



## COUNCILMEMBER CHRIS CATE

SIXTH DISTRICT  
CITY OF SAN DIEGO

September 17, 2020

San Diego Housing Commission  
Board of Commissioners  
1122 Broadway, Suite 300  
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear San Diego Housing Commission Board of Commissioners,

With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of San Diego has taken unprecedented steps in protecting our community, especially the homeless. On April 1, 2020, the Mayor announced "Operation Shelter to Home" opening the doors of the San Diego Convention Center to serve as a temporary regional homeless shelter. To date, the Convention Center has served well over 1,000 homeless individuals during this pandemic. However, one of the core missions of "Operation Shelter to Home" is to also find permanent housing for individuals.

With the San Diego Convention Center expected to close as a temporary regional homeless shelter by the end of the year, San Diego needs to find permanent housing solutions for those currently residing at the Convention Center. The San Diego Housing Commission has identified two vacant hotels in San Diego to purchase as permanent housing solutions. One of those hotels, the Residence Inn, located at 5400 Kearny Mesa Road, is located in the community of Kearny Mesa in my district. The property has 144 rooms, and can house up to 176 individuals. In total, the two properties will be able to provide permanent supportive housing to over 400 individuals.

This step brings the City closer to a goal set by the Community Action Plan on Homeless identifying the need for 2,659 additional permanent housing units within the next ten years. In addition, it will provide the much-needed housing units that will allow more individuals and families to transition out of the current shelter at the Convention Center into permanent housing. For these reasons, I am supportive of this project for the purpose of creating permanent supportive housing units.

Sincerely,

Chris Cate  
Councilmember, District 6