

## Stop rent increases during COVID shutdown

Jan O'Brien [REDACTED]

Tue 1/19/2021 2:31 PM

To: Lindsay Lara <Lindsay.Lara@cityofsanrafael.org>

To the San Rafael City Council:

My name is Jan O'Brien, with Mt. Tam United Methodist Church, a member of the Marin Organizing Committee. I'm writing to ask you to vote to implement a one-year emergency moratorium on rent increases in the Canal neighborhood. The COVID-19 crisis is pushing many of our neighbors deep into debt, and yet we're still hearing stories from renters who are receiving rent increases. A moratorium on rent increases is a simple way to protect public health, our economy, and our community members.

My husband and I own a building with 4 apartments. We did not raise rents in 2020 and will not raise them in 2021. Our mortgage did not go up, so why hurt our tenants during this crisis?

Thank you,

Jan O'Brien

## Support San Rafael Renters

Jeanine Strobel [REDACTED]

Tue 1/19/2021 1:08 PM

To: Lindsay Lara <Lindsay.Lara@cityofsanrafael.org>

Hello,

My name is Jeanine Strobel, I am a member of Universalist Unitarian Congregation of Marin. Our church is a part of the Marin Organizing Committee..

I am writing to urge the San Rafael City Council to do all in its power to support and protect renters during these difficult times. I support a moratorium on rent increases. This will keep vulnerable people and families from homelessness and the entire community will be safer during the COVID 19 pandemic.

As a part of this community, I care deeply about our families, elders and all vulnerable people - we need to ensure that all of our neighbors have secure housing they can afford.

Thank you,  
Jeanine Strobel

## RE: Temporary Moratorium on Certain Rent Increases – Support

Pamela Reaves 

Tue 1/19/2021 2:34 PM

To: Lindsay Lara <Lindsay.Lara@cityofsanrafael.org>

Dear Mayor Collin and City Council Members,

Tonight, Please unanimously support the moratorium on rent increases in Census Tract 1122.01 and 1122.02. this is urgently needed to stabilize our community.

Thank you for your consideration,

Pamela Reaves  
San Rafael

**FW: Housing relief**

sallykarste@comcast.net [REDACTED]

Tue 1/19/2021 12:08 PM

**To:** Lindsay Lara <Lindsay.Lara@cityofsanrafael.org>

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**From:** sallykarste@comcast.net <sallykarste@comcast.net>**Sent:** Tuesday, January 19, 2021 12:05 PM**To:** sallykarste@outlook.com**Subject:** Housing relief

To the San Rafael City Council:

My name is **sally karste**, with **St. Anselm Church**, a member of the Marin Organizing Committee. I'm writing to ask you to vote to implement a one-year emergency moratorium on rent increases in the Canal neighborhood. The COVID-19 crisis is pushing many of our neighbors deep into debt, and yet we're still hearing stories from renters who are receiving rent increases. A moratorium on rent increases is a simple way to protect public health, our economy, and our community.

Thank you,

**Sally Karste**

## Moratorium on rent increases

Sami Mericle [REDACTED]

Tue 1/19/2021 12:05 PM

To: Lindsay Lara <Lindsay.Lara@cityofsanrafael.org>

To the San Rafael City Council:

My name is Sami Mericle. I'm co-chair of the Marin Environmental Housing Collaborative, a member of the Marin Organizing Committee. I'm writing to ask you to implement a one-year moratorium on rent increases for the Canal neighborhood, and to soon revisit the ordinance to expand it to the entire city.

In March, I was living in Smith Ranch Apartments in northern San Rafael. My roommate moved out just before the pandemic hit. I searched for months to find a new roommate (while paying both halves of the rent), but was unable to find anyone. Part of this was due to the pandemic, but a big part was that because I didn't have a lease and was on a month-to-month rental agreement, I couldn't tell prospective roommates if the rent would remain the same. I asked the property management company if the rent would remain stable for awhile, and they wouldn't tell me anything. Because the rent was already so expensive, prospective roommates weren't willing to take the chance of moving in if the rent could go up even more any month.

After several months, I gave up on finding a new roommate and moved into a studio. Between my loss of income because of the pandemic and the higher cost of living alone, I now pay more than 50% of my income on rent.

A moratorium on rent increases would be a huge step in adding some stability to the lives of renters. Please vote in favor of the ordinance.

Thank you,

Sami Mericle

[REDACTED] San Rafael

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[Sami Mericle](#)

*"Excuse me for not answering you sooner, but I have been so busy not answering emails lately that I have not been able to get around to not answering yours in time." – adapted from Groucho Marx*

## urging the Council to adopt the moratorium on rent increases

Scott Clark <[scottclark@togetherweserve.org](mailto:scottclark@togetherweserve.org)>

Tue 1/19/2021 2:24 PM

To: Lindsay Lara <[Lindsay.Lara@cityofsanrafael.org](mailto:Lindsay.Lara@cityofsanrafael.org)>

To the San Rafael City Council:

Peace to you.

My name is Rev. Scott Clark, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of San Anselmo, a member of the Marin Organizing Committee. I'm also a resident of the Terra Linda neighborhood of San Rafael.

**I'm writing to ask you to vote to implement a one-year emergency moratorium on rent increases in the Canal neighborhood.** Many thanks to the Council for the actions that you've already taken to support San Rafael renters. I urge you to continue that work with this urgently needed help. The COVID-19 crisis is pushing many of our neighbors deep into debt, and yet we're still hearing stories from renters who are receiving rent increases. Just last night, we heard from a number of residents at a public action sponsored by MOC. A moratorium on rent increases is a simple way to protect public health, our economy, and our community members.

Thank you for your commitment to the well-being of the people of San Rafael.

Blessings,

Scott Clark

*pronouns: he/him/his*

Pastor, First Presbyterian Church of San Anselmo

[scottclark@togetherweserve.org](mailto:scottclark@togetherweserve.org)

## Letter to City Council

Shiraz Kaderali [REDACTED]

Tue 1/19/2021 1:02 PM

To: Lindsay Lara <Lindsay.Lara@cityofsanrafael.org>

To the San Rafael City Council:

My name is **Shiraz Kaderali**, with the Marin Environmental Housing Collaborative, a member of the Marin Organizing Committee. I'm writing to ask you to vote to implement a one-year emergency moratorium on rent increases in the Canal neighborhood. The COVID-19 crisis is pushing many of our neighbors deep into debt, and yet we're still hearing stories from renters who are receiving rent increases. A moratorium on rent increases is a simple way to protect public health, our economy, and our community members.

Thank you,

**Shiraz Kaderali,**

[REDACTED] **San Rafael, CA 94901** [REDACTED]