

**TRANSMITTED VIA EMAIL**

October 8, 2018

Honorable Mayor Siegel and Members of the City Council  
 City of Mountain View  
 500 Castro Street  
 Mountain View 94041

Dear Mayor Siegel, Vice Mayor Matichak, and Councilmembers Abe-Koga, Clark, McAlister, Rosenberg, and Showalter,

**Re: Item 3.1—Direction on Development Priorities for Lot 12**

On behalf of SV@Home and our members, we write you today in support of a standalone affordable development on the publicly-owned Lot 12 parcel in downtown Mountain View.

Lot 12, which currently primarily consists of a parking lot, provides a unique opportunity for the City to create 100% deed-restricted affordable homes. Located right off the bustling downtown with ready access to retail, it is also only a short walk from the downtown Mountain View transit center, accessible to Caltrain, VTA, and the City's highly-regarded shuttle system. These factors can translate to lower parking requirements and retail demands, making an 100% affordable project both economically feasible and a low impact, easily integrated addition to the community.

It is well known that developing housing in Santa Clara County is expensive and challenging. Affordable housing developers have even more challenges because they must compete with market rate developers for limited land and have fewer resources to tie up sites. This is the reason that public land is such an important local affordable housing strategy.

During previous study sessions, the Council directed staff to explore how Lot 12 could be used to meet the City's affordable housing goals. We thank staff for their detailed comparison of different options for the site and fully support a scenario that results in a 100% affordable project. We are certain that the development community is ready to respond to this opportunity.

As has been identified again and again by this Council, affordable housing is the most pressing issue that affects Mountain View residents and the surrounding region. The City has been rightly recognized as a regional leader in producing much-needed housing and affordable housing to address the region's crisis. **We urge the Council to take action today to preserve a diverse, welcoming Mountain View by maximizing the number of units on the site and creating 150 new affordable homes.**

Ron Gonzales, Chair  
*Hispanic Foundation  
 of Silicon Valley*

Janice Jensen, Vice Chair  
*Habitat for Humanity  
 East Bay/Silicon Valley*

Kevin Zwick, Treasurer  
*Housing Trust Silicon Valley*

Kathy Thibodeaux, Secretary  
*KM Thibodeaux Consulting LLC*

Shiloh Ballard  
*Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition*

Bob Brownstein  
*Working Partnerships USA*

Gina Dalma  
*Silicon Valley Community  
 Foundation*

Katie Ferrick  
*LinkedIn*

Amie Fishman  
*Non-Profit Housing Association of  
 Northern California*

Javier Gonzalez  
*Google*

Poncho Guevara  
*Sacred Heart Community Service*

Nathan Ho  
*Silicon Valley Leadership Group*

Janikke Klem  
*Technology Credit Union*

Jan Lindenthal  
*MidPen Housing*

Jennifer Loving  
*Destination: Home*

Mary Murtagh  
*EAH Housing*

Chris Neale  
*The Core Companies*

Andrea Osgood  
*Eden Housing*

Kelly Snider  
*Kelly Snider Consulting*

Jennifer Van Every  
*The Van Every Group*

**Staff**

Leslye Corsiglia  
*Executive Director*

Honorable Mayor Siegel and Members of the City Council

**Re: Lot 12 Public Land**

October 9, 2018

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We sincerely appreciate your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pilar", written in a cursive style.

Pilar Lorenzana  
Deputy Director

