

**Varsh, Tess**

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**From:** Tom Petersmeyer <tom@makinghousinghappen.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2021 1:20 PM  
**To:** Varsh, Tess  
**Subject:** PASADENA PLANNING COMMISSION, FEB. 24 ZONING TO ALLOW CHURCHES TO BUILD AFFORDABLE HOUSING

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Feb. 24, 2021

**TO THE PASADENA PLANNING COMMISSION.**

My name is Tom Petersmeyer, and I am a member of Neighborhood Unitarian Universalist Church, Pasadena.

We desperately need more affordable housing in Pasadena!

Our churches 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.

Tom Petersmeyer