

## Melissa Thurman

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**From:** Jim Wing <jameswing@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 9, 2023 8:01 AM  
**To:** Public Comment  
**Subject:** [External Sender]Council Meeting 12/12/2023 Agenda Item 09 Stormwater Update / Funding Options

Los Altos Mayor Meadows and Distinguished Council Members,

Council 12/12/2023 Meeting Agenda Item 9 Stormwater Benefit Assessment District Funding

**Please consider adding Federal Clean Water Act grants for funding of Los Altos localized stormwater drainage problems. Staff Report did not list what Stormwater Master Plan projects have been completed and what top priority projects remain to be done.**

As a 55-year Los Altos resident, I do not feel that funding options presented in staff report will ever solve any of our localized stormwater drainage problems. Almost all Los Altos problems only impact 2 to 4 residents at low spot of street with no impact to other residents. Typical problems are shallow standing water blocking access to homes [one to four days] and damage to home foundations. Homes are normally located at street low spot. Since it only impacts a few residents, rest of block will not support [vote for funding] any of three options described in Staff Report. Keep in mind that 25 years ago, Santa Clara County bond for Adobe Creek addressed most of major flooding in Los Altos.

I recommend re-establishing use of “pump truck” to clear standing stormwater water in traffic lanes. For many years “pump truck” worked very well and was used again last year to clear free standing water hazard from street travel lanes per direction of City Manager.

I also recommend use of Federal Grants, authorized by Federal Clean Water Act to fund localized stormwater drainage problems. Recent US Supreme Court Maui Decision that added underground water to Federal Clean Water Act allows Los Altos access to these grants. All four Los Altos Ephemeral Creeks [Stevens, Hale, Permanente, Adobe] are covered by Federal Clean Water Act. Los Altos is built on a “geological alluvial fan” that facilitates flow of underground water. Recent core sample testing on Milverton noted “high” underground water flows.

US Supreme Court Maui Decision helps Los Altos with grants, but it also dramatically increased construction cost of projects. Many areas of Los Altos fall under control of Federal Corps of Engineers Regulations that make simple projects very costly to implement.

Thank You for your consideration.

Jim Wing, Milverton Road, Los Altos, Ca.



December 11, 2023

Re: December 12, 2023, Study Session Agenda Item #1 (Inclusionary Housing In-Lieu Fee)

Dear Mayor Weinberg and Members of the City Council:

The League of Women Voters (LWV) supports policies that encourage the development of housing, particularly affordable housing.

The LWV suggests that Council change the inclusionary zoning requirements, which are more stringent in Los Altos than in neighboring jurisdictions. We recommend that Los Altos continue to require 15% of the units to be below-market-rate (BMR) and encourage Council to broaden the affordability levels targeted for BMR rentals to include a mix of lower-income levels such as is the case in Cupertino, Mountain View, and Sunnyvale.

We support the adoption of an in-lieu fee for both rental housing and ownership given that an actual fee has not been set to date. We recommend that BMR units be built in rental housing, as dispersal of lower-income households in market-rate developments has proven to foster greater social and economic mobility.

The League suggests that the Council re-visit these issues once sufficient time has passed after the newly adopted zoning changes and Comprehensive Fee Study Update have been in effect since these actions may impact the feasibility of developing housing.

Please send any questions about this email to Sue Russell, Co-Chair of the Housing Committee, at [housing@lwvlamv.org](mailto:housing@lwvlamv.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie Zoglin". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Katie Zoglin, President  
Los Altos-Mountain View Area LWV

C: Gabe Engeland, City Manager  
Melissa Thurman, City Clerk  
Nick Zornes, Development Services Director  
Jon Maginot, Assistant City Manager  
[PublicComment@losaltosca.gov](mailto:PublicComment@losaltosca.gov)