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November 28, 2017

Mayor Ken Rosenberg and Members of the City Council
City of Mountain View
500 Castro Street
Mountain View 94041

Dear Mayor Rosenberg, Vice Mayor Siegel, and members of the Mountain View City Council

Re: Affordable Housing Study Session Follow Up and Modifications to the BMR Program (Agenda Item 7.2; November 28, 2017)

On behalf of our members, I write to voice our support for the reactivation of the City's rental inclusionary program, effective immediately. Additionally, we support the following staff recommendations:

- The proposed increase of the affordability requirement to 15 percent;
- The proposal to include language to allow the City and developers to negotiate alternative compliance methods that meet the spirit and intent of the BMR program; and
- The proposed transition to a per square foot rental in-lieu fee.

SV@Home also supports a process to develop strategies that allow the City to provide housing opportunities for moderate-income households, provided that these solutions are additive and do not detract from resources intended to house lower-income households.

We strongly favor staff's proposal for a two-step process around the BMR program – with the above provisions taking effect immediately and a deliberative process involving the broader community in a discussion about additional future modifications to the BMR program.

We thank the City and its staff for the thoughtful and nuanced approach to addressing the housing crisis. We value your partnership and your leadership in this movement and appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback.

Sincerely,



Pilar Lorenzana
Deputy Director

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