

Commissioner Kern Correspondence 2.8.2024

I am writing to express my sincere appreciation for the commendable efforts put forth by the Planning & Zoning team in addressing our town's pressing housing crisis. Your dedication and hard work have not gone unnoticed, and I recognize the challenges associated with such a complex issue.

However, I would like to bring to your attention some concerns I have regarding the recent work session we had. While I am appreciative of the initiative to delve into the housing crisis, I must admit to feeling somewhat misled by the assignment and expectations set for the session.

Initially, I understood that the items submitted for discussion would form the basis of a work session where we could collaboratively explore and work on potential solutions. Unfortunately, the pace and structure of the session seemed more geared towards pushing through the proposed consent agenda, leaving little room for the in-depth discussion and consideration I had anticipated.

Given the intricacies of the housing issue we are facing, I firmly believe that utilizing a consent agenda may not be the most appropriate approach. The gravity of the matter requires a thorough examination of proposed solutions, and a consent agenda, in my view, does not allow for the level of discussion and consideration needed.

Moving forward, I would like to suggest that our meetings be less rushed and more thought out. The housing crisis demands careful and strategic planning, and I believe that allocating more time for discussions will result in more well-thought-out solutions. While I understand the urgency of the matter, I believe rushing through decisions may not be the most effective way to achieve our shared goal of creating a better future for our town.

I value the collaboration of the Planning & Zoning team and am confident that, with a more deliberate approach, we can arrive at solutions that will have a lasting and positive impact on our community. I look forward to your understanding and cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Jacy Kern