



October 6, 2021

RE: Item #1 349 First Street, Item #4 Agenda Topics

Dear Planning Commissioners,

The Los Altos Affordable Housing Alliance is committed to educating and inspiring the community to build housing affordable for our workforce. **We support the project at 349 First Street**, which would create 12 new housing units, 2 of which would be moderate income. While the project does ask for concessions on setbacks in the front and the rear, these are small concessions to add more housing to our City in the downtown corridor. **We're glad to see projects using SB 330**, and hope that as we get more housing projects, SB 330 will help to expedite them. And as you are well aware, adding to our housing especially in the downtown area contributes to the vibrancy of our city and also helps to meet our RHNA targets.

With regards to further affordable housing opportunities on the calendar of items for the Commission to discuss next year -

- We fully support the Commission reviewing the Downtown Vision Plan. **The Downtown Vision includes an affordable housing development on one of the parking plazas**; we support that project and would like to see the Commission advocate for that land usage.
- We also **fully support a Housing Element Subcommittee**. The Housing Element update is a major priority for the City in 2022 and the Planning Commission has a huge opportunity to shape the plan for land use in the next 8 years to encourage the housing that we so desperately need.
- **We urge the PC to revisit the City's parking standards**, which we believe may be a barrier to development of multi family housing. We recently learned that the Los Altos parking spots are larger than standard parking spaces. As we examine our land use for the Housing Element, and commit to eliminating barriers to development like parking requirements, we may need to revise policies concerning parking cars.
- Lastly, it should be a priority to **determine a reasonable use of the City-owned property at 999 Fremont**, so we encourage the PC to develop a set of recommendations for potential development of this parcel.

Respectfully,
The LAAHA Steering Committee

Los Altos Affordable Housing Alliance

Committed to educating and inspiring the Los Altos community to build housing that is affordable for those who live and work in Los Altos

<https://losaltosaffordablehousing.org/>