

From: [Leslie Friedman](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Support for Robert Cox on RHC
Date: Monday, March 6, 2023 5:05:55 PM

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Hello, City Council,

I am writing to express my support for Robert Cox to be on the Rental Housing Committee. There are many reasons why he would be an excellent and hard working committee member. However, I will keep this message as brief as I can.

Robert Cox could have public service as part of his name. I cannot think of anyone who has served Mountain View with so much dedication and skill.

He spent eight years on the Environmental Planning Commission. He was both Chair and Vice President twice. This is particularly significant to his application because he has extensive experience on a city advisory board.

He has also spent thirteen years on the Old Mountain View Neighborhood Association Steering Committee; twelve of those years as Vice Chair.

He is serving his third, two year term as Vice President of the Mtn. View Historical Association.

I realize that some Mountain View residents might find one or another of these posts unimportant for a seat on the RHC. Here is why Robert Cox's leadership in these organizations is so very important:

He would not be part of these organizations OR be chosen again and again to lead them if he were not able to (1) find a middle way in disputes (2) show that his dedication to the goals of the organization is greater than dedication to someone's (even his own) point of view.

In a subject which can become divisive, Robert Cox will be the first one to put out the fire and find a way for all parties to walk together. This is a very big thing to be able to write about anyone in any situation. He can understand the view points of others and encourage thoughtful moderation. It works. There have been subjects on which I thought I differed from him, but he finds a way that makes sense to both of us.

I am someone who has been a renter most of my adult life. I know that Robert Cox understands the position of renters, their frustrations and their goals. He himself has been a Mountain View renter for a long time. I know that during that time his rent went up 15%. That is a big, big change. Now, as a homeowner, he can see and understand and appreciate both sides.

Most of all, Robert Cox loves Mountain View. He dedicates much of his life to serving Mountain View. I urge you to support Robert Cox. Thank you for your service and for hearing my voice.

Leslie Friedman

From: [James Kuszmaul](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Item 4.1 RHC Appointments
Date: Monday, March 6, 2023 6:32:41 PM

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Mayor Hicks & Councilmembers,

I want to urge you to appoint Kevin Ma, Edie Keating, Alexander Brown, and Kirin Madison to the 4 open seats on the Rental Housing Committee. From my own past interactions with Kevin, Edie, and Alex they are deeply familiar with the challenges facing our city and would bring valuable experience to the table. Kirin would bring the experience of someone who has had to very recently deal with the rental housing market in our city and expertise as someone with a legal background. Between the four of them, they have background in almost any issue that might plausibly come before RHC.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment,

James Kuszmaul

From: [Toni R](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Please elect Robert Cox and Li Zhang to the Rental Housing Committee
Date: Monday, March 6, 2023 7:08:42 PM

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Dear members of the city council, Honorable Mayor Hicks,

I would like to ask you to elect **Robert Cox** and **Li Zhang** to the Rental Housing Committee. For anyone familiar with issues affecting Mountain View in past years, Robert Cox is a familiar name. He has a long history of community leadership and service in the Old Mountain View neighborhood association, MV's historical association and has 8 years of experience serving on MV's environmental planning commission, holding the position of chair and vice chair. He is a long term (several decades) resident, highly educated and respected and knows the issue of rental housing first-hand as a long term renter. I cannot think of a more qualified person than Robert.

Li Zhang is also a long time resident of Mountain View and has seen the rental housing market from 3 different sides, bringing a unique perspective as a renter, a home owner and as a landlord. She has volunteered for various organizations in Mountain View and her work experience in finance will be a major asset to the rental housing committee. Finally, Li Zhang has run for city council in last year's election and has demonstrated broad appeal with a strong showing for a newcomer. She will be an excellent addition to the committee.

Thank you for your consideration,

Toni Rath, resident of Cuesta Park

From: [Katie Causey](#)
Cc: [City Council](#); [City Clerk](#); [Abe-Koga, Margaret](#); [Matichak, Lisa](#); [Showalter, Pat](#); [Hicks, Alison](#); [Kamei, Ellen](#); [Ramirez, Lucas](#); [Emily Ann Ramos](#)
Subject: Supporting Kirin Madison For Appointment
Date: Monday, March 6, 2023 7:16:01 PM

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

I'm a former local tenant organizer who has worked with vulnerable populations facing eviction during the pandemic and I am writing to ask you to appoint Kirin Madison to the Rental Housing Committee.

As we navigate the current housing element cycle, one area that many cities are coming under scrutiny for is what populations are displaced from cities, but also do those populations apply for housing commissions within their city and are they denied appointment.

I think Mountain View has had several really fantastic RHC Commissioners such as Vanessa Honey who joined the Committee not long after they moved to Mountain View - I think the city has done such a good job of bringing new residents into the community and into public service.

Kirin Madison's training in law is extremely valuable for a committee that regularly deals with lawsuits, petitions, and interfaces with internal and external counsel. Particularly in environmental law as more cities handle displacement due to climate change such as the impacts of flooding and heat waves.

Black residents are one of the most likely populations to face eviction and displacement and when you're representing tenants facing eviction and displacement it is not just about the legal process, but also understanding the racism residents experience in the renting, eviction, and displacement process.

I think Mountain View has done so much to elevate young people from underrepresented communities and I think not appointing a young Black woman with a perfect professional background for this commission would be a big missed opportunity.

Thank you!

Katie Causey

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Katie Causey

Pronouns: She/Her/Hers | 庄可欣//莊可欣

From: [Yan Lu](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: I support Li Zhang for the RHC
Date: Monday, March 6, 2023 7:55:48 PM

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Dear City Council,

I strongly support Li Zhang being on the Rental Housing Committee. Her ability and willingness to be fair and her analytical skills will be invaluable assets for Mountain View RHC.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Yan Lu

From: [J Steach](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Recommending Robert Cox, Li Zhang for RHC seats...
Date: Monday, March 6, 2023 10:26:55 PM

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

I'm writing to lend my support – and request yours – for Robert Cox and Li Zhang to be selected for two seats on Mountain View's Rental Housing Committee. I'd have preferred to present this support in person at tomorrow's meeting, however I'll be out of town at the time.

Robert Cox

I've known Robert for half of his nearly three decades as a Mountain View resident, during which time he's been a tireless champion for fairness in housing, new development (both residential and commercial), parking, and overall sensible governance in our fair city. Many of you are already aware of those points, but they bear bringing up here in light of RHC's demand for extensive knowledge of Mountain View's housing challenges, particularly with regard to renters and rental property owners. (Just I was for five years, Robert was a renter in the city before becoming a homeowner in it, so we both appreciate what Mountain View renters face.)

Li Zhang

During her recent campaign for a City Council seat, Li has demonstrated a keen appreciation for the same housing

challenges, particularly tenant displacement. As a longtime Mountain View resident who's presently a rental property owner herself, she understands what her fellow owners contend with. And like Robert and me, Li was a renter before becoming a home owner in the city and thus has a unique perspective on the matter.

Please put Robert and Li at the top of your lists for two of the available seats on the RHC.

Thank you.

Jerry Steach



Mountain View

From: [Shari Emling](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: RHC recommendation
Date: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 2:49:50 AM

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Dear Council,

You have a very important choice Tuesday night. It is a hard fact that whomever you select for the Rental Housing Committee, will speak for the City and all the residents....not just the renters. Done right, that variance of residents will thrive, and enrich our City with the proper balance and support from the RHC.

You have two ideal candidates in Robert Cox and Li Zhang. Both have been long term residents of Mountain View (which I see as vital) and also have been renters a large part of their adult lives (equally vital). Robert and Li are extremely well educated (PhDs), and that intelligence is augmented by their skills of collaboration and communication. Besides these absolutely necessary skills, I have found them both to be compassionate and rational - a marvelous and necessary combination of values that will serve them well on this Committee.

Both Robert and Li take their responsibilities very seriously, and have proven track records with their interactions and research on jobs they take on. I am speaking as a solid and ardent Mountain View homeowner - one who wants Mountain View to thrive with the afore mentioned balance of compassion and reality that ultimately leads to success for all of Mountain View's residents. I appreciate the strength of our city's diversity - which will only be maintained by the positive, careful and educated input from well chosen candidates such as Robert and Li.

You have read their applications, so there is no need to repeat the contents of them to you. I am rather, speaking for many (as a very involved citizen of this City) who expects the best of our Council's judgement. I find that "best" to be both Robert and Li, and I appreciate your close look at their qualifications, history, and abilities.

Thank you so much,
Shari Emling
HOA President



From: [Maureen B](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Robert Cox - Rental Housing Committee
Date: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 6:30:14 AM

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Dear City Council,

I have been a Mountain View resident for 22 years, 17 in OMVNA. I have both rented and currently own a home. For the past 12 years, when I have been more active in the OMVNA group, literally the hardest working person whom I have seen is Robert Cox.

Robert is Vice-chair of the OMVNA Steering Committee and is our number one source for parking, development, City Council, local and state issues. By far, Robert is our vital source of information. He attends many kinds of meetings and shares that information with us so that we can be involved and educate ourselves.

Robert has also been on the Environmental Planning Commission for 8 years, including stints as Chair and Vice Chair.

Robert clearly cares about the future of Mountain View. Like me, he has been a home owner and a renter. Renting is very challenging in Mountain View. I think that Robert's broad view of Mountain View would be a big asset in finding the path forward.

Robert gets the facts and the nuance. He communicates it clearly. He does not push his views on others. He is balanced and easy to work with.

Honestly, we are fortunate that Robert would like to be on the Rental Housing Committee. No one will apply themselves more. I encourage you to include him.

-Maureen

Maureen Blando



From: [William Lambert](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: RHC Recommendations
Date: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 7:34:59 AM

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Mayor Hicks and City Council Members,
I recommend Robert Cox and Li Zhang to serve on the Rental Housing Committee.

Robert has been an advocate in Mountain View for many years. Robert will bring a different perspective to the RHC.

Li is anxious to learn about and be involved with Mountain View planning. Serving on the RHC will provide her with that opportunity.

Thank you,

Bill

[William Lambert](#) | Partner

 | direct

| [Bio](#)

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From: [Carla Mott](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Rental Housing Committee applicant support for Li Zhang
Date: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 8:27:24 AM

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Dear Committee Members,

I would like to express my support for Li Zhang to be appointed to the Rental Housing Committee. I believe Li will be a great addition to the committee because she takes the time to really understand problems and the details of proposals and solutions. I have been impressed with Li's ability to quickly research and understand the details of a situation before deciding on a course of action. She also is willing to communicate with the community and take feedback. Li brings a unique perspective as a previous renter, landlord and homeowner. She is supportive of the members of our community and cares deeply for the City of Mountain View.

I have been a resident of Mountain View for over 27 years as both a renter and homeowner. I think that Li will be a needed addition to the Rental Housing Committee.

Thank you for reading my email.

Carla Mott