

From: [Joanne Derbort](#)
To: [Ian Sobieski](#); [Joan Cox](#); [Jill Hoffman](#); [Melissa Blaustein](#); [Steven Woodside](#)
Cc: [City Council](#); [City Clerk](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item 1B: Sausalito's Character: Housing in the Right Places
Date: Monday, February 24, 2025 9:01:09 AM

Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers,

As a resident of Sausalito, I am writing to express my strong support for prioritizing housing development on underutilized and empty lots within our city, rather than in our cherished parks and historic districts. I believe this approach aligns with responsible and sustainable community planning, ensuring the preservation of our unique character while addressing our housing needs. Specifically, I strongly feel that we need to update our outdated laws that prevent us from even considering housing on empty lots.

The current Housing Element presents both challenges and opportunities for Sausalito. I firmly support the passage of the current Housing Element, as it is crucial to shield our city from the detrimental consequences of the "builder's remedy." By proactively identifying suitable sites for housing, we can maintain local control over development and ensure that new projects are thoughtfully integrated into our community.

Furthermore, I advocate for a parallel effort to negotiate Community Development Agreements with owners of vacant or underutilized properties. This proactive approach will enable us to collaboratively shape the design and character of new housing, ensuring compatibility with our existing neighborhoods and preserving our city's unique charm. By embracing innovative solutions and prioritizing development on appropriate sites, we can create a more vibrant and sustainable future for Sausalito.

Sincerely,

Joanne Derbort
Sausalito Resident