



Tuesday, May 9, 2023

Dear Chair Bauer and Planning Commissioners,

I am writing to express the Petaluma River Park Foundation's (the Foundation) support for the Oyster Cove development in Petaluma, CA proposed by Urban Mix. Petaluma River Park is a public park in the heart of Petaluma and is adjacent to the Oyster Cove site, with the Park's main access currently via the City's Steamer Landing Park parking lot.

Over the last couple of years, Urban Mix has actively collaborated with the Foundation, City officials, and other community organizations based in the area to develop this thoughtful project. The Foundation supports the creation of more climate-smart housing in Petaluma and in particular "dense" housing developments centrally located near public transportation and essential amenities. The Foundation views the project's plans for mixed-use commercial and residential units as synergistic with the Foundation's goals of creating a vibrant, welcoming public place that connects people, art, and nature and is in line with the broader vision for the City's riverfront as articulated in the 1996 River Enhancement Plan.

The Foundation looks forward to collaborating on the design of the new public trail and park entrance and the restoration of the riverbank. Through such partnership, the Foundation is confident that future Oyster Cove residents—and people throughout Petaluma—will benefit greatly from this improved access to our riverfront and public green space.

We look forward to continuing to work closely with Urban Mix, the City of Petaluma, and other neighbors to advance this shared vision of a livable, climate-smart, and awesome reinvention of this critical part of our City.

Thank you for inviting Petaluma River Park's input on this important project.

Seair Lorentz
executive director
Petaluma River Park Foundation