Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year Floodplain Life Moves Homekey Palo Alto Supportive Housing Play Structure

To: All Interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

This is to give notice that the City of Palo Alto, California, pursuant to 24 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 58, has determined that the proposed Life Moves Homekey Palo Alto Supportive Interim Housing Play Structure (the Project) is located within a 100-year floodplain, and that the City will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action in the floodplain and the potential impacts on the floodplain from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988, in accordance with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C.

The Project Site is located at 1237 San Antonio Road in the City of Palo Alto (Assessor's Parcel Number: 116-01-013), Santa Clara County. The Project Site is approximately 1,117 square feet (sf) in size with the entire Project Site located within a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designated Special Flood Hazard Area Zone A (Flood Insurance Rate Map 06085C0036H), meaning the Project Site is subject to inundation by a one-percent-annual-chance flood event (100-year flood).

The Project would involve the construction of a play structure on a 1,117-sf area within the new Homekey Palo Alto interim housing project site. The play structure would contain traditional play equipment, along with features, which may include climbing equipment; shade elements; ground-level play equipment such as sensory walls, chatter noodles, clubhouses, which do not need safety zones; nature-inspired elements such as flowers; entrance ramps into the play space; walkways with lighting; and a swing set. In total, approximately 1,117 square feet of FEMA-designated floodplain would be impacted by Proposed Project activities. The Project involves ground disturbance that would be limited to removal of existing vegetation (non-native grasses), and leveling of relatively flat ground to prepare for the installation of new playground equipment and features as described above. The Project would be supported, in part, by HUD funds (Grant Number B-24-MC-06-0020).

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information about floodplains can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments are invited and must be received by the City at the following address on or before **[June 4, 2025]: 250 Hamilton Avenue, Fifth Floor, Planning, Palo Alto, CA 94301** and 650-329-2195, Attention: Robert Feign, Housing Planner. Comments or questions about the project may also be submitted to Robert Feign, Housing Planner via email at Robert.Feign@cityofpaloalto.org.

Date: May 20, 2025