

# MVNA Newsletter

Published and distributed by the Old Mountain View Neighborhood Association Volume 31, Number2 www.omvna.org May 2019

### **Moffett Museum**

by Marilyn Powell

I have lived in Mountain View for many years. Last year I went to the Moffett Museum for the first time.

It is the best kept secret in the Bay Area. The history is breath-taking. As it turns out, now my husband and I volunteer there each week so I have become a frequent visitor.

I was worried about getting on the base but it only takes an ID, drivers license, passport, or military ID.

There is a huge model train room (open only on Saturdays), and three large areas with models, plagues, aerial photographs, uniforms and the most informative docents.

Hanger One—such a famous landmark—is just outside the back door. There is also an air park with a number of military planes and a helicopter.

The hanger was built to house the blimp, USS Macon, that was 785 feet long with 8 engines. She could fly to Hawaii and back on one load of fuel. She housed a crew of 91 and a number of small Sparrowhawks, small airplanes, that were launched from the Macon for surveillance.

The hanger is 1,138 feet long, 308 feet wide and 198 feet high. When covered it can have its own climate. It can rain just inside the hanger.

I would encourage everyone to visit the Moffett Museum to soak up a facet of our local history and hear some of the wonderful stories from the docents.

The museum hours are Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The donation is \$10 fo adults, less for seniors, and under 14 is free. You can find great pictures and more information at moffettfieldmuseum.org.





### Reaching for a Solution to the Housing Crunch

by Jerry Steach

They're getting aggressive some would argue overreaching in Sacramento when it comes to solving the state's housing short-

Not only has Senate Bill 50 (SB-50)-intended to allow the state to override municipalities' zoning in transit- and jobs-rich areas—gained traction among a diverse group of powerful supporters, there's a slew of other proposed legislation that, if passed, would also erode Mountain View's and countless other California cities' ability to decide the type of housing that's best for their communities.

Various state legislators have introduced an array of housing-focused bills recently that, like SB-50, would largely wrest zoning power away from municipalities. The legislation they propose is supported energetically by The Committee to continued on page 7

## **SAVE THE DATE**

**Saturday August 24, 2019** 

At Mercy-Bush Park IPM- 3PM

OMVNA's Annual



Volunteers and raffle prize donations needed! Contact lorraine.omvna@gmail.com



## Restaurant Scene

bv Max Hauser

Longtime local Middle-Eastern grocer, deli, and grill Rose International Market reopened February 18 in its bright new quarters, 801 W. El Camino off Castro.



Treats on Castro, 282 Castro arm of San Jose Persian bakery C'est Si Bon, closed in March after nine months in business.



301 Castro St. at Dana (former home of Books Inc.) will be remodeled to a mixed-use building. City staff tell me a café tenant is already committed for the ground floor.



Flights (800 California at Castro), the new large restaurant and bar featuring comfort food served "tapas-style," has expanded its menu by "celebrity chef" Kyle Kin-

Elegant wine-bar-and-small-plates lounge Le Plonc at 331 Castro is launching further locations in Sunnyvale (279 W. Washington Ave.) and in Melbourne, Australia.



I'm a fan of the unique, good-value biryanis at **BiryaniZ**, 246 Castro (biryanis are complexly spiced rice mixtures layered with meats, shrimps, etc.). In May the restaurant plans to add a lunch buffet that will allow sampling different stvles.

HeyO! at Ava's Market, a 100% plant-based Modern-Americana restaurant, expects to open in May inside Ava's Market (where Omelette House was), 340 Castro. heyoeats.com









### **OMVNA Artists In Residence: A Review**





Old Mountain View is a welcoming place. For some of us, there is a hint of how neighborhoods were twenty-five years ago — blocking out for a moment, the traffic, the traffic lights and well over one hundred restaurants downtown!

Despite obvious changes, the neighborliness and friendly family environment remain.

Our neighborhood is home to a surprising number of talented artists. Some have been profiled during the past eight OMVNA newsletters. Here is a reminder of those diverse and interesting people. Their profiles deserve an update, so here's an outline of their latest gigs.



Featured: February, 2019
Tim Auer, Photographer
See Tim's extraordinary work
at
https://www.4b.io/index

Featured: November, 2018
Zwia Lipkin, Arts & Crafts
Zwia's next showing:
May 4 & 5 at Mountain View's
A la Carte & Art!





Featured: August, 2018
Carol Mellberg,
Painter & Art Therapist
Carol's next showing:
Saturday, May 18
The Art Shack 436 Warrington
Ave., Redwood City

Featured: May, 2018
Rocky Austin, Musician
Rocky's gigs:
Santa Cruz & Capitola
Ukulele Groups on the Beach
Saturday & Sunday mornings





Featured: February, 2018
Mia Whitfield, Singer/Arranger
Mia's next performance: Saturday, 2 PM Saturday June 15 at
Dana Street Roasting Co.
744 W Dana Street in Mtn.
View

Featured: November, 2017
Cliff Bryant, Painter
Cliff's next showing:
May 11 & 12 (11 a.m.-5 p.m.)
Home Studio
491 W. Dana St., Mtn. View





Featured: August, 2017
Marian Concus, Flutist & Teacher
Marian's next soloist event:
Sunday, Sept. 29, 2 p.m., "A
Jewish Music Potpourri" Community School of Music & Arts, 230
San Antonio Circle, Mtn. View

Featured: May, 2017
Susan Bickford, Author
Susan's new book
"Dread Of Winter", book
launch will be on November
16, 7 p.m. at Books Inc., Mtn.
View





OMVNA Writer Donald McPhail is a novelist, whose next author event is for "The Guest From Johannesburg", 7 PM May 23, at Books Inc. in downtown Mountain View.

## **Keeping Mountain View Safe:**

## Updates and Advice from the Mountain View Fire and Police Departments

by Robert Maitland



## Cooking Fires in Residential Buildings

Between 2014 to 2016, fire departments responded to an estimated 188,800 cooking fires in residential buildings across the nation. These fires resulted in an annual average of 195 deaths, 3,800 injuries and \$463 million in property loss.

The term "cooking fires" includes those fires that were caused by stoves, ovens, fixed and portable warming units, deep fat fryers, and open grills, as well as those fires that are confined to the cooking vessel.

From 2014 to 2016, cooking was, by far, the leading cause of all residential building fires and accounted for 50 percent of all residential building fires responded to by fire departments across the nation. Additionally, cooking was the leading cause of all residential building fire injuries.

#### When Do Cooking Fires Occur?

Residential cooking fires occurred mainly in the late afternoon

## Keep in Touch with Mountain View's Finest

Want to get the latest on the Mountain View Police Department?

Read about it on Twitter @ MountainViewPD, our blog at http://mountainviewpoliceblog.com/, or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/mountainviewpolicedepartment

Just want critical alerts and advisories? Sign-up for Nixle via your smartphone by texting your Mountain View zip code to 888777.

and evening hours from 4 to 9 p.m., peaking between 5 to 8 p.m. when many people are preparing the evening meal. This three-hour peak period accounted for 26 percent of the fires.

The five-hour period from 4 to 9 p.m. accounted for 40 percent of all residential cooking fires, and the two-hour morning period from 4 to 6 a.m. accounted for nearly 2 percent.

#### Type of Fire

Confined building fires are small fire incidents that are limited in extent to specific types of equipment or objects, staying within pots, fireplaces or certain other noncombustible containers. Nonconfined fires extend beyond certain types of equipment or objects. They are generally larger fires resulting in more serious injury and larger losses of property and content. Of the two classes of severity, confined fires accounted for 91 percent of residential cooking fires. The larger, nonconfined fires accounted for the remaining 9 percent of residencontinued on page 7

## Protect Yourself Part 2 Saftey Tips At Home

Over 65% of the time a burglar will get into your home through an unlocked door or window so keep all doors and windows locked.

Make sure you have a solid wood or metal door, high quality door frames, and deadbolt locks on your door.

Keep doors and windows locked.

Hitting the panic button on your car will set off an alarm that can scare away someone trying to break into your home.

When you are away from home make sure you give the impression that someone is there by putting lights on timers, having a neighbor pick up your newspapers and mail.

Secure window air conditioners to prevent them from being pulled out or pushed in.

If you live in an apartment, only buzz people in if you are sure of their identity and don't let strangers in.



#### Safety Tips For Parents

Know where your children are. Have your children tell you or ask permission before leaving the house and give them a time to check in or be home. When possible, have them leave a phone number of where they will be.

Help children learn important phone numbers and practice reciting home phone number and address, and your work and cell phone numbers. If they have trouble memorizing these, write them down on a card and have them carry it at all times. Tell your children where you will be and the best way to reach you.

Get to know your children's friends. Meet their parents before letting your children to go to their home and keep a list of their phone numbers. If you can't meet their parents, call and talk to them. Ask what your children might do at their house and if they will be supervised.

Choose a safe house in your neighborhood where your children can go if they need help. Point out other places they can go for help, like stores, libraries, and police stations.

Work together with your neighbors. Watch out for suspicious and unusual behavior. Get to know your neighbors and their children so you can look out for one another.

Proud member of

## **Mountain View Rotary**



Tori Ann Atwell

## Informed Delivery

by Susan Bickford

With the summer fast approaching, it's a time when many people are making arrangements for vacations away from home.

One typical pesky issue is mail delivery. Of course you can request hold mail from the Post Office and / or ask neighbors to check for deliveries, or even arrange for mail forwarding.

However, how can you be sure right away that an important letter hasn't arrived in your absence? Or maybe you'd like to know if an important document is coming that day, even if you are at home.

A very helpful service called Informed Delivery from the Post Office can help with this.

Unbeknownst to many, the Post Office has been scanning every letter delivered to your house for years. You may find this a little creepy, but at least you can now see what they are scanning.

After you sign up for Informed Delivery, you will get an email every day with images of the mail you are going to receive (bulk mail and most periodicals are not shown). It will also tell you if you are going to receive a package. Because the Post Office now delivers packages for companies such as Amazon even on Sundays, you will see notifications for these too.

To sign up, go to: USPS.com and look for Informed Delivery under the Track & Manage tab.



### Block Party Grant Update

OMVNA provides up to \$50 for block parties. To close off a street for a block party, you must first obtain a permit and allow 30 days for it to be processed.

Permit applications are available on this City website page http://www.mountainview.gov/depts/police/info/permits.asp

## Flute Lessons

in Old Mountain View with Marian Concus. Instructor is: conservatory trained, member of two professional symphony orchestras, Flute Coach at Bellarmine Preparatory School.

mconcus@mac.com • www.mconcusflutist.com

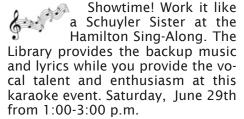
## Summertime Library Events

by Pam Schwartz
The Summer Reading Challenge
begins May 15th. Come to the Library or go online to mountainview.
beanstack.org to register. All ages
are encouraged to participate. Help
us reach our community reading
goal of 15,000 books.

This year's theme is It's Showtime At Your Library! We've listed just a few of the fun events we have planned:

#### The History of Blues in America

Join us under the redwoods for a one hour program led by music historian and acclaimed guitarist Joey Leone. He and two other musicians will cover the history, influence, and impact of American blues music through songs, stories, and historical facts. Thursday, June 27th from 6:30-7:30 p.m., outside the Library at ParkStage.



We're hosting a Harry Potter Birthday Celebration! Come make crafts and play games at this all-ages birthday bash for The Boy Who Lived. Saturday, July 27th from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

#### Summer Events at the Library for Children & Families

Summer Reading Kick-off Concert. Bring a blanket to Pioneer Park and enjoy the music of Andy Z! Monday, June 10th: Refreshments at 6:30 p.m., Andy Z performs at 7:00 p.m.

Kids Concerts for Ages 0-5. Join us outside the Library in Pioneer Park for live music performances every Tuesday, 10:15-11:00 a.m. from June 11th to July 30th.

Summer Shows for Ages 5-9. Kids in grades K-5 are invited to see a show at the Library every Thursday, 2:30-3:15 p.m. from June 13th to July 25th Highlights include Zoo to You and the Juggling Tornado!

For more upcoming programs visit our Library calendar at mountainview.gov/librarycalendar or call 650-903-6337.

## **■** What's Up?

by Robert Cox

## A Review of Recent Downtown Development Proposals

The old Wienerschnitzel building at northeast corner of California and Castro Streets is at the center of a recent redevelopment controversy.

Four years ago, Mountain View resident Mike Finley and his partners opened Steak Out, a restaurant featuring quality organic hamburgers. Soon after, the restaurant rebranded itself as Bierhaus, a German style pub in a largely outdoor casual California atmosphere. It was an overwhelming success.

As the terms of Bierhaus's lease came to end, the owners of the Wienerschitzel property and the adjacent Dental Fabulous building signaled their interest in redeveloping the properties.

The initial proposal called for replacing each building with a four-story building, with three stories of office over ground floor retail. Later, the owners of the two properties decided instead to submit proposals for separate four-story buildings on each of their sites. The short term result was that Bierhaus's lease was not renewed, and its building now stands empty. Dental Fabulous, on the other hand, is still operating.

The redevelopment proposals are controversial because they lie at the edge of the downtown's historic district. Much of the area of Castro Street south of these buildings has been redeveloped in the boom following the Great Recession. Now developers are floating proposals for redevelopment of the historic district itself.

But for many Mountain View residents and visitors to our downtown, the charm and ambiance of the historic district is one of our city's key assets. They believe that our historic landmarks should be preserved, and other development be done in a way that respects the special look and feel of our current downtown. Learn more about what one advocacy group is doing at https://www.livablemv.org.

Next issue, we will look at proposals for new downtown residences.



### † Day Worker Center †

by Moses Nerio

The Day Worker Center of Mountain View has been serving the local community since 1996 and is open Monday through Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The mission of the Center is to connect workers and employers in a safe and supportive environment. At the same time, the Center empowers workers to improve their socioeconomic condition through fair employment practices, education, and job skills training. The Center also participates in advocacy efforts that support the day laborer community.

Employers benefit from a variety of skills that the workers possess. There are workers with experience in gardening, housecleaning, furniture assembly, and more. For a list of services, call the Center at 650-903-4102 or visit its website: https://www.dayworkercentermv.org/services to learn more.

The job process is simple. Employers come to the Center, call, or email with their job requests. For confirmation that a worker will be available, the Center strongly suggests at least one day of advance notice via phone or email, but it is not required. Employers then come to the Center to pick up the worker, but this is a quick process; employers typically spend less than 10 minutes in the office.

While many speak and understand English, most of the workers speak Spanish as their native language. Center staff can translate your instructions and provide you with someone who understands exactly what you need.

Once the job is complete, the employer drops the worker off at the Center and pays them directly in cash. The Center does not charge any fees to the worker or to the

continued on page 7

Opinions expressed herein are not official positions of the OMVNA Steering Committee or its members unless otherwise stated.

Contact the newsletter team at: s.bickford@comcast.net .

Submissions for our August 2019 issue are due by July 30, 2019.

## **PYT Summer Offerings**

Peninsula Youth Theatre regularly performs at MVCPA and was founded in 1992. Their mission is to provide outstanding theatrical learning experiences that develop leadership, emphasize responsibility, and foster teamwork in a supportive, respectful environment for children.

Their emphasis on professional production values helps children develop a deep appreciation for the theatrical arts.

Summer programs are open for enrollment. Consider supporting this wonderful Mountain View institution by participating, enrolling your children, and attending shows!

Next show: The Pirates of Penzance — May 11-19, 2019

Donations and tickets at pytnet.

## Mountain View Summer Concerts at City Hall

OMV Residents are extremely fortunate to live within easy walking, biking, or commuting distance to many events.

Here is the schedule for concerts at City Hall this spring and summer, including Kidstock for kids:

May 17 - Roem Baur Kidstock: May 18 - The Raytones June 7 - Martin Murray Kidstock: June 15 - Martin and the Green Guitar June 21 - The RPM Band July 5 - Trio Sol de Mexico Kidstock: July 20 - Andy Z and the Andyland Band July 19 - Kevin Pfeffer August 2 - Brian Belknap August 16 - The Swingin' Blue Stars September 6 - Haopinaka Hawaiian

September 20 - Sandi Bell

## Notary Public



### **Magic Bridge Playground**

by Jill Asher

Coming soon to Mountain View at Rengstorff Park, Magical Bridge is a playground for children and adults of all abilities and disabilities, including those with physical and cognitive disabilities, autism, hearing, and visual impairments, those with sensory challenges, and even our aging population.

This \$4.5M project still needs approximately \$920k to be fully funded. Perhaps you, your company, organization, foundation or community group can be that MAGICAL spark to help reach the fundraising finish line?

Every donation matters and is needed. Donations of \$300 and above will be recognized with a tile on the donor wall inside the new playgrounds. Would you like to have your name included on a plaque on the buddy bench or retreat hut or zone? Kindly give what you can here: http://www.magical-bridge.org/mtnview





Alarm systems must be registered with the MVPD. The annual fee is \$20. The form is on the City OF Mtn. View site under permits.

## OMVNA Steering Committee

Chair: David Lewis
Vice-Chair: Robert Cox
Treasurer: Larry Rush
Secretary: Max Hauser
At-Large: Larry Rosenberg
At-Large: Lorraine Wormald
Newsletter: Susan Bickford
Community

Liaison: Jamil Shaikh

Subcommittee Chairs
CERT: Sherril Brennan

Historical

**Preservation:** Jerry Steach **Residential Parking:** Robert Cox,

Peg Powell

**Ice Cream Social:** Lorraine Wormald **Advertising:** Kristin Bailey **Next Meeting:** August 5, 2019



## Community Profile in Action: MayView Clinic

by Michael Fischetti

Forty-six years ago a safety net medical clinic opened in Mountain View addressing the needs of a medically under-served population extending from Palo Alto through Mountain View to Sunnyvale. It was government-funded as part of Lyndon Johnson's War on Poverty. The area selected was low income with minimal available affordable care.

That clinic is now the MayView clinic with facilities in Palo Alto, Sunnyvale and Mountain View. Our Mountain View facility is located on the second floor of the AAA building and saw 7,000 individual patients with 20,000 visits last year.

Financial, housing, food insecurity and social stressors disrupt families and their school children. The clinic's goal is to keep our clients healthy physically and psychologically offering a full range of convenient medical and behavioral care.

Despite the obvious blossoming of 'Silicon Valley' for many of us, the area originally selected as underserved has remained so and actually the population is less well off with ever-increasing needs. Many workers are not offered health insurance or make too much to qualify for Medi-Cal but too little to afford the exchanges or are immigrants or house-less. The number of self pay clients (no insurance/ sliding scale payment/no one turned away) has doubled over the last year.

Fortunately, grants and generous support from local institutions including Santa Clara County, El Camino Hospital, and Stanford fund over half of the budget but high rents will continue to exacerbate the problems. With less income the clinic has to continue to look for additional funds.

In 2017 the Clinic is fortunate to have hired Ken Graham as the new CEO. Ken was the former CEO of El Camino Hospital and also had years of direct experience in helping clinics facing challenges.

Fundraising is essential in the next several years. Some of our community leaders will be helping us with a Community Fund Raising Committee to reach out to donors.

MayView clinic is just one of the Safety Net Partners in Mountain View, including: the Day Worker Center, CHAC, First 5, CSA, Hopes Corner, the Winter Shelter for women and

families at Trinity Church, and our schools providing counseling and services to impoverished families.

It is increasingly recognized that these and other Safety Net Partners are integral to the efforts to deal with the socio-economic changes in Silicon Valley resulting in continuously increasing numbers of impoverished and displaced.

Our mission is to work with partner organizations and community members so we can together care for our neighbors.

Anyone interested in being part of this effort can contact me at: drpesto@hotmail.com and visit mayview.org.

Michael Fischetti, MD, MPH, Santa Clara County Health Advisory Commission, and Board of Directors MayView Clinic and Hope's Corner





## Transitions for a Longtime Friend: Yoga is Youthfulness

From various styles of yoga, to occasional music events and visiting yoga teachers from many traditions, Yoga is Youthfulness has a lot going on! As of Friday, May 3rd YiY will be open in their new location at 1954 Old Middlefield Way, Mountain View.

If you've spent time in Old Mountain View, you've surely come across Yoga is Youthfulness, or perhaps taken classes there. The studio plays a big part in the local Mountain View community: participating as a member of Mountain View's Chamber of Commerce: donating to local public-school fundraiser events; creating personable relationships with people who walk through their door.

Classes and yoga styles are varied, offering something for everybody. In fact, that's the aim of YiY, offering yoga classes accessible for every body! Daily lunchtime yoga classes provide stress relief,

opening hips and minds of local tech workers. Every Friday night there's a deep healing relaxation class where you can embark on an odyssev into the realm of Yoga Nidra, a powerful technique in which you learn to consciously relax.

Flow for Strength classes keep you moving without rushing. Students consistently attending these classes report making continual progress. Vinyasa classes cultivate awareness, a first step toward being balanced and energetically aligned.

Ashtanga classes are focused, highly energetic and recommended for experienced students. Hatha classes focus on safe effective practice through alignment and skillfully adapted postures. Such classes are excellent for beginners or those with neck and shoulder restrictions and tight hips and hamstrings.

Pranayama, a free 20-minute class open to everyone, offers an

by Cheri Gross introduction into the formal yogic practice of controlling the breath. Meditation classes provide health benefits as students learn to focus attention.

Several pre-natal classes attract moms-to-be from all over the Bay Area. Participants can continue their practice in Baby & Me classes, starting in May. Kids classes are offered, as well.

YiY, family owned and operated since 1999, was opened by Joseph Hentz. A yoga practitioner for 20 years, Joseph found that yoga helped him develop greater self-awareness, resilience and a healthier body, mind and spirit. He started YiY to bring the positive benefits of yoga to his community. Now his wife Sabina manages the studio and their son enjoys practicing Ashtanga with his dad.

Many students have attended the studio for years. YiY continually continued on page 7

#### **Day Workers**

continued from page 5 employer. After the work has been completed, Center staff and volunteers conduct quality control calls and send customer service surveys to inquire with the employer regarding worker and staff performance.

The Day Worker Center of Mountain View follows all legal requirements and regulations for operation and any donations to the Center are tax deductible.



#### YiY

continued from page 6 evolves by hiring excellent teachers local to the area. Newcomers to Mountain View often seek out a yoga studio, and YiY quickly becomes their community. Several students who've moved here found many friends and even met their life partners at the studio!

https://yogaisyouth.com/ https://www.instagram.com/ yogaisyouth/

https://www.facebook.com/ YogalsYouthfulness/



To sign up for neighborhood alerts by OMVNAtalk email:

- Send a blank message (no subject or content needed) from your preferred email address to omvnatalksubscribe@yahoogroups.com
- You will get back an automated message from yahoogroups
- Select option 2 ("Reply, Send") to confirm your request.

For more information about the OMVNAtalk list, please see http://www.omvna.org/omvnatalk.html

For newsletter delivery problems or to volunteer to help, send email to lorraine.omvna@gmail.com

#### Fires

continued from page 3 tial cooking fires.

#### **Factors Contributing to Ignition**

Careless cooking activities are typically responsible for cooking fires. Unattended equipment, such as people leaving food on the stove or in the oven and forgetting about it, accounted for 40 percent of nonconfined residential cooking fires. Unattended equipment was, by far, the leading specific factor contributing to ignition and was three times greater than the second leading specific factor of a heat source too close to combustibles (12 percent).

#### Smoke Alarms in Nonconfined Cooking Fires in Occupied Residential Buildings

Smoke alarms were reported as present in 67 percent of nonconfined cooking fires in occupied residential buildings. In 15 percent of nonconfined cooking fires in occupied residential buildings, there were no smoke alarms present. In another 18 percent of these fires, firefighters were unable to determine if a smoke alarm was present; unfortunately, in 19 percent of the fires where the presence of a smoke alarm was undetermined, either the flames involved the building of origin or spread beyond it. When smoke alarms were present (67 percent) and the alarm's operational status is considered, the percentage of smoke alarms reported as present consisted of:

- Present and operated—47 percent.
- Present but did not operate—12 percent (alarm failed to operate, 8 percent; fire too small, 4 percent).
- Present but operational status unknown—8 percent.

If a fire occurs, properly installed and maintained smoke alarms provide an early warning signal to everyone in a home. Smoke alarms help save lives and property.

Source: U.S. Fire Administration, an entity of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency. Find the entire article at: https://www.usfa.fema.gov/data/statistics/reports/cooking\_fires\_v19i9.html

#### Reaching for a Solution

continued from page 1

House the Bay Area, a group whose stated purpose is to alleviate the region's housing crunch—apparently, by any means necessary. The bills align tightly with the group's pro-housing policies, which it calls the CASA Compact, and if successful would drastically curb local governments' power to determine how to address their high-density and affordable housing needs.

In addition to SB-50, the compact's flagship bill intended to raise cities' existing height limits for housing near transit and jobs concentration and cease parking requirements for new construction, there are equally imposing legislative efforts afoot. SB-330, for example, calls for a 10-year moratorium on downsizing (reducing the number of units allowed on a parcel of land) in high-cost housing areas, as well as prohibiting limits on new housing and halting the collection of fees for affordable housing development.

Then there's Assembly Bill 1279, which targets areas with what the state deems low-density, with the goal of housing for low- to middle-income families that would be subsidized in part through fees charged for expensive projects.

Other housing-centric legislation proposed in Sacramento and heartily endorsed by the CASA Compact includes those easing restrictions on accessory dwelling units, protecting tenants against arbitrary evictions and imposing limits on rent increases.

While few can argue against well-intended efforts to ease the state's housing challenges, the effects of legislation like this would mean cities such as Mountain View are forced to relinquish self determination when it comes to housing, particularly in and around Old Mountain View, so that five-story buildings, with little or no added parking, could overtake our quiet residential streets.

What do OMV residents think—is this reasonable or is it overreach? Share those thoughts with our state representatives: Sen. Jerry Hill and Assemblyman Marc Berman.



