



TOWN OF LOS GATOS
DEI COMMISSION REPORT

MEETING DATE: 09/12/2024

ITEM NO: 3

DATE: August 30, 2024
TO: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Commission
FROM: Holly Young, Senior Management Analyst
SUBJECT: Discuss a Potential Restrictive Covenant Redaction Project (Work Plan Item Regarding Developing a Community Learning Opportunity on Historic Inequities and Developing Diversity, Sensitivity, and Awareness Training Goal B, Items 3.a. and b. and Work Plan Item Regarding Annual Communications Campaign Goal D, Item 1.a).

RECOMMENDATION:

Discuss a Potential Restrictive Covenant Redaction Project (Work Plan Item Regarding Developing a Community Learning Opportunity on Historic Inequities and Developing Diversity, Sensitivity, and Awareness Training Goal B, Items 3.a. and b. and Work Plan Item Regarding Annual Communications Campaign Goal D, Item 1.a).

REMARKS:

On June 13, 2024, the DEI Commission discussed putting together the framework for a community education campaign regarding how to have restrictive covenants redacted from property title documents. This project overlaps with the Commission's work plan items regarding a community learning opportunity and also a communications campaign.

On July 11, 2024, the Commission discussed preliminary information regarding the proposed project including the Santa Clara County Restrictive Covenant Modification Program. The Commission discussed having the Housing ad hoc working group made up of Chair Yamate, Commissioner Lo, and Commissioner Kane continue to gather information.

On August 8, 2024, Chair Yamate announced that he was meeting with Santa Clara County staff the following week to further discuss their restrictive covenant redaction process. The DEI Commission discussed three prongs to the Commission's potential restrictive covenant redaction project:

- A recommendation to the Town Council that the Town launch a webpage to educate the Los Gatos community regarding what restrictive covenants are, how to check property records for them, and how to get them redacted through Santa Clara County;

PREPARED BY: Holly Young
Senior Management Analyst

PAGE 2 OF 2

SUBJECT: Potential Restrictive Covenant Redaction Project

DATE: September 12, 2024

- A recommendation that the Town Council approve a proclamation acknowledging and repudiating restrictive covenants; and
- A recommendation to the Town Council that the Town retain copies of the restrictive covenants found in Los Gatos for historical records purposes.

The Los Gatos Library currently has historical housing files for properties in Town. If community members were to submit copies of restrictive covenants from their properties, the Library has the capability to add them to those housing files for archiving purposes.

Commissioner Isaacs submitted the material in Attachment 1 regarding a similar effort that took place in Muir Beach.

Staff looks forward to the Commission's continued discussion.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Muir Beach Restrictive Covenant Information