

**From:** [Gretchen and Don](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** We Encourage Ronit for Council Seat  
**Date:** Saturday, January 21, 2023 2:47:17 PM

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Dear Council Members,

As longtime Mountain View residents, my wife and I remain very impressed with how well our city is run. The current council, including last year's, has been a good example of mature conversation and consideration of often-complicated issues.

We send our strongest wish that you will appoint Ronit Bryant to the now-open council position. A respectful and experienced council tends to operate steadily and with little drama. Our neighboring cities illustrate how distracting the process becomes when immature, or narcissistic, or politically-ambitious individuals are involved. You all know Ronit, who is experienced in your process, respected by many, respectful of other opinions, and independent enough to bring backbone to your deliberations. She won't require training or nurturing, and she doesn't bring loaded agendas.

Your deliberations will be more insightful and conciliatory with Ronit on the council, and your political lives will be more pleasant.

Best Regards,  
Don & Gretchen

**Gretchen & Don McPhail**

**From:** [Olya Sorokina](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Support for Emily Ramos  
**Date:** Saturday, January 21, 2023 8:10:43 PM

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Dear City Council,

I support Emely Ramos for city council. Appreciate your dedication to public service.

Best,  
~Olya Sorokina

**From:** [Daniel Hulse](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** 1/24 Council Meeting, Item 6.2  
**Date:** Sunday, January 22, 2023 1:55:19 PM

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Dear City Council,

I am writing to support Emily Ramos to fill the city council seat vacated by Sally Lieber.

When choosing a replacement for Sally Lieber, council should ask themselves:

1. Is this someone who voters would consider a reasonable and appropriate stand-in for the vacancy—whose views mirror those of the person who left?
2. Is this someone who will fill the role responsibly—who can be trusted to fulfill their duties as councilor?
3. Is this someone who is worth boosting in local politics—who deserves a leg up?

I think Emily answers these three questions best, for the following reasons.

1. Politically, Emily would govern very closely to what voters chose when they elected Lieber—standing with tenants and the displaced over wealthy and privileged interests. Of all the people running for this seat, it's hard to think of someone closer to her views.
2. Emily can be relied upon for the duties of councilor, having served the Rental Housing Commission well. As an advocate for affordable housing, she also has the interest to take this position with the seriousness it entails.
3. Unlike other applicants, Emily is not a former council member (who should have just ran), a failed candidate (who voters have rejected), or a spontaneous applicant. Her merit in local politics has been recognized by both State Senator Josh Becker, who named her “2022 Woman of the Year for Senate District 13” and Anna Eshoo, who has endorsed her candidacy. These endorsements speak for themselves.

Finally, I think Emily would be someone uniquely placed to guide Mountain View through the challenges it faces in the next decade. As a member of the Rental Housing Commission, she has been a voice for renters, who despite making up a majority of Mountain View residents, are woefully underrepresented in city government. She is incredibly knowledgeable, not just in advocacy and housing policy, but in the nitty-gritty details of governance Mountain View and the region as a whole. The city would be lucky to have her as a councilor.

Sincerely,

Daniel Hulse

**From:** [Ellen Wheeler](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** From Ellen Wheeler - Recommending utilizing a "Narrow Applicant Pool" process for applicants  
**Date:** Sunday, January 22, 2023 9:50:52 PM

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Hello other MV City Council Members - I sent the below to Lucas Ramirez and he encouraged me to share my email with all of you. Hence this "send."

I'll also share that I sent him a follow-up email shortly after this one saying that I can now see the wisdom of selecting 6 finalists, and not just 5. But, my rationale for a "finalist" process is the same.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful work on this important item.  
Sincerely, Ellen Wheeler

Hi Lucas - I read about this "Narrow Applicant Pool" process possibility for selecting how many Council candidates to interview.

I'll share that we utilized a similar process many years ago in MVWSD when we were trying to select school board candidates in our application process. This type of process served us well.

I am in favor of this kind of process.

I was board president at that time. My opinion is that, while likely all candidates are qualified and worthwhile, it serves the public best to have the Council do a preliminary vote to ascertain which candidates you think you should pay most attention to. Giving each applicant the opportunity to give written answers to the interview questions would give the Council members adequate information to vote for 5 to hear more from.

As I was thinking about what process I think your Council should use, I thought having each Council member select 5 candidates would show respect for the candidates and to the process and move things along to the most important discussion segment of your deliberations. With even 5 you will likely arrive at a group of applicants that is higher than 5, and then you could effectively start winnowing down to a manageable number. Additionally, I think providing more time for the finalists would benefit us all. So, it interests me that staff came up with a similar idea.

I hope that your Council publicizes what time the interviews will happen in an effective manner. I'd like to attend this meeting, and I know of others who are similarly interested.

Good luck with your process! I know this will not be easy.  
Sincerely, Ellen Wheeler