

Feb 23, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

We reside at Monte Vista Grove Homes (MVGH) here in Pasadena and attend All Saints Episcopal Church as well as watch online worship services of the San Marino Community Church.

From a faith perspective, we encourage you to take all steps necessary to ensure that more affordable housing be created in Pasadena. Very few of the MVGH staff can afford to live here, which means a longer commute for them. We are also aware of people who have had to move elsewhere because housing costs in Pasadena are so high.

We are very pleased to know that a number of churches across Pasadena are stepping up to offer their land for affordable housing. However, they need your help to change the zoning so that they can indeed implement their ideas. This zoning change will speed up the process of building the housing needed and will make the process considerably less expensive. That would make affordable housing dollars stretch further so that even more units could be built.

The developers who build affordable housing projects are usually non-profits who can't afford to build low-density projects or spend time and money on a lengthy bureaucratic process only to have the whole thing shot down by neighbors. These nonprofit developers need zoning to provide sufficient density and an approval process that is not lengthy -- and is predictable, i.e., "by right." If the new policy does not provide these things, then it will not result in the affordable housing that is desperately needed in Pasadena..

Thank you for your service to our community and for considering our comments.

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