

Taber, Toni

From: City Clerk
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 2:48 PM
To: Agendadesk
Subject: FW: SVH Comment RE: Item 3.5 - Community Plan to End Homelessness 2020-2025

From: David Meyer [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 2:45 PM
To: Jimenez, Sergio < [REDACTED] > Peralez, Raul < [REDACTED] > Diep, Lan < [REDACTED] >
< [REDACTED] > Davis, Dev < [REDACTED] > Arenas, Sylvia < [REDACTED] >
Khamis, Johnny < [REDACTED] > Foley, Pam < [REDACTED] > Esparza, Maya < [REDACTED] >
< [REDACTED] > Liccardo, Sam < [REDACTED] > Carrasco, Magdalena < [REDACTED] >
< [REDACTED] > Jones, Chappie < [REDACTED] >
Cc: The Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo < [REDACTED] > City Clerk < [REDACTED] >
< [REDACTED] > Morales-Ferrand, Jacky < [REDACTED] > Mathew Reed < [REDACTED] >
< [REDACTED] >
Subject: SVH Comment RE: Item 3.5 - Community Plan to End Homelessness 2020-2025

[External Email]

Dear Mayor Liccardo, Vice Mayor Jones, and Councilmembers Arenas, Davis, Diep, Carrasco, Esparza, Foley, Jimenez, Khamis, and Peralez,

On behalf of SV@Home and our entire Board of Directors, we are proud to endorse the updated Community Plan to End Homelessness and encourage the City Council to do the same.

The Plan, which was developed through months of community engagement and public input, lays out an ambitious, but necessary and achievable agenda and work plan for helping thousands of our neighbors exit homelessness and stay securely housed. It provides the framework for collective action, which is needed now more than ever as our most vulnerable residents are being further impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and at even greater risk of becoming or remaining homeless. The City of San José has a critical role to play in supporting and implementing this Plan.

SV@Home is looking forward to continuing to collaborate with our partners, including the City of San José, Santa Clara County, and Destination: Home, to implement the Plan's strategies, especially in supporting the development of new permanent supportive housing and other deeply affordable homes, as well as building community support for these efforts.

Sincerely,

David

David Meyer
Director of Strategic Initiatives
[REDACTED]

Everyone deserves a safe, stable, and affordable home.

JOIN US IN MAKING THAT A REALITY!

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY.

sv@home



Act with us. [Become a member](#) today and join us in making home a reality for all.

For all other COVID-19 related housing updates & resources [click here](#)

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P.O. Box 5374
San Jose, CA 95150
www.lwvsjsc.org
August 24, 2020

To: Hon. Mayor Sam Liccardo, Vice Mayor Chappie Jones, and Councilmembers Sergio Jimenez, Raul Peralez, Lan Diep, Magdalena Carrasco, Dev Davis, Maya Esparza, Sylvia Arenas, Pam Foley and Johnny Khamis

**Re: Community Plan to End Homelessness 2020-2025
August 25 Agenda, Item 3.5**

The League of Women Voters (LWV) of San Jose/Santa Clara strongly supports the Community Plan to End Homelessness 2020-2025 that builds on the collective efforts of the previous five-year plan. LWV positions support programs and policies to prevent or reduce poverty, to promote self-sufficiency for individuals and families, and to provide a decent home and suitable living environment for every American. Therefore, we agree with the statement in the Community Plan that every member of our community deserves a safe and stable home—and it is our collective responsibility to make this vision a reality.

Our area's chronic housing shortage especially at extremely low income levels, limited growth in wages at the bottom of the income spectrum coupled with an insufficient inventory of short-term shelters and permanent supportive housing have all led to an unparalleled number of individuals and families without permanent shelter. Now on top of the existing housing crisis, we face effects resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and its accompanying economic downturn. Never was an aggressive, coordinated plan to address homelessness more needed.

LWV California recently added a Homeless Action Policy to its Housing Position. It is aligned with the three main strategies in the Community Plan to address the root causes of homelessness, expand prevention and housing programs to meet the need and improve quality of life for unsheltered individuals. The Action Policy includes but is not limited to:

- supportive services including effective case management, job training, domestic violence services, treatment for physical and mental health, substance use disorder and assistance in obtaining permanent housing
- promotion of cost-effective prevention services and income assistance to assist those on the edge of becoming homeless from losing their housing
- facilities and venues to meet the basic needs of people experiencing homelessness for personal hygiene, storage and trash removal as well as for safe spaces

- educating the public about people experiencing homelessness and their needs and the services and support that are effective
- building of shelters, permanent supportive housing, and low-income, very low-income, extremely low-income housing for those who are experiencing homelessness

The League of Women Voters as an organization fully committed to diversity, equity and inclusion note that the Community Plan documents racial inequities present among the unhoused in Santa Clara County and commits to tracking progress toward reducing these disparities. LWV United States asks all its members to take action to eradicate systemic racism and the harm it causes.

The Community Plan establishes a concrete roadmap for countywide homeless efforts involving the release of annual reports that track progress.

The League of Women Voters urges adoption of the Resolution thereby providing direction to Housing and other City Departments to continue and enhance services for San Jose's most vulnerable residents.

Sincerely,

Carol M. Watts

Carol Watts, President
League of Women Voters San Jose/Santa Clara
president@lwvsjsc.org

cc: City Clerk