

Iraheta, Alba

From: Wesley Reutimann <wreutimann@pasadena.net>
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 4:06 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment - Draft Housing Element - 8/2/21 Meeting

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Dear members of the Pasadena City Council,

As long time residents who are deeply troubled by the continued and ongoing housing crisis on working families and residents of the city of Pasadena, we strongly encourage the Council support all of the policies proposed by the Pasadena Affordable Housing Coalition, including the following specific policies for incorporation into the final Housing Element:

- **Remove Parking Minimums Citywide:** Parking minimums increase the developer's cost for building housing, take up space that could be used for more housing units, and disincentivize the use of transit.
- **Create a local density bonus program near transit:** These programs encourage developers to build more housing units – including affordable units – near major public transportation stops.
- **Unbundle Parking Cost from Rent or Purchase Cost:** Unbundling parking costs from the cost of housing makes housing more affordable as renters can choose to rent a housing unit without paying for the cost of a parking space.
- **Encourage “Missing Middle” housing types:** Missing middle housing are buildings (duplexes, fourplexes, cottage courts, courtyard buildings) with multiple units built in walkable neighborhoods

We also recommend the Council ask the following questions about the draft Housing Element:

1. Is Pasadena incorporating an assumption regarding the chance that a site will be developed into its count, and if so, what is that assumption? As pointed out in this [Twitter](#) thread, most of the properties identified in the Pasadena inventory have existing uses, with no indication that use will change to housing. The analysis should be adjusted to reflect this.
2. The number of affordable housing units needed in Pasadena in the next eight years is 24 times what was built in the previous eight years. Are the strategies outlined in the Housing Element sufficient to achieve that goal? If not, what else can Pasadena do to achieve it?
3. Why is the Housing on Church Land policy not due until 2025? Discussion and analysis on that policy began over a year ago. The Housing Element should reflect more realistic goals for achievable policies, including this one.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Wesley and Kristin Reutimann
Pasadena 91103

Iraheta, Alba

From: Phyllis Chestang <...>
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 4:17 PM
Subject: Fw: CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM- HOUSING ELEMENT-PUBLIC COMMENT-AGENDA ITEM #11-- Please consider the following:

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From: Phyllis Chestang
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 4:16 PM
Cc: vgordo@cityofpasadena.net <vgordo@cityofpasadena.net>; awilson@cityofpasadena.net <awilson@cityofpasadena.net>; jerivas@cityofpasadena.net <jerivas@cityofpasadena.net>; gmasuda@cityofpasadena.net <gmasuda@cityofpasadena.net>; fwilliams@cityofpasadena.net <fwilliams@cityofpasadena.net>; smadison@cityofpasadena.net <smadison@cityofpasadena.net>; johnjkennedy@cityofpasadena.net <johnjkennedy@cityofpasadena.net>; thampton@cityofpasadena.net <thampton@cityofpasadena.net>
Subject: re: CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM- HOUSING ELEMENT-PUBLIC COMMENT-AGENDA ITEM #11-- Please consider the following:

Talking point # 3: I urge the Council to consider allowing affordable housing to be built in commercially zoned areas. Vacant or underutilized commercially zoned areas are opportunities to build housing in areas where vacant land is hard to come across. I recommend that you check out the [Berkeley Turner Center Report on Residential Redevelopment of Commercially Zoned Land in California](#). This report shows the value of allowing commercial land to be used for affordable housing. I also recommend that you streamline the approval process for deed-restricted, affordable housing, and permanent supportive housing within 30 days of application. If we are going to meet our RHNA goals of nearly 6,000 units of affordable housing in the next 8 years, we need to make it easier for affordable housing developers to do their job.

Talking point # 4: We have a superabundance of luxury apartments in Pasadena, far more than we need, and many of these units are vacant. That's why we need to consider a vacancy tax to incentivize landlords to either rent up or lower the cost of rent to make their vacant properties more affordable. A vacant property tax or VPT was passed by the City of Oakland in 2018. The Oakland

Phyllis M. Chestang

City of Pasadena
Executive Director
Second Wind, non profit, 501c3, for education & community

Iraheta, Alba

From: Colin Bogart < >
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 4:20 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse; Hampton, Tyron; Gordo, Victor
Cc: Bell, Cushon
Subject: August 2, 2021 Council meeting agenda items 4 and 11

CAUTION: This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you **know** the content is safe. Report phish using the Phish Alert Button. [Learn more...](#)

Dear Mayor Gordo, Council member Hampton, and Council,

I'm writing to you to express my support for renewing the lease for the Pasadena Job Center (item 4). The job center provides a valuable service for the community and I ask you to approve the renewal.

I'm also writing to express my complete support for the demands of the Pasadena Affordable Housing Coalition for agenda item 11 regarding the housing element. We should be making affordable housing a priority in our housing element with concrete goals and a timeline that produces results quickly.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Colin Bogart
District 1 resident

July 2021

Dear Mayor Gordo and City Council,

A handful of churches across Pasadena are stepping up to offer their land for affordable housing, but they need the zoning to be changed so they can accomplish their vision. This zoning change will speed up the process of building the housing we need and will make the process considerably less expensive, making affordable housing dollars stretch further.

Please put rezoning religious land for affordable housing back on the city council agenda. Putting this matter in the housing element process delays it and makes it less certain to be enacted.

New Life Holiness Church has already chosen an affordable housing development partner with hopes to build 52 units of affordable housing on their underutilized land. They plan to use the money from the ground lease to help struggling families pay their rent or mortgage...but they need the zoning changed to do this beautiful work!

Affordable housing is important to me because...

I've had dear friends of mine move elsewhere due to not being able to afford places. Affordable housing also provides me a greater sense of community in that regard. Also, I have a desire to move out myself but can't afford most places with how high prices are. My name is Nathanael, I'm 22, and at this point of my life I'm feeling the importance of this matter.

Thank you,



July 2021

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Affordable housing is important to me because...

It helps families keep roofs
over their heads and keeps
them safe from the streets,
This makes housing affordable
Bless you

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ava' followed by a stylized flourish.

July 30 2021

Dear Mayor Gordo and City Council,

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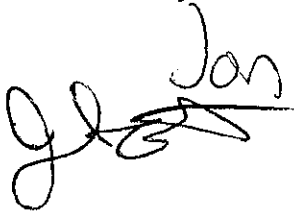
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Affordable housing is important to me because...

I work several different minimum wage jobs throughout the year, but I can't afford my own home. The cost of living in Pasadena, plus my student loans stretches my income thin. I have friends that were forced to move back in with their parents because rent is too high. How can we expect to grow if we are stuck?

Thank you,

Jan


July 30 2021

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Affordable housing is important to me because...

The community in Pasadena is made up of so many wonderful people and they're all affected by the lack of affordable housing. Each member of this community is important and should be valued as such. Building more affordable housing will ensure that this community will stay closer together and not be torn apart by housing expenses and gentrification.

Thank you,

Maya Wurfemberg

July 30 2021

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Affordable housing is important to me because... AS A young Adult i am being Driven out OF my Home out OF the place i grew up BECAUSE THE COST OF LIVING IS SO HIGH i cant AFFORD to pay rent with A minimum wage job yet alone pay my other bills. With DEBT from SCHOOL AND working a minimum wage job i AM forced to Leave my family, Leave my Hometown ALL BECAUSE there is not enough AFFORDABLE Housing in the Pasadena Area. I DO not want to leave Pasadena this is my Home my Life my family AND everything i have.

Thank you, Hunter. Smith

July 2021

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Affordable housing is important to me because...

I dont want to see my friends and family leave calafornia because I love them thay are my people.

Thank you, William Wurttemberg
age: 12

July, 30, 2021

Dear Mayor Gordo and City Council,

A handful of churches across Pasadena are stepping up to offer their land for affordable housing, but they need the zoning to be changed so they can accomplish their vision. This zoning change will speed up the process of building the housing we need and will make the process considerably less expensive, making affordable housing dollars stretch further.

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Affordable housing is important to me because...

I know a few people who have had to move because of it.

I also see some people that I don't know. I come to Pasadena alot and every time I come I see a homeless person, standing or sitting by the street. Many people help, but some people don't even know there is a problem. You can change that. You can help. If we don't help eachother, ~~we~~ we won't survive.

Thank you,

Olivia Dixon (12 years old)

July 2021

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Affordable housing is important to me because... when there is more affordable housing, then more people wouldn't have to move because they can't afford to live where they want to. So please, for the people, for the community, make housing affordable for all.

Thank you,

Stanley Russell Age: 13

July 2021

Dear Mayor Gordo and City Council,

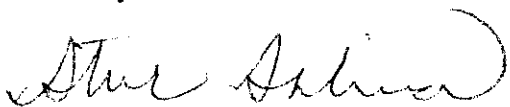
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Affordable housing is important to me because...

Thank you,



Steve Sabinda

Altadena 91001

July 2021

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Affordable housing is important to me because...

Without it my family and I would not be able to pay our rent. I am currently unemployed and my husband is the only one working presently. Even with a higher education, he received his Master's Degree last spring the pandemic has made it difficult to find a higher paying job. We have lived on church property for the past 18 years and because we pay an affordable rent (although even sometimes it is still tough to pay bills on one income) we have managed to pay our rent. Mental health issues and physical limitations have made it more difficult for me to find feasible work. I want my daughter who will be an adult in the next couple years to be able to move out and get her own place in our city if she wishes to. She will need affordable housing. Please get this back on the agenda because churches can make a huge difference for people as they have for my family and I.

Thank you,

Heather Richards

Pasadena, CA 91106

08/02/2021

Item 11

July 2021

Dear Mayor Gordo and City Council,

A handful of churches across Pasadena are stepping up to offer their land for affordable housing, but they need the zoning to be changed so they can accomplish their vision. This zoning change will speed up the process of building the housing we need and will make the process considerably less expensive, making affordable housing dollars stretch further.

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Affordable housing is important to me because...

It breaks my heart to see the unhoused outside - and my 12 year old son asks why "adults can't fix it" with simple solutions like "just giving them housing." It's hard to explain the complexity of this to him - but I appreciate his heart - and intention. We have to do better! (Think we can - rezoning is a small step, towards that end. I'd love to see these churches take their resources and help the city act.

Thank you,

Glory Bancheta

Pasadena CA 91104

July 2021

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Affordable housing is important to me because...

*fairness and equity are important to me,
for individuals like me to be secure and
safe without others having the same doesn't
make me feel good or safe or secure,*

Thank you,

Charles D. Jacobsen

Ch. D. Jacobsen

CDJ

July 2021

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Affordable housing is important to me because... *unhoused people are not a different category of human from me. We need to work together to help one another. Changing the zoning laws will release us to do the good work that needs to be done!*

Thank you,

Rob Muthiah

Rob Muthiah

Atadena, CA 91001

member: Pasadena Mennonite Church

08/02/2021
Item 11

July 2021

Dear Mayor Gordo and City Council,

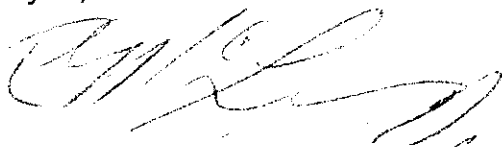
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Affordable housing is important to me because...

Thank you,



Pasadena, CA 91106

July 2021

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Affordable housing is important to me because... if put people of all back ground and religious beliefs back into homes. We need affordable housing for all people.

Thank you,

Steve Syms

July 2021

Dear Mayor Gordo and City Council,

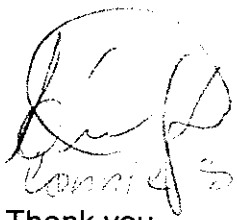
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Affordable housing is important to me because...

I have 2 daughters and small town house
we have to sleep on the living
room.



Lonnie Seneck

Thank you,

July 2021

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Affordable housing is important to me because...

many of the essential workers
can not afford housing in Pasadena.
Pasadena enrollments are going down too,
because families can't afford to live.
Inclusivity does not mean isolation.

Thank you,

Carla Cunningham

Pasadena, CA 91106
Carla E. Cunningham

July 2021

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Affordable housing is important to me because...

My family has been affected by the economy and we are no longer able to afford living in our current living space. My partner lost his job almost a year ago and I earn minimum wage. We are now thinking of splitting up our family ~~to~~ to move out of this beautiful state. Please consider all of the families and Thank you, individuals in need.

Thank you,
Loree Zeldin

July 31, 2021

Dear Mayor Gordo and City Council,

A handful of churches across Pasadena are stepping up to offer their land for affordable housing, but they need the zoning to be changed so they can accomplish their vision. This zoning change will speed up the process of building the housing we need and will make the process considerably less expensive, making affordable housing dollars stretch further.

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Affordable housing is important to me because... *I have been a teacher in Pasadena for 19 years and housing of justice impacts the lives of my students. This rezoning is a positive, powerful step in making Pasadena not only affordable but also a better place to live.*

Thank you,

Lisa Nuthall
Altadena, CA 9100

July 2021

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A handful of churches across Pasadena are stepping up to offer their land for affordable housing, but they need the zoning to be changed so they can accomplish their vision. This zoning change will speed up the process of building the housing we need and will make the process considerably less expensive, making affordable housing dollars stretch further.

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Affordable housing is important to me because...

Shelter is a basic human need. People cannot give back to the community without their basic needs being met and the current housing climate has directly depreciated and shortened the lives of an unimaginable amount of people. Abuse, the degradation of physical and mental health, suicide in the community ~~are~~ has extremely close ties. Doing nothing allows suffering on exponential levels to continue to happen. We are speaking, shouting, and we are watching.

Thank you,



July 2021

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Affordable housing is important to me because... I have 2 childrens that I cant support ~~to~~ due to dv & former foster child. I have no family. I love my kids I want to support them but I'm homeless and live

Thank you, In my car

442 217-171

 Ashley Hawkins

July 2021

Dear Mayor Gordo and City Council,

A handful of churches across Pasadena are stepping up to offer their land for affordable housing, but they need the zoning to be changed so they can accomplish their vision. This zoning change will speed up the process of building the housing we need and will make the process considerably less expensive, making affordable housing dollars stretch further.

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Affordable housing is important to me because... I benefit personally from affordable housing. My family survives on my sole income. My wife has been unemployed for years due to mental health issue. Without affordable housing, I would be forced to move out of the area. This would be very disruptive to my family and our lives. I also see other friends and people I know undergoing similar circumstances. Pasadena itself is out of the price range of many families. It is seen in the types of housing that is built that is out of the price range of people wanting to make a living.

Thank you,

Richard Richardson

Pasadena, CA 91106

July 2021

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Affordable housing is important to me because... I am a low income resident of Pasadena. I am living in affordable housing right now and understand greatly the need for it. Lots of my friends have moved out of Pasadena for lack of affordable housing. Others had to live in their cars. This is unacceptable.

Thank you,

Angela Strong

July 30, 2021

Dear Mayor Gordo and City Council,

A handful of churches across Pasadena are stepping up to offer their land for affordable housing, but they need the zoning to be changed so they can accomplish their vision. This zoning change will speed up the process of building the housing we need and will make the process considerably less expensive, making affordable housing dollars stretch further.

Please put rezoning religious land for affordable housing back on the city council agenda. Putting this matter in the housing element process delays it and makes it less certain to be enacted.

New Life Holiness Church has already chosen an affordable housing development partner with hopes to build 52 units of affordable housing on their underutilized land. They plan to use the money from the ground lease to help struggling families pay their rent or mortgage...but they need the zoning changed to do this beautiful work!

Affordable housing is important to me because...

Housing is a critical need for the health of an individual and a community of individuals. Not only does it provide a sense of dignity and worth, but it is protection and stability, leading to better health outcomes, improved mental health, and a path to recovery. I have worked with the homeless population (individuals currently experiencing homelessness) for over 5 years. They each have

Thank you; a story. They each are a human being with needs not unlike others & our own. This city is theirs as well, even if they cannot pay taxes at this time or if they need resources. Humans need housing. Let's make this happen in this great city.

08/02/2021
Item 11

Thank you, Erin Wartenberg, licensed Clinical

July 2021

Dear Mayor Gordo and City Council,

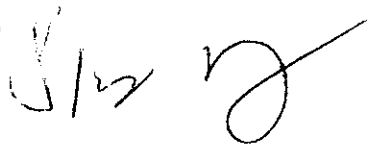
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Affordable housing is important to me because...

Thank you,



Kyle Ray

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Pasadena CA, 91104

July 2021

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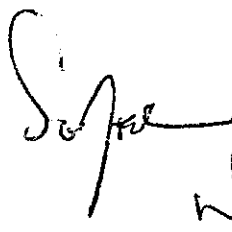
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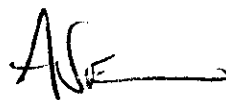
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Affordable housing is important to me because...

Thank you,


Sierra
WATERS


AGE

91104

08/02/2021
Item 11

July 2021

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Affordable housing is important to me because...

We attend church in Pasadena.
My husband works in Pasadena.
Several years ago when we considered
trying to move to Pasadena we
realized it wasn't affordable, - and
we were both working.
My grandmother and mom were born in
Pasadena - they've shared many wonderful
memories that we can only hear about.
Thank you, There is something wrong when a loved
community becomes unaffordable.

Colleen & Tim Dixon

So. San Gabriel, Ca. 91770

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU!
I still stay when comment stalkers... where else can I go if there
kind me on facebook
Dette
08/02/2021
Item 11

July 2021

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Affordable housing is important to me because...

Domestic violence is happening ever where also harder when pandemic hit. DV shelters is hard to enter, no place to run, no family around. Please help me. had a restraining order put on me 4 yrs ago & never got served been homeless 5 years still to this day can't see my 13 yr old son.

Thank you,

Kids dad's mom took my son Jesse when he was 8 + PD over but keeps me away my son still and death w/ emotional, physical abuse ^{mental} and have two stalkers on my hands, + scared and in fear. Everyone has a right to there own opinions. feeling + able to say no w/out feeling guilty or scared

PLEASE CONTACT PASADENA VALLEY CENTER FOR VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

July 2021

Dear Mayor Gordo and City Council,

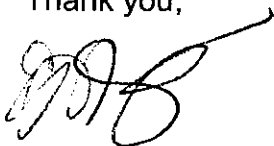
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Affordable housing is important to me because...

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'MB' with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

July 31 2021

Dear Mayor Gordo and City Council,

A handful of churches across Pasadena are stepping up to offer their land for affordable housing, but they need the zoning to be changed so they can accomplish their vision. This zoning change will speed up the process of building the housing we need and will make the process considerably less expensive, making affordable housing dollars stretch further.

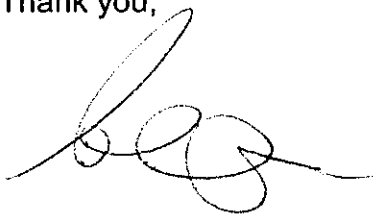
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Affordable housing is important to me because...

*We cannot consider ourselves a city
of true accessibility + equity without it.*

Thank you,



Scott Harden

Pasadena CA 91104

July 31, 2021

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A handful of churches across Pasadena are stepping up to offer their land for affordable housing, but they need the zoning to be changed so they can accomplish their vision. This zoning change will speed up the process of building the housing we need and will make the process considerably less expensive, making affordable housing dollars stretch further.

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Affordable housing is important to me because...

Everyone deserves a home - Pasadena is
unaffordable for our teachers + service workers
Religious rezoning will be a solution

Thank you,

Dr. Andrea Davis

Pasadena, CA 91106

Iraheta, Alba

From: Brita Pinkston <
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 4:50 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Cc: Gordo, Victor; Wilson, Andy; Rivas, Jessica; Masuda, Gene; Williams, Felicia; Madison, Steve; Kennedy, John J.; Hampton, Tyron
Subject: Support for Housing Element COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA ITEM 11

CAUTION: This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you *know* the content is safe. Report phish using the Phish Alert Button. [Learn more...](#)

Dear Mayor Gordo and City Council,

My name is Pastor Brita Pinkston, I am the Lead Pastor for the Pasadena Foursquare Church (174 Harkness Ave.). Both the church and my family live in District 2. I have been a pastor in Pasadena for 26 years, have lived in Pasadena for almost 40 years, attended Marshall Fundamental, raised three children through the PUSD and my own children have attended PCC. I thank you for all the work you do for our city, knowing the task is enormous and the work often unthanked. As a fellow leader, I want to acknowledge all you do that the community may not see, the care and commitment you do have for all of Pasadena.

Because I know you do want to serve all community members in Pasadena, I am writing on behalf of myself and the members of the Pasadena Foursquare Church to ardently support that the housing element have as its primary focus the need for direct action immediately to build affordable housing. In particular, I write to support the rezoning religious land for affordable housing as a powerful idea that has been needlessly delayed and needs to be back on the agenda and approved as soon as possible. There are churches in the pipeline ready to move on this. Our own church has 9 cottage units that for 25 years we have rented at affordable housing equivalent rates. Churches are ready to step up. This needs to be in the housing element.

I am tired of seeing my congregants move, ripping apart communities, due to the lack of housing and affordable housing. We are seeing a crisis - our stake holders, our next generation, our elderly are crying out for justice and to STOP building high end luxury living - and focus exclusively on the needs of the middle, lower and extremely low income.

With PUSD in crisis, we CANNOT continue to hemorrhage due to driving families out of the city. NO MORE to high end pandering that only serves the wealthy - I implore you to prioritize the every day people that are the backbone of this city.

I know you will make the right choices for the benefit of our entire city - but in particular our most vulnerable, low income and very low income. Each person has much to offer. We must value each citizen and make this a just and equitable community for all.

I offer this with my prayers for each of you and the wisdom and creativity and grit that will be needed to see this through.

Sincerely,

Pastor Brita Pinkston