From: <u>Debbie Parsons</u>
To: <u>City Council</u>

**Subject:** Please promote plant based eating **Date:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 2:43:24 PM

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Dear Mountain View City Council,

My name is Debbie Parsons and I am a resident of Los Gatos.

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed Plant-Based Eating resolution that is being considered in the May 10, 2022 Council Meeting.

Recent studies show that <u>rich countries must reduce their meat consumption by 75% or more</u> to avoid the collapse of planetary ecological systems as well as food systems. World leaders, policy makers and corporate interests are hardly even talking about this, yet the writing on the wall is clear: we are headed towards environmental disaster if we do not globally change what we choose to farm and eat.

I applaud Mountain View for considering a Plant-Based Eating resolution, and I urge you to vote in favor of it. But at the same time, more needs to be done. We need to change the food that is served in our schools (where nearly every meal includes factory-farmed meat with cows milk on the side; or else is smothered in cheese), and teach our children a more healthy and sustainable way to eat. We need to get red meat and processed meat – both confirmed carcinogens – out of our schools and hospitals. We need policy makers to cut back on animal product purchasing at a municipal level. We desperately need to educate every resident why this issue matters and teach them that it is possible to eat more sustainable plant-based meals without sacrificing taste or convenience.

Therefore, I urge you advance this critical issue even beyond the resolution, by enacting new programs that further increase plant-based eating in Mountain View.

Thank you for considering my feedback.

Sincerely, Debbie Parsons