

TO: **Members of the City Council:** Mayor Gloria Partida, Vice Mayor Lucas Frerichs, Will Arnold, Dan Carson, Josh Chapman. **Staff:** Mike Webb, City Manager; Inder Khalsa, City Atty.

14 June 2021. HOUSING TRUST FUND

Since 1989, I am a long-term resident of Davis, exceedingly concerned about its image. Davis is widely perceived — intentionally or unintentionally — as an exclusive enclave unaffordable to residents of middle and lower incomes — unaffordable to teachers, nurses, childcare workers, and others who rent or attempt to purchase housing here.

Today, the city's perceived image rests on economic barriers seeming to carry forward its earlier barriers specified by covenant agreements (Oeste Covenant, e.g.) to exclude and discriminate against persons lacking Anglo-American identity. Threats of violence, lynching, and massacres in California and its "Sundown Towns" were backed by State-sanctioned bounty, Exclusion Acts, and practice of redlining against persons of African, Asian, Latinx, and First Nations identities.

I commend the Housing Trust Fund Strategy of the Social Services Commission supported by Housing Element committee members. I was informed that the draft ***Housing*Trust*Fund*** was submitted to the Housing Element Committee.

I urge members of the Davis City Council to approve the draft ***Housing*Trust*Fund*** as part of the Housing Element of the Davis General Plan.

The draft ***Housing*Trust*Fund*** allocates programs to address housing needs of three groups — (1) the unhoused, (2) renters, and (3) buyers — and identifies revenue sources for growing the funds available supporting these programs.

For the unhoused, the draft ***Housing*Trust*Fund*** increases emergency non-congregate shelter capacity; refurbishes existing structures and buildings as permanent supportive housing; and increases support of case management for permanent supportive housing. For renters, the draft Housing Trust Fund offers assistance vouchers; assistance for deposits, utilities, credit repair, moving costs; and educational programs on economic self-sufficiency.

As the City Council reviews the Housing Element -- part of the Davis General Plan — progressive leaders of Davis must advance substantial offers to provide truly affordable housing — and not only for the wealthy homeowner driven from the Bay Area.

Respectfully submitted,

~Marilú Carter, M.S., UC Davis, Community Development (1996)
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