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June 9, 2020

Santa Clara City Council

City of Santa Clara 1500 Warburton Avenue Santa Clara, CA 95050

RE: Item 3Q Action on an Agreement for Services with Bill Wilson Center for Administration of the City's Emergency Rental Assistance Program and Approval of Related Budget Amendment

Dear Honorable Mayor Gillmor and Councilmembers,

On behalf of the Santa Clara County Association of REALTORS® (SCCAOR) and our 6,000 members, I write in support of the rental assistance program for Santa Clara residents.

SCCAOR understands the concerns surrounding evictions and loss of income during this health and economic crisis. For this reason, SCCAOR supports this equitable measure to help the most vulnerable of tenants in a way that does not add to the burden of housing providers.

While much of the focus is on tenants, housing providers have also been greatly impacted by these twin crises. Many mom and pop housing providers have been faced with loss of income as well. Some are struggling to stay afloat and avoid foreclosure, creating further displacement. Housing providers rely on monthly rent payments for mortgages, property taxes, maintenance fees, repair costs, and other necessary expenses. This proposal protects tenants while also relieving some pressure for housing providers.

These are the types of creative solutions needed to help solve our housing crisis without placing the financial burden on any one segment of the population. We strongly support the passage of the Emergency Rental Assistance Program and thank the City for their efforts to protect both vulnerable tenants and housing providers during this crisis.

Regards,

Sandy Jamison

President, Santa Clara County Association of REALTORS®

POST MEETING MATERIAL