

SINGER ASSOCIATES, INC.
PUBLIC AFFAIRS & CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

Statement Regarding Contempo Marin

The judge in this case heard from a distinguished professor of affordable housing from UC Berkeley, among other experts, and found that San Rafael's unconstitutional ordinance does not create affordable housing – in fact, it does just the opposite. People trying to get into the park are paying up to \$125,000 more than the homes are worth because of the city's unfair rules.

These rules drove the cost of Contempo Marin's mobile homes to artificial extremes. Prices have skyrocketed. Homes that were being sold for \$27,000 from 1999 to 2002 rose to a mean price of \$154,000 in 2007.

The ordinance had the opposite effect of the city's stated intention. It created rents that were artificially low, which drove up the sale prices of the homes. This serves no public purpose and benefits only a handful of people.

Now the city intends to foster further uncertainty by appealing the decision and wasting more taxpayer money. It is mystifying that the city is willing to throw good money after bad to defend a law that has been found by a judge to be counter-productive, unconstitutional and that serves no public purpose.

Importantly, Contempo Marin has offered a transition plan for any resident who needs assistance. We have reached out to the home owners association and the City of San Rafael to discuss this plan, but apparently they don't want to talk. We welcome the opportunity to meet with the homeowners association and the city.

We are pleased the judge ruled that this ill-advised ordinance is unconstitutional and we are ready to continue defending ourselves against the city's intrusions.