



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

June 24, 2018

Mayor Siegel and Members of the City Council
City of Mountain View
500 Castro Street
Mountain View 94041

Re: City Council Meeting June 26, Agenda Item 6.2 – Development Project at 2580 and 2590
California Street and 201 San Antonio Circle

Dear Mayor Siegel and Members of the City Council:

The LWV supports affordable housing for all Californians. We also support below-market rate units (BMRs), known as inclusionary zoning, as we believe that dispersal of affordable housing within a larger complex has been shown to be a socioeconomic and political success in California. We understand that the Greystar project was deemed substantially complete before the effective date of the recent amendments to the BMR ordinance requiring at least 15% BMRs in a rental development.

However, we agree with the Environmental Planning Commission that it would be far preferable for Greystar to provide BMRs on site, instead of paying the Rental Housing Impact Fee. We would urge that the BMR units be affordable to those with lower incomes but believe that even moderate-income units built as part of the project are preferable to collecting the fees, as it is increasingly difficult to find available land where all-affordable projects can be built. As a result, any BMR units built as part of this complex are likely to be completed sooner and the current need is enormous.

Donna Yobs
Co-Chair, Housing Committee
LWV of the Los Altos/Mountain View Area

cc: Randy Tsuda Dan Rich Mariya Hodge Stephanie Williams Wayne Chen