

Davoodian, Anashe

To: Flores, Valerie
Subject: RE: Item number 3, local preference policy.

From: Bert Newton <bert@makinghousinghappen.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2021 10:42 AM
To: Robles, Sandra <sarobles@cityofpasadena.net>
Cc: Jill Shook <jill@makinghousinghappen.org>
Subject: Item number 4, local preference policy.

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Dear Economic Development and Technology Committee,

I strongly support the staff recommendation to bump up the priority for affordable housing for people who have been displaced.

Affordable housing is supposed to allow people to remain in Pasadena, but it is being built too slowly to stop most of the displacement. Already thousands of people have had to move out of the city to find affordable housing (I personally know one family that is moving to Canada for that reason!)

This has fallen hardest on the African American Community. You've heard the stats many times, but between 2000 and 2015 we lost 25% of our African American community. I haven't seen any figures for the last five years, but since the affordable housing crisis has only gotten worse, I can only imagine that the figure will be much higher.

This new policy will help some of the people who have been displaced move back to Pasadena.

Also, I heard that this item was being pulled from the agenda for lack of public input, but I don't know how we are to make comments when it keeps getting pulled from the agenda. The people that I talk to about this are very concerned.

Please put this back on the agenda and show support for this staff recommendation.

Thank you for all your hard work and service to the community.

Bert Newton
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