

April 18, 2023

Dear Mayor Hemminger and Town Council members,

Community Home Trust (CHT) is supportive of amending the LUMO to address Missing Middle housing. Over the past 30 years, Community Home Trust has had the honor of being able to support low and moderate-income individuals and families to purchase homes in developments that were created primarily for market-rate homeowners.

In our 30 years of engagement with inclusionary policy, we know that diversity of housing brings a diversity of neighbors and gives opportunities to those who may have otherwise been excluded. In addition, CHT does not support zoning policies that are exclusionary. Exclusionary zoning policies are historically based on racism and fear and CHT opposes them.

Affordable housing remains CHT's primary concern and we are hopeful this text amendment will provide opportunities for CHT and other non-profit developers the chance to build or acquire housing that can be made affordable. Making sure affordable housing can be part of this plan will require increased investment by the Town of Chapel Hill.

The opposition to this issue has been loud and CHT wants to recognize the hard work of town staff in their efforts to provide many opportunities for engagement in this issue and transparency of the process. CHT is grateful to this Council for its steadfastness on all housing issues that arise and its proven commitment to finding ways to increase housing, increase diversity and strengthen our communities.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Sanchez, Executive Director

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