

Varsh, Tess

From: Erica Nellessen <erica.nellessen@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2021 12:41 PM
To: Varsh, Tess
Subject: Item #5 on Agenda: Zoning Comment

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Good Afternoon,

My name is Erica Nellessen and I am a proud Pasadena resident and member of Pasadena Mennonite Church, and social worker at a local NGO.

I am writing to address item #5 on the agenda.

We desperately need more affordable housing in Pasadena! Our church used to be full of Pasadena residents, but many of them have had to move away because housing costs are so high!

Churches across Pasadena are stepping up to offer their land 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.

Erica Nellessen