



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

May 19, 2019

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

Re: Council Meeting, May 21, Agenda Item 7.1 – City Council Major Goals Work Plan

Dear Mayor Matichak and Members of the Council:

We were pleased that the Council unanimously agreed to prioritize displacement issues as part of its Major Goals (1.9). We also understand that preparing the “toolkit” of anti-displacement options may take considerable staff time. Nonetheless, we are concerned that during the next year or more before anti-displacement measures are adopted, many more projects which would displace tenants living in naturally occurring affordable housing may be approved.

We note that the Council voted to exempt many projects that had been in the pipeline even though not approved by the tentative date of adoption of the BMR modifications, based upon “fairness” Much of the fairness concern was the reliance of developers upon current law at the time they first submitted their development proposals. With this in mind, we urge the Council to put future developers on notice at this meeting that any anti-displacement options that are adopted by Council before final approval of a project will be required of the developer.

If Council is willing to clarify these requirements on May 21st, then the burden will be on developers to monitor the anti-displacement discussion and factor possible future policies into their feasibility pro-formas.

We are also concerned about the plan to discuss modifications to CSFRA. Our local LWV studied the Mountain View charter amendment and is in support of CSFRA. We acknowledge that minor clarifications to CSFRA may be advisable, but we are opposed to any modifications that violate the intent of this charter amendment.

We support other projects which attempt to help with the current housing crisis, especially 2.13, examining and potentially developing an ordinance to control mobile home park space rents.

Thank you for considering our input.

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

cc: Melvin Gaines
Audrey Seymour Ramberg

Dan Rich

Aarti Shrivastava