Public Comment: Support for Tiny Homes and Tiny Homes Communities - April 10, 2024

To: City of Fort Bragg Planning Commision
Jason Godeke, Vice Mayor, Community Development Committee

From: Geri A. Morisky, Housing Workgroup
Grassroots Institute

Re: **Amendments to CLUDC, ILUDC and LCP, City of Fort Bragg**

Grassroots Institute is exploring collaborative strategies to help us become a climate and economic resilient community – *and dynamic model for driving urgent statewide policy changes.*

Our climate, housing and economic crisis are all interconnected: The current residential home model consumes up to 39% of energy in our community, and will heavily impact our energy-water-climate future.

The tiny homes community model can be one of the many solutions that adequately addresses ecological land, water and energy use. It can also offer a more affordable and climate resilient housing model at a time when construction and permitting costs have made affordable housing far out of reach for the majority of our working families, elders and young people –most earning $20,000 to $30,000 per year based on Housing Action Team's Employer-Employee Survey.

Innovative "green zones"-- including possible modifications to the proposed tiny homes community ordinance based on a community driven needs assessment – can create a genuine climate resilient model: Shared resources, solar arrays, collective catchment, rain gardens and permeable pavement to prevent storm water damage, community gardens for future food security, and climate mitigation through reduced use of fossil fuels are among the many advantages that can meet our communities' urgent needs.

Major national insurance companies have announced they will no longer issue homeowner policies in California due to lack of climate preparedness. Equally crippling is our housing crisis – which hampers hiring new employees and retaining long-term skilled employees. Add our ever-escalating fossil fuel and food costs: **We know urgent climate, housing, energy and economic resilient strategies are needed**.

Tiny homes – and especially tiny homes communities – can be a beginning: I fully support the ordinance as one way to create innovative solutions for a more climate resilient housing and community model.

Respectfully submitted,
Geri A. Morisky - Grassroots Institute - Housing Work Group
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