

Honorable Members of the Sonoma City Council –

Please accept our comment on the matter of housing and affordable housing that is set before tonight's (12/14/21) Council Meeting (6.2):

Sonoma Valley Hospital is in support of the development of housing, specifically affordable housing throughout Sonoma Valley (City of Sonoma included). The hospital sees housing insecurity in both our patients and our staff. It contributes to health issues within our community, rent vs prescriptions. It makes recruitment and retention of hospital employees challenging. It is even an impediment to the recruitment of new graduates and early career physicians. Currently 60% of staff does not live in the health care district, this number is unfortunately growing. Additionally we are in support of insuring the protection of open spaces which are also a positive influence on health and any interim housing that could provide transitional housing.

Thank you for your consideration and inclusion.

Sincerely,
Celia

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