



# Marin Interfaith Council

*A respectful collaborative celebrating faith traditions, advocating justice, and building community*

May 15, 2007

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Supervisor Charles McGlashan  
Marin County Board of Supervisors  
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 329  
San Rafael, CA 949093

Dear Supervisor McGlashan,

The Marin Interfaith Council Board of Directors supports the plans of Habitat for Humanity San Francisco (HHSF) to build the organization's first four homes in Marin County, near the intersection of North Knoll Road, Bay Vista Drive and Eagle Rock Road, in Strawberry.

The MIC Board applauds the Habitat goal of building simple, decent, quality and affordable homes in Marin County. We are painfully aware that there are few opportunities for families with low incomes to own their homes in our county. As people of faith and conscience, we believe decent, quality affordable housing is a human right. Our religious convictions move us to compassion and action to address the lack of housing choices here in Marin County.

At the same time, we are aware of a local and national trend of building huge homes and then squeezing affordable homes in as a "required" tradeoff. As religious and civic leaders, it is our vision and plan to begin conversations in Marin to address the profound issues of spiritual poverty and economic inequity fostered by such enormous home-building.

In addition, we are aware of nearby neighbor concerns regarding traffic and property values. We ask the County of Marin to address the neighborhood's existing concerns about roads, safety and traffic. We know from Marin-based studies that affordable housing does not have an impact on property values.

We ask you, the other Marin Supervisors, and the Marin County Planning Commission to support the Habitat plans in Strawberry.

In compassion and justice,

The Reverend Fu Schroeder, President  
Marin Interfaith Council Board of Directors

Cc Mr. Phillip Kilbridge, Habit for Humanity, San Francisco