

**From:** [PHILIP SALAVERRY](#)  
**To:** [Alison Foulis](#)  
**Subject:** Please distribute this letter to the mayor and council, thx!  
**Date:** Monday, May 22, 2023 4:10:43 PM

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May 22, 2023

Dear Mayor and Council,

My name is Philip Salaverry, I live in Fairfax CA, and I own a duplex (I live in one half and rent out the other side).

As co-founder of [fairfaxresidents.org](#), [marinresidents.org](#) and [marinresidentsPAC.org](#) I am part of an effort to repeal Rent Control in Fairfax and restart the process with all stakeholders at the table. Our groups have almost 600 members (500+ [fairfaxresidents.org](#)) and (60+ [marinresidents.org](#)), we have over 120 donors, and we've collected more than enough petition signatures to put Rent Control on the 2024 ballot in Fairfax.

Our Town Council voted to enact Rent Control in Dec 2022 without allowing the measures to go to the people for their approval / vote. Because of this, there's been an uproar and a very unpleasant protracted fight, and now, there are serious discussions about recalling of 1-2 council members..

This fiasco has pitted resident against resident. Our elected officials have dodged any and all responsibility for the mess, dug in their heels in a defensive crouch and have been unable to get other town business done in a meaningful timely fashion. This is not what we want in Fairfax and my hope is this does not get repeated elsewhere in Marin, including Larkspur. [Fairfaxresidents.org](#) and [marinresidents.org](#)'s goal is to bring awareness countywide to some of the negative effects of Rent Control so that citizens can make informed decisions about what they want and will accept in their communities. Our hope is that citizens will not find out the "day after" that sweeping changes that affect their livelihood and / or retirement for generations to come have been made without their knowledge as happened here in Fairfax. There are 1000's of pages of recently released FOIA documents showing how the process here in Fairfax rolled out. We've read 20-25% of them and so far we've not discovered any illegal activities between the DSA and our council members. What has become very apparent is the oversized role and unprecedented access and influence the DSA had over the process. From reading the documents it's clear that the ACCE wrote 99% of the Fairfax ordinances our council adopted. It's stunning to see how the DSA prevailed in making sure our council changed practically nothing from the original "ACCE / Fairfax Model Ordinances".

The DSA has a right to present their perspective as it relates to Rent Control but in my humble opinion so do all the residents of Larkspur. If what happened in Fairfax happens in Larkspur I believe your citizens and yourselves will suffer the same calamity we did, divisiveness, rancor, distrust, suspicion and outright hostility including public yelling / ranting etc.

I urge you to take the necessary time to look at Rent Control critically and to reach out to your citizens to make sure they know what's being considered, and know in detail how this will affect their financial well being including how it would affect their property rights. I also believe any Rent Control in Larkspur should be decided by a vote of your people.

The Marin-DSA states on their website that "*Capitalism is a system designed by the wealthy elite to exploit working people for their own profit.*" That statement does not represent the 100's of mom & pop housing providers in Fairfax, or in Larkspur, or greater Marin and should be rejected by anyone who has worked hard their whole life to achieve their goals.

Thank you, Philip Salaverry