

From: [Serge Bonte](#)
To: [Ramirez, Lucas](#); [Showalter, Pat](#); [Lieber, Sally](#); [Hicks, Alison](#); [Kamei, Ellen](#); [Matichak, Lisa](#); [Abe-Koga, Margaret](#)
Cc: [City Council FORWARD](#); [McCarthy, Kimbra](#); kimberly.thomas@mountainview.gov
Subject: re: Agenda Item 7.1 - Guaranteed Basic Income Pilot Program-"Elevate MV"
Date: Thursday, February 17, 2022 11:33:50 PM

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Honorable Mayor Ramirez and City Council Members:

While I am generally supportive of this pilot program, I am writing to share my disappointment about spending so much money for an academic study of the pilot and to strongly recommend one change in the eligibility criteria

While I'm sure the detailed survey and study of the pilot will be beneficial to UPenn's Center for Guaranteed Income Research and that area of social research in general, I really wished it wasn't underwritten by the City. Instead, I wish philanthropy would have provided the funds or the City had tried to pool resources with similar pilots done at the County or the State level. But time is of the essence, and if the pilot is ready to go with CSA, it shouldn't be delayed to try to address this costly study.

The following criteria " • Must be a current resident of Mountain View and maintain residency throughout the pilot," seems misguided. Criteria should simply be "Must be a current resident of Mountain View at the start of the pilot."

A core concept of basic income program is that money comes with no strings attached, having to maintain residency is quite the string. This would also prevent measured the (hopefully positive) impacts of the pilot on displacement. Is that extra income sufficient to keep participants housed in Mountain View or returned quickly to Mountain View should they be subjected to an eviction? Also, the extra income might help an unhoused participant secure temporary housing in a nearby town; this would be a better outcome -even if temporary- than remaining unhoused in Mountain View throughout the whole pilot.

So please consider removing that continuous residency requirement; it contradicts the "no strings attached" nature of the basic income program and it would prevent studying the pilot's impact on displacement (a very acute issue in Mountain View)

Sincerely,

Serge Bonte
Lloyd Way, Mountain View

From: [David Low](#)
To: [City Council FORWARD](#)
Cc: [. City Clerk](#); [Ray Bramson](#)
Subject: Letters from Destination: Home - Items 4.4 and 7.1 on 2/22 Agenda
Date: Friday, February 18, 2022 3:22:17 PM
Attachments: [DH Ltr to Mtn View City Council re MOU with County of Santa Clara.pdf](#)
[DH Ltr to Mtn View City Council re Guaranteed Basic Income Pilot.pdf](#)

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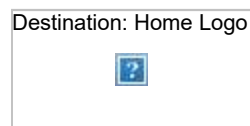
Honorable Mayor & City Councilmembers,

Attached are two letters from Destination: Home Chief Operating Officer Ray Bramson offering our enthusiastic support of Item 4.4 (the Memorandum of Understanding with the County of Santa Clara) and Item 7.1 (the Guaranteed Basic Income Pilot) that you will be considering at your Feb. 22 meeting.

We believe both of these items are critically important to our community's efforts to end and prevent homelessness, and we look forward to working with you on both fronts.

Please feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions or would like to talk about these important issues further.

Thank you,
David



DAVID LOW

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February 18, 2022

Mayor & City Council
City of Mountain View
500 Castro Street
Mountain View, CA 94041

*Re Guaranteed Basic Income Pilot Program - Elevate MV
(Item 7.1 on the Feb. 22 City Council Agenda)*

Honorable Mayor & Councilmembers,

We are excited to see the City of Mountain View exploring a Guaranteed Basic Income Pilot and urge you to approve the Elevate MV program.

With the highest rates of income inequality in the country, Silicon Valley has become simply unaffordable for low-income families. According to California Housing Partnership Corporation, a renter in Santa Clara County would need to make \$55/hour – or 3.7x the minimum wage – in order to afford median asking rent. With such a huge gap between wages and rents, low-income families in our community are left teetering on the edge of housing instability.

Guaranteed income can play an important role in addressing this challenge, and we are particularly pleased to see that this proposed program prioritizes extremely low income (ELI) households, who face the greatest rent burdens and risk of homelessness. In fact, the National Low Income Housing Coalition, estimated that roughly 70% of extremely low-income (ELI) households spend more than 1/2 of their monthly income on rent. And for these individuals, the supplemental income provided by such programs can truly make the difference between homelessness, and stable housing and long-term self-sufficiency.

We are grateful for Mountain View's continued leadership in pursuing impactful solutions to our housing and homelessness crisis and urge you to move forward with this pilot program.

Thank you,

Ray Bramson
Chief Operating Officer