

Dear City Council,

I am very concerned about the mandate that requires Los Altos to create about 1,958 income housing units because it is estimated to require finding 40 acres of land. Each unit is estimated to cost an average of \$700,000 to build. The end result would be to increase our population by 15-20%; something that has not occurred since the 1960's when Los Altos empty land was readily available.

The strain on our sewers, schools, and parks may be too to absorb and the increase in population would surely change the character of the village atmosphere that I enjoy. Equally important, if you do the math it will cost about \$1.37 billion dollars for the housing units. Where are these funds or land going to come from?

I do not personally believe that low income housing is a right that everyone should have like clean air or water or health care because it simply does not fit our form of government or culture. In my 78 years on this planet there are many places I would like to live that I cannot afford. Growing up in a small town in New Jersey the vast majority of my high school classmates could not afford to live in the town where they grew up. Instead they found housing up to 60 miles away and lived with daily car or rail commutes. This is the reality of life for most Americans over the generations. What makes it different now?

A far better solution to creating less expensive housing is to use trains to allow people to live further away where the cost of land and housing is far less expensive. A good example is that one of the engineers that worked for me moved to Tracy and took the train into Mountain View to work. In New Jersey this is the way people get to and from South Jersey to North Jersey or to NYC.

I am willing to help you oppose this impossible mandate if you want my support.

Respectfully,

Frank Martin