

Part II: GPAHG New Member Orientation.

**Our Approach: Advocacy-
Redemption of the city; Core
Values; a Theology of Land
and Housing,**

Advocacy—Redemption of the City. What is the process?

1. **Build a team** —Jesus had 12, affordable Housing is all about trust and relationships, GPAHG has about 12 members, active, affiliate, and liaison
2. **Research** the Issue, know more than the city, compare to other cities, learn where decision makers stand, create talking points.
3. **Prioritize** - what is most needed is not always first- Rent control may be what is most needed, but the community may not be ready to pass it. What is on schedule? Housing Element
4. **Build consensus** –We seek to be democratic, and build consensus. City Council needs to hear a united voice on where we stand. We need to support each other.
5. **Meet one-on-one** with elected officials, Commissioners or anyone who is a decision maker find out where they stand, their ideas, and seek to secure a vote—especially before elections.
6. **Bring crowds to prayer vigils, parades, affordable housing tours and public meetings** and do Media campaigns: bring pastors, church members, the stories of the poor and Middle-class must be told: their pain and hope are part of the redemptive story of the city. (Natalie.)
7. **Justice is eternal vigilance** –make sure what was passed is what actually happens

Decisions on policy and programs are made within teams, by voting and consensus. Big decisions are made based on a majority members. What are essential elements of a good team?

- Trust, fun
- Everyone using their strengths,
- Everyone one is valued and heard
- all ideas are considered

Levels of membership allow everyone to participate at their own level of commitment

- ▶ Affiliate,
- ▶ Active
- ▶ Liaison to your congregation or Institution

1. Teams and Membership



GPAHG's Liaison and Membership Forms



Greater Pasadena Affordable Housing Group (GPAHG) Liaison Form

Vision: All Pasadena residents shall have safe, quality, accessible, and affordable housing; people are not displaced from the community, and our community is racially, ethnically and socially diverse.

Mission: GPAHG educates, advocates, and acts to promote safe, clean, and affordable housing for low, very-low, and no-income residents of the greater Pasadena area.

Name: _____ Email: _____
 Phone (home and cell): _____
 Address: _____
 City and zip: _____ Birthday: _____
 Occupation (s): _____

Organization's Name: _____
 Phone: _____
 Address: _____
 City and zip: _____ Email/Phone: _____
 Pastor/Leader's Name: _____

What are you and your organization's concerns and interests around housing issues?

Have you attended a GPAHG orientation? Yes or No

May we use your organization's name and logo on GPAHG general brochure/website? Yes or No

I understand that as a liaison I represent my organization's and am committed to nurturing a partnership between GPAHG and my organization in some of the following ways:

- Rally 5 to 10 people from organization to participate in campaigns/meetings, especially as part of a rapid response when needed.
- Determine your organization's interest and needs concerning housing
- Share information and/or make announcements at your organization on behalf of GPAHG
- Personal commitment to learning some of the complexities and barriers to making housing happen and how to overcome those barriers.
- Attend GPAHG monthly meetings
- Recommended Annual donation of \$50 or more per year from organization

Help set-up meetings with key leaders such as a pastor to explore ways the organization may want to be involved.

Pastor/Leader's Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____
 We plan to have a meeting with you the liaison, and your congregational or organizational leader for a brief orientation when he/she will sign this. Please let us know the best way to reach you and the leader of your organization and some of the best times to meet:



Greater Pasadena Affordable Housing Group (GPAHG) Membership Form

Vision: All Pasadena residents shall have safe, quality, accessible, and affordable housing; people are not displaced from the community, and our community is racially, ethnically and socially diverse.

Mission: GPAHG educates, advocates, and acts to promote safe, clean, and affordable housing for low, very-low, and no-income residents of the greater Pasadena area.

Name: _____
 Phone (home and cell): _____ Email: _____
 Address: _____
 City and zip: _____
 Occupation (s): _____
 Birthday (Date and Month): _____

Indicate if you are representing an organization: Organization Name: _____
 Prior experience with housing issues: _____

What strengths or skills you have that you would like to share?

What is your area of interest?

Affiliate Member: Agree with the vision and mission and be on the email list, attend the larger campaigns and write letters and/or make public comment at City Council or various Commission meetings. Participate in aspects of active membership as time may allow.

Active Membership: Become a voting member. Same criteria as an Affiliate Member plus attend monthly meetings and support GPAHG platform (see attached). Additionally, you may sign up for one or more of the activities or

- Be a note taker
- Help to create the agenda
- Set up appointments with city leaders
- Monitor Planning Commission agendas
- Monitor City Council meetings
- Monitor ED TECH meetings
- Plan location of meetings
- Facilitator or time keeper
- Monitor Ed Tech meetings (subcommittee of City Council) for housing issues.
- Help with designing a Website, Facebook, Twitter, database
- Bring snacks
- Education for New Members: Creating new member packets, Affordable housing tours, plan monthly education sessions
- Send out meeting reminders/call
- Do a devotion

Join committee: (circle the one you are interested in)

- a) ADU—Accessory Dwelling Unit (Granny Flats)
- b) Permanent Supportive Subcommittee—support projects in every district.
- c) Inclusionary Zoning
- d) Safe Parking

Mail to GPAHG, c/o Jill Shook, chair, 1628 N. Garfield Ave, Pasadena, CA 91104, or Email jill@makinghousinghappen.com

2. Research

We do research in our subcommittee. We write a fact sheet on the issues, talking points and letters to a public officials.

We identify partners, create a learning community via email and in person meetings to fine tune our points, and our messages to be sure we are on the same page.



We research issues thoroughly and accurately.

We often know more than the city.

We compare our policies with other cities and neighborhoods.

We research the decision maker's background and seek via one-on-one meetings to discern where they stand on the issue, then adjust our messages and talking points accordingly.

In our subcommittees we create talking points. Examples: Anti-Camping, ADUs—(Accessory Dwelling Units)

We seek to do thorough Research

See these links to GPAHGs ADU comparative Analysis

<https://makinghousinghappen.net/2017/07/10/what-are-the-impacts-and-benefits-of-granny-flats/>

and the Anti Camping talking points link is here:

www.makinghousinghappen.net/2019/03/22/anti-camping-ordinance-talking-points/

And the inclusionary team has done an excellent job developing its proposal to update the City's Inclusionary Policy:

<https://makinghousinghappen.net/2019/03/22/inclusionary-housing-proposal-from-the-greater-pasadena-affordable-housing-group/>

What is most needed is not always first. Rent control may be what is most needed, but the community may not be ready to pass it. What is on schedule? Housing Element has dates and deadline for affordable housing policy initiative. What is up next or what is overdue?

It took from 2003 to 2017 for ADUs to finally become a priority in Pasadena, and the State helped make it so.

Some issues don't rise to the level of an ongoing sub-committee, but are ad hoc, or we address as a group at the monthly GPAHG Meetings.

3. Prioritize



What does consensus mean?

Is it worth it to wait until we are all on the same page?

Unity is powerful. A consistent messaging is powerful.

The City Council needs to hear a united voice on where we stand. We need to support each other

4. Build Consensus



Scheduling relational meetings is difficult, but essential.

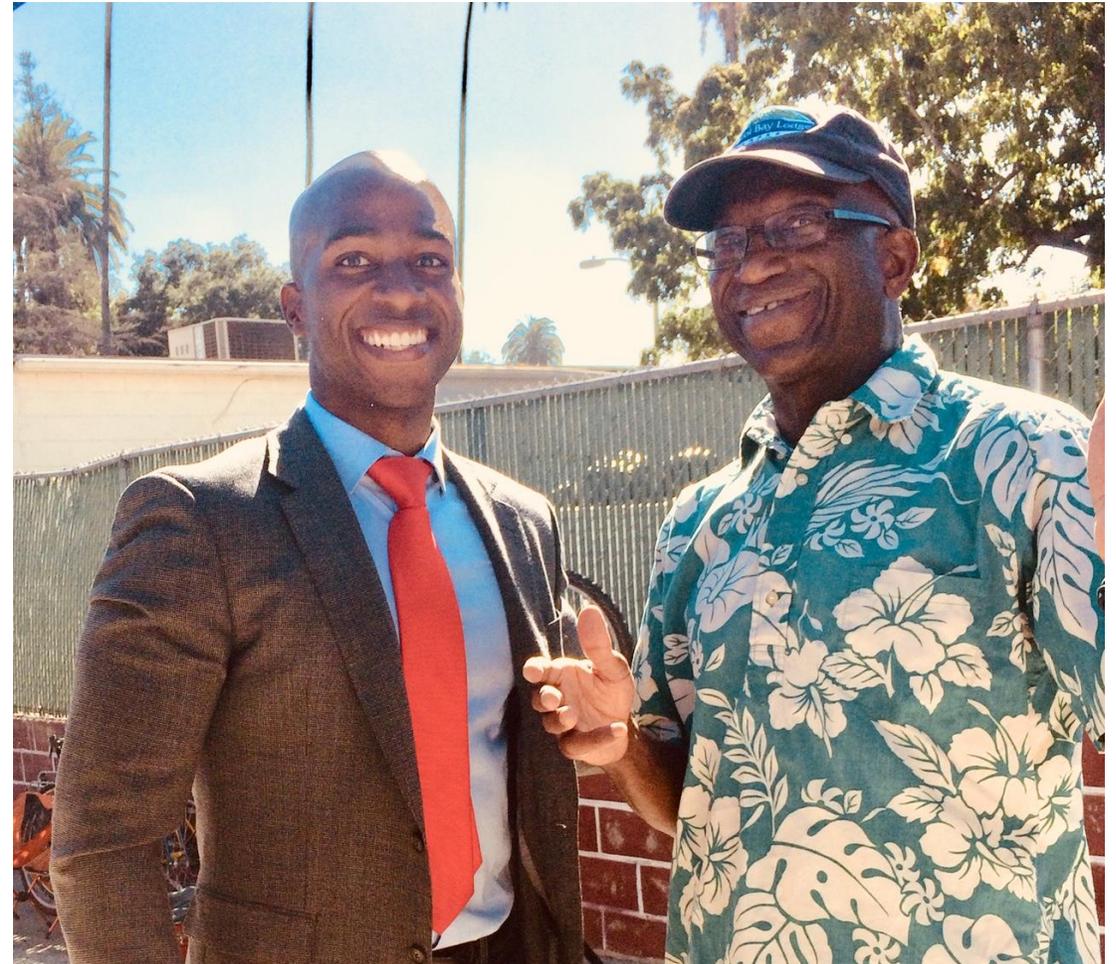
We seek to always have someone from the Councilperson or Commissioners district present.

We try to learn all we can about the council person before the meeting meet.

We plan an agenda for these one-on-ones

What are some strategies for ways to get appointments?

5. Meet one-on-one with decision makers



Meet one-on-one

We build relationships over time. We maintain a humble posture of learning, as opposed to a more confrontational approach. However, we are not shy about our positions even if they are opposed.

When needed, like the Old Testament prophets and Jesus who confronted the authorities 27 times, we are open to confrontation when appropriate.

Often times children are the best advocates. Nicole.



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WESTGATE
APARTMENTS



Why are crowds so important?

They demonstrate strong support for an issue. It builds the beloved community

Who should be at public meetings and our actions?

Anyone- especially those who have a story to tell, those experiencing homelessness and those struggling to keep a roof over their heads.

Who should speak at public meetings?

Those whom the decision makers will value and listen to... new faces, those in their districts, those with stories to tell and stakeholders with clout.

6. Bring crowds



Stories matter at public meetings.

In public meetings the stories of those who have been affected by the housing crisis and stories of those who have been helped by the policies must be told.

When we identify our stories and share them, we are all transformed, just as Jesus told stories that are transformational to this day.

We have trainings on how to tell our stories and how to help others tell theirs.



Dorothy lived in a home she dug out of the 210 Freeway embankment for 17 years, and today she is on the national board for supportive housing, helping others like herself.

Showing up makes all the difference.

Besides showing up at the City Council, the Planning Commission, the Economic Development sub committee of the City Council, or other public meetings, we also have affordable housing tours, prayer vigils, public educational sessions, i.e. with Housing Department requirement to do two workshops a year on affordable housing.

When we bring a crowd, this demonstrates community interest.



Showing up makes it newsworthy

Drawing crowds at this prayer vigil to preserve 169 affordable units at Chang Commons on the Fuller Seminary Campus, about 100 attended.

Because this was a noteworthy action, three Newspapers covered the story. **Public awareness** was the goal of this action and it was accomplished.



**Justice is eternal vigilance –
make sure what was passed is
what actually happens**

**What happens after our issue
is passed?**

**What is the timeline for it to
happen?**

**Even though ADUs were passed in
2017, it took until 2018 for the staff
to have the protocols ready for the
public. Even now the staff is not on
the same page when someone
goes to apply. Follow up was and is
still needed.**

7. Justice is eternal vigilance



**ADVOCATING AT PASADENA
Planning Commission for
Granny Flats. We started
advocating for Secondary
 Dwelling Units in 2003
and finally won a
reasonable policy in 2017.**



Pop Quiz!

1. Which of the following is a way to build a good team?

- a) Housing Justice is such a serious issue, it's best to make sure no fun is involved.
- b) Give jobs to people that aren't their strengths to challenge them.
- c) Actively listen to each person and value what they say

2. Which is NOT a good practice for conducting research?

- a) Listen to those most in need
- b) Carefully listen to decision makers and know their background
- c) Find out what other cities are doing and adopt good practices
- d) Argue with decision makers, and make sure to point out their faults in public

3. How do we go about bringing crowds to public meetings when needed?

- a) Have liaison members who can reach out to their churches
- b) Invite those experiencing homelessness, those now housed to tell their stories
- c) Invite the wealthy residents to support the cause, as well as business owners, telling how they can't pay their employees enough to live near by
- d) Trick people into attending by telling them there will be a five course meal before the council meeting.