



California Apartment Association

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March 15, 2023

Chair Tzang and Members of the Planning Commission
City of South San Francisco
400 Grand Avenue
South San Francisco, CA 94080

Chair Tzang and Honorable Members of the Commission:

The California Apartment Association (CAA) is the largest statewide trade organization representing rental housing providers, operators, and suppliers of rental homes and apartment communities.

We provide services to our members to ensure that they have the tools, resources, and favorable environment to provide safe, quality housing, and work with a broad-based coalition to advocate for the production of housing as that is the only true solution to addressing our housing crisis.

CAA has worked closely with Essex Property Trust, Inc., and we urge the Planning Commission to approve the 7 South Linden Avenue project at your meeting on March 16, 2023.

We are reaching out to the City of South San Francisco because we first recognize the leadership role that the City has taken to produce high quality housing, especially multi-family rental housing for many years. From the Downtown Station Area Specific Plan to your recently completed Shape SSF General Plan and Housing Element – South San Francisco sets the example for every city and county in the greater Bay Area to follow in balancing the need for housing along with addressing resident concerns in an evolving housing landscape that seeks to accommodate community members of all demographics.

CAA is pleased that Essex is proposing a high-quality residential development that aligns and respects the vision of the City of South San Francisco's community, Planning Commission, and City Council through its conformance with the general plan and location in the Lindenville area, which the City has identified as a priority area for housing. We expect nothing less from our members.

This is a superior project proposal due to its proximity to downtown and transit, inclusion of 15% below-market rate units, allocation of 42% of total units as 2-bedroom plans, quality architectural elements, commitment to sustainability, and plans to reduce car trips and encourage walking and biking as much as possible.

CAA encourages the Planning Commission to approve these 543 important new housing units for South City. This is a project that will enable the City to make a dent in its Regional Housing Needs Assessment goals for the latest Housing Element cycle.

Best,

Rhovy Lyn Antonio
Senior Vice President of Local Public Affairs
California Apartment Association