

From: [David Freese](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: 4.1 Council Vacancy Applicant Interviews and Appointment - Missing Interview Question
Date: Saturday, January 28, 2023 4:40:37 PM

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I feel it would be good for the Council to be asking applicants why they did not run for the council in the November election to have that as a part of public record. This seems more important given the withdrawal of Mike Kasperzak. He and Ronit Bryant were the only applicants to indicate they did not have interest in running in 2024, and incumbency shouldn't be handled lightly.

Robust debate during elections is good for the city, and particularly important to represent the views of those that can't afford the time to always be engaged in the various methods of public comment that are a part of the city's processes. Given the amount of interest in the vacant seat immediately after the election, it seems like the city missed an opportunity for healthy competition of ideas.

-David Freese

From: [Serge Bonte](#)
To: [Shawalter, Pat](#); [Hicks, Alison](#); [Abe-Koga, Margaret](#); [Kamel, Ellen](#); [Matichak, Lisa](#); [Ramirez, Lucas](#)
Cc: [City Council](#)
Subject: re: 1/30/23 Special Meeting (agenda item 4.1) Greenlight "Emily in Mountain View"
Date: Sunday, January 29, 2023 10:52:37 AM

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Honorable Mayor and City Council Members:

I am writing to endorse Emily Ann Ramos to finish the remainder of Sally Lieber's term.

Because it is an abbreviated term, it made sense to weed out any applicant who would not be ready on day one. Any of the 5 (now 4) applicants for consideration would immediately be an effective voice on council.

In my view, the main questions are what additional expertise this voice can contribute to the council, which under-represented group this voice will represent and how new/innovative that voice will be.

I believe that Emily Ramos is the answer to these 3 questions.

Because of her role on the Rental Housing Commission, Emily would bring an expert understanding of housing laws and issues (such as RUBS) and of the CSFRA in particular. Because of her professional occupation, Emily would also bring a wealth of expertise on housing policies and other legislative activities, as well as key relationships at the County, State and Federal level.

As a renter herself and as a supporter of Measure V from day one, Emily would represent the majority of Mountain View residents who live in apartment buildings. She would also represent the majority of Mountain View voters who passed Measure V and who affirmed it in 2020 by rejecting a council-led measure that would have weakened it.

After listening to the Community forum on 1/27/23, it's clear that all 4 applicants are qualified and well versed in current City affairs. In my view, Emily sounded like the only fresh voice during that event. The 3 other applicants gave a distinct feel of déjà vu with little indication they would bring anything new from their past 2 terms. In a way, their appointment would seem like yet another 2 seasons of an already long running series (8 seasons each).

Instead, and for all the reasons listed above, I hope you will greenlight 2 seasons of a brand new series for the City: "Emily in Mountain View".

Sincerely,

Serge Bonte


From: [beelia](#)
To: [City Council](#); [City Clerk](#); [Abe-Koga, Margaret](#); [Matichak, Lisa](#); [Showalter, Pat](#); [Hicks, Alison](#); [Kamei, Ellen](#); [Ramirez, Lucas](#)
Subject: Please appoint Emily Ramos to City Council
Date: Sunday, January 29, 2023 12:25:10 PM

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Mayor Hicks, Vice Mayor Showalter, Councilmembers Abe-Koga, Kamei, Matichak and Ramirez:

I'm asking you to appoint Emily Ann Ramos to the City Council on January 30th because I think she will fairly represent every Mountain View resident, not just those who agree with her.

She is also the candidate whose background and achievements align perfectly with the expertise of each of you. In addition, she can help you get your work done expeditiously because she already understands how City government works. Two recent events suggest to me that the time is right for appointing Emily to City Council. At last week's Displacement Strategy Response meeting at the Community Center, I was surprised at the volume and variety of comments from our city's renters - especially the large Spanish-speaking community. That session alone redefined for me the enormous scope of Mountain View's housing problem. As you know, Emily is an expert in housing law, and the answer to any housing problem is on the tip of her tongue. At last week's Candidate Forum, Emily didn't miss a beat on any of the questions. She illustrated her mastery of Mountain View issues by selecting and answering questions on a wide range of issues - not just housing. She gave measured, reasonable, and sensible responses in sufficient detail, and was comfortable enough doing so that she was even able to add a humorous comment or two. Emily was also the only candidate to answer the question about who she would like to see appointed if she was not chosen. She answered "Ronit Bryant", showing the appreciation and respect for her colleagues that you could expect from her if you appointed her to Council. When I write letters to the City Council, I usually just try to represent the interests of the mobile home community. But this time, I feel it's in every Mountain View resident's interest to have Emily Ramos on City Council.

I hope you will appoint her to serve on January 30, 2023.

Bee Hanson
Administrator, Mountain View Mobile Home Park Alliance
President, Santiago Villa Neighborhood Association

From: [Tim Larson](#)
To: [City Council](#); [, City Clerk](#); [Abe-Koga, Margaret](#); [Showalter, Pat](#); [Kamei, Ellen](#); [Ramirez, Lucas](#); [Hicks, Alison](#)
Subject: Support for Emily Ramos for City Council
Date: Sunday, January 29, 2023 1:41:37 PM

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Hi all,

I wanted to voice my support for Emily Ramos as you consider the appointment to the vacant spot on City Council.

Emily has been involved for many years in local politics, spending her time to help run the Rental Housing Committee and help be a voice for the community. She has always shown herself to be very knowledgeable when she speaks and has also shown an ability to work with city staff and other members of the committee to achieve the goals of the RHC. As we all know housing will continue to be a long-term challenge with state mandates and an ever-present need for more housing and I think Emily will be able to help Mountain View continue to make progress on this front. I have also heard her speak about numerous other topics and she is always a great source of information on the context and practical options available to the council and citizens of our city.

To summarize, I think Emily's hard work, collaborative spirit, and technical knowledge would be a credit to the city council and the community of Mountain View.

Thanks for your time,
Tim Larson

From: [Edie Keating](#)
To: [City Council](#); [City Clerk](#); [Abe-Koga, Margaret](#); [Matichak, Lisa](#); [Showalter, Pat](#); [Hicks, Alison](#); [Kamei, Ellen](#); [Ramirez, Lucas](#)
Subject: In Support of Emily Ramos to Join MV City Council
Date: Sunday, January 29, 2023 8:00:02 PM

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Dear Mayor Hicks and Council Members

We are writing to support the appointment of Emily Ramos to the Mountain View City Council.

Emily is well prepared. On the Rental Housing Committee, she has run meetings, navigated the interaction of state and local law, listened to diverse stakeholders, and demonstrated the ability to make fair and well-reasoned decisions that have earned her the respect of participants with differing interests.

Emily has an in-depth understanding of policy making in local government. In her job at SV@Home she works with many local cities as they consider housing policy. Emily's ability to work effectively with elected officials and community groups in this role highlights her skills at collaboration and communication.

Emily is committed to making Mountain View a good place to live for all its residents. This is reflected in her many community-oriented activities. She serves on the boards of both the Mountain View Historical Society and the Community Services Agency and participates actively in the League of Women Voters and Cafecito. Her community engagement, in addition to her experience growing up in an immigrant family, has given her a deep understanding of the issues that impact the lives of Mountain View's most marginalized groups. Emily is the right person to promote the Council's commitment to bring a diversity, equity, and inclusion lens to bear on policy decisions.

Emily believes people should be heard, and people in our community have learned that Emily is someone who will listen. Emily talks to low income renters, and also to Josh Howard of the CAA.

Thank you for your consideration. Please support Emily to join the Mountain View City Council.

Sincerely, Edie Keating, Joan MacDonald, and Janet Werkman, on behalf of Mountain View Housing Justice.

From: [Kammy Lo](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Input on Council Vacancy Applicant Interviews and Appointment
Date: Monday, January 30, 2023 6:17:00 AM

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Dear Mayor Hicks, Vice Mayor Showalter, and City Councilmembers,

I am writing to express my support for Ronit Bryant, because I think she is the best candidate to fill the Council vacancy. I am also very grateful for the other applicants' willingness to serve and their impressive qualifications.

Having worked with Ronit in her capacity of PRC Chair on a number of issues, including most recently the Biodiversity and Urban Forest Plan and the greening of schoolyards, I have come to deeply appreciate Ronit's commitment to making Mountain View a more livable, sustainable city offering higher quality of life and easier access to nature and open spaces for all.

Ronit is a true believer of "Community for All" and champion for social justice. Her experience from serving on the PRC, City Council, to community-based nonprofit boards, such as Community Services Agency, Mesa de la Comunidad, and Mentor Tutor Connection, has given her deep connections to the community. These connections have enabled Ronit to have a clear understanding of the community's needs, including housing at all affordability levels and protection for the vulnerable.

The values that Ronit holds dear (social justice, inclusivity, sustainability, biodiversity) seem to align with those of former councilmember Sally Lieber's, and most importantly, closely align with the City's vision and strategic priorities. The residents of Mountain View would be well represented by Ronit, a caring, thoughtful and experienced civic leader.

I very much appreciate the opportunity to provide input, and thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,
Kammy Lo

From: [David Shreni](#)
To: [City Council](#); [Hicks, Alison](#)
Subject: Re: Issue with City Council Candidate
Date: Monday, January 30, 2023 8:40:27 AM

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Resending with smaller attachment (which caused a bounce) and corrected phrasing below.

Dear Mayor and City Council members

As you consider your choices (which are mostly good ones!) I wanted to share a potential reputational issue for the City Council should it move forward with Emily Ramos.

I don't think it looks good for a current member to vote for a candidate that very recently served as the treasurer of his/her campaign. It's not as if this connection was from an election cycle 2 years ago, this candidate signed a Treasurer statement **just three weeks ago!** (attached)

I'm not sure what the actual legal implications are, probably none since they signed a termination filing, but the optics probably aren't great because there is a clear recent connection to a sitting councilmember. If the council member doesn't recuse themselves, this feels like an unforced error, especially if you knew this all up front (which you now do!)

I've attached a copy of the campaign filing.

Good Luck!

David on Nilda Ave
Cuesta Park

**Statement of Organization
Recipient Committee**

Statement Type

<input type="checkbox"/> Initial	<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Termination – See Part 5
<input type="radio"/> Not yet qualified or <input type="radio"/> Date qualification threshold met	Date qualification threshold met ____/____/____	Date of termination 01 / 04 / 2023

Date Stamp	CALIFORNIA FORM 410
RECEIVED JAN - 5 2023 CITY CLERK	For Official Use Only

1. Committee Information				2. Treasurer and Other Principal Officers			
I.D. Number 1448560 <small>(if applicable)</small>				NAME OF TREASURER Emily Ann Ramos			
NAME OF COMMITTEE Lucas Ramirez for Mountain View City Council 2022				STREET ADDRESS (NO P.O. BOX) [REDACTED]			
STREET ADDRESS (NO P.O. BOX) [REDACTED]				CITY Mountain View	STATE CA	ZIP CODE 94041	AREA CODE/PHONE (510)396-6043
CITY Mountain View	STATE CA	ZIP CODE 94040	AREA CODE/PHONE (650)690-0555	NAME OF ASSISTANT TREASURER, IF ANY			
FULL MAILING ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT) [REDACTED] Mountain View, CA 94043				STREET ADDRESS (NO P.O. BOX)			
E-MAIL ADDRESS (REQUIRED) / FAX (OPTIONAL) lucas@ramirezforcouncil.com				CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	AREA CODE/PHONE
COUNTY OF DOMICILE Santa Clara	JURISDICTION WHERE COMMITTEE IS ACTIVE Mountain View			NAME OF PRINCIPAL OFFICER(S)			
Attach additional information on appropriately labeled continuation sheets.				STREET ADDRESS (NO P.O. BOX)			
				CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	AREA CODE/PHONE

3. Verification

I have used all reasonable diligence in preparing this statement and to the best of my knowledge the information contained herein is true and complete. I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on	01/04/2023	By	<i>Emily Ann Ramos</i>	SIGNATURE OF TREASURER OR ASSISTANT TREASURER
Executed on	01/04/2023	By	<i>LR</i>	SIGNATURE OF CONTROLLING OFFICEHOLDER, CANDIDATE, OR STATE MEASURE PROPONENT
Executed on	_____	By	_____	SIGNATURE OF CONTROLLING OFFICEHOLDER, CANDIDATE, OR STATE MEASURE PROPONENT
Executed on	_____	By	_____	SIGNATURE OF CONTROLLING OFFICEHOLDER, CANDIDATE, OR STATE MEASURE PROPONENT