

**From:** [Anna B](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment 5/4/21 meeting agenda - support for AR-1  
**Date:** Monday, May 3, 2021 10:22:18 AM

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Hello Monrovia City Council,

Thank you for your dedication to this City and its residents. I'm writing to express my support for AR-1 on the May 4, 2021 meeting agenda and provide an additional comment about the section on Final Recommendations on Accountability..

I was so pleased to read the recommendations/report from the Ad Hoc Committee on Equity and Inclusion. I think this is a thoughtful report and the recommendations should be adopted by the council.

In particular, I'd like to highlight the section about Final Recommendations on Accountability. This report and its recommendations need to be revisited and successes/failures to meet the recommendation's goals must be evaluated.

While the report recommends that the City Council revisit the recommendations and commitments by the managers and departments next year, I think the council should consider the creation of a new committee, the reinstatement of this current committee, or even a permanent committee to lend support in reviewing the status of these recommendations and the creation of any new recommendations.

May the Fourth Be With You,  
Anna Bischoff  
Monrovia Resident

**From:** [Jason Willoughby](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Public comments  
**Date:** Monday, May 3, 2021 2:26:32 PM

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Mr. Mayor and City Council Members:

Monrovia has made some important moves to address inclusion and equity in our city. The very diligent and comprehensive work of the Ad Hoc Committee demonstrates how our City can continue to grow in this area. I have read the committee's report and recommendations and it is with full support that I encourage the City and the City Council to adopt and incorporate all of the recommendations. In addition, I would encourage that this committee become a permanent one so that Monrovia can continue to be at the forefront in this area.

Thank you,

Jason Willoughby  
Resident

**From:** [Melissa Taylor](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Ad Hoc Committee on Equity and Inclusion  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 9:47:27 AM

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Good Evening Council Members and Representatives of the Ad Hoc Committee on Equity and Inclusion,

Thank you for hearing the call from the community and taking on the task of reviewing our cities policies, practices, and procedures. Thank you for deeply analyzing each department and all policies. The work you have done is incredible and I know Monrovia will be stronger because of your inquisitive work.

After reviewing the document, I encourage the council to turn the committee into a permanent commission. If there is no oversight to ensure accountability of these recommendations, I fear they will not be executed and the report will be seen as a performative act. Too much time, effort, and heart was put into this report for it to not be enacted by an oversight committee. I understand that it's the responsibility of every department to achieve these requests, but where is the accountability to ensure it happens? To make sure that Monrovia comes out of this past year more equitable? How will we assess progress if there isn't a system in place?

Again, the report is remarkable and puts Monrovia in a leadership position. By taking the time to do the research, to analyze the details, we have shown that we are concerned with our history and we want to do better moving forward. Let's do that by having accountability.

Sincerely,

Melissa Taylor

May 4, 2021

Mayor Adams and members of the City Council:

I commend the Ad Hoc Committee on Equity and Inclusion for their hard work and the thorough nature of the report they have produced. I would like to urge the City Council to take seriously their recommendation that the City work with the Monrovia Tenants and Housing Advocates to prepare and enact an Inclusionary Housing Ordinance to ensure that housing is produced to meet the needs of those at all income levels.

Providing a range of housing options is good for the City. It makes it possible for our workforce, seniors, people struggling with disabilities, and young people starting out to find homes in our community. Most importantly our City, noted as a family-friendly community, is losing families to high housing prices. School enrollment is falling and has created a budget problem which can impact the quality of our schools. Ensuring affordable housing keeps families here and keeps the character of our City intact.

An Inclusionary Housing Ordinance would require that a percentage of all new housing developments be priced affordably. The City can offer a range of incentives to developers to make this requirement palatable, and/or the City can offer developers the option of paying an in-lieu fee to a community trust fund to be used to provide affordable housing. Such an ordinance is just one tool to improve housing availability, but it has proven to be effective in other communities. The most important factor in housing everyone is to create enough housing in a range of prices to serve all income levels.

Affordable housing is a critical element in creating equity and inclusion in our City. I hope you will take this need seriously, and that you will dig deep and find the will to make this a priority.

Thank you.

Catherine McCallum  
Monrovia Tenant and Housing Advocates