

Subject: Re: Council Meeting March 23, Agenda Item 7.1 – Google North Bayshore Precise Plan and Bonus FAR Allocation

Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 at 9:26:12 AM Pacific Daylight Time

From: Lisa McLain <president@lwvlamv.org>

To: ellen.kamei@mountainview.gov <ellen.kamei@mountainview.gov>, Lucas Ramirez <lucas.ramirez@mountainview.gov>, alison.hicks@mountainview.gov <alison.hicks@mountainview.gov>, lisa.matichak@mountainview.gov <lisa.matichak@mountainview.gov>, margaret.abe-koga@mountainview.gov <margaret.abe-koga@mountainview.gov>, pat.showalter@mountainview.gov <pat.showalter@mountainview.gov>, sally.lieber@mountainview.gov <sally.lieber@mountainview.gov>

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Dear Mayor Kamei and Members of the City Council,

The League of Women Voters would like to comment on Agenda Item 7.1 – Google North Bayshore Precise Plan and Bonus FAR Allocation. Please see the attached .pdf or the below included text.

Lisa McLain, President
Donna Yobs, Co-Chair Housing Committee
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— Included text

The LWV supports actions that cope with the jobs/housing imbalance, as well as actions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The LWV also supports affordable housing for all Californians. As a result, we have supported the North Bayshore Precise Plan (NBSPP) since 2017 when it was adopted with its strong residential component.

Therefore, we are enthusiastic about Google's proposed Master Plan which includes 7,000 new housing units, with a target of 20% below-market-rate (BMRs), or 1,400 affordable housing units. We are pleased to see that these units will be spread across the neighborhood areas of Shorebird and Joaquin. We look forward to seeing which sites Google plans to dedicate to the City for all-affordable projects. We urge the City to work with Google to dedicate these sites early in the process so that the all-affordable housing developments can be built expeditiously. We commend Google for planning to build 5% of the affordable units as inclusionary units. This means the affordable component will serve a mix of incomes from very low to moderate.

The 7,000 units proposed here by Google, the 2,000 units recently proposed by SyWest, along with the housing already in the pipeline, will put the City on track to meet the 9,850 new residential unit target anticipated by the 2017 Precise Plan. Google proposes a mix of rental and ownership housing. These additional units will help the serious housing shortage of our region and will help Mountain View achieve its Regional Housing Needs Allocation for the cycle beginning in 2023.

We are also pleased to see that Google has worked with the elementary school district and is proposing a 4 acre

school and park site in a desirable location. We understand that there are many issues to be resolved, including how Google and SyWest's Gateway proposals can work together, but we urge the Council to follow the Staff recommendation to authorize requalification of the 1.3 million square feet of non-residential FAR, with the conditions set out by Staff. We especially like the requirement of a Formal Master Plan submittal within a year, as we would like to see this ambitious plan for North Bayshore implemented as soon as possible.

Thank you for considering our input. (Please submit any questions about this letter to Donna Yobs at dmyobs@yahoo.com)

Lisa McLain, President
Donna Yobs, Co-Chair, Housing Committee
League of Women Voters Los Altos-Mountain View

cc: Martin Alkire Kimbra McCarthy Diana Pancholi Aarti Shrivastava Dawn Cameron