



October 12, 2020

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

Re: Council Meeting October 13, Agenda #3.1, Study Session re Lot 12

The League of Women Voters supports affordable housing such as the proposed development on Lot 12. We urge the Council to use Measure A funds to supplement the City's affordable housing funds, thereby allowing some of the City funds to be invested in future affordable housing projects. In addition, the households targeted with Measure A funds include extremely low-income households; the RHNA goals for these households are the most difficult to meet. There is also an increasing need to address homelessness, and Measure A funds provide housing for this population.

We encourage the **City to work with the County and the Developer on the third option** regarding Measure A funding as presented in the Staff Report, which would allow the City to take a Citywide approach for using Measure A funds. Because the City has several potential sites for using Measure A funds, this option would appear to provide the most flexibility in terms of providing either Rapid Rehousing or Permanent Supportive Housing, as well as determining whether smaller or family-sized units are better suited to the use of Measure A funds.

We understand that the City prefers to have a local preference, but Staff points out that the Measure A-funded units can be marketed to significantly increase the chances of those with Mountain View connections being placed in the units; this is what occurred at Eagle Park.

With regard to the replacement parking, we have some concern with the enormous cost that underground parking will put on the Lot 12 development. We understand that there may be a significant number of under-utilized parking places, typically restricted to specific offices, that we hope will be tapped as a possible parking resource before a decision is made to replace the entire 160 lost parking spaces. This, along with the uncertainty about future parking needs, and the significantly lower cost of providing parking in a structure rather than underground leads us to agree with Staff's recommendation to not require the 160 spaces to be replaced onsite.

Although not discussed in the Staff Report, we urge the City to **work with the developer on the ideal mix of unit sizes. This site is ideal for families**; we hope that the waitlists for affordable housing complexes have been studied to determine the greatest need, while also paying attention to the needs of the vehicle dwellers the City hopes to house.

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

Cc: Kimbra McCarthy      Wayne Chen      Aarti Shrivastava