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March 17, 2020

Mayor Abe-Koga and Councilmembers City of Mountain View 500 Castro Street Mountain View, CA 94041

RE: Support for SummerHill East Middlefield by SummerHill Housing Group

Dear Mayor Abe-Koga, Vice Mayor Kamei, and Honorable Councilmembers Clark, Hicks, Matichek, McAlister, and Ramirez,

On behalf of the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, I am writing to express our support for the SummerHill East Middlefield development proposed by SummerHill Housing Group. The Leadership Group is excited to support more housing, both forsale and rental units, for the city of Mountain View at a time when new, high-quality condominiums and apartments are in limited supply.

The Silicon Valley Leadership Group was founded in 1978 by David Packard, Co-Founder of Hewlett Packard. Today, the Leadership Group is driven by more than 330 CEOs/Senior Executives to proactively tackle issues to improve our communities and strengthen our economy, with a focus on education, energy, the environment, health care, housing, tax policy, tech & innovation policy, and transportation. One of the top concerns of our members is a need for high quality and affordable housing here in the Bay Area.

At a time when the Bay Area is in a dire housing crisis, dense housing on scarce land is an effective solution. We are excited that this 463-unit development includes both rental and for sale units with 25% of the apartments available to low and moderate income households. This development is also a model for others as it is the first residential project within the East Whisman Precise Plan (EWPP), and faces no opposition from community members.

We are pleased to see that this development will bring not only housing, but other amenities to the community of Mountain View, such as a park, a public paseo, and bike lanes. Additionally, this development is located close to public transit, with the Middlefield Light Rail Station about a quarter mile from the site and a VTA Bus Stop just a short walking distance away. In addition to proximity to public transit, this site is also very close to downtown Mountain View, which includes retail and amenities such as grocery stores, parks, and the San Antonio Shopping Center.

Further, the Leadership Group is focused on supporting the developments like the one before you as more housing near public transportation encourages residents to use alternate modes of transportation which reduces greenhouse gas emissions and traffic congestion.



Due to the housing density of the proposal, inclusion of affordable units, location of the site, proximity to transportation, and proximity to the downtown, the Leadership Group believes that the SummerHill East Middlefield development should be approved as proposed.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Wortham

Senior Associate, Health & Housing Policy

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Silicon Valley Leadership Group