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LINDA VISTA-ANNANDALE ASSOCIATION 2021 MAY 24 AM 10:40

CITY CLERK
CITY OF PASADENA

May 24, 2021

City Council, City of Pasadena

Re: City Council Meeting 5/24/2021; Agenda Item 22., Ed Tech Committee: Workforce Housing Implementation

Mayor Gordo and Council Members,

I am pleased to report that the Board of Directors of the Linda Vista-Annandale Association (LVAA) at its meeting recently agreed to SUPPORT the proposed Rental Workforce ("Missing Middle") Housing Project involving the acquisition of the Pasadena Westgate Apartments Phase II and III and Hudson buildings. Therefore, LVAA SUPPORTS Agenda Item 1 on the Agenda for your May 18 meeting which involves adoption of essential steps in the implementation of the proposed project.

LVAA strongly supports the addition of such a significant amount of assisted Workforce Housing to Pasadena's housing stock. This form of housing is needed for Pasadena's teachers, public safety personnel, medical personnel, City and other government employees, and other, similar essential "middle" workers. We also like the fact that there will be no need to build new, out of character and out of scale buildings to provide these units; and, that a number of the units will be 3-bedroom family units. Further, Pasadena's financial investment in the proposed project will be relatively small considering the large number of resulting "missing middle" units.

On the other hand, we observe two negative aspects that we suggest staff address. First, LVAA hopes that there might be some way to convert some or all of these units from rental to ownership in the future. We observe that ownership is essential to building equity, thereby, building financial wealth and security.

Second, sooner rather than later, these many units must be counted for RHNA purposes and the RHNA rules changed. to recognize, count and credit conversions like this proposed project. We urge the City to aggressively advocate for and pursue changes to the RHNA rules to enable crediting all these units for RHNA purposes.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

Nina Chomsky

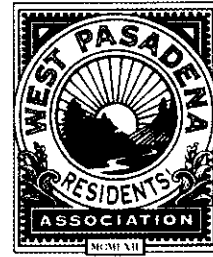
Nina Chomsky, LVAA President
cc: LVAA Board of Directors

05/24/2021
Item 22

RECEIVED

2021 MAY 24 PM 3:49

CITY CLERK
CITY OF PASADENA



May 22, 2021

Mayor Victor Gordo
Members of the City Council
Via Email

WPRA Supports "Missing Middle" Housing Proposal

Honorable Mayor and Council Members –

The West Pasadena Residents' Association enthusiastically supports the proposal for the City of Pasadena to enter into agreements with the CSCDA Community Improvement Authority and the California Community Housing Agency for the acquisition of The Hudson and the Westgate 2 and 3 properties for conversion to moderate- and workforce-income housing (Item 22, Council agenda May 24, 2021).

Pasadena needs moderate-income and workforce-income housing so that those who work here can afford to participate in the community. Unlike low-income housing with its government subsidies and market rate housing which has access to commercial funding, the "missing middle" bracket of housing has a deficit of financial support.

Importantly, the proposal would result in 513 much-needed moderate- and workforce-income units without requiring new construction. It will also allow the current non-qualifying tenants to remain in their units for the duration of their leases, providing for a smoother transition.

The proposal seems wisely structured to protect the City's interests. With purchase ownership and management of the units conducted by the Joint Powers Authorities, the City has the option of taking title in the future. No City capital or subsidy funding is required.

WPRA firmly believes there are many solutions to Pasadena's housing needs beyond one-size-fits-all mandates. This innovative approach helps prove the point.

Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Beal".

Dan Beal, President
For the Board of Directors

C: William Huang, Housing Director

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Item 22

The WPRA is an all-volunteer organization dedicated to maintaining and enhancing the quality of life in southwest Pasadena. We represent 7,000 households, including 1,000 paid members.

**WEST PASADENA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
POST OFFICE BOX 50252 • PASADENA, CA 91115**

Martinez, Ruben

From: Anthony Manousos
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 3:58 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Cc: Gordo, Victor; Hampton, Tyron; Kennedy, John; Madison, Steve; Masuda, Gene; Rivas, Jessica; Williams, Felicia; Wilson, Andy; andrec@pasadenanowmagazine.com; Jomsky, Mark; sonja.berndt19@gmail.com
Subject: Re: City Council Meeting Correspondence 5/24/21: Agenda Item #25 -- FY 2022 Operating Budget

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Dear Mayor Gordo and City Council members,

A week ago I attended the Black Lives Matter rally at City Hall and was deeply moved by the speakers, which included George Floyd's lawyer, his brother and the family of Anthony McClain. I was concerned that the Council Meeting was canceled "out of an abundance of caution" as if this peaceful rally posed a threat to city staff. I was also disappointed that only one Council member attended this vigil--Tyron Hampton. He was there to listen and to be supportive, and I am proud that he represents me.

As I wrote in an op ed piece published in the Pasadena Star News, I feel that a change, a big change, needs to come here to our city and to our country right now. We need to take seriously calls to reimagine policing and transfer funds from the bloated police budget to much needed services, like housing and education and health care. A change needs to come, and it needs to come now.

A change needs to come to our police departments. Police need to be held accountable for their misdeeds just like the rest of us. The Police Chief of Minneapolis had the moral courage to say that what police did to George Floyd was not in keeping with police ethics or protocols, or with the law. When will our Chief of Police have similar courage and speak out about the savage beating of Christopher Ballew and the murder of Anthony McClain, not to mention Reginald Thomas and Kendrec McDade? How much longer will our city leaders make excuses for inexcusable behavior by police?

I write this with due respect because I know you care deeply about our city and racial justice. I believe that in your hearts you want to do the right thing, but out of an "abundance of caution" you sometimes keep quiet to avoid controversy. I think you are probably aware that this is not the time to redecorate the police building or provide a fancier helicopter. This is a time when we need to allocate resources where they are urgently needed. Please consider the city budget as a moral document. Please consider the most vulnerable in our city. Black lives really do matter.

Respectfully yours,

Anthony Manousos

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Item 22