



January 19, 2020

Chair Ahi and Members of the Planning Commission
City Hall
1 North San Antonio Road
Los Altos, CA 94022

Re: Planning Commission Meeting January 21, Item #1 – 355 First Street Study Session

As part of its goal to increase affordable housing the League of Women Voters supports urban infill projects such as the proposed 355 First Street condominium complex. We believe that adding residential units to our downtown will help to revitalize our city as well as help us to reach the goals set out in the Regional Housing Needs Allocation. The proposal is consistent with the Downtown Vision as well as with the General Plan.

We are pleased to see eight new below-market-rate (BMR) units added to Los Altos' housing stock. And because these are ownership units, we believe these units are best targeted to moderate-income household, as seven of the BMRs are.

The concession requested seems reasonable, especially since the additional height is an “on-menu” concession according to City policy. We understand that this is a pre-application and therefore there may be changes to the design, but we want to express support of the proposal at this stage. (Please contact Sue Russell at susan.russell75@gmail.com if you have questions.)

Lisa, McLain, President, LWV of the Los Altos-Mountain View Area
Sue Russell, Co-Chair, Housing Committee, LWV
Cc: Brad Kilger Jon Biggs Guido Persicone