



Mountain View Coalition for Sustainable Planning
c/o Aaron Grossman
817 Montgomery Street
Mountain View, CA 94041

September 9, 2024

City of Mountain View City Council
City Hall, 500 Castro Street
PO Box 7540
Mountain View, CA 94039-7540

Re: Measure G Funds

Dear Mayor Showalter and City Council members:

The Mountain View Coalition for Sustainable Planning (MVCSP) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Measure G agenda item you will be discussing at the meeting on September 10. We would like to express our general support for Measure G, as well as share our members' thoughts on budget transparency and the prioritization of Measure G funding allocations.

If Measure G is successful in November, our members have concerns regarding the mechanisms for sharing funding allocations with the public. When the voters overwhelmingly approved Measure P, we were glad to see the revenue generated for the City; but it has been very difficult to understand how those funds were actually allocated within the City's budget. While we appreciate flexibility within the General Fund (so the City can respond to the changing needs of its residents, workers and visitors), we would still like to understand whether these measure-based funds are simply part of the overall pool of money, or whether these funds have targeted purposes within the budget that wouldn't have been fully-funded otherwise. What mechanisms can the City Manager's office put in place to make the future allocations of Measure G funds readily available to the public?

As for funding distribution, MVCSP recommends prioritizing:

- Developing and preserving affordable housing
- Achieving the City's Vision Zero goals through full implementation of the Active Transportation Plan
- Investing in climate resilience programs and practices (including meeting carbon neutrality goals)
- Expanding parks and open space and protecting biodiversity

We would deprioritize further allocations from Measure G to the public safety building, as we feel that specific capital improvement has already received sufficient additive funding from the Ameswell Hotel development.

We understand that the anticipated \$9.5M projected revenue won't be able to fully fund any of the four program areas we mention above. But there are several specific items in those program areas that don't seem to be completely funded at this time, including:

- The City's \$20M affordable housing acquisition and preservation fund
- The California Street Green Complete Street redesign
- Community shuttle programs (e.g. combining MVCS and MVGo and implementing / exceeding the recommendations of the 2019 study*)
- Safe routes to school and related active transportation infrastructure and staff (e.g. crossing guards at critical El Camino intersections like Phyllis / Calderon)
- Tree canopy improvements, especially where trees can contribute to placemaking (e.g. in the City's newest parks)

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter; we are looking forward to listening to the discussion on Tuesday.

Sincerely,
Deb Henigson
For the Mountain View Coalition for Sustainable Planning

*<https://www.mountainview.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/616/637939935657430000>

cc:

Jennifer Logue, City Attorney
Nicole C. Wright, Senior Assistant City Attorney
Kimbra McCarthy, City Manager
Arn Andrews, Assistant City Manager
Kimberly Thomas, Assistant to the City Manager
Audrey Seymour Ramberg, Assistant City Manager / Chief Operating Officer
Heather Glaser, City Clerk

About Mountain View Coalition for Sustainable Planning

The Mountain View Coalition for Sustainable Planning is a local volunteer-based organization dedicated to making Mountain View as beautiful, economically healthy, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian accessible, and affordable as possible. MVCSP member interest and expertise covers areas such as housing, transportation, the environment, the economy, and beyond!

For more information, see <http://www.mvcsp.org>.

To contact us, send email to mvcsp.info@gmail.com.