



City of Flagstaff

Honorable Senator Kyrsten Sinema
Office of U.S. Senator Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona
3333 E Camelback Rd. Suite 200
Phoenix, Arizona 85018

Dear Senator Sinema,

I offer this letter in support of the San Francisco Square project submitted by the Foundation for Senior Living's (FSL) development team. This is an innovative three-part project that begins by addressing the extraordinary need for affordable housing in our community.

Once constructed, it will accomplish a variety of important city goals. It will not only provide desperately needed housing, but also eliminate dangerous slum and blight as well as provide much-needed parking for our newly constructed city courts and our downtown core.

The need for affordable housing has never been greater or harder to address. Our city council elevated the need through formal resolution in December of 2020 stating that "The City of Flagstaff declares that a housing emergency exists within our city and region and recognizes the need to make housing a leading priority for the organization and community."

The proposed site for San Francisco Square Apartments currently consists of an abandoned school building and a large vacant home. Both structures boarded up and have become a site for vandalism and occasional shelter, resulting in fires for warmth that have, on at least one occasion, spread and threatened nearby buildings. A very welcomed alternative to these ongoing challenges lies in the first critical element of the project - the construction of 70 affordable rental units for seniors.

San Francisco Square is permit-ready and once awarded tax credits, the FSL team will continue their work on the second element of the development - designing and permitting a garage for public use that can serve visitors to our new city courthouse and the downtown core. FSL's project site is located directly across the street from the courthouse and by far our most convenient option for public parking.

The last element of the project will be a second affordable housing project called Aspen Lofts and will provide seventy-six units of family workforce housing, which will provide families the opportunity of living affordably in the heart of Flagstaff.



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As mentioned, this is an innovative project, and the city has appropriated funding toward the parking inventory. The city has also provided relief in the design requirements to further support the project's success. These are true and dire needs in our community, and we thank you in advance for your kind assistance in the matter.

Thank you,