

From: City Web
Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2021 11:18 AM
To: Duyshart, Eric; Robles, Sandra
Subject: Public Comment for Economic Development & Technology Committee meeting on February 25, 2021 about agenda item 1

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Select one City legislative body for the comment Economic Development & Technology Committee

Meeting Date February 25, 2021

Agenda Item 1

Name Sonja K Berndt

Email

City Pasadena

State CA

Zip Code 91107

Comments (under 200 words) Thank you for placing on today's agenda the issue of our City's local Preference and Priority System Guidelines for its affordable housing programs. I also want to thank the Housing Department for the report and the recommendation to modify the guidelines to account for the impacts of housing displacement created by high housing costs and gentrification. I urge the Committee to approve the recommendation to bump up to #1 the priority for former residents who were unable to remain in Pasadena, whether due to rising housing costs or gentrification. Our City must take whatever actions are necessary to rectify racial inequity in housing policies. Discriminatory practices and gentrification have had a disproportionate impact on persons of color. Secondly, I urge the Committee to

consider bumping up the priority for those involuntarily displaced from Pasadena, including due to homelessness, which is currently Priority #4, to Priority #3, not downgrade it to Priority #6. We are so far behind in housing unsheltered persons. Persons involuntarily displaced from Pasadena due to homelessness may be currently unsheltered elsewhere. Homelessness is an extremely critical local and regional issue. We need to take whatever action we can to house unhoused persons. Housing gives hope!

**I consent to have my
comment read out
loud during the
meeting.** Yes