

## Molinar, Tess

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**From:** Connie Millsap <cmillsap@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 5:09 PM  
**To:** Molinar, Tess  
**Subject:** Overlay Zoning on Church Land

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Dear Mayor and Council Members:

Churches have a successful track record of partnering with affordable housing developers to provide affordable dwellings on their excess land. Some churches have already put parking lots, buildings constructed for congregational use, and other space on their property to higher and better use by developing affordable housing. In partnership with National Core (which developed Marv's Place on Pasadena) the UMC church in Santa Ana will be providing 96 units, half for families and half for those experiencing homelessness. Churches are doing this because they are called to serve the community and particularly its most vulnerable residents. Yet at the same time, they are also often able to generate a modest level of economic benefit that stabilizes these often struggling, but longstanding and critical institutions of our social fabric. In some cases, affordable housing developers have even provided additional parking for the church or developed other community uses on the site. Adopting an overlay zone that would enable churches feeling so led, to provide affordable housing on their property. Such a policy would make the process more straightforward, facilitate high quality partnerships with affordable housing developers; then creating much needed affordable housing.

Sincerely,  
Rev. Connie Millsap  
First United Methodist Church, Pasadena  
Liaison to Making Housing and Community Happen