

San Rafael Chamber

July 31, 2013

Mayor Gary Phillips and City Council
City of San Rafael
1400 Fifth Avenue
San Rafael, CA 94915

Re: Proposed Priority Development Area Designations in San Rafael

Dear Mayor Phillips and Council Members:

On behalf of the San Rafael Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors we are writing to express our strong support in regard to planning, development and workforce housing. Following a review by the Economic Vitality Committee and Board of Directors of existing policies which are set forth in the Chamber Board policy manual, dated as of August 2010;

It is RESOLVED

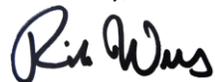
The Chamber reaffirms its support for the existing policies governing (i) community development, and (ii) workforce housing, including the respective policies of the Marin Consortium for Workforce Housing and the Alliance of North Bay Chambers, and consistent with those policies recommends support of the following positions on specific issues:

1. Endorse the City of San Rafael's citizen advisory committee processes used to develop visions for area plans, and
2. Support the retention of the downtown and Civic Center SMART stations as Priority Development Area designations identified by the above processes, and
3. Support the creation of mixed-use commercial space and workforce housing at Marinwood Plaza.

The Chamber has a strong history of supporting a diverse housing stock in San Rafael and Marin, including a variety of housing options for our county's workforce. It makes sense for our workforce to have options to live close to where they work. This improved balance of housing will help continue to improve our area's diverse economic vitality.

The San Rafael Chamber of Commerce believes that a healthy and diverse business community is invaluable to the community as a whole. We thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Rick Wells
President and CEO

cc: Chamber Board of Directors
City Manager and City Staff, Planning Dept.