

CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE • BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

Lili Bosse, Mayor

April 11, 2022

The Honorable Mark Levine California State Assembly, 10th District 1021 O. St, Suite 5240 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1445 (Levine) – Regional Housing Need Allocation: Climate Change

City of Beverly Hills – OPPOSE

Dear Assemblymember Levine,

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I write to inform you that our city has adopted a position of OPPOSE to AB 1445, your measure to require state and regional planning agencies like the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) and the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) consider the impacts of climate change, including wildfire risk, sea level rise, emergency evacuation route capacity and other impacts as additional factors in their methodology to determine the allocation of regional housing needs.

The City of Beverly Hills recognizes the affordability crisis in the state of California and role that local jurisdictions must play to develop effective solutions. We value the ability to appropriately plan at the local level for affordable housing in our community. These plans carefully consider the unique way our City needs to grow in order to not only accommodate RHNA but to address climate change. Our ability to properly plan for the future of housing and climate change will be severely impacted by AB 1445's requirement for regional planning agencies or HCD to do so.

What is also concerning to our City is AB 1445 presumes to place the consideration of wildfire risk and emergency evacuation routes with agencies not familiar with the specific terrain and avenues of egress of our City. Our Emergency Manager, Fire Department, Policy Department, and Public Works Department work together to identify the risk of wildfires and to ensure egress routes are appropriately maintained. When considering where to build affordable housing, our Community

Development team consults with these Departments to ensure densification is not occurring where safe egress from our City would not be possible for our residents.

While well intentioned, AB 1445 would mandate that additional factors be considered when developing RHNA targets at a time when the state has drastically increased allocations and set unrealistic timelines for compliance. The state should not add new requirements to the RHNA planning process without taking concrete steps to improve the current process and allow for greater collaboration between jurisdictions.

For these reasons, the City of Beverly Hills must respectfully OPPOSE your AB 1445.

Sincerely,

Lili Bosse

Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

Cc: The Honorable Ben Allen, Senator, 26th District

The Honorable Richard Bloom, Assemblymember, 50th District

Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange