



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

March 11, 2020

Mayor Abe-Koga and Members of the City Council  
City of Mountain View  
500 Castro Street  
Mountain View, CA 94041

Re: Council Meeting March 17 – COVID-19 and Displacement in Mountain View

The LWV commends the City for acting promptly in response to the COVID-19 virus. Providing hand sanitizer in public places and disinfectant wipes, along with multilingual information sheets on how to protect against the virus and cancelling many events where lots of people were expected, are especially helpful steps. We urge the Council to place on next Tuesday's Council agenda discussion of more measures to deal with the COVID-19 virus.

We applaud the City of San Jose for passing an urgency ordinance to try to prevent evictions that might be related to this virus. We encourage the City of Mountain View to adopt similar measures, enacting an unconditional 3 months moratorium on evictions for nonpayment of rent, including mobile home space park rent.

We agree with some of the suggestions made by Serge Bonte in his letter to Council, such as freezing rents in mobile home parks for 3 months, adopting a moratorium on housing demolitions, and allowing tenants to stay in their current homes for 3 additional months before having to take advantage of relocation packages.

We suggest discussing with CSA how they are assessing the problems; do they need more money for temporary staff to help their clients? Do clients need some short-term help due to loss of their jobs? Do those living in their vehicles need better access to health care or other services?

We do not know what measures Santa Clara County or the State of California will have taken by the time of the March 17<sup>th</sup> Council meeting, but we encourage the City to take a pro-active approach to supplement/duplicate these efforts. With such a high percentage of renters, Mountain View could see many tenants losing their homes due to this virus. The City needs to do its best to prevent more displacement and to help those who do not have stable housing during this crisis.

Donna Yobs  
Co-Chair, Housing Committee, LWV of the Los Altos-Mountain View Area  
Cc: Kimbra McCarthy                      Aarti Shrivastava                      Wayne Chen