



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
of the Los Altos-Mountain View Area
97 Hillview Avenue, Los Altos, CA 94022

April 14, 2013

Mayor John Inks and Members of the City Council
City of Mountain View
500 Castro Street
Mountain View 94041

Re: City Council Meeting, April 16, Agenda Item 7.2 – Gatekeepers

Dear Mayor Inks and Members of the City Council:

The League of Women Voters of the Los Altos-Mountain View Area would like to comment on the request for gatekeeper processing on the second and third proposed developments. As we have stated before, we believe that the gatekeeper approval is the most appropriate time for Council to begin the negotiations with developers with regard to affordable housing units/fees, as well as other expected community benefits.

While pleased to see units being built, we have been disappointed that Council has not required developers to provide the number of below-market-rate units (“BMR’s”) that would be **equivalent** to payment of the rental housing impact fee. At minimum, we had hoped that when Council expressed a desire to see rental units built rather than fees paid, an equivalent number of BMR’s would be required. This is what the rental housing impact fee ordinance states.

In addition, we encourage the Council to request community benefit **in addition** to what the rental housing impact fee requires when a developer is asking to proceed ahead of the Precise Plan/rezoning anticipated by the new General Plan or requesting rezoning as in the case of the third project. These community benefits could include additional BMR’s or fees, as the staff report points out.

Sincerely yours,
Donna Yobs
1157 Karen Way
Mountain View, CA 94040
Co-Chair, Housing Committee
LWV of the Los Altos-Mountain View Area

Cc: Peter Gilli
Randy Tsuda
Jannie Quinn
Dan Rich
Linda Lauzze