

Lopez, Donna

From: Elizabeth Lerret [elizabethlerret@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, May 05, 2014 9:07 AM
To: City Council
Cc: Lopez, Donna
Subject: Yes to Linkage Order

Councilors Carlone and Mazen are proposing to almost double the linkage fee that is applied to big commercial development in order to fund affordable housing and I support them.

An important source of affordable housing funds comes from a "linkage fee," when large, new commercial developments are required to make Housing Contributions in return for a Special Permit for up-zoning. For 12 years, the City Council has neglected to review and recalculate these fees every 3 years as required by law, even though their own 2002 study recommended it be set at \$7.83 per square foot (~\$10 in 2013 dollars). The fee in 2002 was set at \$4.44; today it is \$4.58. **The City has left millions of dollars in affordable housing money on the table.**

Please support the linkage order at tonight's meeting.
Thank you for your time,

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Elizabeth Lerret