

City Council

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

September 16, 2019

Governor Gavin Newsom State Capitol Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 5 (Beall/McGuire/Portantino) Local-State Sustainable Investment Incentive Program

Request for signature

Dear Governor Newsom:

The City of Lafayette requests that you sign Senate Bill 5 (Beall/McGuire/Portantino), the Local-State Sustainable Investment Incentive Program. SB 5 gives cities the tools to improve communities while acknowledging the need for flexible funding to spur housing construction and revitalize communities. It is the only legislation passed this year that will immediately result in housing being built, particularly for low-income families and those on the brink of homelessness.

The elimination of redevelopment in 2011 created a huge deficit in community revitalization resources throughout California, including an annual loss of \$1 billion in funding for low- and moderate-income housing. With redevelopment dollars, Lafayette was able to incentivize the construction of fifty nine lower income housing units and upgrade failing infrastructure in the downtown. Losing redevelopment and its guaranteed source of funding has greatly inhibited our efforts to grow the City's affordable housing stock.

Senate Bill 5 would create the Affordable Housing and Community Development Program to provide cities and counties the resources they need to help fund the construction of affordable housing, including rental housing, available to very low, low and moderate-income families. This bill would stimulate housing for those particularly vulnerable to homelessness. It would also provide state resources to ensure funding for schools and community colleges are not impacted.

You are to be commended for providing hundreds of millions of dollars in this year's state budget to help local governments plan for more housing, build emergency shelters and provide

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services for the homeless. While these one-time revenues are important, we need a dedicated program and ongoing funding to help attack these problems over the long-term.

The time is right for the state to fill the void left by the elimination of redevelopment and provide more tools to support local efforts to build more affordable housing, provide essential infrastructure, and create opportunities in underserved communities.

We respectfully ask for your support of SB 5.

Sincerely,

Mayor Mike Anderson

cc: Senator Glazer

Assembly Member Bauer-Kahan

Sam Caygill & Meg Desmond, League of California Cities

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