

From: [Leslie Friedman](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Letter regarding RHC
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Hello, Mountain View City Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to share with you my reasons for supporting Li Zhang for a position on the RHC.

I am writing to support Li Zhang for a position on the RHC. I admire her lived experience of being both a renter and then a homeowner and “landlord..” She is able to understand and empathize with individuals in both situations. I will offer more reasons to support her below.

Li Zhang has lived in Mountain View for more than 20 years. She was an immigrant in our town. The first ten years she was a renter. I know that she often faced challenges of paying rent and still trying to meet other expenses. She knows the real struggles that renters can face. As a homeowner, she has worked to achieve mutual agreement between renter and owner. She knows how to work within the CFSRA. She consistently wants to have both owner and tenant feel they have a satisfactory agreement. I know from my own rental experiences that that can be difficult to achieve without sincere, honest efforts.

Li Zhang works in the tax department of Tesla. From my point of view, that is not an easy place to work. She must make a huge corporation stay in compliance with tax regulations, and make Tesla’s numbers true to the precise rules of the tax laws. This means that her work intersects with the law department of the corporation and the policy makers. Her position is right in the middle between different demands. To me, this means that she knows how to mediate between different needs and different points of view. I think this experience and ability would be a very positive addition to the RHC.

Li Zhang has high principles. She acts on her beliefs. She ran for a position on City Council though not well known and came in fourth in an election for three seats. After the election she acted on her goal of making Mountain View a good home for many individuals, especially those with low incomes and few resources. She is a person dedicated to help others in every way possible.

For example, she volunteered for Hope’s Corner to help people who were struggling to make enough for their rents. She knows first hand what these struggles are like. She is dedicated to help people in that kind of desperation. I think it is very special for a highly trained person with a secure job to spend her time helping people who are in economic stress. She has also volunteered for United Efforts Organization.

She is not an armchair onlooker. She actually dives in to help, taking her own time to try to give others a chance for a better life. She could relax, go out, take a vacation. Instead, she helps. This is the kind of person I want to have on the RHC.

Thank you for your kind attention. Leslie Friedman