

## **Pacifica Chamber of Commerce Candidates Forum**

### **Question #6:**

What is your plan to promote or encourage the development of "workforce housing" with priority for Pacifica teachers, firefighters, police and others supporting our community?

#### **Sue Beckmeyer:**

I am a strong supporter of the workforce housing project being planned by the Pacifica School District, and would like to see similar projects developed in Pacifica. An assessment will need to be made about the timeline for projected retirement of current city staff to determine the future need for workforce housing. It may also be prudent to look at the long-term housing needs of our aging population to determine if there is a need for senior housing with graduated levels of care. Providing current residents a range of housing options that allow them to "age in place" could have the added advantage of increasing the supply of larger single-family homes vacated by those moving into assisted living.

#### **Mary Bier:**

As an employee of Jefferson Union high School District, I am proud to have advocated for the bond measure that recently passed to support the development of 80 affordable units of workforce housing. This development will first be offered to school district teachers and staff. This program allows the workforce to live in units far below market rate for a number of years while connecting them to services that will help them to eventually buy a home. I feel that it is now the cities turn to follow suit and begin to look at land use policies that will allow for transit-oriented development of affordable housing. Defining affordability is also crucial in this process and units should be available for low, very low and extremely low-income folks. This kind of development will create housing for working families and increase ridership on public transportation therefore reducing traffic and greenhouse gas emissions. Everything is connected. I am passionate about the development of affordable housing. I also believe the city can work to promote and incentivize the building of accessory dwelling units.

#### **Bridget Duffy:**

I am for workforce housing as well as other housing alternatives. It is disgraceful that we have a firefighter in San Mateo County who lives in his van because he can not afford a place. One-bedrooms in San Jose are \$5,400 a month.

#### **Vickie Flores:**

I would work with developers who would like to build in Pacifica and require them not only to have affordable housing included in their development plans but workforce housing as well. I think this should be a requirement for any developer who wants to build in Pacifica. I would also work with Airbnb to create a separate category for workforce housing with lower rates so that those first responders who need immediate help have a resource they can

turn to. I would also like to have a referendum in Pacifica to encourage homeowners to build in-law units for our first responders

**John Keener:**

Pacifica School District and Jefferson Union High School District both have plans in place to build below market rate housing (workforce housing) for school district employees. I support those efforts.

**Mike O'Neill:**

I support workforce housing. I also support affordable housing.

When I was on the Pacifica School Board I began the process of workforce housing for the Oddstad site. I think the City should look at what they can do to facilitate the construction of affordable housing.

**Adonica Shaw-Porter:**

As an endorsee of Supervisor David Canepa and the San Mateo Labor Council it would be a priority of mine to make sure educators, public employees and working families had access to housing in the city in which they work. I'm in favor of the Oddstad project, and would be looking to use that project as a use case for additional workforce housing projects in the future.