



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

June 9, 2019

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

Re: Council Meeting, June 11, Agenda Item 7.2 – Oversized Vehicle

Dear Mayor Matichak and Members of the Council:

The League of Women Voters from the national organization to the local level strongly supports providing a decent home and a suitable living environment for every American family. Clearly, in the present environment in the Bay Area this is an impossible goal. The LWV also supports programs and policies to prevent or reduce poverty and provision of essential support services.

We urge the Council to **delay** the ban on oversized vehicles until there are solutions that can accommodate the existing need (per alternatives on page 10 of staff report). We believe that any ban should be tied to having reasonable alternatives for those now living in their vehicles, such as more shelters, or more safe parking for the vehicles (as referenced as a goal in the safe parking [item 7.1] staff report on page 2 paragraph 3).

We are especially concerned that 30 or 40 Mountain View Whisman School District students now live in vehicles. The LWV supports policies and programs that promote the well-being, development and safety of all children, as well as early intervention for children at risk. Clearly, the students living in vehicles are a vulnerable population that should be given special attention in order to maintain their well-being, development and safety. Council might consider prioritizing alternatives for families who have schoolchildren living in vehicles, as well as for seniors and disabled.

Generally, we hope Council will find a holistic solution to this problem, ensuring that the vehicles are not a health or safety issue, but avoiding a punitive or overreaching approach.

Thank you for considering our input.

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

CC: Kimberly Thomas Audrey Seymour Ramberg Nicole Wright
 Jannie Quinn Dan Rich