

Levesque, Jennifer

From: Jaylene Cruz [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 19, 2021 12:49 PM
To: Serratto, Matthew; cityclerk; Serratto, Matthew; Ornelas, Jesse; Ornelas, Jesse; Echevarria, Fernando; Echevarria, Fernando; Perez, Bertha; Perez, Bertha; Blake, Kevin; Blake, Kevin; Boyle, Sarah; Boyle, Sarah; Shelton, Delray; Shelton, Delray
Subject: We're FOR Inclusionary Zoning! And here's why...

Hello,

My name is Jaylene Cruz. I want to comment on Agenda Item K2.

Young people demand that the City of Merced Fund our Futures Now. Housing is a right and we need affordable housing for all.

I support inclusionary zoning because there is not enough affordable housing in Merced. A lot of housing is being aimed towards UC Merced students. It is pushing local residents to the outskirts of Merced or forcing families to share single-family homes. What many don't realize is UC students are barely contributing to our local economy. As a college student I've noticed that many non-local UC students barely leave their house or campus. When they go out for fun activities, 90% of the time it's out of Merced. So in essence Merced will not achieve the accumulative wealth it is seeking. The reality is locals contribute to that number, which is why it's so important for there to be affordable housing. Locals provide consistent income flow for our local economy. An example would be the results of the pandemic. Many UC students returned home so the only reliable spending came from locals. The people of Merced are not here for a 4 year experience. We are here because our families have planted roots, so it's important that we're provided the commodity of dignified affordable housing.

Merced City Council, you need to pass an inclusionary Zoning ordinance today.

Signature

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Wendell

