From:	director Friends In Deed <director@friendsindeedpas.org>
Sent:	Tuesday, June 23, 2020 3:53 PM
To:	Molinar, Tess
Subject:	Comment for planning commission

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Dear Members of the Pasadena Planning Commission,

My name is Rabbi Joshua Levine Grater and I'm the Executive Director of Friends In Deed.

I am writing in support of amending church zoning codes to address our growing housing and homelessness crisis.

I encourage the Planning Commission to support zoning changes on church properties to allow ancillary structures or trailers to create affordable housing. Such changes will allow churches to help house their members and their neighbors. Now is the time for bold, creative and emergency measures to address the pressing humanitarian crisis in our city.

I also encourage the Planning Commission to be creative in other solutions to our growing homelessness crisis. Examples include lifting code enforcements restricting the ability to have "safe parking" locations in Pasadena. Safe parking is a model readily used in Santa Barbara and Los Angeles that creates a safe space with rules and case managers and allows individuals to sleep in safety and security.

Together with the faith communities, we want to work together to provide and implement sensible and doable solutions. There is significant amounts of money available and now is the time to act. I have also been made aware that funding is being allocated for cities to purchase motels and activate them immediately for homeless individuals.

I look forward to your support and know that we stand ready to join arm in arm to date for the most vulnerable in our beloved city.

Sincerely,
Rabbi Joshua Levine Grater
--
Rabbi Joshua Levine Grater
Executive Director, Friends in Deed

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'Doing Together What We Can't Do Alone'