

Fwd: Support letter - 797 Almaden Ave Affordable Housing Development (Item 8.1 on 3/14 Agenda)

David Low [REDACTED]

Mon 3/13/2023 12:45 PM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

📎 1 attachments (111 KB)

797 Almaden Support Letter 031323.pdf;

[External Email]

Apologies, but I forgot to CC you on this support letter. Could you please attach to the Council packet?

Thank you!

David



Destination: Home Logo

**DAVID LOW**

Director of Policy & Communications

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From: **David Low** [REDACTED]

Date: Mon, Mar 13, 2023 at 12:41 PM

Subject: Support letter - 797 Almaden Ave Affordable Housing Development (Item 8.1 on 3/14 Agenda)

To: <[mayoremail@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:mayoremail@sanjoseca.gov)>, District1 <[district1@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district1@sanjoseca.gov)>, <[district2@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district2@sanjoseca.gov)>, <[district3@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district3@sanjoseca.gov)>, District4 <[district4@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district4@sanjoseca.gov)>, District5 <[district5@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district5@sanjoseca.gov)>, <[district6@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district6@sanjoseca.gov)>, <[district7@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district7@sanjoseca.gov)>, <[district8@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district8@sanjoseca.gov)>, District9 <[district9@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district9@sanjoseca.gov)>, District10 San Jose <[district10@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district10@sanjoseca.gov)>

Honorable Mayor & City Councilmembers,

Please find attached a letter from Destination: Home CEO Jennifer Loving urging your approval of the funding commitment for the new affordable housing development at 797 Almaden Ave in San Jose.

Feel free to reach out if you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further.

Thank you,

David



Destination: Home Logo

**DAVID LOW**

Director of Policy & Communications



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March 13, 2023

Mayor & City Council  
City of San Jose  
200 East Santa Clara Street, 18th Floor  
San Jose, CA 95113

### **Re: 797 Almaden Ave Affordable Housing Development (Item 8.1 on 3/14 Agenda)**

Dear Mayor Mahan and City Councilmembers,

Destination: Home would like to express its strong support for the proposed loan commitment and land purchase in support of a new affordable housing development at 797 Almaden Ave. We appreciate the memorandum of support from Vice Mayor Kamei, Councilmember Torres and Councilmember Candelas, and urge you to approve funding for this desperately-needed affordable housing development.

This is precisely the type of affordable housing development that we need to address our community's severe housing and homelessness crisis. The development includes both deep affordability - roughly half are reserved for Extremely Low Income households - as well as a variety of apartment sizes (including 24 two-bedroom and 20 three-bedroom units) to accommodate families with children. About a quarter of the overall units will be set-aside for households exiting homelessness, which will also allow the development to leverage project-based vouchers from the Santa Clara County Housing Authority as another critical source of funding.

Furthermore, the development will include a host of amenities - including a multi-purpose community room with a full kitchen for meetings and events and over 6,000 square feet of open space for residents - as well as a host of on-site resident services, through a resident services coordinator, will be offered for free to assist residents in obtaining access to local social services, organizing community meetings and events, and accessing classes on topics such as financial literacy, nutrition, health and wellness, educational programs, and youth enrichment programs.

We're also pleased to hear that the development is currently exploring the possibility of placing a childcare center in the ground-floor, community-serving commercial space and is in discussions with a non-profit affordable childcare provider.

Study-after-study continues to show that the primary root cause of homelessness is the lack of housing affordability within a community. And to truly end homelessness in San Jose, we must continue building more deeply affordable housing throughout the city.

The City of San Jose has long been a leader in affordable housing development and I urge you to maintain this commitment to your community. Please approve this critical local funding for the 797 Almaden affordable housing development.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Loving  
CEO