

THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF PALO ALTO



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April 10, 2013

Dear Chair Martinez, and Commissioners,

The League of Women Voters of Palo Alto is pleased that you have before you tonight a Housing Element proposal that the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) finds fulfills the requirement of Housing Development law. We appreciate the hard work of the staff and the Commission that has finally brought us to this point.

The League generally supports the contents of the document, although we still believe the vision statement should include a sentence concerning our desire that our neighborhoods supply adequate diverse housing free of discrimination.

We are, however, happy that the document now clearly states the City's intention to do its part to work to fulfill the ABAG fair share housing mandates.

We approve the new programs added at the behest of the State HCD and believe they will help towards meeting the goals of the Housing Element. We also like the addition of five-year objectives, funding source, responsible agency and time frame for each program. This greatly clarifies the needed actions.

We recognize that this Housing Element has been written over time and is a long and complicated document. It would be helpful however if more of the tables and charts were dated indicating when they were completed.

In conclusion, we urge you to approve the Housing Element before you tonight so we can soon be in compliance with State law and therefore be eligible for housing, transportation and infrastructure funding programs from the State.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Mary Alice Thornton'. The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

Mary Alice Thornton, President
League of Women Voters of Palo Alto