



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
of the Los Altos-Mountain View Area**

February 24, 2018

Mayor Jean Mordo and Members of the City Council
City of Los Altos
1 N. San Antonio Road
Los Altos, CA 94022

Re: City Council Meeting - February 27th - Agenda Item #7 Accessory Dwelling Units

Dear Mayor Mordo and Members of the City Council:

The LWV supports affordable housing and incentives for development of affordable housing. This includes loosening regulations to allow more accessory dwelling units (ADUs), which we believe are generally "affordable by design" and thus would increase an important type of housing stock in Los Altos.

The City's general zoning requirements (lot coverage, setback requirements, etc) will protect neighborhood character. Therefore, we encourage Council to adopt the proposed ordinance, as recommended by staff. However, in addition, we urge the Council to go further and allow ADUs on minimum lot sizes of 8,000 square feet, so long as the total floor area ratio of the principal dwelling and the ADU does not exceed what is allowed for the property. This would provide slightly more opportunities for ADUs and would be more in the spirit of the new State law encouraging ADUs. This is a small way for Los Altos to provide affordable housing as part of its fair share of the regional shortage of affordable housing.

Thank you for considering our input.

Sue Russell
Co-Chair, Housing Committee
LWV of the Los Altos-Mountain View Area

Cc: Chris Jordan Jon Biggs Jon Maginot