

Manis, Dina

From: John Pavik <jpavik@srcharities.org>
Sent: Friday, February 28, 2020 10:46 AM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Cc: twallis; Toomians, Kristinae
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Caritas Village Letters of Support (Email 1 of 3)
Attachments: Willard Richards - Sonoma County Transportation and Land-Use Coalition .pdf; Tipping Point Caritas Village.pdf; Dennis Byrne Caritas.pdf; Sutter Santa Rosa Family Medicine Residency Caritas.pdf; Trish Hiserote Caritas.pdf; Gale Brownwell Letter Caritas.pdf; Russell Dieter, MD Caritas Village.jpg; Roy Caritas Support.pdf; Doria Trombetta Caritas Village.pdf; Bob Gefvert Letter Caritas Village.pdf; Yvette Fallandy Caritas.pdf; Richard and Mary Bowman Caritas.pdf

Dear Santa Rosa City Council,

Please see the attached letters written by passionate community members in support of the Caritas Village Project. The names listed below are included in this email. **This is email one of three.** Thank you for your dedication to this process!

Batch 1

Sonoma County Transportation and Land-Use Coalition, Willard Richards
 Tipping Point
 Dennis Byrne
 Sutter Santa Rosa Family Medicine Residency, Sara Martin
 Kaiser Permanente, Trish Hiserote
 Gale Brownwell
 Russell Dieter
 Barbara Roy
 Doria Trombetta
 Bob Gefvert
 Yvette Fallandy
 Mary and Rich Bowman



John Pavik

Assistant Director of Communications

Development, **Catholic Charities of Santa Rosa**

m: 313.400.5494

a: 987 Airway Ct, Santa Rosa, CA 95403

w: www.srcharities.org e: jpavik@srcharities.org



[Help Build Caritas Village!](#)

Richard D. Bowman
Mary J. Bowman
1149 Forest Glen Way
Santa Rosa, CA 95404-6826

May 15, 2019

Dear Planning Commissioners/ City Council Members:

As long-term residents of Santa Rosa, 59 years and 66 years, respectively, we would like to share our wholehearted support of the Caritas Village project.

We believe that homelessness and housing are the two biggest issues currently facing our county. We recently learned that Santa Rosa declared homelessness a state of emergency in 2016 and the County of Sonoma did the same in 2018. The horrific wildfires that destroyed nearly 5,300 homes in 2017 worsened the existing crisis. It is our understanding, from attending an informational gathering at Catholic Charities, that almost 3,000 people in Sonoma County face homelessness daily, 2,000 of whom are unsheltered. Unfortunately, this is not even hard to imagine. We see the faces of the homeless daily. We are faced with this reality every time we go to the grocery store, to church, to the dentist, or traverse intersections throughout Sonoma County. We are deeply saddened to see so many people in such dire straits.

The incredibly high rents in Sonoma County go hand-in-hand with homelessness. Rents in Sonoma County are unaffordable across income levels. This issue has been gravely exacerbated by the multiple fires experienced here in Sonoma County and nearby areas. With nearly half of renters paying 30 percent or more of their income on rent, affordable housing has never been more crucial for our communities.

Caritas Village cannot solve all of the issues facing our community. However, Caritas Village will be an enormous help in alleviating some of these issues. Caritas Village will provide 128 affordable homes, where residents will be able to access services that will give them a chance to realize a brighter future. This is an unprecedented opportunity to provide more substantial resources to parents, children, veterans, retirees, and others who deeply need our help.

Caritas Village is an exciting opportunity to proactively address some of our biggest community issues, and build a stronger Santa Rosa and Sonoma County. Let's do it together!

Cordially yours,

Richard Bowman
Mary Bowman

February 21, 2020

Dear Santa Rosa Planning Commissioners,

This is a letter of support for the Caritas Village project and an expression of my desire that you to move this project forward.

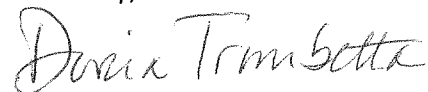
I support Caritas Village as it is a proactive step to addressing the problem of generational poverty in our community. The Family Support Center will provide housing for families experiencing homelessness and offer services to at least two generations of family members with the goal of supporting their movement out of poverty. Until parents can move from factors that causes poverty, children will continue to be without the support they need to become healthy, engaged, and successful members of society. Until we offer children social, emotional, and educational support that their parents may be unable to offer, these children will continue to have a difficult, if not impossible, pathway out of poverty. Caritas Village offers a two-generation solution to moving families into the mainstream of society.

Homelessness and housing are problems in our community that must be addressed. Newly strengthened families need places to live, as do the almost 3,000 homeless and unsheltered people in Sonoma County. Rents in Sonoma County are unaffordable across income levels; the fires have magnified this issue tremendously. Affordable housing is a critical issue for our community. Caritas Village will not solve the problem of homelessness, but it will go a long way to support families who are working to escape poverty. It will strengthen parents who are raising the children that are our future.

Caritas Village will be an enormous help in alleviating some of these issues. It is an unprecedented opportunity to provide more substantial resources to families and other vulnerable individuals who need our help.

It is time that Santa Rosa stops reacting to crisis points and begins looking at the at the big picture. Spending our resources to react to the emergency of the month does not solve the problems that led to the emergency. Caritas Village a visionary and resourceful opportunity to get in front of the causes of poverty and should be moved forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Doria Trombetta".

Doria Trombetta

Sant Rosa
May28, 2019

To: City of Santa Councilman X Y

From: Yvette Fallandy, Citizen

Re: **Santa Rosa Catholic Charities Caritas Village**

Homelessness is the most acute problem afflicting our area. So acute, in fact, that in 2016, the City of Santa Rosa declared homelessness a state of emergency, and last year Sonoma County followed suit. Currently nearly 3000 Sonoma County citizens face homelessness—2000 of them unsheltered!

I write to urge your official support of **Caritas Village**, Santa Rosa Catholic Charities' exciting bold, new taking on of homelessness in our city and county. **Caritas Village** comprises two components: *Caritas Center* consolidates on one site Catholic Charities' Family Support and Homeless Services Centers, and *Caritas Homes* comprising 128 permanent affordable housing units to facilitate transition from homelessness to permanent housing. Sonoma County and Santa Rosa City government agencies, private entities, and Catholic Charities enjoy longstanding mutual support in addressing homelessness in our community. Specifically Burbank Housing Development Corporation has partnered with Catholic Charities to develop **Caritas Village** on the city block contiguous to CC Family Support Center on A Street. The project also depends on private contributions and government approval.

Caritas Village promises dramatic relief from the scourge of homelessness so devastating to too many of our citizens. The sooner Catholic Charities **Caritas Village** is a reality the better! Please, Councilman Y, expedite in any way you can the realization of this enterprise so critical to our community.

This plea is sent to you from a local citizen of fifty-five years, who has seen with happy pride the prodigious potential of Santa Rosa and Sonoma County blossom into a California crown jewel, and so finds all the more troubling our painful problem of homelessness.

This message includes my most sincere thanks to you for your contribution to our triumph that is the City of Santa Rosa.

cc: Mr John Pavik, Ass't Director of Development, Santa Rosa Catholic Charities
Dr Len Marabella, Executive Director, Santa Rosa Catholic Charities

February 20, 2020

Dear Santa Rosa Planning Commissioners:


Please support, as I do, the Caritas Village project. As a lifelong resident of Sonoma County, I have seen many changes. While it will always remain a wonderful place, we face challenges that have been exacerbated by the fires of the last few years.

While some of us are fortunate to have support systems in place to help deal with these issues, many do not. This project will provide much needed housing and social services to those working adults, families, veterans, and seniors who need help getting back on their feet.

We often talk of the need for affordable housing and of the homelessness issues the cities and County face. We can't expect local governments to tackle these problems alone. The community needs to do its share as well and supporting the organizations that work to alleviate these situations is one way we can help. Catholic Charities has a well- deserved reputation in this regard and has, no doubt, provided many services that would otherwise fall to the local governments. It has shown through its successful existing programs that it is committed to moving forward in a sustainable, responsible manner.

Please move this worthwhile project forward with your support.

Respectfully,



Barbara Roy
1310 Hill Road
Glen Ellen

February 20, 2020

Dear Santa Rosa City Council Members:

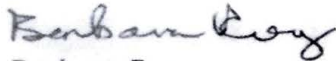
I urge you to support this project, Caritas Village, as a well-planned piece of the solution to the high cost of housing and its effect on homelessness in Sonoma County.

In addition to the inadequate amount of affordable housing, the devastation of the fires remains a significant impact in terms of housing and homelessness affecting working adults, families, veterans, and seniors in our communities.

This project addresses those challenges by providing 128 housing units as well as provides security and social services for those at risk who might otherwise be dependent on local government for assistance. Catholic Charities has shown by its successful existing services and programs that it leads in helping people responsibly transition to better life situations.

The people and officials of the cities and County showed tremendous caring toward others faced with misfortune during the fires. Please extend that caring and support this excellent project.

Respectfully,



Barbara Roy
1310 Hill Road
Glen Ellen

2390 Goodwin Ave.
Pennngrove CA 94951.
January 21, 2020

Dear Planning Commissioners/ City Council Members:

I would like to share my support of the Caritas Village project.

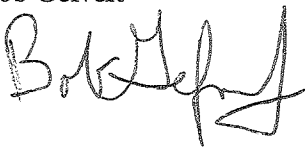
Homelessness and housing are the two biggest issues currently facing our county. In 2016, Santa Rosa declared homelessness a state of emergency and in July 2018, Sonoma County did the same. Catastrophic wildfires that destroyed nearly 5,300 homes worsened the crisis. Currently, almost 3,000 people in Sonoma County face homelessness daily, 2,000 of whom are unsheltered.

Caritas Village will be an enormous help in alleviating some of these issues. It will provide 128 much-needed affordable homes, and residents will be able to access a menu of services that will help kids, adults, and elders realize a brighter future support a vibrant community. This is an unprecedented opportunity to provide more substantial resources to parents, veterans, retirees, and others who deeply need our help.

We owe it to Santa Rosa to follow through on this project. Caritas Village is a necessary step towards alleviating some of our biggest community issues, and building a stronger Santa Rosa and Sonoma County together.

Sincerely,

Bob Gefvert

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Gefvert". The signature is stylized and cursive, written over the printed name.

February 23, 2020

Dear Santa Rosa Planning Commission members:

I want to register my wholehearted support for the Caritas Village project. I view it as a great opportunity to alleviate the severe homeless problem by helping those who want to be helped into permanent housing. It will also help seniors and veterans and families who cannot afford available rentals.

Catholic charities and Burbank Housing have a proven track record. They can be counted on to provide good management.

I realize the project is in a historic district, and some may object to the magnitude of the project, but a huge mall is just across the street. I think the dire need for housing counter-balances any negative aspects.

The project is in a good location for public transportation. David Guhin, assistant city manager, Planning & Economic Development, City of Santa Rosa, says in the North Bay Business Journal that plans are being made to encourage high-density, transit-oriented multifamily development in downtown Santa Rosa.

This is a valuable project. I urge you to support it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Russell E. Dieter".

Russell E. Dieter, M.D.(retired)

Gale J. Brownell
955 McFarlane Avenue
Sebastopol, CA 95472
707 823-8943 (home)
707 953-8988 (cell)
gbrownell@sonic.net

June 19, 2019

Dear Planning Commissioners/ City Council Members:

I, Gale Brownell, would like to share my wholehearted support of the Caritas Village project.

We are well aware of the effects of the fires, floods, and conversion of homes to vacation rentals that have created the need for thousands of additional housing units throughout our county. What is not so often recognized was that before those events, the Sonoma County Community Development Commission documented the need for nearly 6,000 additional homes in our county.

Rents in Sonoma County were unaffordable across income levels; the events mentioned above only intensified a terrible situation. Nearly half of renters pay 30 percent or more of their income on rent. Therefore, affordable housing has never been more crucial for our communities.

I remember studying American history as a 5th grader and seeing pictures of Americans living in tenements from the turn of the century, and Hoovervilles during the Great Depression. I wondered then how we could allow children in the USA to grow up in such deprivation, and adults to live in such poor conditions. A significant proportion of the population in our local communities (and across the nation) are living in similar deplorable, conditions.

Caritas Village will be an enormous help in alleviating some of these issues. It will provide 128 much-needed affordable homes, and residents will be able to access a menu of services that will help kids, adults, and elders realize a brighter future support a vibrant community. Our Housing First policy has demonstrated that when we make supportive services available with the missing affordable housing, a substantial majority of the people are able to get on their feet and ultimately prosper. This is an unprecedented opportunity to provide more substantial resources to parents, veterans, retirees, and others who deeply need our help.

I worked in your Department of Housing and Redevelopment for twenty years, providing staff support for policy decisions your predecessors made to help in the development of several thousand affordable units. We also worked to redevelop the Site where Caritas will be located as the Family Support Center, the Morgan Street drop-in center, and transitional housing. The Housing Authority provided funding to rehabilitate the structures; the Redevelopment Agency and City provided a small parcel of land so the entire block was available for possible future development, as proposed today. It was a productive form of land banking which you have the opportunity to realize now.

We owe it to Santa Rosa and its citizens to follow through on this project. Caritas Village is a necessary step towards alleviating some of our biggest community issues, and building a stronger Santa Rosa and Sonoma County together.

Sincerely,
Gale J Brownell
Santa Rosa Housing Programs Manager, retired



KAISER
PERMANENTE
Santa Rosa
Family Medicine Residency

April 30th, 2019

401 Bicentennial Way

Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Dear Planning Commissioners and City Council Members:

On behalf of Kaiser Permanente Santa Rosa Family Medicine Residency, I am writing to ask you to support and approve the Caritas Village project as a critical improvement in our community's resources for people experiencing homelessness. We as healthcare providers are all too aware of the destructive toll that homelessness takes on a person's health. In fact, homelessness is one of the most serious medical conditions a person can face. Match this with the destructive fires of October 2017 and the floods of 2018 and Sonoma County has more vulnerable populations than ever. Fortunately, there is a cure. Housing.

Catholic Charities' Caritas Village represents the single largest effort to house the homeless in Sonoma County's history. From a medical perspective, what excites me most about Caritas Village is the idea that 1,300 people per year will find permanent housing; they'll get the support services they need to stay housed. The potential impact of this kind of housing and support on Sonoma County's homeless population and our healthcare system cannot be overstated.

I'm enthusiastic too, about the fact that there will be an on-site health clinic at Caritas Center. It will be replicating successful models that offer dignity services (showers and laundry) along with scheduled and walk-in health care (including mental health services). Some of these models have proven able to serve patients in a way that standalone clinics have not.

We at (Healthcare entity) are proud to support Caritas Village. Caritas Village will bring housing to thousands of people, many of whom receive care from our organization; this project represents a unique opportunity to provide accessible and attractive healthcare to the most vulnerable populations in Sonoma County. In fact, I believe we have only just begun to uncover all the possibilities for collaboration, innovation, and improved outcomes that Caritas Village will create.

We invite to you join us in supporting this monumental effort, and to call upon others in our community to do the same.

Gratefully,



Trish Hiserote, DO, MSHPE, FAAFP
Program Director
Family Medicine Residency
Kaiser Permanente Santa Rosa



12/09/2019

Dear Planning Commissioners/City Council Members:

As a resident physician at Sutter Santa Rosa Family Medicine Residency, I am writing to ask you to support and approve the Caritas Village project as a critical improvement in our community's resources for people experiencing homelessness. As a healthcare provider, I am all too aware of the destructive toll that homelessness takes on a person's health. In fact, homelessness is one of the most serious medical conditions a person can face with a significant decrease in life expectancy. Fortunately, there is a cure. Housing.

I have witnessed this cure many times. In one story, a patient my own age and from similar circumstances, was kicked out of his grandparents' house after a disagreement. He was sleeping on the street when new friends invited him into their tent to use meth. It was a chance to have a dry place to sleep, but it led to a serious addiction that eventually led to a deadly health condition. When I met him, he hadn't yet celebrated his 30th birthday, but I felt certain he was going to die after I discharged him from the hospital to an uncertain housing situation. Instead, he was provided temporary housing, and was able to maintain sobriety in this more stable situation. Last time I saw him he was contemplating signing up for classes at the Junior College.

Stable housing gave a young man a second chance at life. Catholic Charities' Caritas Village represents the single largest effort to house the homeless in Sonoma County history. From a medical perspective, what excites me most about Caritas Village is the idea that 1,300 people per year will find permanent housing there, and they'll also get the support services they need to stay housed. The potential impact of this kind of housing and support on Sonoma County's healthcare system cannot be overstated. It means more second chances.

I'm enthusiastic, too, about the fact that there will be an onsite health clinic at Caritas Center. It will be replicating successful models that co-locate dignity services like showers and laundry with both scheduled and walk-in health care, including mental health services. Some of these models have proven able to serve patients in a way that standalone clinics have not.

I am proud to support Caritas Village, because it will bring housing to thousands of people, many of whom receive care from our organization, and because it represents a unique opportunity to provide accessible and attractive healthcare to the most vulnerable populations in Sonoma County. In fact, I believe we have only just begun to uncover all the possibilities for collaboration, innovation, and improved outcomes that Caritas Village will create.

We invite to you join us in supporting this monumental effort, and to call upon others in our community to do the same.

Sincerely,

Sara Martin, MD, MSc.

DENNIS J. BYRNE

ATTORNEY AT LAW

February 25, 2020

Dear Santa Rosa Planning Commissioners,

Dear Santa Rosa City Council Members,

I would like to give my wholehearted support of the Caritas Village project. I urge you to approve this critical project.

I have been involved with Catholic Charities since 2000, serving on the Board of Directors on two occasions. I am currently on the Board of Directors.

I know that the City of Santa Rosa values and supports the services that Catholic Charities provides, on a non-denominational basis, to the homeless living in Sonoma County and in Santa Rosa in particular (as well as its other services for seniors, immigrants and other persons in need). Caritas Village presents a once in a lifetime opportunity to greatly improve the homeless services provided by Catholic Charities and to add 128 units of desperately needed permanent, supportive affordable housing in Santa Rosa.

I will not belabor the need for Caritas Village and the enhanced and improved services it will provide. I would like to address the objections to the location of Caritas Village, which appears to be the only objection to its approval.

The present location for Caritas Village is the best location available in Santo Rosa for this project. Caritas Village is located near downtown and near available transit services. This will enable the persons living in the emergency family shelter, the Nightingale Recovery Center and the affordable housing units access to other services, health care and employment opportunities. There is no other location so centrally located in Santa Rosa for a project of this type.

Will this project have some impact on the Saint Rose Historical District? Yes, but it will be less than what the persons objecting to the project claim. Catholic Charities is already providing the same services at this location, except for the Nightingale Recovery Center, that it will continue to provide with Caritas Village. The difference will be that the homeless services and emergency family shelter will be provided in an attractive new building rather than in the dilapidated old Santa Rosa General Hospital and other buildings on the site, some of which are unusable. The new building for the homeless services, emergency family shelter and Nightingale Recover Center will enhance the neighborhood, not detract from it. It is bordered on two sides by the Santa Rosa Mall parking garage and on one side by the freeway. I do not understand how anyone can claim this is not an improvement over the existing situation.

The 128 units of affordable housing units are designed to provide an architectural transition between the buildings in the Saint Rosa Historical District and the Santa Rosa Mall. Again, this is much better than what currently exists at the site and other types of development that could be built in this location.

The likely mix of residents at the 128 affordable housing units will be individuals, couples and families of all ages and background, much like the current mix of residents in the Saint Rose neighborhood. The new residents will add vitality to the neighborhood, not detract from it.

Caritas Village will be an enormous help in alleviating the issues of homelessness and affordable housing. It will provide 128 much-needed affordable homes, and residents will be able to access a menu of services that will help kids, adults, and elders realize a brighter future support a vibrant community. This is an unprecedented opportunity to provide more substantial resources to parents, veterans, retirees, and others who deeply need our help.

Tremendous thought and effort has gone into designing this project to address the concerns of the neighborhood and of the City of Santa Rosa. Ultimately it will have some impact on the adjacent neighborhood, some positive some that there will always be people that oppose. However, as the saying goes, "Don't let perfect stand in the way of good." No project will ever be perfect from everyone's viewpoint. This project is very good and will provide much needed services and affordable housing.

Sincerely,



Dennis J. Byrne



TIPPING POINT
COMMUNITY

February 4, 2020

Mayor Tom Schwedhelm
City of Santa Rosa City Council
City Hall, 100 Santa Rosa Ave, Santa Rosa, CA

Tipping Point Community would like to share our enthusiastic support of the Caritas Village project. We urge you to move this critical project forward.

At Tipping Point, for fifteen years we have funded a portfolio of poverty-fighting organizations in the Bay Area. The devastating fires in the North Bay in 2017 made for one of the deadliest and costliest natural disasters in Northern California since the 1906 earthquake. In response, we developed the Tipping Point Emergency Relief Fund to support low-income, vulnerable communities impacted by the crisis. Our community and the Band Together Bay Area effort raised nearly \$34 million to support North Bay Fire Relief. These funds have all been committed to 52 North Bay nonprofits serving low-income, immigrant, and student communities most impacted by the fires.

One of the nonprofits we supported through the Emergency Relief Fund is Catholic Charities; we provided a \$5 million investment to the Caritas Village project. This project will propel the creation of a leading-edge solution to homelessness in Santa Rosa, the city hit hardest by the October 2017 North Bay Wildfires, and where homelessness was three times the national average before the fires. Caritas Village will accelerate housing placement for thousands each year and create on-site permanent supportive housing for over 100 of the most vulnerable families and individuals in our community.

Homelessness and housing are the two most significant issues currently facing the region. In 2016, Santa Rosa declared homelessness a state of emergency, and in July 2018, Sonoma County did the same. The catastrophic wildfires of 2017 destroyed nearly 5,300 homes worsened the crisis. Currently, almost 3,000 people in Sonoma County face homelessness daily, 2,000 of whom are unsheltered.

220 Montgomery Street
Suite 850
San Francisco, CA 94104

P 415 348 1240
F 415 348 1237

tippingpoint.org

MAKE POVERTY PREVENTABLE

Rents in Sonoma County are overwhelming across most income levels; the 2017 fires have magnified this issue. Nearly half of renters pay 30 percent or more of their income on rent. Therefore, affordable housing has never been more crucial for our communities.

Caritas Village will be an enormous help in alleviating these issues. It will provide much-needed affordable homes, and residents will be able to access a menu of services that will help kids, adults, and elders realize a brighter future. Caritas Village is an unprecedented opportunity to provide more substantial resources to parents, veterans, retirees, and others who genuinely need help.

We owe it to Santa Rosa's most vulnerable residents to follow through on this project. Caritas Village is a necessary step towards alleviating some of the region's most significant community issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DL', written over a horizontal line.

Daniel Lurie,
Founder & Board Chair
Tipping Point Community



SONOMA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION & LAND-USE COALITION

February 24, 2020

Patti Cisco, Chair, and members of the Santa Rosa

Planning Commission

Via email to John Pavik, Catholic Charities

Re: Support for Caritas Village Project — Agenda Item #10 — February 27, 2020

Dear Chair Cisco and members of the Commission:

On behalf of the Sonoma County Transportation and Land-Use Coalition, I urge approval of the Caritas Village project, which would establish a much-needed comprehensive homeless support services facility close to the center of the City as well as 126 units of affordable housing. As you may know, our organization has been advocating for compact, walkable urban development along the rail corridor since 1991. We advocate relaxing height limits and eliminating parking minimums in the City core.

Appendix F of the EIR contains a thorough analysis of the historic resources in the project area and adequately addresses the issue of being within the St. Rose Historic District. The parking study found that a facility similar to the proposed housing used about 0.3 parking spaces per unit, so the proposed 0.7 spaces per unit should be adequate. Also, the project is adjacent to the largest parking structures in the City and arrangements can be made to use those structures. We endorse using the density bonus to increase building heights above those allowed in an historic district.

For the foregoing reasons, the Sonoma County Transportation and Land-Use Coalition supports the Caritas Village project. If you have further questions, please contact Willard Richards at: (707) 575-7160 <willard@sonic.net>.

Cordially,

Willard Richards, Chair

Cc: Santa Rosa City Councilmembers

Manis, Dina

From: John Pavik <jpavik@srcharities.org>
Sent: Friday, February 28, 2020 10:47 AM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Cc: Toomians, Kristinae; twallis
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Caritas Village Letters of Support (Email 2 of 3)
Attachments: NBLC Support Caritas village SR City Council (1).pdf; KP Caritas Village Letter of Support 2.3.20 (2).pdf; Church of the Incarnation, Rev. Stephen Shaver.pdf; Betsy Timm Letter Caritas Letter.pdf; Sharon McCarty Caritas.pdf; AMR Dean Anderson Caritas.pdf; 480 Hillsdale Dr Caritas.pdf; Caritas Village Letter of Support - SRMC.pdf; Hazel Harris Caritas.pdf; Laura Morgan MD Caritas.pdf; Caritas Village Letter of Support Cornerstone Properties (1).pdf

Dear Santa Rosa City Council,

Please see the attached letters written by passionate community members in support of the Caritas Village Project. The names listed below are included in this email. **This is email two of three.** Thank you for your hard work on this process!

Batch 2

North Bay Leadership Council
Kaiser Permanente
Church of the Incarnation, Rev. Stephen Shaver
Cornerstone Properties
Betsy Timm
Sharon McCarty
AMR
Jackie Kinney
Barbara Johannes
Peter Rumble, Santa Rosa Metro Chamber
Hazel Harris
Laura Morgan

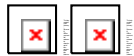
John Pavik

Assistant Director of Communications
Development, **Catholic Charities of Santa Rosa**

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[Help Build Caritas Village!](#)

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Hanson Bridgett LLP

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North Bay Leadership Council

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Pacific Gas & Electric

TIFFANY DEVITT
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AIMI DUTRA KRAUSE
Public Relations Director
The Dutra Group

INGRID ESTRADA
CAO
Keysight Technologies

STEVE FALK
CEO Sonoma Media Investments
Press Democrat

RICHARD "DICK" GHILOTTI
Owner & President
Ghilotti Construction

JULIANNA GRAHAM
SVP Area Manager
Tri Counties Bank

DARRYL HAWKINS
VP, Field Operations Northeast Bay Area
Comcast

TYLER HEDDEN
COO
St. Joseph Health

DARREN LASHELLE
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DR. YUNG-JAE LEE
Dean, School of Business and Leadership
Dominican University of California

KATHRYN LOWELL
Vice President, Government Affairs &
Advocacy
BioMarin

BRETT MARTINEZ
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Redwood Credit Union

MEGAN MOORE
CAO
Buck Institute For Research on Aging

LESLIE PERRY
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Perry, Johnson, Anderson, Miller
& Moskowitz LLP

JUDY SAKAKI
President
Sonoma State University

SHANNON THOMAS
Administrator/Chief Nurse Executive
Novato Community Hospital
Sutter Health

FRED VELA
Regional Vice President
Wells Fargo Bank

CYNTHIA MURRAY
President & CEO

KATE MURRAY
CAO



January 24, 2020

Santa Rosa City Council Members
100 Santa Rosa Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Re: Support for the Caritas Village Project

Dear Santa Rosa City Council Members,

North Bay Leadership Council would like to share our wholehearted support of the Caritas Village project. We urge you to move this critical project forward.

The North Bay Leadership Council is a public policy advocacy organization comprised of the leading employers of Marin, Sonoma, and Napa counties. Our top issue is housing. We recognize the urgent need for housing in our community.

Homelessness and housing are the two biggest issues currently facing our county. In 2016, Santa Rosa declared homelessness a state of emergency and in July 2018, Sonoma County did the same. Catastrophic wildfires that destroyed nearly 5,300 homes worsened the crisis. Currently, almost 3,000 people in Sonoma County face homelessness daily, 2,000 of whom are unsheltered.

Rents in Sonoma County are unaffordable across income levels; the fires have magnified this issue tremendously. Nearly half of renters pay 30 percent or more of their income on rent. Therefore, affordable housing has never been more crucial for our communities.

Caritas Village will be an enormous help in alleviating some of these issues. It will provide 128 much-needed affordable homes, and residents will be able to access a menu of services that will help kids, adults, and elders realize a brighter future support a vibrant community. This is an unprecedented opportunity to provide more substantial resources to parents, veterans, retirees, and others who deeply need our help.

We owe it to Santa Rosa to follow through on this project. Caritas Village is a necessary step towards alleviating some of our biggest community issues, and building a stronger Santa Rosa and Sonoma County together.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Murray
President & CEO

February 3, 2020

Dear Santa Rosa City Council Members and Planning Commissioners:

As Kaiser Permanente's Senior VP and Area Manager for the Marin-Sonoma Service Area, I am writing to ask for your support in approving the Catholic Charities' Caritas Village project. This critical project will not only improve our community's resources for people experiencing homelessness, but it will also improve the total health of our community — mind, body, and spirit.

Homelessness is one of the most serious medical conditions a person can face. Having a roof over your head, the support of community connectors, and access to social and behavioral health services is directly related to good health which is why we continue to support programs such as Caritas Village. In the last year alone, Kaiser Permanente has committed over \$30 million to house homeless residents and preserve affordability in Northern California as part of a multi-year effort to improve the health of our members and the communities we serve.

Caritas Village represents the single largest effort to house the homeless in Sonoma County history. It will address the needs of the currently homeless based on the Housing First model, including an emergency family shelter, service center, and comprehensive housing services such as location, navigation, stabilization, and financial assistance. Additionally, it will replicate successful models that co-locate dignity services like showers and laundry with an onsite health clinic, mental health services, and a recuperative facility for homeless individuals being discharged from area hospitals.

The mutually beneficial impact of providing housing and wrap-around services to more than 1,300 people per year — many of whom are medically fragile with multiple physical and behavioral health diagnoses — on Sonoma County's health care and public safety systems cannot be overstated.

We at Kaiser Permanente are proud to partner with Catholic Charities and support Caritas Village not only because it will bring housing to those in need, but also because it represents a unique opportunity to provide accessible and necessary health care to the most vulnerable populations in our community.

Thank you for your continued efforts and leadership in addressing the homelessness issue in Sonoma County. It is my hope that you will join us in supporting the Catholic Charities' Caritas Village project.

Sincerely,



Tarek Salaway, MHA, MPH, MA
Sr. Vice President and Area Manager
Marin-Sonoma Service Area

CHURCH OF THE
incarnation



550 MENDOCINO AVENUE | SANTA ROSA | CA 95401
707 579 2604 | incarnationsantarosa.org

Dear Planning Commissioners and City Council Members:

As a faith leader in downtown Santa Rosa, I am writing to express my support for the Caritas Village Project. As all of us know, homelessness has reached a crisis level in our community. Of our neighbors who are experiencing homelessness, 85% of them lived here in Sonoma County before losing their housing. I spend time with our homeless neighbors every week: some are members of my congregation, some are guests at our Sunday morning breakfast program. While I'm proud to be part of a faith community that actively cares for our neighbors, nothing can solve the underlying problem of homelessness except actually providing affordable homes for those who need them.

Caritas Village is a major step toward remedying this situation. It will include a housing-focused service center, an emergency family shelter, and 128 units of permanent affordable housing for those in need. It will replace Catholic Charities' aging facilities on Morgan and A Streets, which currently serve 2,000 people a year.

I hope you will support this important project. Our county's spirits, and our housing supply, have been hit hard in these past two years. But projects like Caritas Village can help us continue to rebuild, rebound, and grow even stronger.

Sincerely,

The Rev. Dr. Stephen R. Shaver
Rector, Episcopal Church of the Incarnation

Betsy Timm

436 Rusty Drive
Santa Rosa CA
707-545-2871
Betsy101@sonic.net

January, 2020

Dear Planning Commissioners and Santa Rosa City Council Members:

The timing could not be better to support the Caritas Village project. People who are homeless — a growing population amid meager affordable housing, who suffer from local and personal calamities — are in dire need of housing, support services, and safe places to store their meager belongings.

You know the statistics. You know that multiple robust endeavors are needed to help stem this crisis. And by now you know what Caritas will offer: 128 affordable homes and panoply of services for all kinds of people in need.

I have studied the plans and heard the architect. This project will be neighborhood friendly while offering privacy and security to clients and residents.

This is a grand and timely opportunity. Please move this critical project forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Betsy Timm", written in a cursive style.

Betsy Timm

Sharon K. McCarty

224 Felicidad Court, Santa Rosa, CA 95401

smccarty@sonic.net

(707)206-1005 cell; (707) 545-2462

January 22, 2020

Dear Planning Commissioners/ City Council Members:

I would like to share my wholehearted support of the Caritas Village project and urge you to move this critical project forward.

There are no secrets about homelessness and housing being the two biggest issues currently facing our county. In 2016, Santa Rosa declared homelessness a state of emergency and in July 2018, Sonoma County did the same. Catastrophic wildfires that destroyed nearly 5,300 homes worsened the crisis. Currently, almost 3,000 people in Sonoma County face homelessness daily, 2,000 of whom are unsheltered.

Rents in Sonoma County are unaffordable across income levels; the fires have magnified this issue tremendously. Nearly half of renters pay 30 percent or more of their income on rent. Therefore, affordable housing has never been more crucial for our communities.

Caritas Village will be an enormous help in alleviating some of these issues. It will provide 128 much-needed affordable homes, and residents will be able to access a menu of services that will help kids, adults, and elders realize a brighter future support a vibrant community. This is an unprecedented opportunity to provide more substantial resources to parents, veterans, retirees, and others who deeply need our help.

Over the years, I believe, Catholic Charities has repeatedly demonstrated strength and resourcefulness in dealing with a wide range of homelessness issues. I am confident that the agency will continue to be respectful members of the neighborhood and compassionate, firm companions of those seeking relief from homelessness.

We owe it to Santa Rosa to follow through on this project. Caritas Village is a necessary step towards alleviating some of our biggest community issues, and building a stronger Santa Rosa and Sonoma County together.

Sincerely,


Sharon K McCarty



May 20, 2019

Dear Planning Commissioners/City Council Members:

On behalf of American Medical Response, I am writing to ask you to support and approve the Caritas Village project as a critical improvement in our community's resources for people experiencing homelessness. We as healthcare providers are all too aware of the destructive toll that homelessness takes on a person's health. In fact, homelessness is one of the most serious medical conditions a person can face. Fortunately, there is a cure. Housing.

Catholic Charities' Caritas Village represents the single largest effort to house the homeless in Sonoma County history. From a medical perspective, what excites me most about Caritas Village is the idea that 1,300 people per year will find permanent housing there, and they'll also get the support services they need to stay housed. The potential impact of this kind of housing and support on Sonoma County's healthcare system cannot be overstated.

I'm enthusiastic, too, about the fact that there will be an onsite health clinic at Caritas Center. It will be replicating successful models that co-locate dignity services like showers and laundry with both scheduled and walk-in health care, including mental health services. Some of these models have proven able to serve patients in a way that standalone clinics have not.

We at American Medical Response are proud to support Caritas Village, because it will bring housing to thousands of people, many of whom receive care from our organization, and because it represents a unique opportunity to provide accessible and attractive healthcare to the most vulnerable populations in Sonoma County. In fact, I believe we have only just begun to uncover all the possibilities for collaboration, innovation, and improved outcomes that Caritas Village will create.

We encourage you to join us in supporting this monumental effort, and to call upon others in our community to do the same.

Sincerely,

A blue ink handwritten signature, appearing to read 'D. Anderson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dean B. Anderson
AMR Regional Director

480 Hillsdale Dr.
Santa Rosa, CA 95409
January 17, 2020

Dear Planning Commissioners and City Council Members:

I have lived in Santa Rosa for 17 years. During that time housing and homelessness have been huge problems! Caritas Village project is a critically, important step in beginning to address this need for affordable housing!

Please do not delay moving this project ahead! We all have read the statistics about the huge needs! We can no longer ignore them!

Sincerely,
Jackie Kinney



January 21, 2020

Santa Rosa City Council
City Hall
100 Santa Rosa Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Mayor Schwedhelm and Members of the City Council,

On behalf of the Santa Rosa Metro Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to share my support of the proposed Caritas Village Project.

Homelessness and the housing crisis are having significant negative impacts on our local economy and businesses. The Chamber recognizes the need for housing with wrap around services for those experiencing homelessness as a crucial piece of this community challenge. Caritas Village will double the number of people who find permanent housing each year and help alleviate the homelessness and housing crisis in our county. Making sure that our neighbors across the economic spectrum have permanent, affordable homes is good for Sonoma County and good for business.

We urge you to support this critical project and move it forward as quickly as possible. Our county and city are facing real economic challenges. Caritas Village will make a lasting improvement to our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Rumble", written in a cursive style.

Peter Rumble, CEO



Hazel Harris
hharris@safariwest.com
707-318-2269

Dear Planning Commissioners/ City Council Members:

I would like to share my wholehearted support of the Caritas Village project.

Homelessness and housing are the two biggest issues currently facing our county. In 2016, Santa Rosa declared homelessness a state of emergency and in July 2018, Sonoma County did the same. Catastrophic wildfires that destroyed nearly 5,300 homes worsened the crisis. Currently, almost 3,000 people in Sonoma County face homelessness daily, 2,000 of whom are unsheltered.

Rents in Sonoma County are unaffordable across income levels; the fires have magnified this issue tremendously. Nearly half of renters pay 30 percent or more of their income on rent. Therefore, affordable housing has never been more crucial for our communities.

Caritas Village will be an enormous help in alleviating some of these issues. It will provide 128 much-needed affordable homes, and residents will be able to access a menu of services that will help kids, adults, and elders realize a brighter future support a vibrant community. This is an unprecedented opportunity to provide more substantial resources to parents, veterans, retirees, and others who deeply need our help.

We owe it to Santa Rosa to follow through on this project. Caritas Village is a necessary step towards alleviating some of our biggest community issues and building a stronger Santa Rosa and Sonoma County together.

Sincerely,

Hazel Harris



From: Laura Morgan <thesquig@yahoo.com>

Date: May 15, 2019 at 4:07:02 PM PDT

To: combs@srcity.org, vflaming@srcity.org, eolivares@srcity.org, crogers@srcity.org, jsawyer@srcity.org, tschwedhelm@srcity.org, hjtibbetts@srcity.org

Subject: Please support Catholic Charities' Caritas Village project

Dear City Council members,

I strongly urge you to support Catholic Charities Caritas Village project.

Based on my experience treating homeless patients and my direct observation of the work that Catholic Charities does to help them, there's no group around who does it better.

Please give them the go-ahead on this critical step toward solving the homeless problem in Santa Rosa.

Sincerely,

Laura Morgan, MD
Sebastopol

January 22, 2020

Each Councilmember, Santa Rosa City Council
c/o Santa Rosa City Clerk
100 Santa Rosa Avenue, Room 10
Santa Rosa, California 95404

Re: **Proposed Caritas Village Project located at "A", Morgan, 6th, and 7th Streets, Santa Rosa, CA**

Dear City Council Members and Planning Commissioners:

Cornerstone Properties, a local owner/manager of commercial real estate located throughout Sonoma County, would like to convey its strong support for the proposed Caritas Village Project, and we encourage you to expedite approval.

Homelessness, and the housing shortage in general, are arguably the two most important issues currently facing our county, and the cities located within it. In 2016, the City of Santa Rosa declared homelessness a state of emergency and, in July of 2018, the County of Sonoma did the same. Subsequently, catastrophic wildfires destroyed nearly 5,300 homes, worsening the crisis. Presently, almost 3,000 people in Sonoma County are experiencing homelessness, approximately 2,000 of which are unsheltered.

Because of the housing shortage and other factors, rents in Sonoma County have become uneconomic for many households, and the wildfires have also exacerbated this issue. Thus, additional affordable housing has never been more critical for our community.

Caritas Village, if approved, will help alleviate these issues by:

- (A) adding 128 units of permanent affordable housing for those in need, and
- (B) providing an emergency family shelter, a housing-focused service center, and other programs to help homeless people transition from the streets, cars and tents to more secure housing in the community (including services focused on parents, veterans, retirees and others needing help).

Caritas Village is a logical step towards alleviating the issues described above, and Cornerstone urges the approval to move forward with it.

Very truly yours,

Alon Adani

Alon Adani, Principal
Cornerstone Properties and its Affiliates

Manis, Dina

From: John Pavik <jpavik@srcharities.org>
Sent: Friday, February 28, 2020 10:53 AM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Cc: Toomians, Kristinae; twallis
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Caritas Village Letters of Support (Email 3 of 3)
Attachments: Mike Thompson Caritas SRCC.pdf; 730 Morgan Street Robyn Cleaves.pdf; 508 A Street Jen Kuzmar.pdf; 740 Morgan Street Santa Rosa Caritas.pdf; 700 Morgan Street Matt Reid.pdf; 231 10th Street Santa Rosa Caritas.pdf; 225 10th Street Santa Rosa Caritas.pdf; 931 Washington Street Santa Rosa Caritas no.2.pdf; Willard Richards - Sonoma County Transportation and Land-Use Coalition .pdf; Connie Pearson Caritas Support.jpeg; Linda Allen Letter.pdf; Stephanie Chalmers Caritas.pdf; 717 Agnew Pl. Jacob Rich.pdf; 6 W 9th Scott Johnson.pdf; Rick Abbott.pdf

Good morning Santa Rosa City Council Members,

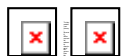
Please see the attached letters written by passionate community members in support of the Caritas Village Project. The names listed below are included in this email. **This is email three of three.** Thank you for your hard work on this process!

Batch 3

Congressman Mike Thompson
730 Morgan Street, Robyn Cleaves
508 A Street Jen Kuzmar
740 Morgan Street, Nicole Marshall
700 Morgan Street Matt Reid
231 10th Street, Rosalie Sulgit Shay
225 10th Street
931 Washington Street
6 West 9th Street - 8th Wave/Scott Johnson
Sonoma County Transportation and Land-Use Coalition, Willard Richards
Connie Pearson
Linda Allen
Stephanie Chalmers
Rick Abbott
Jacob Rich

John Pavik

Assistant Director of Communications
Development, **Catholic Charities of Santa Rosa**
m: 313.400.5494
a: 987 Airway Ct, Santa Rosa, CA 95403
w: www.srcharities.org e: jpavik@srcharities.org



[Help Build Caritas Village!](#)

MIKE THOMPSON

5TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SELECT REVENUE MEASURES
CHAIRMAN
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

DISTRICT OFFICES:
3721 NAPA VALLEY CORPORATE DRIVE
NAPA, CA 94558
(707) 226-9898
420 VIRGINIA STREET, SUITE 1C
VALLEJO, CA 94590
(707) 645-1888
2300 COUNTY CENTER DRIVE, SUITE A100
SANTA ROSA, CA 95403
(707) 542-7182
CAPITOL OFFICE:
406 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3311
WEB: <http://mikethompson.house.gov>

February 6, 2020

Mayor Tom Schwedhelm
Santa Rosa City Council
City Hall
100 Santa Rosa Avenue
Room 10
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm,

As a Member of Congress representing Sonoma County, I am writing to respectfully request you give the Caritas Village Project full and fair consideration. The Caritas Village Project involves the construction of the Caritas Center, a development combining a family and homeless support services facility to be operated by Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Santa Rosa (Catholic Charities) and Caritas Homes, an affordable housing development to be operated by Burbank Housing Development Corporation (Burbank Housing).

As you may know, the Caritas Center would consolidate the existing onsite Family Support Center and Homeless Services Center into a single building that would provide emergency shelter, a navigation center, transitional housing, wrap-around services, health services, and administrative offices. Caritas Homes would provide up to 126 permanent affordable housing units, plus two units for on-site managers.

I appreciate the important work that Catholic Charities and Burbank Housing are leading on behalf of people experiencing homelessness and housing instability. I hope you will give this project full and fair consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike Thompson".

Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



**730 Morgan Street
Santa Rosa, CA 95401**

Santa Rosa City Council,

My name is Robyn Cleaves. I have lived at 730 Morgan Street since 2015. It is one of the homes on The Saint Rose Preservation District's Walking Tour. It is a Queen Anne Cottage and is called the John Schroeder House, and was built between 1904 and 1907. I moved into this house, sight unseen, from Washington state because of its charm. Being right along the freeway and very close to several shelters, the neighborhood has its challenges but I love living here.

As an ED Registered Nurse working at Kaiser Permanente in Santa Rosa, I care for many homeless people regularly. They are individuals with stories and burdens. They are all someone's sister, brother, daughter, son, mother, father. I treat them all with compassion because they are human beings deserving of respect. It is easy to label them "The Homeless Problem." But this takes away the humanity of those that struggle to get through life. Compassion is a strength that allows us to understand others and see that we are more alike than different. As an RN I want to help those in need.

And that is what Catholic Charities and Caritas Village will do. Catholic Charities helps people. Due to Catholic Charities current facilities, their resources are limited. This new facility will allow CC to house and help so many more people.

And contrary to some opinions, I do not believe Caritas Village will increase the amount of people in need of help to congregate in the neighborhood. With the larger facility, people will not need to hang out in the streets as they will be accommodated within the building itself. CC is the embodiment of compassion. They see others suffering and are motivated to relieve that suffering.

They need this Caritas Village in order to do so. I fully support this, as an RN and a long-term member of this neighborhood.

Thank you,

Robyn Cleaves

Jen & David Kuszmar <jenkmar@gmail.com>
Thu 2/27/2020 10:02 AM

**508 A Street
Santa Rosa, CA 95401**

Hello, my name is Jennifer Kuszmar and my husband David.

We have been living at the little house at the corner of 7th and A for nearly 6 years. We love living in close proximity to downtown Santa Rosa and enjoy being able to go out to dinner, happy hour or a movie without having to get in our car.

Living across the intersection for Catholic Charities, we have seen from a short distance the number of people that they serve with many more in need sleeping in their cars, or on the street nearby. We are grateful for the leadership that Catholic Charities has taken in helping families and individuals in need, but there is clearly so much more to work to do.

We have witnessed firsthand the limitations of their current facilities which are outdated and no longer work well to provide services to those in need. We have seen children getting ready for school outside on frigid mornings after sleeping in a vehicle because there was not room at the current location to house them or their parents.

We support the Caritas Village project because it will allow Catholic Charities to help twice as many people find a place to call home.

This new facility will provide increase privacy for those seeking services, as well as improved safety and security for staff, neighbors, and the community. The end result will be that more people are permanently housed and more are provide desperately needed services.

As **neighbors** to the project we look forward to additional benefits including improved pedestrian safety with improved sidewalks and safety lighting.

I urge you to support this vital project. Our county, city, and neighborhoods are facing real crisis of homelessness, and housing. Caritas Village is a worthwhile step towards improving quality of life for all.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Kuszmar

Address:

Notes:

Please see if a planter barrier can be put on 8th and Morgan St. or if traffic can be rerouted.

Signature/Date:

Neil Marshall

Dear Santa Rosa Planning Commissioners/ City Council Members,

I urge you to support this vital project.

I have lived at 740 Morgan St. for 10 years, and am a part of the St. Rose/ West End Neighborhood. I appreciate the important work that Catholic Charities does in my neighborhood to meet the basic needs of children and adults experiencing homelessness, and even more importantly, to make sure they find permanent housing as quickly as possible.

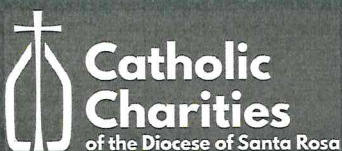
I support the Caritas Village project because it will allow Catholic Charities to help far more people find a place to call home.

I have witnessed firsthand the limitations of their facilities on Morgan and A streets, which are old, cramped, and unable to serve their purpose any longer. There is a severe lack of privacy and space for anyone trying to receive services, and the buildings don't lend themselves to security or safety.

There will be several neighborhood benefits as part of the project, including increased pedestrian safety with more lighting and improved sidewalks, making the neighborhood safer and more walkable for everyone.

In addition, it will double the number of people who find housing each year, and will go a long way towards solving our community's homelessness and housing crisis. This will not only enhance the lives of the people we are helping, but will also enhance the quality of life in the neighborhoods we live in.

Our county, city, and neighborhoods are facing real crises of homelessness, and housing. Caritas Village is a worthwhile step towards improving quality of life for all.



Address:

Notes:

As CC's closest resident to the future Caritas Village, I support the construction. That said, once built and established, thereby alleviating some homelessness in our community, I see no reason why there'd be anymore of the rampant loitering, littering, car repair, drug dealing, etc. on Morgan St. which continues to this day. Thank you.

Signature/Date:

 2/24/2020

P.S. My concern to those

Dear Santa Rosa Planning Commissioners/ City Council Members,

that would approve the construction, begs the question: if CC → over

I urge you to support this vital project.

I have lived at 700 Morgan St. for 10+ years, and am a part of the St. Rose/ West End Neighborhood. I appreciate the important work that Catholic Charities does in my neighborhood to meet the basic needs of children and adults experiencing homelessness, and even more importantly, to make sure they find permanent housing as quickly as possible.

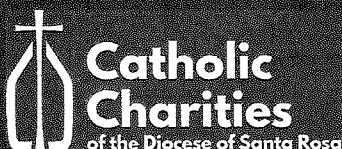
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Our county, city, and neighborhoods are facing real crises of homelessness, and housing. Caritas Village is a worthwhile step towards improving quality of life for all.



Does not adhere to or violates any agreements, contracts
"good neighbor" policies, etc., what is the way of consequences
(e.g. fines, loss of contract, etc) will be levied?

Address:

Notes:

I want as much consideration as possible given to the historic bungalows and apartment building before demolition. This could mean moving them elsewhere or placing them in a different place on the plot.

Rosalie Sulgit-Shay

Signature/Date:

Rosalie Sulgit-Shay 2/19/20

Dear Santa Rosa Planning Commissioners/ City Council Members,

I urge you to support this vital project.

I have lived at 231 10th St. ^{most of the past} for 42 years, and am a part of the St. Rose/ West End Neighborhood. I appreciate the important work that Catholic Charities does in my neighborhood to meet the basic needs of children and adults experiencing homelessness, and even more importantly, to make sure they find permanent housing as quickly as possible.

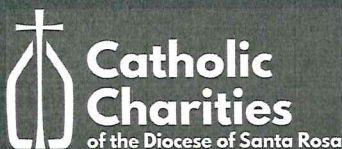
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In addition, it will double the number of people who find housing each year, and will go a long way towards solving our community's homelessness and housing crisis. This will not only enhance the lives of the people we are helping, but will also enhance the quality of life in the neighborhoods we live in.

Our county, city, and neighborhoods are facing real crises of homelessness, and housing. Caritas Village is a worthwhile step towards improving quality of life for all.



Dear Santa Rosa City Council Members,

I whole heartedly support The Caritas Village Project for the following reasons:

The location of Caritas Village is ideal because people are familiar with the family shelter and drop-in center on A street, and it is accessible by public transportation and foot traffic.

The partnership between Burbank Housing and Catholic Charities provides experience, expertise and history of providing affordable rental and for sale homes in Santa Rosa.

The Caritas Village Project not only provides safe, affordable housing for homeless, but also offers services to help people become independent and contributing citizens.

The Caritas Village Project will go a long way to help solve the problem of homelessness and lack of affordable housing that exists in our community.

The establishment of Caritas Village will help Santa Rosa and Sonoma County build a strong, safe community.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Connie Pearson".

Connie Pearson
346 Pythian Rd.
Santa Rosa, CA 95409

6/20/19

Dear Planning Commissioners/City Council Members:

On behalf of Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital- Care Network, I am writing to ask you to support and approve the Caritas Village project as a critical improvement in our community's resources for people experiencing homelessness. We as healthcare providers are all too aware of the destructive toll that homelessness takes on a person's health. In fact, homelessness is one of the most serious medical conditions a person can face. Fortunately, there is a cure. Housing.

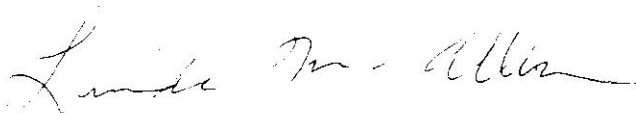
Catholic Charities' Caritas Village represents the single largest effort to house the homeless in Sonoma County history. From a medical perspective, what excites me most about Caritas Village is the idea that 1,300 people per year will find permanent housing there, and they'll also get the support services they need to stay housed. The potential impact of this kind of housing and support on Sonoma County's healthcare system cannot be overstated.

I'm enthusiastic, too, about the fact that there will be an onsite health clinic at Caritas Center. It will be replicating successful models that co-locate dignity services like showers and laundry with both scheduled and walk-in health care, including mental health services. Some of these models have proven able to serve patients in a way that standalone clinics have not.

We at Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital- Care Network are proud to support Caritas Village, because it will bring housing to thousands of people, many of whom receive care from our organization, and because it represents a unique opportunity to provide accessible and attractive healthcare to the most vulnerable populations in Sonoma County. In fact, I believe we have only just begun to uncover all the possibilities for collaboration, innovation, and improved outcomes that Caritas Village will create.

We invite to you join us in supporting this monumental effort, and to call upon others in our community to do the same.

Sincerely,



Linda Marie Allen, MSW

707-525-5300 x6463



STEPHANIE A. CHALMERS, D.V.M.

Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Dermatology

4918A Sonoma Hwy.

Santa Rosa, CA 95409

Telephone: (707) 538-4643

Dear Planning Commissioners/ City Council Members:

I am writing to voice my wholehearted support for the Caritas Village project.

Homelessness and housing are the two biggest issues currently facing our county. In 2016, Santa Rosa declared homelessness a state of emergency and in July 2018, Sonoma County did the same. The wildfires in 2017 that destroyed nearly 5,300 homes worsened the crisis. Currently, almost 3,000 people in Sonoma County face homelessness daily, 2,000 of whom are unsheltered.

Rents in Sonoma County are unaffordable across income levels; the fires have magnified this issue tremendously. Nearly half of renters pay 30 percent or more of their income on rent. Therefore, affordable housing has never been more crucial for our communities.

Caritas Village will be an enormous help in addressing some of these issues. It will provide 128 much-needed affordable homes. In addition, residents will be able to access a menu of services that will help kids, adults, and elders realize a brighter future support a vibrant community. This is an unprecedented opportunity to provide more substantial resources to parents, veterans, retirees, and others who deeply need our help.

We owe it to our community to follow through on this project. The Caritas Village project will help alleviate some of our housing issues, and I am sure that it will serve as a model for other communities.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Chalmers

Stephanie Chalmers, DVM

Support for Caritas Village

Jacob Rich <jerichsalud@gmail.com>

Wed 2/26/2020 11:26 AM

To: planningcommission@srcity.org <planningcommission@srcity.org>

Dear

Planning Commissioners,

Last

year my girlfriend and I bought a condo on West 9th near Stony Point. She has lived in Santa Rosa for more than ten years and I was born in Sonoma County.

We

feel super fortunate to be able to afford to own our own home while we know that many people cannot afford this luxury and some cannot even afford the skyrocketing rents.

The

state of homelessness in Sonoma County and Santa Rosa has become really sad and unavoidable and something needs to be done. I support the Caritas Village project because it will allow Catholic Charities and Burbank Housing to help far more people find a safe place to call home.

Caritas

Village and the services it will offer will help keep people from becoming homeless and help people escape homelessness. It will also in the long run lead to cost savings rather than relying on the many more expensive services it takes to support people in homelessness. And, of course it will also help increase the quality of life for many of our community members.

My

main issue with Caritas Village is that we need much more affordable housing than Caritas Village offers, but this project will make a huge difference in many lives and in our community.

We

need more affordable housing like this across Santa Rosa and Sonoma County. I urge you to support this vital project. Our county, city, and neighborhoods are facing real crises of homelessness, and housing. Caritas Village is an important step towards improving the quality of life for everyone.

Sincerely,

Jacob

Rich

717

Agnew Pl. Santa Rosa

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.



8th Wave
6 W 9th Street
Santa Rosa, Ca 95401

RE: Caritas Village Project

I'm Scott Johnson, and I give permission to _____ to read my letter.

I'm a business owner at 6 W 9th Street, and a homeowner not far away on Clover Dr. Homelessness is a critical issue in our community, one that is terminally underserved by public and private efforts. One of the reasons it's underserved is because of the difficulty involved in getting any additional services approved anywhere in the city. In this case, protecting historic resources seems to be the most likely palatable reason to deny yet another project design to help our most at-risk citizens.

Protection for historic resources gained ground during the large scale "urban renewal" ethos of the 50's and 60's. At the time, there was a crisis of wholesale destruction of historic buildings and neighborhoods, the protections that were enacted were largely successful. However, that crisis has passed, and we are faced with a greater crisis, the crisis of housing affordability and homelessness. A tool which helped solve one crisis is now being used to exacerbate another.

Carita Village is well designed for its purpose, well-situated for those who need it, and the services it will provide are long overdue. To deny this project continues the pattern of doing nothing and hope things improve. We, as a community, need this project.

As a longtime member of this community, and a business owner in the neighborhood, I am a fully committed supporter of this project.

Scott Johnson

February 24, 2020

Dear Santa Rosa Planning Commissioners,

I would like to share the wholehearted support of the entire Board of Directors of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Santa Rosa for the Caritas Village project. We urge you to move this critical project forward.

At Catholic Charities, our mission is “to respond to Christ’s call to care for the most vulnerable of all beliefs and cultures, transforming lives and communities through dignity, hope and love.” We believe that the Caritas Village Project fully supports our mission. It will enable us to more effectively serve more of the most vulnerable in our community.

Homelessness and housing are two of the biggest issues currently facing our county. In 2016, Santa Rosa declared homelessness a state of emergency and in July 2018, Sonoma County did the same. Catastrophic wildfires that destroyed nearly 5,300 homes worsened the crisis. Currently, almost 3,000 people in Sonoma County face homelessness daily, 2,000 of whom are unsheltered.

Rents in Sonoma County are extremely high across all income levels; the fires have magnified this issue tremendously. Nearly half of renters pay at least 30 percent of their income on rent. Therefore, affordable housing has never been more crucial for our communities.

Caritas Village will be an enormous help in alleviating some of these issues. It will provide 128 much-needed affordable homes. It will enable Catholic Charities to increase the number of people for whom we are able to find permanent housing. During the past few years, we have found permanent housing for over 600 people annually. With Caritas Village, we hope to double this number. This is an unprecedented opportunity to provide more substantial resources to families, veterans, retirees, and others who deeply need our help.

We owe it to Santa Rosa to follow through on this project. Caritas Village is a necessary step towards alleviating some of our biggest community issues, and building a stronger Santa Rosa and Sonoma County together.

Sincerely,

Rick Abbott, Board Chair,

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Santa Rosa

Manis, Dina

From: Carol Turner <cturner@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Friday, February 28, 2020 12:18 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Affordable Housing

As a resident of Santa Rosa since 1975, I urge you to approve the Caritas Village project. Burbank Housing has proven their ability to create attractive and affordable housing throughout Sonoma County. Catholic Charities has proven their ability to provide services, housing, and care for those who are homeless and at risk of homelessness.

Throughout my career as the Manager of the Sonoma County Housing Authority, I had the privilege of working closing with both Burbank Housing and Catholic Charities in order to provide housing and services to hundreds of residents of our community.

This project is just what our community needs to do in order to address our affordable housing and homelessness crisis.

I urge each of you to approve Caritas Village.

Carol Turner
Santa Rosa CA 95404

Manis, Dina

From: lgtrainor@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 29, 2020 3:47 PM
To: _CityCouncilListPublic
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Caritas Village plan

Dear Council Members,

Having read the article in the Thursday, Feb. 27th Press-Democrat, I am alarmed and disappointed to learn of the possible impending plan to turn a full block of downtown into homeless housing services. Why on earth would the City Council think it is a good idea to turn a large parcel of prime, downtown property into a permanent facility such as this? Is the Council trying to make downtown Santa Rosa that much more un-enticing? Honestly, I cannot think of a more poorly considered plan.

This block is next to one of the few cultural attractions in Santa Rosa, The Museums of Sonoma County buildings. Does this facility do anything to encourage visitors to go there? I would venture to say, "no."

Just because Catholic Charities already has control of the building presently standing on that parcel, is no reason to make it that much more of a stronghold in downtown Santa Rosa. Don't the poor, put upon merchants and cultural institutions in the downtown area have to put up with enough as it is?

Everyone I've spoken to around town over the past few days has concurred this is a terrible idea. Many people are afraid to express an opinion for fear of seeming "unsympathetic," But what about protecting the interests of business people, taxpayers, students and visitors?

Please don't let Jennilynn Holmes, who seems to have the City Council in some sort of vice grip, impose her plans on what is surely a very ill thought out idea for the city of Santa Rosa. Please bear in mind the citizens you are representing.

Thank you,

Laurie Trainor
Santa Rosa