for Meeting on October 26, 2020 about Agenda Item Special 1

Name: ARETA **Email:** **Phone:** **Address:**
CROWELL --- ---, PASADENA, CA
91106

Comments:

Honorable Mayor and Council members

I applaud the many significant decisions recently made by Pasadena to facilitate development of more affordable housing but the need remains enormous. We did not come close to meeting our RHNA goals last time, Over 50% of our residents are rent burdened;27% spend more than 50% of their income on housing and there are over 27,000 on the Section 8 waiting list. No one wants to see more people experiencing homelessness, no one wants tent cities everywhere., no one wants more people sleeping on our streets The RHNA goals are daunting but they reflect real need which must be met if this is not to be our future.

I appreciate the steps you have taken to encourage affordable housing such as make zoning changes that will facilitate the use of church land for that purpose.

I urge continued work to find more ways to make progress. I agree with the letters from Making Housing and Community Happen, and with Pasadenans Organizing for Progress - let us use our resources not to file an appeal but to focus on ways to develop more affordable housing

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

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Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2020 2:00 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on October 26, 2020 about Agenda Item 1

Public Comment for Meeting on October 26, 2020 about Agenda Item 1

Name:	Email:	Phone:	Address:
Margaret Muñoz			Avenue, Sierra Madre, CA 91024

Comments:

Dear Mayor Tornek and City Council,

We are writing on behalf of Abundant Housing LA, a pro-housing education and advocacy organization working to help solve California's housing crisis.

More housing is needed to address Pasadena's serious problems with affordability, transportation, homelessness, and racial inequality. We strongly encourage you to work with City staff to ensure the fair and equitable distribution of the RHNA target across Pasadena's neighborhoods, especially since an appeal of Pasadena's RHNA will likely be unsuccessful.

Additionally, we would like to propose four recommendations for City staff as they develop the Housing Element Update. First, the update should incorporate an estimate of the likelihood of development and the net new units if developed of inventory sites. Second, City staff should use an HCD-recommended "safe harbor" methodology for forecasting future ADU production. Third, high-opportunity and well-resourced census tracts should be prioritized when selecting sites for lower-income housing, to affirmatively further fair housing. And fourth, the update should include the HCD-recommended buffer of 15-30% extra capacity in the site inventory, in order to avoid

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violating the No Net Loss requirement. This will maximize the effectiveness of Pasadena's housing element update in encouraging new housing.

Roderick Hall and Margaret Muñoz, Abundant Housing LA

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

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From: City Web
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2020 2:01 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on October 26, 2020 about Agenda Item 1

Public Comment for Meeting on October 26, 2020 about Agenda Item 1

Name: Jill
Suzanne
Shook

Email:

Phone:

Address: 1000 ...
Pasadena,
CA 91104, Pasadena, CA
91104

Comments:

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council,

Yes, the 9,409 RHNA allocation in the next eight years (5,960 to be affordable at various income ranges) is indeed a high number, but not impossible. It's easy to resent the SCAG, but thankfully this time these numbers are reflecting the real need: 23,000 on Pasadena's section 8 waiting list, 50% of Pasadena is spending more than 50% of their income on housing, 527 counted as homeless, and 700 PUSD students experiencing homeless and 19% of all PCC students are homeless. Each of these statistics are outrageous and you have the power to help them become housed. Do you want a city known for its compassion or for its exclusion? Please search your hearts, change your vote, and save our tax payer's money on a needless appeal. Certainly there is enough creativity and compassion in our great city to meet this urgent need. Yes, we have done much, and are exemplary in many ways, but it's still woefully short on what the real need is. I will be praying as you make the decision today about this appeal.

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

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From: City Web
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2020 2:03 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on October 26, 2020 about Agenda Item 1

Public Comment for Meeting on October 26, 2020 about Agenda Item 1

Name: Kimberly Douglas,
Rick Cole, Lorynne Young,
Ed Washatka for Pasadenans
Organizing for Progress
Housing Justice Committee

Email:

Phone:

Address: Pasadena,
California 91105

Comments:

The staff accurately outlines the very narrow grounds available to Pasadena to appeal its Regional Housing Needs Allocation. It is clear that Pasadena has little likelihood of prevailing – and even if it were to do so, any reduction is likely to be minimal.

While we acknowledge the Council’s concerns about the fairness and practicality of Pasadena’s allocation, the City staff’s time and attention would be more productively devoted to addressing the magnitude of the affordable housing challenge, regardless of the outcome of the appeal. The City has only one year to submit to the State a realistic Housing Element plan for building in the next cycle at least 5,000 affordable units of housing when it has produced less than 250 during the current cycle.

Pasadenans Organizing for Progress strongly supports the recommendations of Making Housing and Community Happen to involve a true cross-section of our community to solve this challenge together. We are encouraged by the Council’s verbal embrace of Councilmember Kennedy’s call for a goal of building 1000 affordable units in the next three years. Those homes are urgently

needed by thousands of Pasadenans facing eviction or struggling to make their rent. That's where your focus should be now!

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

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From: City Web
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2020 2:15 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on October 26, 2020 about Agenda Item 1

Public Comment for Meeting on October 26, 2020 about Agenda Item 1

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

Comments:

I commend the City for its efforts to build affordable housing, but the reality is that only 250 units have been built during the current cycle—far less than what is needed. It's quite reasonable for SCAG to say that Pasadena needs to produce over 5,000 units of affordable housing since 50% of Pasadenans are spending more than 50% of their income on housing, over 500 are counted as homeless, 700 PUSD students are experiencing homeless and 19% of all PCC students are homeless. I therefore urge you not to waste taxpayer dollars trying to dispute SCAG's RHNA numbers. Spend money instead on public engagement that would create understanding about the value of affordable housing. Support policies that would allow churches to build affordable housing on their land. Based on interest displayed so far, over one thousand units of affordable housing could result. Allow more density in transportation corridors and incentivize ADUs. Take seriously Council member Kennedy's proposal that the City set a goal of at least 1000 units of affordable housing in the next few years. This is not an impossible dream. It's an urgent necessity. If you're willing to show political courage, it could happen.

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes

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Novelo, Lilia

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2020 2:25 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on October 26, 2020 about Agenda Item 1-- Appeal of RHNA

Public Comment for Meeting on October 26, 2020 about Agenda Item 1-- Appeal of RHNA

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

Comments:

Dear Council,

I am a resident of D3 and long time housing/tenant advocate. I am sorry to see the council pivot towards an appeal of the RHNA at a time when those resources--both financial and creative--would be better served to actually come up with solutions! As many members of the public have commented, we are woefully deficient in actual affordable housing. There are better ways to address this housing issue than appealing the RHNA allocation. We don't even have full visibility into the city's current housing stock. Since the city is going to appeal these numbers anyway, can the City MAKE A COMMITMENT TO GATHER FULL TRANSPARENCY INTO PASADENA HOUSING STOCK? This could come in the form of a rental registry--many cities have them independent of rent control. We have habitability issues in the city that could be addressed. And, we would have a far more informed data set on our housing stock than what we have now. Please consider a rental registry in Pasadena so that we can have a true and accurate count/idea of our actual Pasadena housing stock.

Allison Henry

Consent given to read my comments out loud: Yes