

Dear Planning Commission,

We are writing to express our support for having high quality affordable housing built on congregational land. We would support churches in our neighborhood wishing to do this. Studies show that getting housing can uplift individuals and families out of homeless poverty and into tax-paying, productive citizens. This plan leaves it up to individual does not mandate anything.

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 \$100,00 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.

We're 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.

Please continue making this happen as soon as possible. The cost in human suffering and the city budget will rise if we aren't creative and Immediate in addressing the ongoing and increasing homeless problem.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Marna and Robert Cornell