



July 11, 2020

Mayor Pepper and Members of the City Council
City Hall
1 North San Antonio Road
Los Altos, CA 94022

Re: Council Meeting July 14, Item #8 – Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Ordinance

The League of Women Voters commends the Planning Commission and Staff for proceeding with adoption of code amendments so that the Los Altos Municipal Code is consistent with new State laws regarding accessory dwelling units (ADUs). The League of Women Voters California supported AB 68 and other bills during the last few years that encourage the construction of ADUs.

We are pleased to see that new ADUs will not be allowed to be short-term rentals; therefore, they will constitute new housing that is more “affordable by design.” We applaud Staff for receiving support of the California Housing and Community Development on the revisions. We urge the Council to adopt the proposed ordinance.

We support the proposal to reduce fees for ADUs, thereby encouraging more homeowners to build them. We also support the proposal to have a voluntary reporting system so that ADU rents are tracked. This would be useful data for the City, but-also important-it should allow the City to receive RHNA credit for these units where appropriate. Adding ADUs to Los Altos housing stock is a good way for Los Altos to provide more affordable housing.

Sue Russell
Co-Chair, Housing Committee, LWV of the Los Altos-Mountain View Area
Cc: Chris Jordan Jon Biggs Guido Persicone