A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW REGARDING THE USE OF REVENUE GENERATED BY THE BUSINESS LICENSE TAX MEASURE

WHEREAS, The City of Mountain View has actively been discussing the placement of revenue measures on the November 6, 2018 ballot since December 2017; and

WHEREAS, on June 5, 2018, the City Council directed staff to prepare a ballot measure to restructure the Business License Tax, which has not had a fee adjustment since 1954; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mountain View is experiencing significant growth in both its residential and business population; and

WHEREAS, transportation/mobility improvements and affordable housing are needed to accommodate this growth and maintain the quality of life in Mountain View; and

WHEREAS, transportation and housing are two of the City Council’s four Major Goals; and

WHEREAS, while the City spends considerable sums on transportation and mobility projects, as well as affordable housing, the need for investment in these programs exceeds available resources; and

WHEREAS, on November 6, 2018, City of Mountain View voters will be asked to restructure the business license tax to generate significantly more revenue based on the number of employees working in the City of Mountain View; and

WHEREAS, through community surveys and at public outreach meetings, City of Mountain View residents and businesses have been clear that transportation and affordable housing are important spending priorities for any moneys generated by this measure; and
WHEREAS, the City Council also expressed its intent to dedicate the bulk of the revenue raised from a restructured business license tax to transportation and mobility projects, with some also dedicated to affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, the use of these funds will benefit the businesses contributing the funds, as well as the general Mountain View population, and the City intends to seek input from stakeholders on the use of the funds;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Mountain View adopts the following policy with respect to the use of funds generated by the restructured business license tax:

1. While the ballot measure is a general tax and may legally be used for unrestricted general governmental purposes, the City Council intends to spend approximately 80 percent of the revenue generated by the business license tax on transportation and innovative transit solutions to improve traffic congestion in the City of Mountain View, including, but not limited to: bicycle, pedestrian, and vehicle-separated routes across the railroad tracks, new transit systems to employment centers, and the community shuttle.

2. The revenue will be leveraged to the greatest extent possible with other funding sources for priority transportation projects; Council anticipates this will include bonding against a significant portion of the revenue to support transportation and related infrastructure projects.

3. Funds generated by the tax dedicated to transportation projects will be deposited into the City’s Transportation Reserve Fund to be accumulated and utilized for qualified projects.

4. The City Council intends to direct at least 10 percent of the remaining revenue toward affordable housing, including, but not limited to, permanent supportive housing for the homeless and workforce housing for moderate-income residents.

5. Remaining funds will be used for other permissible government purposes, including, but not limited to, police, fire, and medical response public safety services.

6. It is the intent of the Council to preserve the use of funds as outlined in this Resolution for at least ten (10) years following adoption of the restructured business license tax by the voters.
7. An independent financial audit will be conducted each year regarding the revenues and expenditures related to this revenue source and presented to the City Council.

8. Council will work with the Mountain View Chamber of Commerce and other local stakeholders on an implementation plan for the business license tax.