

Subject: Chapter 42 Housing amendments

Dear Director Wallace Brown,

I am writing this letter to express my full support for the implementation of changes proposed for Chapter 42. I believe that these changes will significantly encourage a greater variety of homes at a greater variety of price points, thereby creating more affordable alternatives for Houston residents.

The mission of HLB is to steward vacant, abandoned, dilapidated, and contaminated properties into equitable and transformational developments in Houston's most vulnerable and underestimated communities. The flexibility being proposed in the parking requirements will make it easier and cheaper for developers to create housing options that cater to different income levels. This will be hugely beneficial to Houstonians, particularly those who are currently struggling to find affordable housing options.

Additionally, the incentives being offered for small-scale developments such as garage apartments, four-plexes, and courtyard developments are a great step in the right direction. These incentives will encourage the creation of more homes for Houstonians while still honoring the character of existing neighborhoods.

I believe that the changes being proposed offer a solution to the pressing need for more affordable housing in Houston. This is an issue that has been plaguing social and economic development in our city for a long time. Therefore, I urge the City of Houston to implement these changes as soon as possible.

Overall, the proposed recommendations of Chapter 42 will help align individual neighborhood needs and diverse design characteristics to achieve a variety of culturally appropriate and equitable designs. We do not subscribe to a cookie-cutter or standardization approach to replicating affordable housing typology.

Thank you for considering my support for these changes.

Sincerely,

Christa Stoneham, AAA, NOMA

CEO and President Houston Land Bank