



January 9, 2024

Via Email

To: Clerk@SantaBarbaraCA.gov

Subject: City Council Agenda Item 16: Local Housing Trust Fund - Support Staff's Recommendation

Dear Honorable Mayor Rowse and Distinguished Members of the City Council,

Founded in 1970, People's Self-Help Housing (PSHH) is the longest-serving nonprofit affordable housing organization on the Central Coast. With a mission of building affordable homes and providing services to strengthen communities and change lives, PSHH serves low-income households, families, seniors, veterans, farmworkers, those living with disabilities and the formerly homeless. PSHH also provides both rental and homeownership opportunities serving more than 10,000 residents, including those living at seven apartment communities in Santa Barbara, with waitlists totaling over 1,200.

Creation of the Local Housing Trust Fund (LHTF) is an encouraging action in the face of such a crisis level of need for new affordable housing in Santa Barbara. We agree with your staff's recommendation to adopt the ordinance before you today, establishing the City's LHTF. We thank the staff and the Ordinance Committee, under Chair Gutierrez's leadership, for receiving public input and incorporating the elements those local practitioners like us believe will make it most successful.

We strongly support this recommendation and urge you to approve it.

Ken Trigueiro
CEO & President