

**From:** [Marissa Davis](#)  
**To:** [Paul Glasgow](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Statement in support of Affordable housing, Senior affordable housing, Summit development.T tract A  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 10, 2020 6:30:07 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)

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Marissa Davis  
Deputy Town Clerk  
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**From:** Cathy Rivers <harmonize@colorworks7.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 10, 2020 6:17 PM  
**To:** Marissa Davis <mdavis@townoflyons.com>  
**Cc:** Kim Mitchell <KMitchell@townoflyons.com>; Joan Treece <joantreece@msn.com>; Ken Singer <ksinger48@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Statement in support of Affordable housing, Senior affordable housing, Summit development.T tract A

Hi, Marissa-

I'd like to submit this statement in support of the Tract A/Summit affordable housing plan, and specifically senior affordable housing in Lyons.

I plan to be at the Development Plan meeting tonight, but probably won't want to read it there.

Appreciate your including it with the other statements.

Thanks!

Cathy Rivers  
122 Peregrine Lane  
Lyons

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The critical shortage of affordable housing is a regional and national (even global) concern, as well as here in Lyons, existing prior to the Sept. 2013 flood, but certainly exacerbated by it. At this point, 6 and a half years after the flood, only 6 units have been built, representing about 6 – 8% of the estimated 76-94 homes lost. At this rate (1 unit /year), considering the difficulty in locating available land, acquiring funding as well as the long, complicated planning and development process, it'd take 70-88 more years, just to reach the affordable housing we had *prior* to the flood. If the Bohn Park BCHA affordable housing project had been approved by Lyons voters in 2015, we'd have replaced at least what was lost in the flood (lower estimate- 76 homes), by 2016, giving those lower income displaced Lyons residents a chance of returning home. The loss of that vote was devastating to many of us who had hoped that Lyons residents whose homes

survived the flood would have supported a way to return its other displaced residents to their home in Lyons.

The diversity we had all treasured as part of what makes Lyons such a wonderful community was altered,

perhaps forever. A friend of mine said she felt Lyons lost a part of its soul then.

I have been a Lyons' resident since April of 1998, owning my home from then to its sale in 2007.

Since 2007, I have been a renter, learning first hand as a self-employed designer, artist and community art

activist (The Lyons Mural (Visitor Center); the Clarifier Community Mosaic at the Black Bear Hole;

the tile installation at the new Lyons Regional Library), and community volunteer (Lyons Volunteers, Weed Posse)

how difficult it is to find affordable rentals in Lyons.

I currently am sharing a nice home in Stone Canyon with two other women, one of whom is the homeowner.

If this situation were to become unavailable, I would likely have to leave Lyons. I love Lyons! I feel like I belong here.

So, I especially want to express the need for SENIOR affordable housing.

Currently, the waitlist for senior housing at Walt Self is 5 to 10 years for the 12 available units,

likely causing many of us to leave the community we call home and had hoped to 'age in place' in.

I very much appreciate the dedicated efforts of our mayors (Julie Van Domelen, John O'Brian and Connie Sullivan) and the

Board of Trustees, and others, who have worked tirelessly to create affordable housing in Lyons, and the balanced cultural diversity and economic stability (service workforce; teachers, artists, musicians, etc.) it would bring.

While I had hoped the proposed Tract A affordable housing development would be the full 43 units, I sincerely hope

the current Summit plan (21 multi-family and 19 single family homes) will be approved and built. It may be too late for

many of our pre-flood neighbors to return, but I hope it will help keep Lyons community members like me, at home.

Thank you,

Cathy Rivers

122 Peregrine Lane

Lyons

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