

Varsh, Tess

From: Gloria Newton [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 9:45 PM
To: Varsh, Tess
Subject: to the Planning Commission: Reach high for affordable housing!

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My name is Gloria Newton, and I'm a 32-year resident of Pasadena and a homeowner in District 3.

I urge the Planning Commission to take seriously the RHNA requirement that 6,000 units of affordable housing be planned for in the next 8 years. Some may consider this requirement impossible to reach and feel that it is unfair for HCD to impose this requirement. But without a high bar to reach toward, we as a city run the risk of repeating the last 8 years' dismal record of issuing only 388 permits for moderate, low and very low income units. This comes out to fewer than 50 units per year! We can do better if we keep our minds open to the host of creative solutions that are being proposed, such as zoning adjustments to congregational land so that they can build affordable housing, eliminating fees for construction of accessory dwelling units, and the conversion of underutilized parking lots and commercial and office space into housing.

If our city leaders continue to cling to a "slow growth" model, we will continue to see "rapid growth" in the numbers of people experiencing homelessness, people being priced out of a city where their family has lived for generations, and people spending more than 50% of their income on housing costs. This will in turn lead to a "rapid decline" in our city's diversity, in the numbers of children in our schools, and the numbers of essential workers who can afford to live in the city they serve.

Please take the RHNA goal as a challenge and design a serious, strong plan to address the housing crisis. As you work to meet this ambitious goal, you will lift all Pasadena residents to a higher level of equality and opportunity.

Thank you for your time and commitment.

Sincerely,
Gloria Newton

"Each time a person reaches across caste and makes a connection, it helps to break the back of caste. Multiplied by millions in a given day, it becomes the flap of a butterfly wing that shifts the air and builds to a hurricane across an ocean."--Isabel Wilkerson, *Caste*

Varsh, Tess

From: Erika Foy [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2021 12:01 PM
To: Jomsky, Mark
Cc: Varsh, Tess; Rocha, Luis; Reyes, David; Paige, Jennifer
Subject: Public Comment Planning Commission 5/26/21

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PLEASE READ OUTLOUD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AT PLANNING COMMISSION

Livable Pasadena supports and echoes comments submitted by Ms. Chomsky. We ask the Planning Commission to agendize a discussion about whether Planned Developments support the evolving planning goals of the city and whether they should be permitted. Pasadena has changed since Planned Developments were first allowed. These large-scale developments create their own zoning, trigger a ripple effect on the surrounding neighborhoods, and are contrary to our new development goals. Development in Pasadena should be done thoughtfully, in consideration of bolstering the city we all love. Traffic should be mitigated, green spaces expanded and protected, housing created, and walkability encouraged. Planned Developments make sweeping changes, oftentimes with negative effects and without full consideration of all these elements. This is a question worthy of a full agendized discussion so that the community may participate meaningfully. Therefore, Livable Pasadena requests the Planning Commission to hold these discussions and to consider abolishing Planned Developments.

Megan Foker
On Behalf of Livable Pasadena