

March 4, 2021

Supervisor Storck,

Thank you for your ongoing service to our community. Due to prior commitments I am not able to attend tomorrow's Penn Daw Fire & Supportive Housing Advisory Committee meeting.

I want to communicate Groveton Baptist Church's support of increased services to the homeless in our community. As you know, our church building is mere blocks from the proposed site for the new facility. We have regular interactions with those facing housing crises, whether through our food and clothing ministry, drop-ins who ask us for hotel money, or members of our own church who are or have been homeless. Our desire is for these neighbors to have adequate services, and we encourage the building of new facilities at the Hybla Valley Nursery site.

Of course, this is only one piece of addressing the challenges of living in an area where housing is prohibitively high for many. When I look at the incomes of those who come to us for help, often the only realistic options are subletting a room in an already crowded apartment or moving to a different community. Let me share our church's desire that all of our neighbors have dignified housing options in this community. We would be poorer spiritually, emotionally, and relationally if only the wealthy could afford to live here.

Thank you again for your service to our community.

For Christ,

Chris Davis Senior Pastor Groveton Baptist Church