

Gutierrez, Jeannette

From: Susie MacLean
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 4:00 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Support for Safe Firearm Storage in Mountain View

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Ensure you trust this email before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Mountain View Councilmembers,

I am a physician and a volunteer with Scrubs Addressing the Firearm Epidemic (SAFE). SAFE is a nonprofit organization of physicians, nurses and medical students dedicated to reducing firearm injury through education, research and evidence-based policies. SAFE was founded at Stanford University School of Medicine in 2018 and we now have chapters at over 50 medical centers nationwide. Our website is at www.standsafe.org

I understand that you are considering including development of a city ordinance requiring firearm owners to store their firearms secured with a locking device or in a safe to prevent unauthorized access as part of your Strategic Roadmap Action Plan 2021-2023. As you consider this I want to bring to your attention several studies that show that safe firearm storage reduces unintentional childhood injury and adolescent suicide. At the end of this letter I have provided citations and links to three articles about these studies in *JAMA* (Journal of the American Medical Association) and *JAMA Pediatrics*.

California state law is considered fairly strict with respect to firearms. However, I believe it fails to adequately define safe firearm storage, and that local ordinances can help clarify what people should do to store their firearms safely. Penal Code Section 25100(c) states, in relevant part:

[A] person commits the crime of “criminal storage of a firearm in the third degree” if the person keeps any firearm within any premises that are under the person’s custody or control and negligently stores or leaves a firearm in a location where the person knows, or reasonably should know, that a child is likely to gain access to the firearm without the permission of the child’s parent or legal guardian, unless reasonable action is taken by the person to secure the firearm against access by the child.

What does this mean? If I am a firearm owner and I keep my firearm hidden in the top shelf of my closet, is that a location I “reasonably should know” that a child is likely to gain access? What about my bedside table? The attic? Should I reasonably know that my 10-year-old son and his cousin will go up in the attic to play and find my firearm?

Studies show children often know where the firearms are hidden. It would be better to give clear direction about what is considered safe firearm storage. A local ordinance can provide that clarity.

Consider California law for child car restraints in Vehicle Code Sections 27360-27368. The law does not state a person must restrain a child in a manner the person “reasonably should know” would restrain the child in the event of a sudden stop. The law gives specific direction and detail about the car seats that should be used for child restraint. For example, Section 27360(b) defines the type of seat suitable for children under a certain weight and height, incorporating federal motor vehicle safety standards, and Section 27363 provides specifics as to how a child is to be transported in various circumstances, how seats are to be placed and secured, among other things, taking into account the age, height, and weight of the child.

The California firearm storage law, by contrast, lacks such particular guidance on what firearm owners should do. We need more specificity to help the public understand what constitutes safe firearm storage to prevent unauthorized access.

Thank you for your attention. I look forward to discussing this with you further, and to working with you to reduce firearm injury and death in our communities through improved safe firearm storage.

Sincerely,

Susie MacLean, MD
SAFE Legislative Affairs Director

References:

1. Grossman, D. C., Mueller, B. A., Riedy, C., et al. (2005). Gun storage practices and risk of youth suicide and unintentional firearm injuries. *JAMA*. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/15701912/>
2. Monuteaux, M. C., Azrael, D., & Miller, M. (2019). Association of Increased Safe Household Firearm Storage With Firearm Suicide and Unintentional Death Among US Youths. *JAMA Pediatrics*. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31081861/>
3. Hooman Alexander Azad, BS; Michael C. Monuteaux, ScD; Chris A. Rees, MD, MPH; et al. (2020). Child Access Prevention Firearm Laws and Firearm Fatalities Among Children Aged 0 to 14 Years, 1991-2016. *JAMA Pediatrics*, <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamapediatrics/fullarticle/2761305>

Gutierrez, Jeannette

From: David Bini
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 4:26 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Item 6.1 Strategic Roadmap Action Plan

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Ensure you trust this email before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City of Mountain View Councilmembers,

The Building Trades Council continues to be in support of a Community Workforce Agreement (CWA) for Mountain View. A CWA will ensure that City of Mountain View Public Works projects are on-time and on-budget, while providing a pathway to family-supporting careers for members of disadvantaged communities. Please keep the CWA on the work plan for the City of Mountain View.

Thank you,

David Bini
Executive Director
Santa Clara & San Benito Counties
Building & Construction Trades Council
Office (408) 265-7643 - david@scbtc.org
2102 Almaden Road, Suite 101, San Jose, CA 95125

Gutierrez, Jeannette

From: J Steach <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 4:28 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Tonight's Item 6.1 -- "Strategic Roadmap Action Plan for Fiscal Years 2021-22 and 2022-23"

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Ladies and gentlemen of the Mountain View City Council--

In advance of you taking up Item 6.1 at tonight's city council meeting, I'd like to encourage you to support staff recommendation and adopt the goal of seeing through these important projects.

You'll likely hear from many of my neighbors and fellow MV residents on this projects, both for and against some/all of those them. Regardless of any of their specific positions, please keep in mind that the ultimate goal should continue to be ensuring the city remains a wonderful place to live -- once that prioritizes its residents' physical and mental health, values its rich history (notably the preservation of historically significant buildings downtown and throughout the city), and emphasizes its opens space and walkable streets.

Thank you.

Jerry Steach
Houghton St., MV

Gutierrez, Jeannette

From: Neils Ash
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 4:30 PM
To: City Council
Subject: ITEM 6.1 Strategic Roadmap Action Plan

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Dear City Councilmembers,

I am in support of a Community Workforce Agreement (CWA) for Mountain View. A CWA will ensure that City of Mountain View Public Works projects are on-time and on-budget, while providing a pathway to family-supporting careers for members of disadvantaged communities. Please keep the CWA on the workplan for the City of Mountain View

Thank you,

Neils Ash
Business Representative
Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3
325 Digital Dr. Morgan Hill CA
P: 408-465-8260 |'

Gutierrez, Jeannette

From: David Cruz
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 4:32 PM
To: City Council
Subject: ITEM 6.1 Strategic Roadmap Action Plan

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Dear City Councilmembers,

I am in support of a Community Workforce Agreement (CWA) for Mountain View. A CWA will ensure that City of Mountain View Public Works projects are on-time and on-budget, while providing a pathway to family-supporting careers for members of disadvantaged communities. Please keep the CWA on the work plan for the City of Mountain View.

Sincerely,

David Cruz

David Cruz

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years and growing stronger
(Chartered in January 1904)

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Gutierrez, Jeannette

From: Annette Lin
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 2:41 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Agenda Item 8.1 for Today's Meeting

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Dear City Manager McCarthy, City Clerk Glaser, and Councilmembers:

My name is Annette Lin and I'm a 7-year resident of Mountain View. I've had the privilege of working with many of you for the past year in my role on the Human Relations Commission.

I'm writing to you about Item 8.1 on the Agenda for tonight's City Council meeting, specifically the \$3 million that has not yet been allocated. During this difficult past year, I know that many members of our community have struggled. In particular, undocumented individuals and families of mixed-immigrant status come to my mind. I ask you to strongly consider committing the un-allocated \$3 million for flexible financial assistance for immigrant families who have suffered greatly during this pandemic.

I also hope that you consider the group MV Solidarity Fund to administer a portion of these funds. MV Solidarity Fund is led by people in the Latino community who are close to the problems faced by undocumented immigrant families in Mountain View. They can distribute the funds effectively to community members in dire need.

Thank you very much.
-Annette Lin

Gutierrez, Jeannette

From: Laura Ramirez Berman <
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 4:14 PM
To: Kamei, Ellen; Ramirez, Lucas; Abe-Koga, Margaret; Matichak, Lisa; Showalter, Pat; Lieber, Sally; Hicks, Alison
Cc: , City Clerk; McCarthy, Kimbra
Subject: Support for MV Solidarity Fund

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Dear City Councilmembers,

It's my understanding that tonight the City Council will discuss how to use over \$7MM from the American Rescue Plan. I'm confident that the council will allocate a significant amount to continue to support rent relief for our community, and I would also like to encourage council to consider options that will efficiency and effectively put funds directly into the hands of the Mountain View residents that have been hardest hit by the pandemic: low-income families; our house-insecure and houseless neighbors; and our immigrants, especially our (undocumented) Latino community members. Covid has impacted us all. But we must acknowledge that the emotional, psychological and financial toll wrought by the pandemic has been disproportionately felt by the most needy in our community.

I have heard many stories from our Latino parents about the ways in which they have been affected by the pandemic. The loss of loved ones, sick family members, the inability to social distance given their living situation...all of these challenges have been exacerbated by the financial instability brought on by the pandemic. The challenges our families faced prior to the pandemic have been amplified in ways that are hard to fathom. They are struggling with unemployment, the inability to pay for housing, food, and utilities (including the premium price for reliable internet in order for their children to participate in school from home).

Financial support in addition to rental assistance is desperately needed. In times of crisis - both during and after - our many families need funds directly. For many, their financial stability has been decimated. Credit cards and loans from friends or family members have been used to pay for food, utilities, and even rent because of fears of eviction (with many afraid to apply for rental assistance out of fear of being deported if enrolled in a system). The trauma people are experiencing now will have long term implications, and the right thing to do is to help our community members get back on their feet as quickly as possible.

One organization that I fully support to help our Latino/undocumented community financially is the **MV Solidarity Fund**. Its founders, Paula Perez and Olga Melo, are well known for their advocacy, leadership, and care, especially among our most vulnerable community members, who need to feel safe-- and *con confianza*-- when receiving the help that they so desperately need.

I strongly urge you to commit as much of that funding as possible to get flexible financial assistance into the hands of our most at-risk families, including -- perhaps especially -- our undoumented neighbors. And if you do, I hope that you allocate a significant portion of that funding to the **MV Solidarity Fund** so that Latino leaders like Paula and Olga, who are the closest to the problems that undocumented families face, have a chance to distribute these funds through processes that can work well for the community.

Thank you so much for your time and your service to our community.

Respectfully,
Laura Ramirez Berman
MVWSD School Board Member