

**Sacramento City Council Meeting, Public Testimony
Inclusionary Housing Workshop, Item 18, February 10, 2009**

League of Women Voters of Sacramento County
1107 9th Street, Suite 300, Sacramento, CA 995814

Mayor Kevin Johnson and
City Councilmembers

Dear Mayor Johnson and Councilmembers

The League of Women Voters of Sacramento County has long favored inclusionary zoning for housing. We supported the City's present ordinance and worked hard for the adoption of the County's ordinance.

We agree with the Housing Alliance position that the ordinance should be expanded to be citywide and that at least 5% of the new housing should be affordable to those with extremely low incomes (ELI), those at 30% of median. We agree with the staff report creating a provision for an in lieu fee for smaller developments, but only for the smaller ones. It is important to have low income units integrated into a development and for those to be built concurrently with the entire project.

We understand the difficulty in projecting how a new, improved ordinance would work in this uncertain economic period. We urge you to move ahead with expanding the ordinance to provide mixed income housing throughout the city and be ready for a more robust housing development climate.

We have special concerns about new housing being available to low wage earners working in the downtown area. Previous, and now abandoned, proposals for high-rise, luxury condos had no provision for the people working nearby. When the economy improves, you again will be receiving proposals for downtown high rises. Vet them carefully and keep the low wage workers in mind.

Sincerely

Kay Kneprath
Housing Consultant