From: Mariya Hodge
To: City Council

Subject: Public Comment - 10/11 - Agenda Item 6.1

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Dear Mayor Ramirez and Members of the City Council,

Thank you for taking on the issue of gun violence prevention and safety in this week's Study Session (Agenda Item 6.1).

Although I live in a neighboring city, Mountain View is close to my heart. My husband and I have both worked on Castro Street, and my family spends a substantial portion of our leisure time (and dollars) in Mountain View. This wonderful city feels like home to us, and so we care deeply about keeping Mountain View safe.

Gun violence is now the leading cause of death for children and teens in the U.S.; a shocking statistic. As a parent and a volunteer with Moms Demand Action, gun violence prevention is critically important to me. I appreciate how the City of Mountain View has already shown leadership in this area by passing legislation requiring secure storage of firearms, and by partnering with Santa Clara County Public Health on their recent study of the costs of gun violence in our County. And I support the City Council's current efforts to identify and implement additional local measures to reduce gun violence. As the City works toward this goal, I encourage the Council and staff to review available studies and data (such as those published by Everytown Research & Policy and Giffords Law Center) to help craft effective solutions.

Again, thank you for your leadership in this area!

Sincerely, Mariya Hodge