

Public Comment 221077

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Dear Planning Commissioners,

On behalf of Housing Santa Cruz County (HSCC), I am writing to express our organization's strong support for the proposed 25-unit housing development on Mattison Lane in Live Oak. This project represents a vital opportunity to address our community's critical need for family housing.

Much of the new housing being developed in our county consists of smaller units designed for singles and couples. While this serves an important segment of the population, there is an equally pressing need for housing that accommodates larger households. The Mattison Lane project addresses this gap by providing family-friendly housing options that integrate thoughtfully into the surrounding neighborhood.

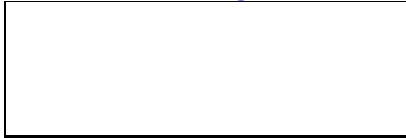
This development balances reasonable density and environmental protection, preserving the adjacent riparian area while offering parking, open space, and compatibility with the existing community. The design demonstrates how we can meet our housing goals while maintaining the character of our neighborhoods.

We desperately need this type of housing in Santa Cruz County. I urge you to approve this project at your December 11 hearing and take a meaningful step toward addressing the housing crisis that impacts so many families in our community.

Thank you for considering our strong support.

Sincerely,
Elaine Johnson
Executive Director

Elaine Johnson J.D. | Executive Director
Housing Santa Cruz County
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Please consider joining me in the work of [Housing Santa Cruz County](#)

- You can see [our Annual Report here](#)
- Find info [about contributions and organizational sponsorships here](#)
- Sign up for our [newsletter and activist tools here](#)

From: Lauri Raffetto <lraff5cy@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 9, 2024 6:47 PM
To: Jonathan DiSalvo <Jonathan.DiSalvo@santacruzcountyca.gov>
Subject: December 11th public hearing

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Dear Mr. DiSalvo,

My name is Lauri Raffetto and I am a current resident at 2452 Mattison Ln, Santa Cruz. I understand that this Wednesday there is to be a public hearing in regards to the development of this property. I am a teacher at Holy Cross School and at this time of year it is nearly impossible to take time off. Therefore I am unable to attend the public hearing about this development. So I am hoping you will allow me to share my thoughts and concerns here and take them into consideration.

First I would like to say that I will be forever grateful to the Locatelli family for allowing me to rent from them for the past 7 years. You see, in 2017 my husband of 20 years decided he was done with our marriage and left me. I had nowhere to go and only a teacher's salary to live on. The Locatelli's rented me the home on Mattison and have only increased my rent once, knowing that I could not afford anymore. They were very upfront with me about their plans to develop the property so I always knew the day would come that I would have to leave. And now it seems that that day is drawing ever nigh and I am scared. I am not afraid of moving but my pay has not kept pace with the skyrocketing cost of rentals. The Section 8 roles have been closed for years and I have no hope for finding a rental that fits my needs and my budget. I love my job as a teacher and I am very involved in my school and parish community. If I have to move away to find less expensive housing, I would have to give up the sports I coach, the choirs I sing in, and all of the other roles I take in the community.

Why I am sharing all this? Well, I know that part of the proposed development must have several houses that would be part of the affordable housing program. I believe the number was 3 or 4 of the proposed 25 townhomes to be reserved for lower incomes. With my income, I do qualify for Measure J but I have never applied because I am just one person and I only would qualify for a 1-bedroom home, to my understanding of the program. And I never see 1-bedrooms on the list. My question is that because I am being displaced, is there any chance the developer would make a home that I could qualify for and that could be offered to me? I love living in that neighborhood and I wish I had enough money to just buy a home once they are completed. I cannot tell you how stressful it has been wondering what is going to happen to me when this development is approved and I have to move. I can't afford the rents here and I can't afford homes here. But I have become a vital part of this community. At 50 years old and after being a military wife for 20 years, I want Santa Cruz to be my forever home. I want to be buried at Holy Cross Cemetery. I just want somewhere I can call my own where I don't have to fear becoming homeless because I can't afford rent.

Anyway, thank you for listening to me. I am not sure that you can do anything but I wanted to share my hopes that Ken Hart and Swift Consulting may have mercy on me and save me one of their affordable homes. Again, I'd just like to express my love and gratitude for the Locatellis. They are wonderful and generous people.

Sincerely,
Lauri Raffetto

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Challenges are what make life interesting. Overcoming them is what makes life meaningful.

Joshua J. Marine

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Hello,

As a Live Oak resident, I'm emailing to express my support for the proposal to build 25 townhomes at 2450 Mattison Lane. Santa Cruz County desperately needs housing (especially low-income units) and every little bit helps.

Thank you,
Joe DePage
3021 Sriver St
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

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Thank you,
Anne DePage
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