From:
To: -- City Cler

Subject: for the City Council"s next meeting re: May - Affordable Housing Month

Date: Friday, April 28, 2023 3:29:39 PM

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April 28, 2023

Honorable Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Clerk and Council Members of the City of Petaluma:

I see that the Petaluma City Council will vote soon on designating the month of May as "Affordable Housing Month."

Since February 2020 at the start of the Covid pandemic, my household's total monthly bill paid to our 55+ senior mobile home park has risen a whopping 32%. Of that increase over 3 years, 12% is a ground rent increase paid to park owners. (The rest is due to a 211% increase in gas and electric, plus a 15% increase in additional fees, some questionable, paid to the park.) We now pay nearly 60% of our take-home monthly income to the park.

I ask the City Council to protect seniors and what semi-affordable housing exists by urgently updating Petaluma's ground rent stabilization ordinance, changing Chapter 6.50 - Mobilehome Park Space Rent Stabilization Program 6.50.040A to read "... Said increase shall be the lesser of: 1. 40% of the percent change in the Bay area CPI, or 2. 2.5%. As you consider the demise of affordable housing locally, please vote with your feet to stop us seniors from joining the ranks of the many unhoused persons in Petaluma. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,