



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
of the Los Altos-Mountain View Area  
97 Hillview Avenue, Los Altos, CA 94022**

August 29, 2016

Chair Moison and Members of the Planning and Transportation Commission  
City of Los Altos  
City Hall, 1 North San Antonio Road  
Los Altos, CA 94022

Re: Agenda Item #2 – Downtown Los Altos, PTC Meeting Sept. 1, 2016

Dear Chair Moison and Members of the Commission:

The LWV of the Los Altos/Mtn.View Area supports affordable housing for all Californians. We also support incentives that encourage development of affordable housing. Therefore, we encourage the PTC to include building of housing units affordable to those with lower incomes as a "community wide benefit", as discussed in 14.52.100.

Neighboring cities, including Mountain View and Palo Alto have designated affordable housing as a community or public benefit when determining whether to allow adjustments to floor area ratios, height limitations, setbacks, etc.

The proposed language in the staff report states as follows: "For those projects found as having high architectural quality.... an increase in maximum building height may be permitted...", rather than referencing community benefits such as affordable housing as a justification for increasing the maximum building height. We hope that this language will be modified so that affordable housing, in addition to architectural quality, is stated as an important community benefit.

Thank you for considering our input.

Susan Russell  
Co-Chair, Housing Committee  
League of Women Voters of Los Altos/Mountain View Area

Cc: David Kornfield, Planning Services Manager  
Chris Jordan, Interim City Manager  
Jon Biggs, Community Development Director