

July 6, 2020

Dear Planning Commissioner,

My name is Althea Williams. I am a member of the Saint Barnabas Church, located at 1062 North Fair Oaks Ave. Pasadena, CA 91103.

I am writing to express my support for having high quality affordable housing built on congregational land. I support churches in my neighborhood wishing to do this.

An overlay zone would allow congregations to build affordable housing. Seven churches in Pasadena are interested. This will allow churches to build affordable housing more quickly and less expensively. It could save over \$100,000.00 in cost per development, save at least a year getting it built, and provide the certainty needed to attract a highly qualified developer. Other cities like San Diego are also creating citywide zone changes to allow congregational land to be used for affordable housing.

I'm glad to support the desire of churches to help address the affordable/homeless housing crisis we are currently facing. The 2020 homeless count was 527; studies show that there is an expectation of 45% increase in homelessness due to the pandemic. Churches play a vital role in the community and are interested in contributing to quality of life improvements for all.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Althea Williams', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.