

Regional Housing

From: roxiepet1234 [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, August 2, 2019 9:22 PM
To: Regional Housing
Subject: Submitting an idea

Hello:

I am sure MY idea will, again, fall on deaf ears. Governor Newsom asked for feedback, and I complied, but no answer. So, I am sure when I submit this proposal (relative to housing affordability) to YOU, I will get something back along the lines; "we don't do that," right?

Here it goes: In some counties, seniors 65+ are "exempt" from paying parcel taxes. This pretty much applies to Northern California seniors. All they need do is (to my knowledge) complete a form asking for this exemption and "pfff"} done deal. To my understanding, the yearly ordeal has now been replaced with only a one-time form for completion.

So, my follow up to you folks (re affordability issue and building appropriate units) is: why not offer Southern California the same option to be exempted from parcel taxes for senior citizens aged 65+, especially those on a fixed income, unable to find further employment, who qualify income-wise?

My other suggestion was to freeze property taxes entirely once a senior citizen reached age 65 (with income restrictions, of course). I know again, I will get some cookie cutter answer like: "not our Department," "take it up with the Governor," "take it up with the Board of Equalization," right?

Well, your email to me asked for suggestions and this is regarding the topic of meeting affordable housing (albeit yours talks about module compliance), but I am bringing THIS point up for your analysis. It doesnt help seniors on a fixed income to know well their property taxes can only go up 2% when, ***in fact, they DO and CAN go higher due to parcel taxes.***

I am sure, again, I will get a cookie cutter reply to this suggestion, or an "I am passing the buck," "write to" but it doesnt hurt to try, right? I believe that YOU folks as SCAG have the authority to bring this point up to the appropriate personnel for a response. Am I right or wrong?

Thank you.

Donna Smith
[REDACTED]