February 19, 2021

City Council

City of Pittsburg

65 Civic Avenue

Pittsburg, CA 94565

Dear Mayor and City Councilmembers:

I write in regards to Item #1 on the agenda for your meeting this coming Monday evening, February 22. On behalf of East Bay Housing Organizations (EBHO) **I ask that you oppose the staff recommendation before you and decline to approve a development agreement and master plan, along with General Plan amendments, certification of a final EIR and approved CEQA findings for the Faria/Southwest Hills project.**  EBHO is a 37 year old membership organization committed to creating, preserving and protecting affordable housing opportunities for low-income residents of the East Bay. Many of our members live and/or work in the City of Pittsburg.

Part of the development agreement before you allows the developer to replace the required 9% inclusionary housing units for affordable housing development in the City of Pittsburg with the construction of 150 ADU “tiny homes”, measuring just 300 square feet in size. While tiny homes are appropriate in some situations, they are more reasonably used for transitional or temporary housing. They are in no way equivalent to a standard apartment, permanently affordable to families- and they are nor intended to be.

The only beneficiary of this proposal is the private developer who would save significant money on the construction costs of the project if they were allowed to satisfy their affordable housing obligations through tiny homes versus the building of full, conventional affordable apartments. This is an unacceptable trade for the residents and the City of Pittsburg who deserve better. Residents and the City deserve permanent, affordable, quality homes as a part of this project- homes that will provide all segments of the community with housing stability and dignity.

The City Council should reject the proposed development agreement before you and demand true, quality affordable housing in this development and throughout the City of Pittsburg.

Sincerely,



Rev. Sophia DeWitt

Program Director