

Martinez, Ruben

From: Sonja Berndt <sonja.berndt@pasadena.gov>
Sent: Sunday, December 12, 2021 8:53 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Cc: Gordo, Victor; Hampton, Tyron; Kennedy, John J.; Masuda, Gene; Madison, Steve; Rivas, Jessica; Williams, Felicia; Wilson, Andy; Jomsky, Mark; Huang, William
Subject: 12/13/2021 City Council Meeting Agenda Item #6
Attachments: 12.13.21 City Council Agenda #6.pdf

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Dear Mr. Jomsky:

Please see the attached correspondence for agenda item #6 for the City Council meeting 12/13/2021. Please make sure it is part of the public record of the meeting. Thank you.

Sonja K. Berndt
Pasadena

SONJA K. BERNDT
Pasadena, CA 91107

December 12, 2021

Mayor Victor Gordo
Members of the Pasadena City Council
Pasadena, CA
(By email to correspondence@cityofpasadena.net)

Re: City Council Meeting 12/13/2021 – Agenda Item #6: Recognize And Appropriate \$957,024 In Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Funding To The Housing Department’s Fiscal Year 2022 Operating Budget; Add A Limited-Term 1.0 FTE City Service Worker Position; And Approve The Temporary Policy Supplement

Dear Mayor Gordo and Members of the Pasadena City Council:

Agenda Item 6 asks the Council to amend the fiscal year 2022 operating budget of the Housing Department and recognize and appropriate \$957,024 in emergency housing voucher (EHV) funding to the Housing Department's 2022 operating budget and add a limited-term 1.0 full-time-equivalent city service worker position.

According to the staff report, these funds have the potential to assist 109 homeless or at-risk households to secure permanent housing. It is unclear whether any of these households will involve persons who currently have no shelter at all, those who face our fast-approaching winter with no shelter from the cold and rain. Nevertheless, this is wonderful news and we have the federal government to thank for all of this funding. Basically, this Council is simply being asked to amend the Housing Department’s budget to recognize these federal funds, which will be used for tenant-based rental assistance and to add a limited-term position to provide housing search assistance and stability services to EHV program participants. Since our Housing Department is severely underfunded, we welcome this substantial assistance from the federal government.

Our federal and state governments have provided very, very substantial funding to our Housing Department this year for all of its programs, of which homelessness is just one. So it was surprising and troubling to hear Councilmember Madison’s statements at the ED Tech Committee meeting last week that it is “shameful” that “this” (interim housing for our unhoused) falls on the City “to the extent it does” and that we need federal and

state programs and resources to address the “pandemic” of homelessness, specifically chronic homelessness. (12/8/21 ED Tech meeting, timestamp 1:12:15.)

First of all, these statements are inconsistent with our draft 2021-2029 Housing Element, which provides as follows at page 2:

“**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. . . . The City is committed to opening doors for people of all income levels, at all stages in their lives. . . .” (Emphasis added.)

Secondly, the “extent” of our City funding of interim housing for our unsheltered residents is actually very, very small. We have nearly 300 unsheltered residents in our City. Our Housing Department is receiving only \$1.475 million from our City’s general fund this year (for ALL of its many programs) out of its \$40.7 million total operating budget. That amount is significantly less than the \$1.9 million this Council approved for **supplemental** law enforcement services to be provided by the Los Angeles Sheriff’s Department just as related to the upcoming Rose Parade and Rose Bowl football game. (10/4/21 City Council Meeting, agenda item #2.)

While our federal and state governments need to provide substantial funding to local jurisdictions to address homelessness, **and they have**, local jurisdictions have to be partners in this effort, including providing financial resources.

Significantly, the federal government gave this City \$26 million in American Rescue Act Plan funds last Spring. Even though interim housing was an eligible use of those funds, this Council appropriated only \$400,000 for implementation of a bridge (interim) housing program, less than what the Council appropriated for the traffic signal at the intersection of Orange Grove and Craig Avenue. The City could have appropriated more funds for interim housing as requested by community members, but our leaders chose not to do so.

Just last week, the Housing Department presented a report to the ED Tech Committee which notes that from January 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021, the Department expended \$2,185,445 to fund the scattered site, motel-based interim housing program. Fifty-six per cent of those funds were from the federal government, thirty per cent from the State, and the rest from the county. According to the report, our City provided none of the funding for the City’s primary interim housing program for our hundreds of unsheltered residents.

While we are grateful for these additional federal funds to address homelessness, our City and its leaders need to step up to the plate, treat the homelessness crisis with the urgency

it demands, and provide more funding, including a dedicated funding stream, to address the chronic problem of homelessness. Thank you.

Sincerely,

/s/

Sonja K. Berndt, Esq. (retired)

Martinez, Ruben

From: 1 7
Sent: Friday, December 10, 2021 8:59 PM
To: Gordo, Victor; Madison, Steve; Rivas, Jessica; Masuda, Gene; Williams, Felicia; Hampton, Tyron; Kennedy, John J.; PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: 150 letters in support of rezoning property for affordable housing (and over 40 speakers since August)
Attachments: cong land 9.pdf; conglanld 1 A.pdf; conglanld 1 b.pdf; conglanld 1 c.pdf; Congland 1.pdf; Congland 2.pdf; Congland 3.pdf; Congland 4.pdf; conglanld 5.pdf; conglanld 6.pdf; conglanld 7.pdf; conglanld 8.pdf; conglanld1 d.pdf

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Dear Mayor Gordo and City Council members,

Thank you for your support of affordable ADUs, more vouchers for those experiencing homelessness, and rental assistance for those facing eviction. We at MHCH feel more is needed to address the urgency of our homelessness and affordable housing crisis. Attached are letters from 150 of your constituents in support of a citywide zoning amendment to allow churches to have affordable housing built on their underutilized land.

Below is a list of over 40 people who have who spoken out at City Council meeting since August urging you to agendize this much needed and widely supported item.

This policy also has the support the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, the Community Clergy Coalition (consisting of 75 churches), the Pasadena Affordable Housing Coalition (consisting of 17 organizations, including POP!, NDALON, the League of Women Voters, NAACP, etc).

The youngest speaker was Jude Bautista, a twelve-year old, who spoke out on Monday (you can see his picture below--he's an honors student at Marshall Fundamental). Jude cares deeply about our homeless neighbors and goes out and gives them food.

Jude's beautiful heart recalls the words of the Prophet Isaiah: "A little child shall lead them" (Isaiah 11:6) and also the words of Jesus: "unless you have a change of heart, and be as little children, you shall not enter God's kingdom" (Matt 18:3).

During this season when we celebrate Jesus, a poor child born in stable, on a cold winter's night, I encourage you to think of our homeless brothers and sisters who are living on the frigid streets of our city. Give congregations the chance to fulfill their mission and bless our community with affordable housing so that those in need will have a decent and affordable place to live.

We wish you a happy and blessed holiday and commend you for your service to our city.

Anthony Manousos and Jill Shook
Co-Founders of MHCH

12/13/2021

Items 4,5,6,16

Jude Bautista, Dr. Gilbert Walton, Pastor Brita Pinkston (Pasadena Foursquare Church), Rev. Mike Kinman (All Saints Church), Carl Selkin (Pasadena Jewish Temple), Karen Newe (Pasadena Mennonite Church), Aleks Giragosian, Erika Nellesen (Pasadena Mennonite Church), Lindsay Dennis, David Gist (Pasadena Mennonite Church), Connie O'Donnell (St. Elizabeth Catholic Parish), Blair Miller, Ezra Muthiah (Pasadena Mennonite Church), Isabelle Muthiah (Pasadena Mennonite Church), Jochen Strach (Orange Grove Friends Meeting), Alyssa Gomez, Sam Bills (Pasadena Mennonite Church), Rev. Marcos Canales (La Fuente Ministries, Paz Naz), Rev. Rochelle Moore (First AME Church), Thea Degroot (Pasadena Mennonite Church), Brian Brenaugh (Pasadena Foursquare Church), Margaret Lee (Fellowship Church), Frank Scofield (Pasadena Mennonite Church), Kathy Leard (Pasadena Mennonite Church), Joe Bautista, Donna Sider (Pasadena Mennonite Church), and Dan Sharp (Pasadena Mennonite Church).

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Affordable housing news, action update, and a joy!

December 10, 2021



"I have lived in Pasadena my whole life, which is about 12 years. I support affordable housing because my family and I like to go out and give away food and talk to people who live outside. I want to make sure that there are housing units for them that aren't too expensive...If we rezone church land, those churches can build more affordable housing units on their land, giving the people that me and my family meet with every weekend a chance of a home that isn't unreasonably expensive."

~ Jude Bautista testifying at City Council on Monday, Dec 6, 2021



**CHANGE
IS GONNA COME**



**Affordable Housing
for All!**



Dear friends, supporters, and attenders of our annual celebration,

We thank for signing up and/or attending our celebration "Change Is Gonna Come" this past Sunday, Dec. 5th. Thanks to friends and supporters like you, we can say with Sam Cooke, "Yes, it will!"

We're looking forward to a new year in which there will be significant changes, such as rezoning congregational land for affordable housing, starting a Community Land Trust, expanding our Safe Parking program, and much more. However, we can't do this work without additional staff. We hope to hire a part-time Project Coordinator as soon as possible.

So, if you are able and willing, prayerfully consider helping reach our goal of \$25,000 by the end of this month. We are two thirds of the way there, with over \$15,000 donated so far. Your support will make it possible for us to expand our housing justice efforts.

Also please share with your friends our livestream YouTube video of the Dec. 5, Sunday afternoon annual celebration: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ABAQ58RVR3c>; The video turned out great, thanks to the Four Square Church technical staff!

For those of you with limited time, enjoy watching/passing on the 8-minute video about MHCH we showed on Sunday: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iAg1A-dcKE4>

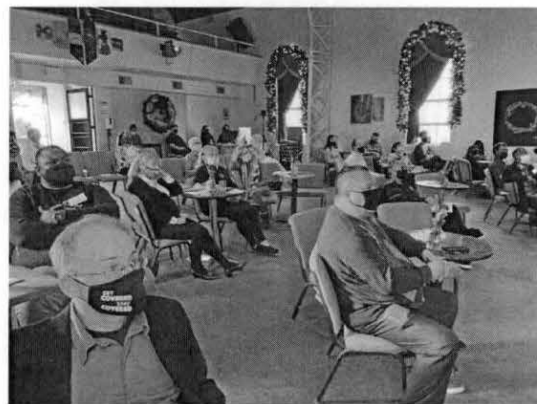
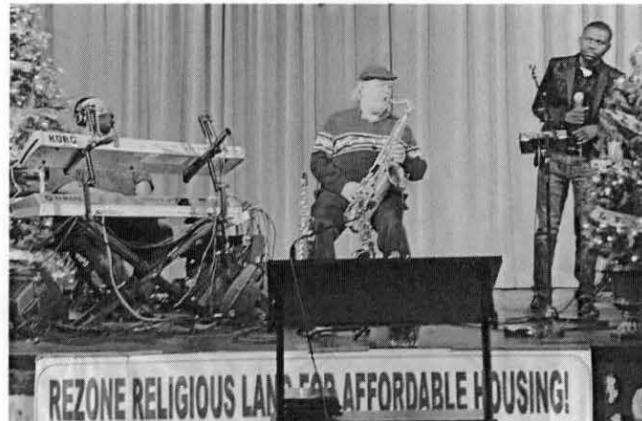
And here's the 23-minute version that we showed at our on-line annual celebration on Nov 30th: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=alfSzcr7DRs> We are very proud of Morgan Duff Tucker's excellent work with Kevin Roman our summer intern on these beautifully done videos

Let's spread the word about what we're doing for housing justice in our city and beyond!

*With joy,
Jill Shook and Anthony Manousos*

CLICK HERE to learn more about our work and to donate to MHCH

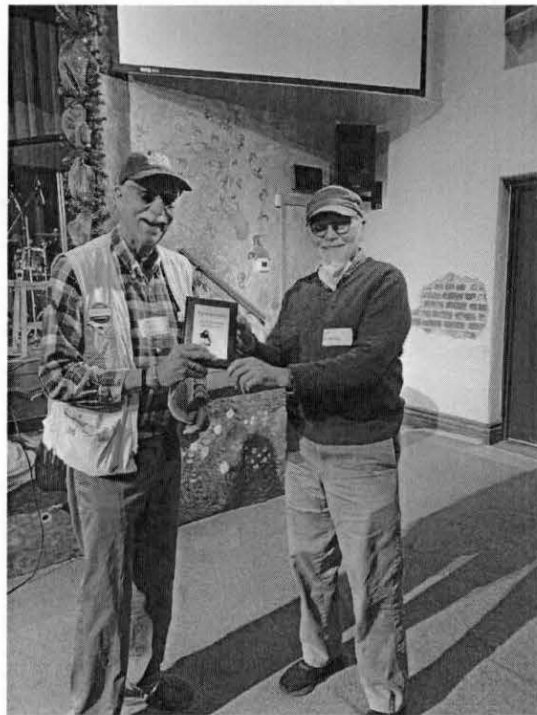
We'd like to share some of the joyful highlights of this week's MHCH "Change is Gonna Come" celebration with pictures of our musicians, volunteers, supporters and "Housing Justice Rockstars." It takes a village to address our housing crisis!





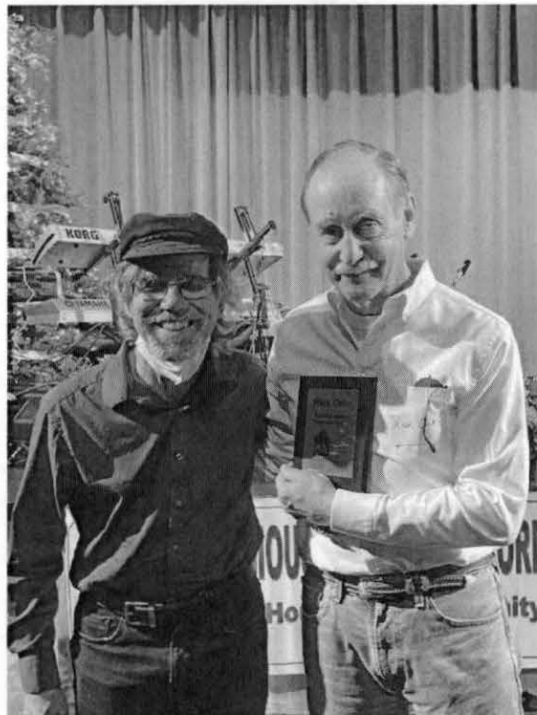
Above: (Right to left) Vocalist Thierry Nkwansambu, saxophonist David Thomasson, and keyboard player Juan Tyus. Jill Shook sharing highlights of the year.

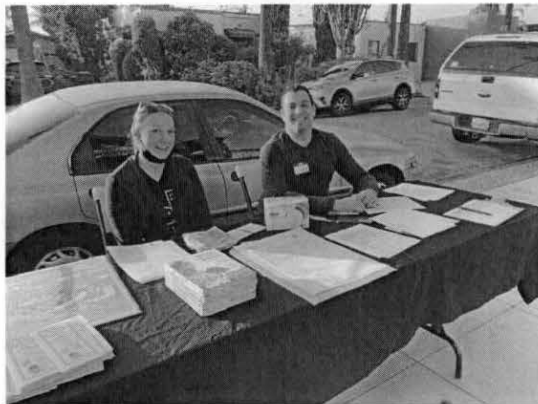
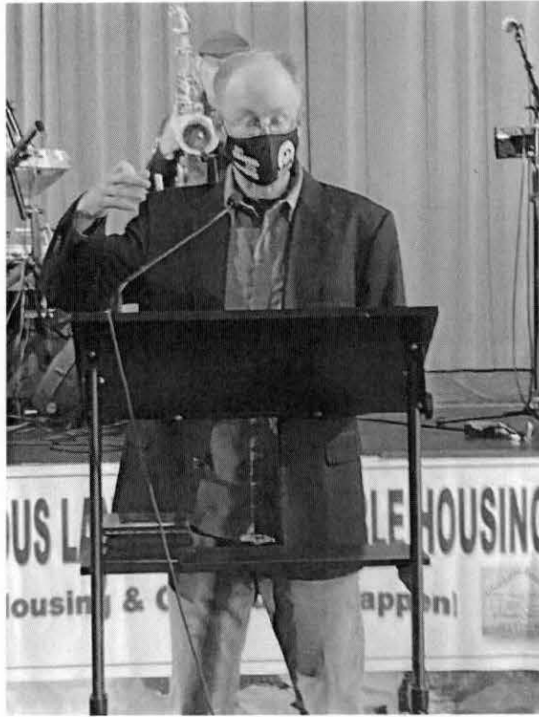
Below (left) Tom Petersmeyer gives award to Ed Washatka and (right) Jill gives award to Pastor Brita Pinkston.





Below: Anthony giving award to Rick Cole and Bert Newton being our emcee





We want to extend our thanks to volunteers who brought food, helped with set up, etc.: Hannah Petrie, Maria Kowal, Joe Bautista, Andrew Slocum and Andrea Swann, Connie O'Donnell and others. We also want to thank Pasadena Foursquare Tech Support Nate Pinkston, Max and Jasmine Boyle.



This Sunday, Dec. 5, Jill received an "Advocacy Award" from Family Promise of the San Gabriel Valley, a nonprofit that temporarily houses unsheltered families in churches and works with them to find permanent housing. Jill helped recruit congregations for this highly successful program that has had a long-lasting impact on the lives of families. She received certificate of recognition for her work from Susan Rubio, Senator 22nd District.





ACTION ITEMS FOR MONDAY, DECEMBER 13

The housing crisis is complex and requires multiple solutions. Please take a couple of minutes and write to our City Council at correspondence@cityofpasadena.net. Let them know that you support these four measures to alleviate our city's housing crisis: affordable ADUs, more vouchers for those experiencing homelessness, and rental assistance for those facing eviction. See more details below. Please also write to the Council letting them know you support rezoning religious property for affordable housing.

We at MHCH support SB 9, which would allow homeowners to split their lots and build up to four units on an existing lot. This increased density would help lower housing costs without dramatically changing the character of neighborhoods, as some opponents allege. A Turner Study indicates that only 5% of lots could be used feasibly for this purpose, and most homeowners would not choose this option. However, gradually, over time, hundreds of thousands of new housing units would likely be built statewide, thereby addressing the pressing need for more housing. The impact on Pasadena would be gradual and gentle, like the building of ADUs.

Item #4 on City Council agenda. ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT LOAN PILOT PROGRAM ("PROGRAM") – ADDITIONAL PROGRAM FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$200,000 AND INCREASE IN PROGRAM LOAN CAPS. We at MHCH totally support this program. Write and express thanks to the Housing Department for this award-winning program that incentivizes the building of affordable ADUs for low-income Section 8 voucher holders. Do you know

someone with an unpermitted garage ADUs that needs to be brought up to code (renting to Section 8 is not required)? This program will help make garage ADUs safer as well as help low-income home owners. This program deserves increased funding to meet the rising cost of construction.

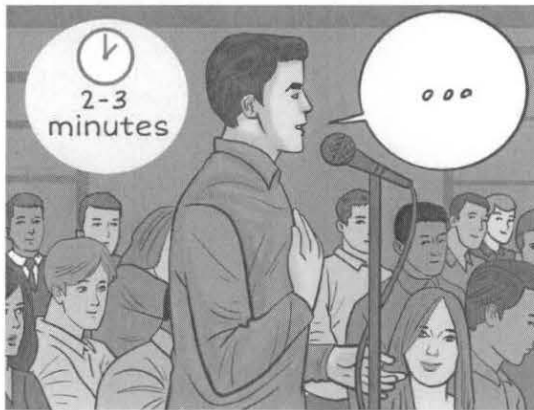
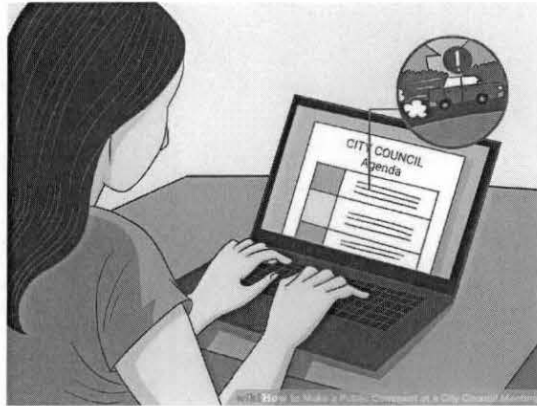
Item #5: RECOGNIZE AND APPROPRIATE \$150,000 OF HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP ACT-AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDS TO THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT'S FISCAL YEAR 2022 OPERATING BUDGET. We have a stellar housing department, and we feel strongly that they deserve extra funding!

Item # 6. APPROPRIATE \$957,024 IN EMERGENCY HOUSING VOUCHER (EHV) FUNDING TO THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT'S FISCAL YEAR 2022 OPERATING BUDGET. While we support funding for vouchers to help our homeless neighbors, we also urge the City to apply for more funding since this amount does not meet the urgent need. The City also need to find funding for supportive services that are needed to help the unhoused to transition to permanent housing.

Item # 16. Adopt "AN INTERIM URGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PASADENA PERTAINING TO CONSTRUCTION OF MULTIPLE DWELLINGS ON SINGLE-FAMILY ZONED PARCELS PURSUANT TO SENATE BILL 9. We at MHCH support SB 9 because we feel that it will help lower the cost of housing. As Planning Dept. Director David Reyes pointed out, building a smaller home on a smaller subdivided lot is bound to reduce the cost of housing. This will make housing more affordable to the "missing middle" and moderate-income home buyers. Please write and express your support for SB 9 and urge the City not to try to thwart its implementation.

Testify for Housing Justice

You can make a significant difference by sharing for 2-3 minutes via Zoom at city council meetings or by sending an email.



Help interested churches have affordable housing built on their underutilized land by advocating for the "by-right" rezoning of congregational land for affordable housing.

If you can commit to making a public comment, please call, email, or text me:

[Redacted contact information]

or

I will review the details and message with you.

If you are unable to speak at a council meeting, please send an email to the city clerk, the mayor, and council members:

correspondence@cityofpasadena.net, vgordo@cityofpasadena.net,
awilson@cityofpasadena.net, jerivas@cityofpasadena.net,

gmasuda@cityofpasadena.net, fwilliams@cityofpasadena.net,
smadison@cityofpasadena.net,
johnjkennedy@cityofpasadena.net, thampton@cityofpasadena.net.

Please bcc us at

For talking points and other information [CLICK HERE](#)

We want to recognize the following people who have testified in the last three months: Jude Bautista, Dr. Gilbert Walton, Pastor Brita Pinkston (Pasadena Foursquare Church), Rev. Mike Kinman (All Saints Church), Carl Selkin (Pasadena Jewish Temple), Karen Newe (Pasadena Mennonite Church), Aleks Giragosian, Erika Nellesen (Pasadena Mennonite Church), Lindsay Dennis, David Gist (Pasadena Mennonite Church), Connie O'Donnell (St. Elizabeth Catholic Parish), Blair Miller, Ezra Muthiah (Pasadena Mennonite Church), Isabelle Muthiah (Pasadena Mennonite Church), Jochen Strach (Orange Grove Friends Meeting), Alyssa Gomez, Sam Bills (Pasadena Mennonite Church), Rev. Marcos Canales (La Fuente Ministries, Paz Naz), Rev. Rochelle Moore (First AME Church), Thea Degroot (Pasadena Mennonite Church), Brian Brenaugh (Pasadena Foursquare Church), Margaret Lee (Fellowship Church), Frank Scofield (Pasadena Mennonite Church), Kathy Leard (Pasadena Mennonite Church), Joe Bautista, Donna Sider (Pasadena Mennonite Church), and Dan Sharp (Pasadena Mennonite Church).

and a Joy

It was a Joy to collaborate with Lincoln Avenue Christian Church to get letters and petitions signed last week! The Church hands out food to approximately 125 households per week through their meals program.



Pam Wilson, the MHCH Liaison, and First Lady Constance Cooper made it possible for us and our partners from the Pasadena Tenants Union (PTU) to collect letters and signatures from program participants. We collected 44 letters to support rezoning church land for affordable housing as well as signatures on the petition to get rent control for Pasadena on the ballot in the next election.



We invite you to become a member of MHCH. Click [HERE](#) to see our updated membership form and learn more ways you can make a difference!

Share on social



makinghousinghappen.org 

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<http://www.simplelists.com/confirm.php?u=V81JegTjEIDic6dIUWBbvtsQy6newZxZ>

October 3, 2021

Dear Mayor and City Council members,

I want to commend you for approving the Civic Center property for 112 units of affordable senior housing (Item 12 on the 10/4/21 agenda). I am glad that you have chosen National Core as the developer since they do excellent work and will make our city proud.

This project is an important step towards meeting our city's housing crisis, but much more is urgently needed. As you know, the Regional Housing Needs Assessment requires that Pasadena plan for over 6,000 units of affordable housing in the next eight years.

Seven churches here in Pasadena have stepped up to offer their land for affordable housing, but they all need a zone change to make this feasible. I urge you to approve a zoning amendment for congregational land to allow affordable housing to be built by right. A by right zoning change, like the one in Seattle, should take into consideration the character of each neighborhood to ensure that projects fit well (like Marv's Place). A by-right zone change will reduce costs and make affordable housing dollars stretch further so that needed units can be built.

I urge you to place this zoning amendment on the agenda as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



DAVID LEHMAN

Member of Pasadena Mennonite Church

October 3, 2021

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Sincerely,

Shu-Yuan Lian

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Sincerely,

Elain B. Kaled

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Sincerely, *Robert Williams*

Pasadena, Calif. 91104

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Marna Cornell

Sincerely,

Pasadena, CA 91104

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Robert Crenell

PASADENA, CA 91104

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Pasadena CT 9/15/2021

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carla Marr', written in a cursive style.

Carla Marr

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Sincerely,

Charles A. Williams
1000 ...
Pasadena, Ca 91104

October 3, 2021

Dear Mayor and City Council members,

I want to commend you for approving the Civic Center property for 112 units of affordable senior housing (Item 12 on the 10/4/21 agenda). I am glad that you have chosen National Core as the developer since they do excellent work and will make our city proud.

This project is an important step towards meeting our city's housing crisis, but much more is urgently needed. As you know, the Regional Housing Needs Assessment requires that Pasadena plan for over 6,000 units of affordable housing in the next eight years.

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Sincerely,

Tom Petersmeyer *TF*
member Neighborhood
Church

October 3, 2021

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Sincerely,



Byong Lee

Holliston UMC member

October 3, 2021

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Sincerely,



Anna Kang

1111 E. ...
Pasadena, CA 91101

October 3, 2021

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I urge you to place this zoning amendment on the agenda as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jake Kim". The signature is written in a cursive style with some loops and flourishes.

Holliston Church
Jake Kim

October 3, 2021

Dear Mayor and City Council members,

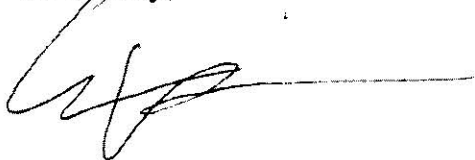
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Sincerely,

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October 2, 2021

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I urge you to place this zoning amendment on the agenda as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Tim Yoo

Holliston UMC

Pasadena, CA

October 3, 2021

Dear Mayor and City Council members,

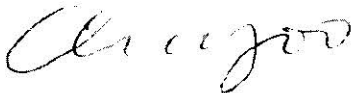
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Sincerely,



Chris Yoo

Holliston UMC

Pasadena, CA

October 3, 2021

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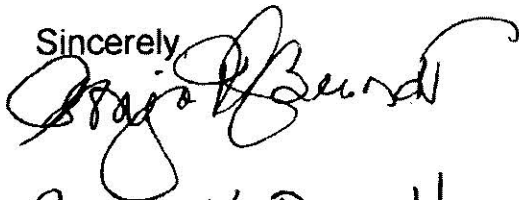
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Sincerely,



Sonja K. Bernott
Pasadena Resident
District 4

October 3, 2021

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Sincerely,

Jeffrey H. Ztter

PASADENA, CA. 91107

October 3, 2021

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Sincerely,

Edward H. ...

*Co-Chair
PLP Housing Justice Committee*

October 3, 2021

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Sincerely,

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December 5, 2021

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council members,

I am pleased that our city has over 1,000 units of affordable housing in the pipeline, thanks to your efforts and the admirable work of our Housing Department. But as you know, we desperately need more affordable housing in Pasadena—with 527 of our neighbors counted as unhoused in 2020, and over 6,000 affordable units needed in the next eight years, according to state's Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA). This may seem impossible, but I feel that with God, and our wholehearted commitment, nothing is impossible.

Churches across Pasadena are stepping up to offer their land for affordable housing, but they need the zoning to be changed to allow them to realize their vision of serving the community.

For this reason, I urge you to adopt a citywide zoning amendment that will allow congregations to have affordable housing built "by right" rather than going through a full Council approval process. This amendment will establish appropriate development standards to ensure that any affordable housing is built in size and scale suitable for each unique neighborhood.

This zoning change will speed up the process of building much needed housing by several years and can save hundreds of thousands of dollars per project, thereby making affordable housing dollars stretch further so that more can be built.

Please agendize and approve this policy as soon as possible since the need is urgent. Thank you for your service to our community!

Respectfully,

Kimberly Douglas

Address and/or religious affiliation

All Saints

Comments:

This is an example of creative problem solving that had to be taken seriously.

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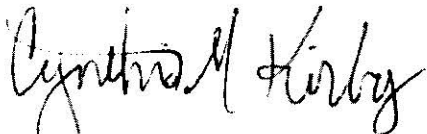
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Address and/or religious affiliation

Comments:

Pasadena, CA 91101

First Baptist Church Pasadena
Union Station Homeless Services

Board Member

Chair - Lived Expertise Advisory Panel

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Respectfully,



Address and/or religious affiliation

Pasadena 91106

Comments:

Pasadena Foursquare Church

December 5, 2021

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Respectfully,

Connie Otonari

Address and/or religious affiliation

*11
Pasadena, CA 91001*

Comments:

*St. Elizabeth Parish
Pasadena*