

## Varsh, Tess

---

**From:** Rob Muthiah <rob.muthiah@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 22, 2021 5:02 PM  
**To:** Varsh, Tess  
**Subject:** comment for this week's planning commission meeting

**CAUTION:** This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you *know* the content is safe. Report phish using the Phish Alert Button. [Learn more...](#)

My name is Rob Muthiah and I am a member of Pasadena Mennonite Church.

I am writing to address item #5 on the agenda – to provide more affordable housing in Pasadena.

We need a full mix of people in different economic levels to have a healthy community. It is unjust to make those at the lower end travel in order to work and serve those at the higher end.

Also, my own children who are now young adults have a desire to return and live in this area, but currently that is a tough reality because they will have trouble affording housing in the city they grew up in.

As you know, many churches in Pasadena are willing to make some of their land available for affordable housing, but they need the zoning to be changed to let them do that. This zoning change will speed up the process of building the housing we need and will make the process considerably less expensive, which makes affordable housing dollars stretch further so that more can be built.

The developers who build affordable housing projects are usually nonprofits 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 the 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 facilitate the affordable housing that we desperately need.

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

Best,  
Rob Muthiah