

**September 26, 2022** 

City of Mountain View 500 Castro Street Mountain View, CA 94041

Re: Proposed 870 East El Camino Real Residential Project.

Dear City Council and City Attorney:

The California Renters Legal Advocacy and Education Fund (CaRLA) submits this letter to inform the Mountain View City Council that they have an obligation to abide by all relevant state housing laws when evaluating the proposed 870 East El Camino Real housing development. The Housing Accountability Act (GOV 65589.5) requires approval of zoning and general plan compliant projects unless findings can be made regarding specific, objective, written health and safety hazards.

As you are well aware, California remains in the throes of a statewide crisis-level housing shortage. New housing such as this is a public benefit; it will bring increased tax revenue, new customers to local businesses, decarbonization in the face of climate crisis, but most importantly it will reduce displacement of existing residents into homelessness or carbon-heavy car commutes.

CaRLA is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation whose mission includes advocating for increased access to housing for Californians at all income levels, including low-income households. Consistent with the general plan, the proposed project will provide badly needed housing and demonstrates excellent site and building design compatible with surrounding uses and developments. In addition, the proposed development will possess public improvements that enhance pedestrian and bicycle activity while minimizing conflicts with existing roadways.

While no one project will solve the regional housing crisis, the proposed development located between Sylvan Avenue and Acalanes Drive is the kind of housing Mountain View needs to mitigate displacement, provide shelter for its growing population, and arrest unsustainable housing price appreciation. You may learn more about CaRLA at <a href="https://www.carlaef.org">www.carlaef.org</a>.

Sincerely,

Dylan Casey

CaRLA Executive Director

Sincerely,

Courtney Welch

CaRLA Director of Planning and Investigation

From: <u>Isaac Stone</u>
To: <u>City Council</u>

**Subject:** public comment on agenda items 4.4, 6.1, 7.1 **Date:** Tuesday, September 27, 2022 1:39:13 PM

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## 4.4

Very glad to see the California Ave bike/ped improvements finally happening. Currently when I need to bike to San Antonio Center or Palo Alto I take Latham, it being the best of several bad options. Most drivers are polite, but there have been enough times I was passed very close and at high speeds that I no longer feel safe to take my daughter along with me. Protected bike lanes will make me much less nervous.

6.1

Love to see parking lots become homes. This is a good project.

I would like to see a plan in the near future how people living in this area could safely get their kids to school. The walk to Landel's is too far, and the Dana St bridge is unsafe for children to bike on. The last plan I saw for the ECR bike lanes is still dangerous along the 85 & 237 entrances, so that route is not feasible either.

## 7.1

I would really like to see a link from the Shoreline ped path to Evelyn. Currently I jump the fence and walk/slide down the steep hill. I am not the only one who does this. Stairs would be appreciated. Bike access would be even better.

keep up the good work!

Isaac Stone, Dana St.