

Molinar, Tess

From: Anthony Manousos <interfaithquaker@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, July 6, 2020 11:10 AM
To: Molinar, Tess; jill@makinghousinghappen.com
Subject: Overlay Zone to allow churches to have affordable housing built on church land

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Dear Planning Commissioner,

My name is Anthony Manousos and I am a resident of Northwest Pasadena and a member of the the Orange Grove Quaker Meeting which is deeply committed to seeing homelessness ended in our city.

We are in a looming housing crisis that could cause homelessness to increase by 45% by the end of this year, according to a recent Columbia University Study. Union Station and other service providers are already seeing a spike in homelessness and are calling on churches and people of conscience to advocate for emergency measures to alleviate this crisis.

This is not a time for "business as usual." While I appreciate the need for public input and changes in the specific plan, these changes take time and right now time is not on our side. We need to be proactive and prepare for an unprecedented housing crisis caused by the economic fallout from the Covid pandemic. I don't think anyone wants to see hundreds of more people sleeping on the streets and in the bushes of our city.

That's why I am writing to express my support for having high quality affordable housing built on congregational land.

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 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 throughout the city 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.

Yours in friendship and peace,

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"Common folk, not statesmen, nor generals, nor great men of affairs, but just simple men and women, if they devote themselves ... can do something to build a better peaceful world."--Henry Cadbury, 1947"

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The humble, meek, merciful, just, pious, and devout souls are everywhere of one religion; and when death has taken off the mask, they will know one another, though the liveries they wear here make them strangers."--William Penn.

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