



City Council

Cameron Burks, Mayor
Mike Anderson, Vice Mayor
Steven Bliss, Council Member
Susan Candell, Council Member
Teresa Gerringer, Council Member

May 22, 2019

The Honorable David Chiu
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 4112
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Rebecca Bauer-Kahan
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 2130
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1487 (Chiu) San Francisco Bay Area: Housing Development Financing
Watch Position**

Dear Assembly Member Chiu and Assembly Member Bauer-Kahan:

On behalf of the City of Lafayette, I want to thank you both for inviting me to participate with mayors from our region to discuss Assembly Bill 1487. I truly appreciate the State Legislature's efforts to address the current housing crisis in the San Francisco Bay Area.

In Lafayette we are focused on efficiently processing applications for housing projects that are proposed. Currently, there are:

- 190 multifamily units under construction;
- 70 multifamily units approved for construction; and
- Over 500 multifamily units under review or soon to file applications.

That's over 750 units, which is nearly twice our RHNA allocation of 400 units; and, because of our inclusionary housing ordinance, at least 15% of these units will be affordable. However, at the same time, we have lost over 200 blue and white collar jobs and will potentially lose another 300+ as offices and commercial buildings are being targeted to be replaced by housing which could throw off our jobs/housing balance.

I agree that new funding is critical to the development of affordable housing, especially with the dissolution of redevelopment agencies. With regards to AB 1487 (Chiu), I do appreciate your recent amendments to this bill and for taking the time to listen to the concerns voiced at our meeting. Based on these actions, the City of Lafayette has removed its opposition to the bill and has assumed a "watch" position. Working together collegially, Lafayette is hopeful that

we could eventually support the bill. I believe the following changes to AB 1487 would go far in garnering support from Contra Costa communities:

- Ensure a fair and equitable percentage of "return to source" funds with at least 75% returned to cities
- Use improvement of the jobs/housing balance as the criteria for allocating the remaining funds
- Allow cities to be able to apply for that funding directly
- Appoint ABAG whose Board is composed of locally elected officials to serve as the regional entity disbursing those funds
- Eliminate a regional sales tax increase as a revenue measure to fund this endeavor

Thank you again for engaging with us and for your thoughtful amendments to the bill. I look forward to continuing our work together to address the housing shortage facing the Bay Area.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'al' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

Mike Anderson
Mayor

CC: Senator Steve Glazer
Lafayette City Council