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Agenda Item: ID17-492 (5:00 P.M.)

2017 APR 12 PM 4 53

Date: 4/13/17

CITY CLERK, FRESNO

## FRESNO CITY COUNCIL



### Supplemental Information Packet

Agenda Related Item(s) – ID17-492 (5:00 P.M.)

Contents of Supplement: Letter from Leadership Counsel

#### Agenda Item Title

HEARING to consider Plan Amendment Application No. A-17-001 and related environmental findings for the Housing Element Amendment, filed by the Development and Resource Management Department Director pertaining to the following:

#### **Supplemental Information:**

Any agenda related public documents received and distributed to a majority of the City Council after the Agenda Packet is printed are included in Supplemental Packets. Supplemental Packets are produced as needed. The Supplemental Packet is available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office, 2600 Fresno Street, during normal business hours (main location pursuant to the Brown Act, G.C. 54957.5(2)). In addition, Supplemental Packets are available for public review at the City Council meeting in the City Council Chambers, 2600 Fresno Street. Supplemental Packets are also available on-line on the City Clerk's website.

#### **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):**

The meeting room is accessible to the physically disabled, and the services of a translator can be made available. Requests for additional accommodations for the disabled, sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or translators should be made one week prior to the meeting. Please call City Clerk's Office at 621-7650. Please keep the doorways, aisles and wheelchair seating areas open and accessible. If you need assistance with seating because of a disability, please see Security.



April 12, 2017

Mayor Lee Brand  
Fresno City Council  
2600 Fresno St, Fresno, CA 93721

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*Sent via Email*

**RE: Council Agenda Item ID17-492, 2015-2023 Housing Element Amendment**

Mayor Brand and Councilmembers:

We are writing on behalf of our clients, Familias Addams por un Mejor Futuro, with respect to the draft amendment to the City's 2015-2023 Housing Element before you today. As you know, Familias Addams, along with many other residents and community stakeholders, have advocated for years for the City to fully engage the public in its development and implementation of housing and community development policies, identify and maintain adequate sites to meet the City's need for affordable housing, adopt strong and clearly worded programs to address the housing needs of all Fresno residents, and take action to affirmatively further fair housing by directing investment to under-resourced neighborhoods and by expanding housing choice in high opportunity areas consistent with its obligations under state and federal housing laws.

The proposed Housing Element Amendment now includes some necessary analysis and programs to achieve these ends.<sup>1</sup> Among these, the Amendment includes commitments by the City to: conduct multi-lingual outreach to obtain resident input on housing policy development and implementation; consistently maintain sufficient adequate sites with appropriate sizes and zoning to meet the housing needs of all Fresno residents; accommodate the City's unmet lower-income housing need from the prior housing element planning period with adequate sites available for multi-family development by right; facilitate the preservation of affordable and high quality mobile home park units; monitor and adopt policies to prevent resident and business displacement resulting from Downtown revitalization; invest in infrastructure and service provision in the neighborhoods with the greatest need; and zone land, coordinate with the Housing Authority and affordable housing developers, and direct funding to create housing opportunities in high opportunity neighborhoods.

Familias Addams will continue to work to ensure that the City implements each of the Amended Housing Element's programs in a timely, transparent, and comprehensive manner in partnership with residents and community stakeholders throughout the City. The law requires no less, and the City's fulfillment of its duty to its constituents to advance access to safe and affordable housing opportunities for all residents depends on it.

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<sup>1</sup>According to statements made by City staff at the Planning Commission hearing on April 10, 2017, the proposed Housing Element Amendment includes the additions and revisions identified in the Revised March 2017 Public Review Draft Housing Element Amendment as modified by the revisions to Chapter 3 and Programs 12A, 16, and 27 identified in the "Final Revisions to the Housing Element" included in the Supplemental Materials Packet posted on the City Council webpage for this agenda item.

Mayor Lee Brand  
Fresno City Council  
April 12, 2017  
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Sincerely,



Ashley Werner  
Senior Attorney  
Leadership Counsel for  
Justice and Accountability



Craig Castellanet  
Staff Attorney  
Public Interest Law Project

