

2/23/21

Pasadena City Planners

Re: Agenda Item #5

My name is Richard Williams and I am a member New Life Holiness Church located at 2005 North Fair Oaks Avenue, Pasadena 91103. The neighborhood is predominately low income, minority occupied.

I am writing to express my support for building affordable housing on church land. I have witnessed the decline in church membership and attendance at my church largely because families are moving to cities where they can afford to pay the rent. Pasadena needs more affordable housing.

Our church has offered to repurpose three lots of our land to build units for affordable residential use. I understand that there are other congregations in Pasadena that are willing to build on their land as well. I would like to see a change in the zoning ordinances that would grant churches the approval for such endeavors "by right".

Our community is suffering, and the church is willing to help. Please consider the needed zoning change so that the church and the community can remain sustainable and vibrant.

Thank you for your service and for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Richard Williams