



December 11, 2023

Ordinance Committee
City of Santa Barbara
735 Anacapa Street

RE: Local Housing Trust Fund, Ordinance Committee 12/12/23

Chair Gutierrez and Members of the Ordinance Committee,

On behalf of the League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara, we thank you for all the work of the City, including staff, the City Council's Ordinance Committee and Finance Committee, to develop the Local Housing Trust Fund. We have strongly advocated for a permanent source of revenue to produce affordable housing. This fund and accompanying ordinance are an important first step in assuring needed long-term funding.

We agree with the comments submitted by the City Housing Authority (December 8, 2023 letter), including:

- The application process and funding criteria should follow the existing process and procedures for affordable housing funding requests submitted to the City. This process and these procedures work. There is no need to reinvent the wheel.
- The roles, responsibilities and authorities of the Finance Director and the Community Development Director should be clearly stated in the ordinance.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this important ordinance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vicki Allen".

Vicki Allen, Vice President, Communications
Leadership Team, LWVSB

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dianne M. Black".

Dianne M. Black, Vice President
Leadership Team, LWVSB