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October 2, 2017

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

Re: North Bayshore Precise Plan

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers:

On behalf of Google, we sincerely appreciate the City's tireless work on the North Bayshore Precise Plan. Google has been a consistent and vocal advocate for housing in the North Bayshore area. We remain unequivocally committed to this position and strongly support the creation of the full 9,850 new housing units, while meeting the City's affordable housing targets.

Our objective is to find innovative solutions that reduce the overall costs of housing for everyone. We recognize that the cost of infrastructure needed to support housing in North Bayshore works against this objective, and we actively seek ways to mitigate its impact. During Council's study session, we voiced the idea that additional office space could be a way to offset housing costs. We apologize that this came out as a demand, when the intent was to open a conversation to address a potential issue. We want to be clear that this suggestion in no way lessens Google's support for housing. We're committed to finding creative solutions with the Council within the approved 3.6M Sq. Ft. of incremental office space.

Similarly, in an earlier letter to the City, we proposed the possibility of using park taxes and housing impact fees paid by developers to offset housing and open space development costs, with the hope that housing units could be created more affordably. We intended this comment merely as a suggested approach. We appreciate that the deployment of impact fees and taxes lies with the City and the community.

The future of Mountain View is a long-term, ongoing conversation that we look forward to continuing with you and the community. Working together, our shared vision of a vibrant neighborhood that allows for open space, small business, schools, and housing can be realized.

Sincerely,


David Radcliffe

VP, Real Estate & Workplace Services