From: <u>Charu Chaubal</u>
To: <u>Housing Element</u>

Subject: support for additional housing

Date: Wednesday, October 4, 2023 7:25:20 AM

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support for the approval of additional housing construction in Goleta. The need for more housing has become increasingly clear, and it is imperative that we take proactive steps to address this matter.

One of the pressing concerns is the plight of essential workers who no longer can afford to live in the place in which they provide their services. Furthermore, it is crucial that we pave the way for our children and younger generations to have the opportunity to reside in our city. Providing them with affordable housing options is essential for the sustainability of our community. Introducing higher density housing options would not only diversify our housing stock but also free up single-family homes for families, instead of being occupied by multiple single renters.

We are blessed to live near thousands of acres of national forest and agricultural land, so converting vacant plots within city limits to housing is a sensible and balanced approach. I believe that focusing development along main corridors such as Hollister Avenue and Calle Real makes the most sense. This strategy not only maximizes the efficient use of existing infrastructure but also ensures that new housing is integrated seamlessly into the urban fabric.

While I advocate for the expansion of housing options, I acknowledge the issues that have been raised by many of my fellow city residents. it is crucial that the city addresses potential traffic increase and infrastructure challenges. I encourage the city to revisit plans for a bridge over Highway 101 near Entrance Road in order to alleviate traffic on the Storke Road 101 overpass, as well as work with SBMTD to enhance bus services and encourage sustainable transportation alternatives.

Finally, I strongly support the legal action taken against UCSB by the city, since they have irresponsibly increased their student population over the years without providing adequate living options, thereby exacerbating the current housing shortage. This factor should be given as much importance as any other.

In conclusion, I support the approval of additional housing construction along the main corridors, thereby addressing the pressing need for housing, while also taking into

consider the well-being of current residents and the future of our city.

Sincerely, Charu Chaubal Goleta, CA