



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE • BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

Lill Bosse, Mayor

September 26, 2022

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: **AB 1445 (Levine) Planning and Zoning: RHNA: Climate Impacts**
City of Beverly Hills – **REQUEST FOR VETO**

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I respectfully request that you **VETO AB 1445** when this measure is presented to you for final action. **AB 1445** authorizes state and regional planning agencies, like the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) and the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), to 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.

As passed by the state legislature, **AB 1445** authorizes, rather than requires, Council of Governments (COGs) or HCD to consider the impacts of climate change in developing the methodology for allocating regional housing need within a region. Regions could consider emergency evacuation route capacity, wildfire risk, sea level rise, or any other climate change-related factor. The requirements in this bill would not become operative until 2025. As such, it would first apply to the 7th eight-year cycle of RHNA and housing elements.

AB 1445 presumes to place the consideration of wildfire risk, emergency evacuation routes, and other critical factors related to climate change 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, it is not clear that **AB 1445** would add any value to the current process for establishing RHNA targets. This measure, in its current form, authorizes other

agencies to micromanage the local/regional planning process, suggesting factors that would likely already be considered when establishing RHNA targets.

The state should not add new soft suggestions 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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lili Bosse".

Lili Bosse,
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

cc: The Honorable Marc Levine, Assemblymember, 10th District
The Honorable Ben Allen, Senator 26th District
The Honorable Richard Bloom, Assemblymember, 50th District
Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange