

Varsh, Tess

From: Virgil Nelson <drcongovir@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2021 12:40 PM
To: Varsh, Tess
Subject: Testimony for item #5 on Planning and Community Development Agenda

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Dear Members of the Pasadena Planning Commission:

Creating a zoning overlay to allow churches to construct affordable housing (AH) by right , will JUMP START the City's RHNA mandated need to construct **9,500** units of AH.

Granting permission to proceed to the 15 churches ALREADY interested, will result in **over 1,000 units of AH**, which is **already over 10% of the City's mandated goal!!!**

-Creating the Zoning Overlay requires **NO NEW BUDGET EXPENSE.**

-It's existence will **SAVE** the Planning commission an incredible amount of **STAFF TIME AND MONEY by NOT** having to review each church's application for a zoning variance.

-It will NOT reduce the number of parcels already zoned for AH.

-It will INCREASE DENSITY thus saving land for other uses.

-it will often increase economic and ethnic diversity in the neighborhood.

We urge you will work with Making Housing Happen to facilitate meeting the RHNA mandates by creating this zoning overlay.

From Rev. Virgil Nelson, Placer People of Faith Together, Placer County

PS- Thousand Oaks just approved 52 AH units to be constructed on Seventh Day Adventist Land. The City is excited to see churches stepping forward to help meet their RHNA goals for affordable housing .