

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS  
SUPPORTING ALL EFFORTS TO PROVIDE UNIVERSAL CHILDCARE TO ALL  
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN THE COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA AND THE  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**WHEREAS**, the Council for a Strong American issued a report in early 2023 which details that the shortage of infant-toddler child care costs the United States \$122 billion in lost earnings, productivity, and revenue every year; and

**WHEREAS**, this shortage translates to a \$15 billion economic threat to California and a \$3 billion threat to Santa Clara County; and

**WHEREAS**, a family living in Silicon Valley needs to pay an average of \$26,450 per child per year for infant care and \$21,900 per year for one preschooler's childcare; and

**WHEREAS**, the two most significant monthly expenses faced by working families are rent and childcare; and

**WHEREAS**, the lack of an affordable childcare option leads to underemployment, greater housing instability, less consumer spending, depressed business productivity, and the near impossibility of seeking, securing and maintaining employment;

**WHEREAS**, investing in affordable childcare provides vital infrastructure to working parents and supports early childhood development, allows families to remain in a geographic area, creates a stronger economy, improves business productivity and consumer spending, decreases poverty and leads to safer communities and provides revenues for cities; and

**WHEREAS**, cities have a direct interest in building strong local economies, supporting and benefiting from local small businesses, attracting and retaining families and employers; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the most impactful tools we can deploy to solve our greatest economic and societal challenges is investing in broadly accessible, high quality childcare immediately; and

**WHEREAS**, investments in the childcare sector should prioritize supporting our most underserved children and their families, including but not limited to families of color, families of children with special needs, low-income families, and undocumented families; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Los Altos hereby:

1. Supports all efforts to provide universal childcare to all children of families in the County of Santa Clara and the State of California;
2. Will be proactive in its efforts to promote and advocate for public funding streams in support of universal childcare;

3. Will propose and support policies and practices that will facilitate expedited zoning, permitting and licensing processes for both center-based and home-based childcare facilities;
4. Will empower our office of economic development to promote the importance of childcare businesses in this city and provide support for providers who desire to operate within this city;
5. Joins with Build the Future Santa Clara County in advocating for comprehensive and collaborative solutions to solve our childcare crisis, including but not limited to building a coalition of stakeholders across all sectors including small and large businesses, community based organizations, neighborhood associations, law enforcement authorities, local governments including school and special districts and city councils, and labor and trades unions for the purpose of identifying and implementing solutions to this economic and social crisis.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Los Altos at a meeting thereof on the 28th day of May, 2024 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

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Jonathan D. Weinberg, MAYOR

Attest:

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Melissa Thurman, MMC  
City Clerk