

Melissa Thurman

From: Jim [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 1:31 PM
To: CouncilSB
Subject: mid-peninsula housing

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

Today the council is meeting to discuss the selling of the remaining property at the Crossings location to The Mid-Peninsula Housing Corporation. Although it is difficult to determine if this meeting is at the beginning or end stage of negotiations I would hope the Council would not replace the original plans for a hotel, at this site, with a housing development. This is not a reflection on the merit of the Mid-Peninsula Housing Corporation. The evidence is that this corporation does stellar work wherever it decides to do business. My concern is that the Council is not looking long term enough. Our city has many other opportunities to join with organizations like Mid-Pen Housing. On the other hand our city has only one piece of property that will yield money to the city coffers through the sale of the property and continue to provide general fund revenues at a rate only a hotel site can generate.

Please do not enter in to this agreement to solve immediate short term financial problems that could and should be solved by careful management of our existing revenue streams. Not only would the transition from a hotel site to a housing development be a betrayal of the original concept voted on by residents for the Crossings, which included a hotel, this agreement would eliminate a long term revenue stream the City can ill afford to lose. I also understand there is an argument that a housing development at this location would help the City to meet its State housing element goals. Isn't that why the City went to the expense to develop and put into effect its Transit Corridor Plan? I am asking the Council to have the patience to allow for longer term goals to mature and not give in to immediate relief to internal fiscal problems. Thanks Jim Evangelist [REDACTED]