CHAM

(Community Homeless Alliance Ministry)
First Christian Church
80 South 5th Street
San Jose, Ca. 95112
Hotline: (408) 345-2353
Office: (408) 295-4463
www.cham-ministry.org

Faith

Justice

RECEIVED
FEB
CITY OF SAN JOSE
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

January 30, 2006

Dear Members of the Coyote Valley Task Force,

Our ministry is made up of volunteers, students, and homeless families and is located in downtown San Jose right next door to the new City Hall. We feel that the development of Coyote Valley, if it is allowed to go forward, must include an affordable housing component to help mitigate the negative impact it will have on housing for poor and working people in San Jose.

We advocate the following proposals:

1) That the Coyote Valley Plan include a requirement that 20% or more of all housing be affordable to low-income residents, and that 30% of this housing be affordable to extremely low-income households.
2) That the Plan include a requirement that no city money be used to subsidize this affordable housing in Coyote Valley, even the extremely low-income housing, but that it be funded by developers as a condition for building.

In our experience, there is so little funding available to meet the housing needs of the extremely low-income that we have to take advantage of every possible opportunity to access more of it when we can. The Coyote Valley development is one such opportunity.

Our ministry believes that our City and our whole society will be judged above all by how well we take care of the poor. This is an important turning point where what we decide about housing can either make things better for them or much, much worse. Please do the right thing and support these two proposals.

Sincerely,

Sandy Perry
Outreach Director