

Alberto Quintanilla

From: Hayes Shair <hayes@envisualitygroup.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 3:45 PM
To: Lily Mei; Jenny Kassan; Teresa Cox; Raj Salwan; Teresa Keng; Rick Jones - Councilmember; Yang Shao
Cc: Wayne Morris; Dan Schoenholz; Mark Danaj; CClerk
Subject: Public Comment - Consent Calendar Item 2F - Denial of Omaha Way Homes

Honorable Mayor and City Council,

My name is Hayes Shair, and I'm the applicant for the Omaha Way Homes project. Last week, at a regular City Council meeting, the Council took action to deny our 13-unit residential project. On behalf of our team, while we thank the Council and Planning Commission for their time in evaluating our proposal, we wish to express our extreme disagreement and disappointment with the decision that was rendered.

A property owner should have a reasonable expectation that a City's Zoning and General Plan would determine what uses would be permitted. Our project team worked iteratively and tirelessly with the Planning Staff for over four years, invested about \$950k in design and environmental mitigations costs, and subsequently brought forward a project that we felt was both reasonably scaled and well planned out.

The Planning Commission and City Council chose to ignore the recommendations of Planning Staff and the City's own third-party peer reviewers, resulting in a decision that was not supported based on substantial evidence. Furthermore, there was no effort to engage in a discussion of feasible alternatives, or come to a negotiated compromise.

Our team, nevertheless, remains committed and confident that a housing solution will be found and the property will be built out as originally intended. We look forward to working with Council, and our neighbors, in bringing much needed housing to our City.

Thank you for your consideration.

Hayes Shair, AIA, LEED GA
(pronouns: he/him/his)
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