

9770 CULVER BOULEVARD CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA 90232-0507 CITY HALL Tel. (310) 253-6000 FAX (310) 253-6010 JIM B. CLARKE MAYOR

JEFFREY COOPER VICE MAYOR

COUNCIL MEMBERS GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS THOMAS AUJERO SMALL

February 13, 2017

The Honorable Karen Bass United States House of Representatives 2241 Rayburn HOB Washington, DC 20515

Subject: Infrastructure Financing Depends on the Municipal Bond Tax Exemption

Dear Congresswoman Bass:

As you may be aware, Representatives Hultgren and Ruppersberger, Co-Chairs of the Congressional Municipal Finance Caucus, are circulating the attached letter, regarding infrastructure financing and municipal bond tax exemption, to Members of Congress. Both of these Congressmen have accepted a call to action to address threats to tax exempt municipal financing. In 2015, they co-authored a letter, garnering support from 120 Members of Congress, urging House leadership to protect the status of tax exempt municipal bonds. Over the past two years, they have worked with state and local governments to educate other policymakers on the importance of the tax exemption.

Municipal bonds, such as those which may be issued by cities like Culver City, are necessary to fund public projects. I wanted to take this opportunity to reach out to you in hopes that you will sign on to the attached letter. If you would like to sign the below letter, please contact Bill Hulse (Representative Hultgren's office) at <u>Bill.Hulse@mail.house.gov</u> or David Heitlinger (Representative Ruppersberger office) at <u>David.Heitlinger@mail.house.gov</u>. Additionally, if you have any questions, or if you wish to discuss this further, please contact me at (310) 775-1664.

Jim B. Clarke Mayor

Attachment

cc: The Honorable Members of the City Council John M. Nachbar, City Manager

Dear Colleague Letter

Dear Chairman Brady and Ranking Member Neal:

As Congress considers tax reform and infrastructure financing, we, the undersigned, write to express our strong support for an already potent tool already in hand – the tax-exempt municipal bond. For more than a century, states and local governments have depended on this reliable and efficient means of financing.

Nearly two-thirds of core infrastructure investments in the United States are financed with municipal bonds. In 2015 alone, more than \$400 billion in municipal bonds were issued to finance the projects that touch the daily lives of every American citizen and business. They are the roads we drive on, schools for our children, affordable family housing, water systems that supply safe drinking water, courthouses, hospitals and clinics to treat the sick, airports and ports that help move products domestically and overseas, and, in some cases, the utility plants that power our homes, businesses, and factories. These are the pro-growth investments which spur job creation, help our economies grow, and strengthen our communities.

A combination of local control and local responsibility makes municipal bonds an incredibly effective and efficient tool. Voters throughout the country overwhelmingly support tax-exempt municipal bonds, which are either approved by locally-elected officials or directly through bond referenda – fiscal federalism at its finest. This must help explain why the default rate is less than 0.01%. Federal tax exemption reduces the cost of issuing municipal bonds, but it is these voters who will pay the interest and principle on this debt. As a result, over the last decade overall state and local borrowing has actually declined in proportion to the economy, while still financing more than \$2 trillion in new infrastructure investments. And, if simply left alone, municipal bonds likely will finance another \$3 trillion in new infrastructure investments by 2026.

Furthermore, millions of Americans depend on municipal bonds for their economic security, and invest in them because of their low-risk nature. Nearly three-quarters of individual investors earn less than \$200,000 per year and more than three-quarters are 55 or older. Businesses also rely on municipal bonds as a safe, stable, long-term investment.

In conclusion, changes to the tax-code should recognize the vital role of tax-exempt municipal bonds. Any changes under consideration to the tax exempt status that would increase the cost of financing for states and local government should be provided very careful consideration. We believe the current tax-exempt status contributes to efficient economic growth that benefits all Americans.



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COUNCIL MEMBERS GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS THOMAS AUJERO SMALL

April 17, 2017

The Honorable Ed Hernandez, Chair and Members of the Senate Health Committee State Capitol, Room 2191 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: SB 786 (Mendoza). Alcoholism or drug abuse recovery or treatment facilities: overconcentration. (As amended on February 17, 2017) - SUPPORT

Dear Chair Hernandez and Committee Members:

The City of Culver City supports SB 786 and urges your AYE vote. Beginning on January 1, 2018, this bill would require the State Department of Health Care Services (Department) to deny an application for a new facility license, if the proposed location is in proximity to an existing facility in an area zoned residential that would result in overconcentration. SB 786 would require the Department or a county licensing agency, at least 45 days prior to approving any application for any new facility, to notify in writing the planning agency of the city, if the facility is to be located in the city, of the proposed location of the facility. SB 786 would authorize a city to request denial of the license applied for on the basis of an overconcentration of facilities.

A rehabilitation facility with six beds in a single-family home is welcome in any neighborhood. It is good for the community, good for the neighbors and more importantly, good for the patient who is trying to recover. Because cities and counties would be noticed of State license applications under this bill, a municipality such as Culver City, could help recognize overconcentration, which is defined as having two or more facilities separated by less than 300 feet. SB 786 would essentially provide consistency with all other State licensed group homes to protect existing neighborhoods and protect the therapeutic, nurturing environment that benefits residents recovering in State-licensed group homes.

It is for these reasons that the City of Culver City <u>supports</u> SB 786 and urges your AYE vote. If you have any questions, or if you wish to discuss this further, please contact me at (310) 775-1664.

Sincerely. J. ly

Jim B. Clarke Mayor

cc: The Honorable Tony Mendoza, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, Member of the State Assembly The Honorable Members of the City Council John M. Nachbar, City Manager



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May 11, 2017

The Honorable Ricardo Lara, Chair and Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee State Capitol, Room 2206 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: SB 705 (Allen). Solid waste: food service containers. (As amended on April 26, 2017) -SUPPORT

Dear Chair Lara and Committee Members:

The City of Culver City <u>supports</u> SB 705 and urges your AYE vote. Among other provisions of SB 705, this bill would enact the Ocean Pollution Reduction Act of 2017, which would prohibit a food provider, on and after January 1, 2020, from dispensing prepared food to a customer in an expanded polystyrene food service container.

The City Council supports the adoption of reasonable environmental regulations aimed at enhancing water quality, reducing stormwater pollution, and mitigating the City's fiscal impacts to achieve those environmental regulations. Ballona Creek, a focal point of our community, flows through Culver City as an open channel which drains storm water and urban runoff within the 130 square-mile Ballona Creek Watershed to the Pacific Ocean. Accordingly, Culver City remains vigilant in pursuing funding and advocacy opportunities to keep waterways clean and to reduce pollution. To this end, the City Council passed a ban on single-use plastic bags in 2013 and during the November 8, 2016 Special Municipal Election, Culver City residents passed Measure CW, the Clean Water, Clean Beach Parcel Tax. Measure CW creates a dedicated funding source to pay for water quality programs that will prevent pollution from reaching our waterways, beaches and the Ballona Creek Estuary.

Additionally, on May 8, 2017, the City Council adopted an ordinance banning polystyrene. The City's polystyrene ordinance 1) bans food providers' and City facilities' use of: single-use polystyrene foam and solid plastic food ware containers, cups, cup lids, bowls, plates, cutlery and straws citywide; 2) requires food providers to ask their customers whether they want cutlery included with their take-out order; and 3) prohibits City retailers from selling single-use polystyrene foam food ware containers, cups, bowls and plates and polystyrene foam coolers that are not fully encased in another material.

While Culver City is doing its part to keep our waterways clean, a complete ban on polystyrene needs to be the ultimate goal for not only our watershed, but for the entire state. SB 705 will go a long way towards reducing the amount of toxic waste that pollutes our coastline, overburdens our landfills, and litters our communities by phasing out takeout food packaging that cannot be recycled or composted in the communities where it is distributed. It is for these reasons that the City of Culver City <u>supports</u> SB 705 and urges your AYE vote. If you have any questions, or if you wish to discuss this further, please contact Charles Herbertson, Public Works Director/City Engineer at (310) 253-5630.

Sincerely. Jeffrey Cooper Mayor

cc: The Honorable Ben Allen, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, Member of the State Assembly The Honorable Members of the City Council



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April 13, 2017

The Honorable Mike McGuire, Chair and Members of the Senate Government and Finance Committee State Capitol, Room 408 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: SB 649 (Hueso) Wireless telecommunications facilities. (As amended on March 28, 2017) — OPPOSE.

Dear Chair McGuire and Committee Members:

The City of Culver City respectfully <u>opposes</u> SB 649 and proposed amendments in RN 17 08941 (proposal) and urges your NO vote. SB 649 would provide that a small cell is a permitted use, not subject to a city or county discretionary permit, if the small cell meets specified requirements. Additionally, the bill would authorize a city or county to require an administrative permit for a small cell, as specified.

The proposal preempts adopted local land use plans by mandating that "small cells" be allowed in all zones as a use by-right, including all residential zones. As such, the proposal provides a de facto exemption to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the installation of such facilities and precludes consideration by local governments of the aesthetic, nuisance, and environmental impacts of these facilities. These impacts can be significant, especially when the proposed location of facilities is within a residential zone.

Culver City welcomes new technologies into the community because of the opportunity to improve the quality of life for our residents. However, SB 649 unnecessarily and unconstitutionally removes local authority over public property and shuts out public input and local discretion by eliminating consideration of the aesthetic and environmental impacts of "small cells."

It is for these reasons that the City of Culver City <u>opposes</u> SB 649 and requests your NO vote. If you have any questions, or if you wish to discuss this further, please contact me at (310) 775-1664.

Sincerely Jim B. Clarke Mayor

cc: The Honorable Ben Hueso, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, Member of the State Assembly The Honorable Members of the City Council John M. Nachbar, City Manager



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COUNCIL MEMBERS JIM B. CLARKE GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS

June 26, 2017

The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas Member of the State Assembly State Capitol P.O. Box 942849 Sacramento, CA 94249-0054

Subject: SB 649 (Hueso) Wireless telecommunications facilities. (As amended on June 20, 2017) — OPPOSE.

Dear Assembly Member Ridley-Thomas:

The City of Culver City <u>opposes</u> SB 649 and urges your NO vote when it comes before you for consideration. Culver City and nearly 150 other cities remain opposed to SB 649, related to the permitting of wireless and small cell telecommunications facilities. This proposal represents a major change in telecommunications policy and law by 1) requiring local governments to lease out the public's property; 2) capping the annual amount cities can assess to lease this space at \$250; 3) preventing the ability for cities to negotiate public benefits; and 4) eliminating the public's input and full discretionary review in all communities of the state (except for areas in coastal zones and historic districts) for the installation of "small cell" wireless equipment.

As amended, this bill is no longer limited to just "small cells." Now, SB 649 applies broadly to all telecommunications providers and the equipment they use from "micro-wireless" to "small cell" to "macro-towers" and equipment boxes up to 35 cubic feet. It's clear from the direction of SB 649, that the intent is not about 5G wireless deployment, but rather local deregulation of the entire telecommunications industry. The latest version of SB 649 places a new ban on city/county regulation of placement or operation of "communication facilities" within and outside the public right of way far beyond "small cells." This new language would extend local preemption of regulation to any "provider authorized by state law to operate in the rights of way," which can include communications facilities installed for services such as gas, electric, and water, leaving cities and counties with limited oversight only over "small cells."

We support the deployment of wireless facilities to ensure that Californians have access to telecommunications services. In fact, the City is currently in the process of drafting a comprehensive ordinance that will govern the deployment of these facilities that will include provisions for use of City owned vertical assets, and we will be seeking industry review and comment on our draft ordinance. We believe this is a much better way to address this issue. SB 649, on the other hand, eliminates the ability for local governments to collaborate with the wireless industry to ensure that the public receives maximum benefit.

Therefore, it is for these reasons that the City of Culver City <u>opposes</u> SB 649 and requests your NO vote when the bill is up for your consideration. If you have any questions, or if you wish to discuss this further, please contact me at (310) 344-8033.

relv. Mayor

cc: The Honorable Ben Hueso, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Members of the City Council John M. Nachbar, City Manager



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COUNCIL MEMBERS JIM B. CLARKE GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS

June 20, 2017

The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas Member of the State Assembly State Capitol P.O. Box 942849 Sacramento, CA 94249-0054

Subject: SB 649 (Hueso) Wireless telecommunications facilities. (As amended on May 2, 2017) — OPPOSE.

Dear Assembly Member Ridley-Thomas:

The City of Culver City <u>opposes</u> SB 649 and urges your NO vote, when it comes before you for consideration. SB 649 relates to the permitting of wireless and small cell telecommunications facilities. This bill eliminates public participation, full local environmental and design review, and the ability for local governments to negotiate leases or any public benefit for the installation of "small cell" equipment on taxpayer funded property.

SB 649 eliminates the full discretion Culver City currently has to require that this type of equipment blends into the community and that providers must maintain their equipment. This bill will force the City to rent space for small cells on public property at rates far below fair market value and requires that every jurisdiction, in order to use its own public property, provide "substantial evidence" that the space is needed by that community. SB 649 also sets a dangerous precedent for other private industries to seek similar treatment, further diminishing the ability to fund local services.

We support the deployment of wireless facilities to ensure that Californians have access to telecommunications services. In fact, the City is currently in the process of drafting a comprehensive ordinance that will govern the deployment of these facilities that will include provisions for use of City owned vertical assets, and we will be seeking industry review and comment on our draft ordinance. We believe this is a much better way to address this issue. SB 649, on the other hand, eliminates the ability for local governments to collaborate with the wireless industry to ensure that the public receives maximum benefit.

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Dear Assembly Member Ridley-Thomas:

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COUNCIL MEMBERS JIM B. CLARKE GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS

September 26, 2017

The Honorable Edmund Brown, Jr. Governor, State of California State Capitol, First Floor Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: SB 649 (Hueso). Wireless Telecommunications Facilities (as enrolled) Request for Veto

Dear Governor Brown:

The City of Culver City respectfully requests your <u>veto</u> of SB 649, which seeks to eliminate public input; disregard reasonable local environmental and design review; mandate the forced leasing of publicly owned infrastructure; and eliminate the ability for local governments to negotiate fair leases or any public benefit for the installation of "small cell" wireless equipment on taxpayer-funded property.

By eliminating the City of Culver City's local discretion and mandating a ministerial process, SB 649 effectively eliminates the ability for our residents and businesses from having fair input over the character of their own communities. Most troubling is the shift of authority from the community and the City Council to for-profit corporations for wireless equipment installations that can have significant health, safety, and aesthetic impacts when those companies have little, if any, interest to respect these concerns that potentially conflict with their profit margins.

The City Council plays a critical role in balancing the important needs of our community and respect for its character with the need to close the existing/widening digital divide and ensure that the many benefits from state-of-the-art wireless technology are available to all. Culver City residents and businesses expect the City to be equipped to respond when they have legitimate concerns, especially as they relate to the location and design of these installations near or adjacent to their property.

SB 649 gives the wireless industry the ability to install extremely large equipment, six cubic feet worth of antennas and 21 cubic feet worth of equipment (about the size of a twin bed) on "vertical infrastructure," such as street lights, traffic signals, and stop signs without any showing that the industry is incapable of delivering smaller cellular equipment that improves the safety and aesthetic qualities of these facilities. Further, the bill allows the industry to place up to 35 cubic feet (about the size of a commercial refrigerator) of equipment on the ground for each provider on every pole. However, the ultimate size of

The Honorable Edmund Brown, Jr. SB 649 Veto Request September 26, 2017 Page 2 of 2

a facility will be unknown as there are exclusions for at least eight "ancillary" pieces of equipment that have no size or quantity limitations. The loose language in SB 649 eliminates any incentives for industry to develop smaller and more discreet designs. To be clear, what SB 649 gives the industry is far larger than the claimed "pizza box" size "small cell" site.

In an unprecedented move, SB 649 forces the City of Culver City to give access to public property funded by our taxpayers so that for-profit wireless corporations can install their equipment to sell their private services. By eliminating fair market rate leases for use of taxpayer funded property (including city facilities, parks, and "vertical infrastructure"), this bill effectively gives corporations discounted access to these facilities with no requirement to pass their cost-savings onto their customers. SB 649 creates billions of dollars of value for wireless industry shareholders by eliminating fair market rate leases. Furthermore, rents from the use of public property, which every other for-profit business pays, help pay for Culver City's essential public services, such as police, fire, senior programs, and parks. SB 649 sets a dangerous precedent for other private industries to seek similar treatment to benefit their shareholders over constituent funded infrastructure, further eroding the ability to fund our vital local services.

The term "small cell" is not defined in this bill by any technology standard, but instead by the size of the equipment. As long as the facility delivers "licensed and/or unlicensed spectrum" and falls within the loose size standards in the bill, it is a "small cell". In other words, these wireless sites could be used for 4G technology that is already being deployed today, or to deliver Wi-Fi signals only, or for even more basic radio signals. The standards for 5G are still being developed and the technology is still years away from being deployed. Despite the industry's most consistent talking point, this bill neglects to mention 5G (or any service) much less imposes any requirement, duty, or incentive to the industry to accelerate the deployment of this new technology.

For these reasons, the City of Culver City respectfully requests your VETO of SB 649. If you have any questions, or if you wish to discuss this further, please contact me at (310) 344-8033.

Sincerely, Jeffrey Cooper

Mayor

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COUNCIL MEMBERS JIM B. CLARKE GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS

June 27, 2017

The Honorable Cecilia M. Aguiar-Curry, Chair and Members of the Assembly Local Government Committee 1020 N Street, Room 157 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: SB 649 (Hueso) Wireless telecommunications facilities. (As amended on June 20, 2017) — OPPOSE.

Dear Chair Aguiar-Curry and Committee Members:

The City of Culver City <u>opposes</u> SB 649 and urges your NO vote when it comes before you for consideration. Culver City and nearly 150 other cities remain opposed to SB 649, related to the permitting of wireless and small cell telecommunications facilities. This proposal represents a major change in telecommunications policy and law by 1) requiring local governments to lease out the public's property; 2) capping the annual amount cities can assess to lease this space at \$250; 3) preventing the ability for cities to negotiate public benefits; and 4) eliminating the public's input and full discretionary review in all communities of the state (except for areas in coastal zones and historic districts) for the installation of "small cell" wireless equipment.

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June 27, 2017

The Honorable Miguel Santiago, Chair and Members of the Assembly Communications and Conveyance Committee State Capitol, Room 6027 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: SB 649 (Hueso) Wireless telecommunications facilities. (As amended on June 20, 2017) — OPPOSE.

Dear Chair Santiago and Committee Members:

The City of Culver City <u>opposes</u> SB 649 and urges your NO vote when it comes before you for consideration. Culver City and nearly 150 other cities remain opposed to SB 649, related to the permitting of wireless and small cell telecommunications facilities. This proposal represents a major change in telecommunications policy and law by 1) requiring local governments to lease out the public's property; 2) capping the annual amount cities can assess to lease this space at \$250; 3) preventing the ability for cities to negotiate public benefits; and 4) eliminating the public's input and full discretionary review in all communities of the state (except for areas in coastal zones and historic districts) for the installation of "small cell" wireless equipment.

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cc: The Honorable Ben Hueso, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, Member of the State Assembly The Honorable Members of the City Council John M. Nachbar, City Manager



9770 CULVER BOULEVARD CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA 90232-0507 CITY HALL Tel. (310) 253-6000 FAX (310) 253-6010 JEFFREY COOPER MAYOR

THOMAS AUJERO SMALL VICE MAYOR

COUNCIL MEMBERS JIM B. CLARKE GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS

July 27, 2017

The Honorable Lorena S. Gonzalez Fletcher, Chair and Members of the Assembly Appropriations Committee State Capitol, Room 2114 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: SB 649 (Hueso) Wireless telecommunications facilities. (As amended on July 18, 2017) — OPPOSE.

Dear Chair Gonzalez Fletcher and Committee Members:

The City of Culver City <u>opposes</u> SB 649 and urges your NO vote, when it comes before your committee. SB 649 relates to the permitting of wireless and small cell telecommunications facilities. This bill eliminates public participation, full local environmental and design review, and the ability for local governments to negotiate leases or any public benefit for the installation of "small cell" equipment on taxpayer funded property. As amended, the bill now applies broadly to all telecommunications providers and the equipment they use instead of just "small cells," and to make matters worse, recent amendments have completely deregulated and eliminated all oversight for "micro-wireless" facilities. This deregulation can result in hazardous public safety infringements by obstructing signs or traffic lights.

SB 649 eliminates the full discretion Culver City currently has to not only require that this type of equipment blends into the community, but also that providers must maintain their own equipment. This bill will force the City to rent space for small cells on public property at rates far below fair market value and mandates that every jurisdiction, in order to use its own public property, provide "substantial evidence" that the space is needed by that community. SB 649 also sets a dangerous precedent for other private industries to seek similar treatment, further diminishing the ability to fund local services.

We support the deployment of wireless facilities to ensure that Californians have access to telecommunications services. In fact, the City is currently in the process of drafting a comprehensive ordinance that will govern the deployment of these facilities that will include provisions for use of City owned vertical assets, and we will be seeking industry review and comment on our draft ordinance. We believe this is a much better way to address this issue. SB 649, on the other hand, eliminates the ability for local governments to collaborate with the wireless industry to ensure that the public receives maximum benefit. It is critical for the City to ensure that residents have a voice, and that they can receive fair returns for any use of public infrastructure.

Therefore, it is for these reasons that the City of Culver City <u>opposes</u> SB 649 and requests your NO vote, when the bill is up for your consideration. If you have any questions, or if you wish to discuss this further, please contact me at (310) 344-8033.

Sincerely, Jeffrey Cooper Mayor

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CC:

The Honorable Ben Hueso, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, Member of the State Assembly The Honorable Members of the City Council John M. Nachbar, City Manager



9770 CULVER BOULEVARD CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA 90232-0507 CITY HALL Tel. (310) 253-6000 FAX (310) 253-6010 JEFFREY COOPER MAYOR

THOMAS AUJERO SMALL VICE MAYOR

COUNCIL MEMBERS JIM B. CLARKE GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS

June 20, 2017

The Honorable Cecilia M. Aguiar-Curry, Chair and Members of the Assembly Local Government Committee 1020 N Street, Room 157 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: SB 649 (Hueso) Wireless telecommunications facilities. (As amended on May 2, 2017) — OPPOSE.

Dear Chair Aguiar-Curry and Committee Members:

The City of Culver City <u>opposes</u> SB 649 and urges your NO vote, when it comes before your committee. SB 649 relates to the permitting of wireless and small cell telecommunications facilities. This bill eliminates public participation, full local environmental and design review, and the ability for local governments to negotiate leases or any public benefit for the installation of "small cell" equipment on taxpayer funded property.

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9770 CULVER BOULEVARD CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA 90232-0507 CITY HALL Tel. (310) 253-6000 FAX (310) 253-6010 JEFFREY COOPER MAYOR

THOMAS AUJERO SMALL VICE MAYOR

COUNCIL MEMBERS JIM B. CLARKE GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS

June 20, 2017

The Honorable Cecilia M. Aguiar-Curry, Chair and Members of the Assembly Local Government Committee 1020 N Street, Room 157 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: SB 649 (Hueso) Wireless telecommunications facilities. (As amended on May 2, 2017) — OPPOSE.

Dear Chair Aguiar-Curry and Committee Members:

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THOMAS AUJERO SMALL VICE MAYOR

COUNCIL MEMBERS JIM B. CLARKE GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS

June 20, 2017

The Honorable Miguel Santiago, Chair and Members of the Communications and Conveyance Committee State Capitol, Room 6027 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: SB 649 (Hueso) Wireless telecommunications facilities. (As amended on May 2, 2017) — OPPOSE.

Dear Chair Santiago and Committee Members:

The City of Culver City <u>opposes</u> SB 649 and urges your NO vote, when it comes before your committee. SB 649 relates to the permitting of wireless and small cell telecommunications facilities. This bill eliminates public participation, full local environmental and design review, and the ability for local governments to negotiate leases or any public benefit for the installation of "small cell" equipment on taxpayer funded property.

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The Honorable Ben Hueso, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, Member of the State Assembly The Honorable Members of the City Council John M. Nachbar, City Manager



9770 CULVER BOULEVARD CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA 90232-0507 CITY HALL Tel. (310) 253-6000 FAX (310) 253-6010 JEFFREY COOPER MAYOR

THOMAS AUJERO SMALL VICE MAYOR

COUNCIL MEMBERS JIM B. CLARKE GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS

June 20, 2017

The Honorable Miguel Santiago, Chair and Members of the Communications and Conveyance Committee State Capitol, Room 6027 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: SB 649 (Hueso) Wireless telecommunications facilities. (As amended on May 2, 2017) — OPPOSE.

Dear Chair Santiago and Committee Members:

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cc: The Honorable Ben Hueso, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, Member of the State Assembly The Honorable Members of the City Council John M. Nachbar, City Manager



9770 CULVER BOULEVARD CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA 90232-0507 CITY HALL Tel. (310) 253-6000 FAX (310) 253-6010 JEFFREY COOPER MAYOR

THOMAS AUJERO SMALL VICE MAYOR

COUNCIL MEMBERS JIM B. CLARKE GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS

September 26, 2017

The Honorable Edmund Brown, Jr. Governor, State of California State Capitol, First Floor Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: SB 231 (Hertzberg) Local government: fees and charges (as enrolled) Request for Signature

Dear Governor Brown:

The City of Culver City respectfully requests your signature on SB 231, which amends state law to clarify the statutory authority of cities, counties, and local water agencies to finance storm water projects. SB 231 defines "sewer" to include storm drainage, conforming to an existing 25-year-old definition in the California Public Utilities Code and encourages the courts to adopt this definition. This clarification makes it clear that local governments may build projects necessary to manage and reuse storm water.

During the November 8, 2016 Special Municipal Election, Culver City residents passed the Clean Water, Clean Beach Parcel Tax with more than 73% of the vote. Funds raised by Measure CW will be used for improvements in water quality in Ballona Creek, Marina del Rey, Santa Monica Bay, and the Pacific Ocean. Dangerous bacteria, pesticides, toxic chemicals, oil and grease, trash and other pollutants are deposited on our roadways and flow into Ballona Creek, Marina del Rey, and the ocean through our storm drains, by rain, and other runoff water. These pollutants harm fish and wildlife, cause illness and infections for swimmers and surfers, and make beaches unsafe and unsightly for families and visitors.

The State and Regional Water Quality Control Boards have implemented very strict pollution reduction regulations for storm water runoff. These regulations require the City of Culver City to develop and implement programs to reduce and prevent water pollution. And while funds raised by last November's Parcel Tax will be helpful in addressing storm water quality issues, additional funding is needed. Because SB 231 defines "sewer" to include storm drainage, there will be more opportunities for communities like Culver City to leverage local resources and alternative funding mechanisms to finance storm water projects.

It is for these reasons that the City of Culver City urges your signature on SB 231. If you have any questions, or if you wish to discuss this further, please contact me at (310) 344-8033.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Cooper Mayor

cc: The Honorable Robert M. Hertzberg, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, Member of the State Assembly The Honorable Members of the City Council John M. Nachbar, City Manager



9770 CULVER BOULEVARD CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA 90232-0507 CITY HALL Tel. (310) 253-6000 FAX (310) 253-6010 JEFFREY COOPER MAYOR

THOMAS AUJERO SMALL VICE MAYOR

COUNCIL MEMBERS JIM B. CLARKE GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS

May 24, 2017

The Honorable Cecilia M. Aguiar-Curry, Chair and Members of the Assembly Local Government Committee 1020 N Street, Room 157 Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: SB 231 (Hertzberg) Local government: Local government: fees and charges. (As amended on April 19, 2017). SUPPORT.

Dear Chair Aguiar-Curry and Committee Members:

The City of Culver City <u>supports</u> SB 231, which amends state law to clarify the statutory authority of cities, counties, and local water agencies to finance storm water projects. SB 231 defines "sewer" to include storm drainage, conforming to an existing 25-year-old definition in the California Public Utilities Code and encourages the courts to adopt this definition. This clarification makes it clear that local governments may build projects necessary to manage and reuse storm water.

During the November 8, 2016 Special Municipal Election, Culver City residents passed the Clean Water, Clean Beach Parcel Tax with more than 73% of the vote. Funds raised by Measure CW will be used for improvements in water quality in Ballona Creek, Marina del Rey, Santa Monica Bay, and the Pacific Ocean. Dangerous bacteria, pesticides, toxic chemicals, oil and grease, trash and other pollutants are deposited on our roadways and flow into Ballona Creek, Marina del Rey, and the ocean through our storm drains, by rain, and other runoff water. These pollutants harm fish and wildlife, cause illness and infections for swimmers and surfers, and make beaches unsafe and unsightly for families and visitors.

The State and Regional Water Quality Control Boards have implemented very strict pollution reduction regulations for storm water runoff. These regulations require the City of Culver City to develop and implement programs to reduce and prevent water pollution. And while funds raised by last November's Parcel Tax will be helpful in addressing storm water quality issues, additional funding is needed to address this issue. Because SB 231 defines "sewer" to include storm drainage, there will be more opportunities for communities like Culver City to leverage local resources and alternative funding mechanisms to finance storm water projects.

It is for these reasons that the City of Culver City <u>supports</u> SB 231 and requests the Committee's AYE vote. If you have any questions, or if you wish to discuss this further, please contact Charles D. Herbertson, Public Works Director/City Engineer at (310) 253-5630.

Sincerely. Cooper leffrev

Mayor

cc: The Honorable Robert M. Hertzberg, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, Member of the State Assembly The Honorable Members of the City Council John M. Nachbar, City Manager Charles D. Herbertson, P.E. & L.S., Public Works Director/City Engineer



9770 CULVER BOULEVARD CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA 90232-0507 CITY HALL Tel. (310) 253-6000 FAX (310) 253-6010 JIM B. CLARKE MAYOR

JEFFREY COOPER VICE MAYOR

COUNCIL MEMBERS GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS THOMAS AUJERO SMALL

March 7, 2017

The Honorable Ricardo Lara, Chair and Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee State Capitol, Room 2206 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: SB 54 (De León) Law enforcement: sharing data. (As amended on January 24, 2017) — SUPPORT.

Dear Chair Lara and Committee Members:

On February 27, 2017, the City Council of the City of Culver City adopted Resolution 2017-R014 (attached) in <u>support</u> of SB 54. SB 54 prohibits state and local law enforcement agencies from using resources to investigate or arrest persons for immigration enforcement purposes. This bill also prohibits state and local law enforcement agencies from 1) providing nonpublicly available information about an individual for immigration purposes, 2) giving federal immigration authorities access to interview individuals in department custody for immigration enforcement purposes, or 3) performing the functions of an immigration officer. SB 54 protects the safety, well-being and constitutional rights of the people of the State of California, and supports directing the state's limited resources to matters of greatest concern to state and local governments.

Culver City is home to thousands of people of different races, religions, sexual orientations, and national and ethnic origins. The City values and embraces the diversity of its residents and businesses, which strengthen our community and make our economy strong. Last year, the City Council renewed its commitment to "pursuing a policy agenda that affirms civil and human rights, and ensures that those targeted on the basis of race, religion, sexual orientation, or immigration status can turn to government without fear or recrimination."

It is for these reasons that the City of Culver City <u>supports</u> SB 54 and requests your AYE vote. If you have any questions, or if you wish to discuss this further, please contact me at (310) 775-1664.

Sincerely

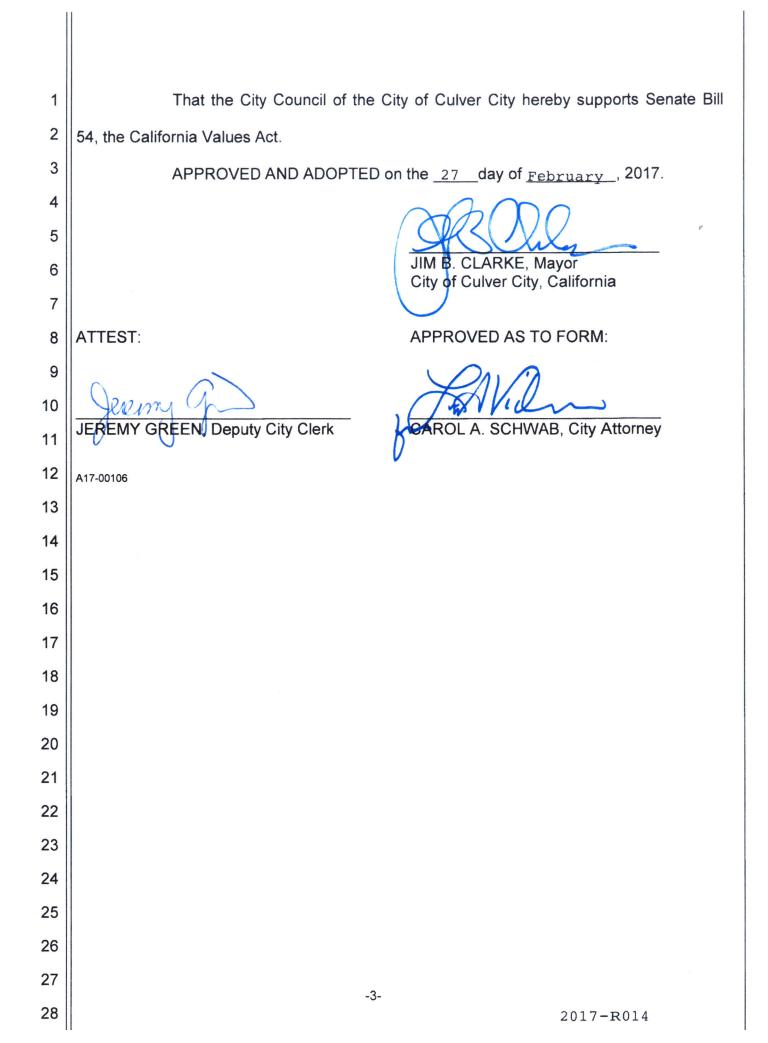
Jim B. Clarke Mayor

Attachment

cc: The Honorable Kevin de León, California Senate President pro Tempore The Honorable Holly Mitchell, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, Member of the State Assembly The Honorable Members of the City Council John M. Nachbar, City Manager

1	RESOLUTION NO. 2017-R 014
2	A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
3	CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA, SUPPORTING STATE SENATE BILL 54, THE CALIFORNIA VALUES ACT.
4	
5	WHEREAS, the City of Culver City is home to thousands of people of different
6	races, religions, sexual orientations, and national and ethnic origins; and
7	WHEREAS, the City values and embraces the diversity of its residents and
8	businesses, which strengthen our community and makes our economy strong; and
9	WHEREAS, the City Council's 2016 Legislative and Policy Platform states
10	
11	that the City of Culver City "commits to pursuing a policy agenda that affirms civil and
12	human rights, and ensures that those targeted on the basis of race, religion, sexual
13	orientation, or immigration status can turn to government without fear of recrimination;" and
14	WHEREAS, on October 12, 2016, the City Council reaffirmed its policy goals,
15	and adopted Resolution No. 2016-R099, condemning violence and hate speech, and
16	expressing solidarity with those targeted for their ethnicity, race, religion or sexual
17	orientation; and
18	WHEREAS, among other things, Senate Bill 54, known as the California
19	Values Act, would prohibit state and local law enforcement agencies and school police
20	from:
21	(1) using resources to investigate, interrogate, detain, detect or arrest
22	persons for immigration enforcement purposes, including but not limited to
23	inquiring into or collecting information about an individual's immigration status, detaining an individual on the basis of a hold request, and
24	responding to requests for notification or transfer requests;
25	(2) providing or responding to requests for nonpublicly available personal information about an individual, including but not limited to information
26	about a person's release date, home address or work address, for immigration purposes, or
27	-1-
28	2017-R014

(3) giving federal immigration authorities access to interview individuals in agency or department custody for immigration enforcement purposes; (4) performing the functions of an immigration officer; and WHEREAS, Senate Bill 54 would repeal Health and Safety Code §11369. which provides that when there is reason to believe a person arrested for specified controlled substance provisions may not be a citizen of the United States, the arresting agency shall notify the appropriate agency of the United States having charge of deportation matters; and WHEREAS, Senate Bill 54 provides that the California Attorney General shall publish model policies for limiting immigration enforcement to the fullest extent possible consistent with state and federal law at public schools, health facilities operated by the state or a political subdivision of the state, courthouses and shelters, to ensure that they remain safe and accessible to all California residents, regardless of immigration status; and WHEREAS, the City of Culver City supports protecting the safety, well-being and constitutional rights of the people of the State of California, and supports directing the state's limited resources to matters of greatest concern to state and local governments. NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Culver City, California, DOES HEREBY RESOLVE as follows: -2-2017-R014





9770 CULVER BOULEVARD CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA 90232-0507 CITY HALL Tel. (310) 253-6000 FAX (310) 253-6010 JIM B. CLARKE MAYOR

JEFFREY COOPER VICE MAYOR

COUNCIL MEMBERS GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS THOMAS AUJERO SMALL

February 27, 2017

The Honorable Mike McGuire, Chair and Members of the Senate Government and Finance Committee State Capitol, Room 408 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: SB 1 (Beall) Transportation Funding. (As amended on January 26, 2017) SUPPORT

Dear Chair McGuire and Committee Members:

The City of Culver City is pleased to support your SB 1, which represents a comprehensive transportation proposal inclusive of sensible reforms, modest increases to existing revenue sources, and robust infrastructure investment. The proposal presents an opportunity for the new legislature to advance a comprehensive framework to address the overwhelming backlog of repair and deferred maintenance as well as other transportation needs in the early part of 2017.

It would be an understatement to say the time to act is now to address the \$73 billion unmet funding need for local streets and roads and \$72 billion backlog to the State's Highway System. For local streets and roads alone, the funding need is projected to grow by an additional \$20 billion in just ten years. With the expressed commitment of Legislative Leadership and this Administration to getting this done in the early parts of 2017, we urge this legislature's immediate attention to this proposal as the vehicle to deliver this victory for California.

Culver City has a Pavement Condition Index (PCI) rating of 69 putting the City's pavement condition in the 'at risk' category according to the League of California Cities' 2016 California Statewide Local Streets and Roads Needs Assessment Report. Without additional funding that your proposal would generate, it is highly unlikely that Culver City will be able to maintain its current PCI much less improve it. The money generated from this proposal could fund some of the following projects and many more in the future:

- Overland Ave between Washington Blvd. and Jefferson Blvd. \$1 million
- Centinela Ave between Washington Blvd. and Washington Pl. \$400,000
- Centinela Ave. between Sepulveda Blvd. and Mesmer Ave. \$400,00
- Robertson Blvd. from Washington Blvd. to northerly City limits \$250,000
- Washington Blvd. from Ince Blvd. to National Blvd.- \$600,000
- Sepulveda Blvd. from City boundary/north of Greenlawn Ave. to Venice Blvd. \$2 million

When fully phased in, SB 1 would generate an additional \$6 billion annually to provide desperately needed funding for the state and local transportation network. To repair and maintain existing transportation infrastructure, the proposal would generate up to \$2.4 billion and \$2.2 billion annually for the state's highway system and local streets and roads, respectively. The bill also provides nearly \$600 million for freight and the state's trade corridors, over a half billion for transit

Chair Mike McGuire and Members of the Senate Government and Finance Committee SB 1 – SUPPORT February 27, 2017 Page 2 of 2

and intercity rail, and up to \$150 million to support active transportation programs throughout the state.

The proposal takes the approach of raising revenue over a variety of sources, such as a 12 cent increase to the gas tax to restore some of its purchasing power phased in over three years, ending the Board of Equalization's "true up" process on the price based excise tax on gas, a \$38 increase to the vehicle registration fee, a \$100 vehicle registration fee on zero emission vehicles, a 20 cent increase to the diesel excise tax, \$300 million from existing cap and trade funds, and returning \$500 million in vehicle weight fees phased in over five years.

In addition to raising revenue, the proposal includes a series of reforms to improve efficiency, transparency, and accountability, such as restoring independence to the California Transportation Commission, creating the Office of the Transportation Inspection General with audit and investigation authority over the state's transportation spending, and establishing local reporting requirements on local transportation spending. To streamline roadwork, the bill permanently extends and expands on the limited exemptions to California's Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for repair, maintenance, and minor alteration projects on existing roadways to cities and counties with populations greater than 100,000. The proposal also creates an advanced mitigation program which authorizes the Natural Resources Agency to establish state and regional transportation mitigation plans and mitigation banks to allow transportation projects to fulfill their environmental requirements in advance.

Overall, this proposal provides a comprehensive transportation reform and funding package while giving this legislature an opportunity for early action. While the legislature has had success in recent years in balancing the state budget, we can no longer afford to ignore our most basic repair and maintenance needs if we wish to avoid systematic failure of the state's entire transportation infrastructure. There may be no better way to put Californians back to work and stimulate our economy than making the roads we and our children rely on everyday safe again.

For these reasons, the City of Culver City **<u>supports</u>** SB 1. If you have any questions, or if you wish to discuss this further, please contact me at (310) 775-1664.

Sincerely

Jim B. Clarke Mayor

CC.

The Honorable Jim Beal, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, Member of the State Assembly The Honorable Members of the City Council John M. Nachbar, City Manager



9770 CULVER BOULEVARD CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA 90232-0507 CITY HALL Tel. (310) 253-6000 FAX (310) 253-6010 JIM B. CLARKE MAYOR

JEFFREY COOPER VICE MAYOR

COUNCIL MEMBERS GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS THOMAS AUJERO SMALL

February 27, 2017

The Honorable Cristina Garcia, Chair and Members of the Assembly Natural Resources Committee Assembly Natural Resources Committee 1020 N Street, Room 164 Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: AB 1 (Frazier) Transportation Funding. (As introduced on December 5, 2016) SUPPORT.

Dear Chair Garcia and Committee Members:

The City of Culver City is pleased to <u>support</u> AB 1, which represents a comprehensive transportation proposal inclusive of sensible reforms, modest increases to existing revenue sources, and robust infrastructure investment. The proposal presents an opportunity for the new legislature to advance a comprehensive framework to address the overwhelming backlog of repair and deferred maintenance as well as other transportation needs in the early part of 2017.

It would be an understatement to say the time to act is now to address the \$73 billion unmet funding need for local streets and roads and \$72 billion backlog to the State's Highway System. For local streets and roads alone, the funding need is projected to grow by an additional \$20 billion in just ten years. With the expressed commitment of Legislative Leadership and this Administration to getting this done in the early parts of 2017, we urge this legislature's immediate attention to this proposal as the vehicle to deliver this victory for California.

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9770 CULVER BOULEVARD CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA 90232-0507 CITY HALL Tel. (310) 253-6000 FAX (310) 253-6010 JEFFREY COOPER MAYOR

THOMAS AUJERO SMALL VICE MAYOR

COUNCIL MEMBERS JIM B. CLARKE GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS

July 26, 2017

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein United States Senate 331 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 The Honorable Kamala Harris United States Senate 112 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Subject: Proposed Amendment to S. 1405 (Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Act of 2017) and/or S. 320 (NextGen Accountability Act)

Dear Senators Feinstein and Harris:

Please join together with other Senators to seek an amendment to S. 1405 (FAA Reauthorization) and/or S. 320 (NextGen Accountability) that is modeled on Senator McCain's amendment to the Defense Authorization Act that was passed into law in December 2016.

Culver City supports Senator McCain's amendment which requires noise mitigation in cases where the Federal Aviation Administration's re-design of flight paths and airspace known as "NextGen" was implemented without environmental review (using a process known as a Categorical Exclusion). The original amendment was aimed at noise and pollution concerns at Phoenix's airport. However, many other communities have been impacted by NextGen. For example, over the past several years, hundreds of Culver City residents have come to City Council meetings, and over a thousand complaints were submitted to the FAA and LAX, regarding serious concerns about current noise and pollution impacts of the aircraft overflights. Recently, 300 residents signed a petition submitted to the City Council, requesting that the Council take legal action against the FAA to protect them against further impacts from the So Cal Metroplex project. Therefore, noise mitigation should be required in all cases of NextGen implementation that result in significant noise problems, not just when implemented without environmental assessment.

We therefore respectfully urge you to work to pass amendments to S. 1405 and/or S. 320 that copy the McCain amendment with one change: the new amendment would require noise mitigation in all cases of NextGen implementation that result in significant noise problems, not just when implemented without environmental assessment (i.e., with a Categorical Exclusion). Such an amendment would create a statutory basis for requiring mitigation, and thereby also a statutory basis for requiring post-implementation studies of the actual impact of NextGen flight paths.

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein The Honorable Kamala Harris July 26, 2017 Page 2 of 2

Studies of actual impact after implementation could then be counterposed to the merely predictive assessments based on models used in Environmental Assessments before implementation. This could help mitigate existing noise problems and help head off problems in future roll outs by highlighting the need to change noise models.

This kind of amendment should be win-win, helping the FAA solve some of its problems in the NextGen roll out and helping solve problems in communities under the new flight paths.

In the past, Senators from at least Massachusetts, Maryland, Arkansas, California and other states have been involved in seeking solutions to NextGen noise issues, creating bipartisan support. The McCain amendment is already enacted into law to use as the model upon which to build. And S. 1405 has bipartisan sponsorship (Thune, Blunt, Cantwell and Nelson). S. 320 is still in committee and could be become bipartisan with well-crafted amendments and a win-win solution to multiple problems in the implementation of NextGen.

Culver City and members of the many communities that have already been, and will be, impacted by the effects of NextGen respectfully request that you work to pass this essential amendment to S. 1405 and/or S. 320. If you have any questions, or if you wish to discuss this further, please call me at (310) 344-8033.

Sinderely, Jeffrey Cooper

Mayor

cc: The Honorable Karen Bass, U.S. House of Representatives The Honorable Members of the City Council John M. Nachbar, City Manager





One Gateway Plaza Mail Stop 99-3-1 Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952 **John Fasana** Chair Board of Directors

May 5, 2017

The Honorable Tony Mendoza California State Senate State Capitol, Room 5061 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Mendoza:

I write as the Chair of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Board of Directors to express the Board's opposition to your measure Senate Bill 268 as amended on May 1, 2017, which seeks to change Metro's current governance structure.

The Board of Supervisors represents all people in Los Angeles County within incorporated cities and unincorporated areas of the county. Contrary to your fact sheet, SB 268, as amended on May 1, 2017, does not add seats representing the cities other than Los Angeles. Notwithstanding these issues, local governments negotiated Metro Board composition at the local level.

The Board has long maintained that there should be no changes to the Board unless there is a locally derived consensus to do so. SB 268 does not reflect local consensus on Metro Board governance. We are concerned that legislation on this subject, without such a consensus, is not productive and will not further the agency's goals of improving mobility for the 10 million residents of Los Angeles County.

We find the proposal to place the County Auditor on our Board to be unprecedented, unnecessary and duplicative. Metro is subject to the strongest ethics requirements of any local agency furthermore Metro is subject to multiple audit requirements including the following:

- Annual independent audits.
- Independent audits of sales tax expenditures.
- Regular audits by the federal government.

Metro also has an independent Inspector General and is required to maintain an independent procurement department, all of which is unique to transportation agencies in California.

As was mentioned previously, the Board has adopted a principle that there should be no changes to the Board composition without a locally derived consensus to do so. We recognize your intent to have such a discussion, but we would suggest that the legislation be held until those discussions have taken place and the region has arrived at a consensus on a new structure.

Please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss Metro's strong opposition to SB 268.

Sincerely,

John Facana

John Fasana Chair, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Board of Directors Mayor Pro Tempore, City of Duarte

cc. Chair and members, Senate Transportation and Housing Committee Chair and members, Assembly Transportation Committee Senate President Pro Tempore Kevin de León, 24th Senate District Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon, 63rd Assembly District



9770 CULVER BOULEVARD CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA 90232-0507 CITY HALL Tel. (310) 253-6000 FAX (310) 253-6010 JEFFREY COOPER MAYOR

THOMAS AUJERO SMALL VICE MAYOR

COUNCIL MEMBERS JIM B. CLARKE GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS

May 5, 2017

The Honorable Lorena S. Gonzalez Fletcher, Chair and Members of the Assembly Appropriations Committee State Capitol, Room 2114 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: AB 1250 (Jones-Sawyer). Counties and cities: contracts for personal services. (As amended on April 25, 2017) - OPPOSE

Dear Chair Gonzalez Fletcher and Committee Members:

The City of Culver City <u>opposes</u> AB 1250 and urges your NO vote. AB 1250 effectively eliminates almost all contracting services for cities and counties. Although our concerns range from diminishing essential local control to increasing and unnecessarily excessive reporting requirements, for purposes of addressing the Appropriations Committee, Culver City's comments will be focused on fiscal objections.

As amended, AB 1250 still requires that the agency provide an orientation to contracted employees. Further, this bill would require a city to create a new, fully searchable database that must be posted on the city website which includes: 1) the names, job titles, salary of each contracted employee (and subcontractor); 2) the services of the contract and the name of the agency department or division of the city that manages the contract; 3) the amount paid to the contractor, including the total projected cost of the contract for all fiscal years and the funding source; and 4) the total number of "full time equivalent" employees being contracted out.

AB 1250 does not specify who is required to maintain this information or how often this information must be updated. This effort will create significant costs in staff time and increased workload. In addition to the increased costs with this provision, Culver City has privacy concerns about posting full names, job titles and salaries of non-city employees. This will set the scenario whereby a contracted or subcontracted (non-city) employee will have a strong avenue for a *right to privacy* lawsuit. The costs associated with this type of litigation would be debilitating for any city.

Additionally, this measure would require Culver City, before entering a contract or renewing a contract, to perform a full cost-benefit analysis, which includes the potential impacts of outsourcing, including the impact on local businesses, if consumer spending power is reduced (among other factors). AB 1250 would require that Culver City conduct a full environmental impact analysis caused by contracting for the services. Further, AB 1250 mandates a city conduct an annual audit of each contract and prohibits a city from

The Honorable Lorena S. Gonzalez Fletcher, Chair and Members of the Assembly Appropriations Committee AB 1250 – Oppose May 5, 2017 Page 2 of 2

renewing or granting a new contract before the report is released and considered by the City Council.

Although language was incorporated into AB 1250 to pass the cost on to the potential contractor and/or the awarded contractor, local agencies believe that companies will simply build in these additional costs into their contracts, which yields the same result as if the City simply pays for the cost-benefit analysis. Moreover, it is unclear how a local agency could even assess the cost of the cost-benefit analysis to a prospective contractor. Ultimately, any contract costs would eventually be borne by the taxpayer. Additionally, this would only create further confusions and create a chilling effect on prospective contractors from bidding for a service.

The unfunded mandates contained herein only compound existing constitutional limitations on cities to raise additional revenue. Therefore, cities are in no position to have their flexibility further curtailed. The workload, privacy concerns, costs, and litigation created by this measure place an overwhelming and significant burden on nearly every city department and would create a de facto ban on virtually all contracting services.

It is for these reasons that the City of Culver City <u>opposes</u> AB 1250 and urges your NO vote. If you have any questions, or if you wish to discuss this further, please contact me at (310) 844-8033.

Sincerely, Cooper Mavor

cc: The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, Member of the State Assembly The Honorable Reginald Jones-Sawyer, Member of the State Assembly The Honorable Members of the City Council John M. Nachbar, City Manager



MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS COUNCIL MEMBER

9770 CULVER BOULEVARD CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA 90232-0507 CITY HALL Tel. (310) 253-6000 FAX (310) 253-6010

March 24, 2017

The Honorable Evan Low, Chair and Members of the Elections and Redistricting Committee 1020 N Street, Room 365 Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: AB 1089 (Mullin) Local elective offices: contribution limitations. (As introduced on February 17, 2017). SUPPORT

Dear Chair Low and Committee Members:

I am writing to show my <u>support</u> for AB 1089, and I urge your AYE vote when it comes before you in Committee. Beginning on January 1, 2019, AB 1089 would establish default campaign contribution limits for local office candidates at the same level as the limit on contributions from individuals to candidates for Senate and Assembly. This bill also specifies that a violation of a limitation imposed by a local government is not subject to the act's enforcement provisions. AB 1089 authorizes a local government, like Culver City, that imposes a limitation that is different from the limitation imposed by this bill to adopt enforcement standards for a violation of the limitation imposed by the city, including administrative, civil, or criminal penalties. I appreciate the author's efforts to acknowledge local governments' "home rule" provisions when it comes to important matters such as these. Further, I whole heartedly agree with the author who asserts that by establishing a default local campaign contribution limit, we can safeguard our democracy down to the local level. More money should not equate to greater representation, even at the lowest level of elected office.

It is for these reasons that I <u>support</u> AB 1089 and urge your AYE vote. If you have any questions or wish to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me at (310) 845-5831.

Sincerely,

Meghan Sahli

Council Member

cc: The Honorable Kevin Mullin, Assembly Speaker Pro Tempore The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, Member of the State Assembly



MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS COUNCIL MEMBER

9770 CULVER BOULEVARD CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA 90232-0507 CITY HALL Tel. (310) 253-6000 FAX (310) 253-6010

March 28, 2017

The Honorable Lorena S. Gonzalez Fletcher, Chair and Members of the Assembly Appropriations Committee State Capitol, Room 2114 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: AB 1089 (Mullin) Local elective offices: contribution limitations. (As introduced on February 17, 2017). SUPPORT

Dear Chair Gonzalez Fletcher and Committee Members:

I am writing to show my <u>support</u> for AB 1089, and I urge your AYE vote when it comes before you in Committee. Beginning on January 1, 2019, AB 1089 would establish default campaign contribution limits for local office candidates at the same level as the limit on contributions from individuals to candidates for Senate and Assembly. This bill also specifies that a violation of a limitation imposed by a local government is not subject to the act's enforcement provisions. AB 1089 authorizes a local government, like Culver City, that imposes a limitation that is different from the limitation imposed by this bill to adopt enforcement standards for a violation of the limitation imposed by the city, including administrative, civil, or criminal penalties. I appreciate the author's efforts to acknowledge local governments' "home rule" provisions when it comes to important matters such as these. Further, I whole heartedly agree with the author who asserts that by establishing a default local campaign contribution limit, we can safeguard our democracy down to the local level. More money should not equate to greater representation, even at the lowest level of elected office.

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Sincerely,

Meghan Sahi

Council Member

cc: The Honorable Kevin Mullin, Assembly Speaker Pro Tempore The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, Member of the State Assembly



MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS COUNCIL MEMBER

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March 24, 2017

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Dear Chair Gonzalez Fletcher and Committee Members:

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It is for these reasons that I <u>support</u> AB 1089 and urge your AYE vote. If you have any questions or wish to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me at (310) 845-5831.

Sincerely,

Meghan Sahli Council Member

cc: The Honorable Kevin Mullin, Assembly Speaker Pro Tempore The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, Member of the State Assembly



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JEFFREY COOPER VICE MAYOR

COUNCIL MEMBERS GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS THOMAS AUJERO SMALL

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March 16, 2017

The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, Chair and Members of the Assembly Committee on Revenue and Taxation 1020 N Street, Room 167A Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: AB 252 (Ridley-Thomas) Local government: taxation: prohibition: video streaming services. (As amended on February 28, 2017) OPPOSE.

Dear Chair Ridley-Thomas and Committee Members:

The City of Culver City respectfully <u>opposes</u> your AB 252 and urges the Revenue and Taxation Committee's NO vote. AB 252 prohibits a city, including a charter city, county, or city and county from levying any tax on video streaming services, including, but not limited to, any tax on the sale or use of video streaming services or any utility user tax on video streaming services.

AB 252 sets a highly undesirable precedent by undermining the already established will of local voters. Over the last two decades, and as recently as 2008 in Culver City, voters in over 107 cities and 3 counties have adopted measures to modernize local UUT policy and permit local governments to levy a UUT on similar video providers. These voters had the foresight to anticipate changing technologies and overwhelmingly adopted policy to address the issue.

It is inappropriate for the Legislature to intrude on matters affecting the interpretation of these local voterapproved ordinances. Nor should the Legislature attempt to favor one technology over another by deciding in a competitive market which business model should be subject to a local tax.

AB 252's exemption includes a provision for "any tax" with respect to the sale or use of video streaming services. The City of Culver City is concerned with this provision especially when the State is considering conversations around tax reform. In a time where many cities like Culver City already face constricted budgets and are struggling to provide critical services, this state legislated decline in revenue would make matters worse. Specifically, Culver City's UUT provides funding for essential governmental services such as public safety and emergency 911 response (57% of Culver City's General Fund), street repairs, senior and youth programs, parks and recreation. Further, the City receives \$5.5 million annually from its telecommunication tax, representing 5.3% of all General Fund revenues, and this revenue would pay for 24% of the City's fire services, 15% of the City's police services, or 64% of parks and recreation services.

It is for these reasons that the City of Culver City respectfully **opposes** AB 252 and requests the Committee's NO vote. If you have any questions, or if you wish to discuss this further, please contact me at (310) 775-1664.

Since

Jim B. Clarke Mayor

> The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Members of the City Council John M. Nachbar, City Manager



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JIM B. CLARKE MAYOR

JEFFREY COOPER VICE MAYOR

COUNCIL MEMBERS **GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS** THOMAS AUJERO SMALL

April 5, 2017

The Honorable Robert M. Hertzberg, Chair and Members of the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee State Capitol, Room 5046 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: AB 18 (Garcia) California Clean Water, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018. (As amended on February 23, 2017) - SUPPORT.

Dear Chair Hertzberg and Committee Members:

The City of Culver City supports AB 18 and requests your AYE vote. AB 18 enacts the California Parks, Water, Climate, and Coastal Protection and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2016, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize issuance of State General Obligation bonds, in the amount of \$3.105 billion, to finance parks, water, climate adaptation, coastal protection, and outdoor access programs.

It has been 15 years since the passage of a "true park bond", when numerous cities, such as Culver City not only utilized Park Bond funding to implement important projects but also leveraged those funds with competitive federal grant opportunities, such as those available through the Land and Water Conservation Fund. AB 18 establishes a framework and directs much needed financial resources into neighborhood, regional, and state parks. This bill will provide an important opportunity for California to invest in essential park and open space programs, while providing climate and habitat resiliency in our natural systems. Additionally, AB 18 provides funding for State Conservancies, including \$5 million for the Baldwin Hills Conservancy. Culver City is currently partnering with the Baldwin Hills Conservancy on projects related to the development of the Park to Playa Regional Trail, a multijurisdictional project, which links under-served urban areas to the California coast. If approved, AB 18's focus on the development and improvement of trails and increased public access to waterways and coastal resources will assist Culver City in furthering the City Council's Strategic Plan Initiative to enhance the restoration and utilization of Ballona Creek. As a recreational amenity, the Ballona Creek bike path brings thousands of cyclists through the heart of Culver City and directly to our coastline each year.

It is for these reasons that the City of Culver City supports AB 18 and requests your AYE vote. If you have any questions, or if you wish to discuss this further, please contact me at (310) 775-1664.

Sincerely

lim B. Clarke Mavo

CC:

The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, Member of the State Assembly The Honorable Member Eduardo Garcia, Member of the State Assembly The Honorable Members of the City Council John M. Nachbar, City Manager



9770 CULVER BOULEVARD CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA 90232-0507 CITY HALL Tel. (310) 253-6000 FAX (310) 253-6010 JIM B. CLARKE MAYOR

JEFFREY COOPER VICE MAYOR

COUNCIL MEMBERS GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS THOMAS AUJERO SMALL

February 27, 2017

The Honorable Jim Frazier Chair, Assembly Transportation Committee 1020 N Street Room 112 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: AB 1 (Frazier) Transportation Funding. (As introduced on December 5, 2016) SUPPORT.

Dear Chair Frazier:

The City of Culver City is pleased to <u>support</u> your AB 1, which represents a comprehensive transportation proposal inclusive of sensible reforms, modest increases to existing revenue sources, and robust infrastructure investment. The proposal presents an opportunity for the new legislature to advance a comprehensive framework to address the overwhelming backlog of repair and deferred maintenance as well as other transportation needs in the early part of 2017.

It would be an understatement to say the time to act is now to address the \$73 billion unmet funding need for local streets and roads and \$72 billion backlog to the State's Highway System. For local streets and roads alone, the funding need is projected to grow by an additional \$20 billion in just ten years. With the expressed commitment of Legislative Leadership and this Administration to getting this done in the early parts of 2017, we urge this legislature's immediate attention to this proposal as the vehicle to deliver this victory for California.

Culver City has a Pavement Condition Index (PCI) rating of 69 putting the City's pavement condition in the 'at risk' category according to the League of California Cities' 2016 California Statewide Local Streets and Roads Needs Assessment Report. Without additional funding that your proposal would generate, it is highly unlikely that Culver City will be able to maintain its current PCI, much less improve it. The money generated from this proposal could fund some of the following projects and many more projects in the future:

- Overland Ave. between Washington Blvd. and Jefferson Blvd. \$1 million
- Centinela Ave. between Washington Blvd. and Washington Pl. \$400,000
- Centinela Ave. between Sepulveda Blvd. and Mesmer Ave. \$400,00
- Robertson Blvd. from Washington Blvd. to northerly City limits \$250,000
- Washington Blvd. from Ince Blvd. to National Blvd.- \$600,000
- Sepulveda Blvd. from City boundary/north of Greenlawn Ave. to Venice Blvd. \$2 million

When fully phased in, AB 1 would generate an additional \$6 billion annually to provide desperately needed funding for the state and local transportation network. To repair and maintain existing transportation infrastructure, the proposal would generate up to \$2.4 billion and \$2.2 billion annually for the state's highway system and local streets and roads, respectively. The bill also provides nearly \$600 million for freight and the state's trade corridors, over a half billion for transit

and intercity rail, and up to \$150 million to support active transportation programs throughout the state.

The proposal takes the approach of raising revenue over a variety of sources, such as a 12 cent increase to the gas tax to restore some of its purchasing power, ending the Board of Equalization's "true up" process on the price based excise tax on gas, a \$38 increase to the vehicle registration fee, a \$100 vehicle registration fee on zero emission vehicles, a 20 cent increase to the diesel excise tax, \$300 million from existing cap and trade funds, and returning \$500 million in vehicle weight fees phased in over five years.

In addition to raising revenue, the proposal includes a series of reforms to improve efficiency, transparency, and accountability, such as restoring independence to the California Transportation Commission, creating the Office of the Transportation Inspection General with audit and investigation authority over the state's transportation spending, and establishing local reporting requirements on local transportation spending. To streamline roadwork, the bill permanently extends and expands on the limited exemptions to California's Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for repair, maintenance, and minor alteration projects on existing roadways to cities and counties with populations greater than 100,000 and state roadways. The proposal also creates an advanced mitigation program which authorizes the Natural Resources Agency to establish state and regional transportation mitigation plans and mitigation banks to allow transportation projects to fulfill their environmental requirements in advance.

Overall, this proposal provides a comprehensive transportation reform and funding package while giving this legislature an opportunity for early action. While the legislature has had success in recent years in balancing the state budget, we can no longer afford to ignore our most basic repair and maintenance needs if we wish to avoid systematic failure of the state's entire transportation infrastructure. There may be no better way to put Californians back to work and stimulate our economy than making the roads we and our children rely on everyday safe again.

For these reasons, the City of Culver City **<u>supports</u>** AB 1. If you have any questions, or if you wish to discuss this further, please contact me at (310) 775-1664.

Sincerely

Jim B. Clarke Mayor

CO

The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, Member of the State Assembly The Honorable Members of the Assembly Transportation Committee The Honorable Members of the City Council John M. Nachbar, City Manager



9770 CULVER BOULEVARD CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA 90232-0507 CITY HALL Tel. (310) 253-6000 FAX (310) 253-6010 JIM B. CLARKE MAYOR

JEFFREY COOPER VICE MAYOR

COUNCIL MEMBERS GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS THOMAS AUJERO SMALL

February 27, 2017

The Honorable Cristina Garcia, Chair and Members of the Assembly Natural Resources Committee Assembly Natural Resources Committee 1020 N Street, Room 164 Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: AB 1 (Frazier) Transportation Funding. (As introduced on December 5, 2016) SUPPORT.

Dear Chair Garcia and Committee Members:

The City of Culver City is pleased to <u>support</u> AB 1, which represents a comprehensive transportation proposal inclusive of sensible reforms, modest increases to existing revenue sources, and robust infrastructure investment. The proposal presents an opportunity for the new legislature to advance a comprehensive framework to address the overwhelming backlog of repair and deferred maintenance as well as other transportation needs in the early part of 2017.

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Chair Cristina Garcia and Members of the Assembly Natural Resources Committee AB 1 - SUPPORT February 27, 2017 Page 2 of 2

provides nearly \$600 million for freight and the state's trade corridors, over a half billion for transit and intercity rail, and up to \$150 million to support active transportation programs throughout the state.

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For these reasons, the City of Culver City **<u>supports</u>** AB 1. If you have any questions, or if you wish to discuss this further, please contact me at (310) 775-1664.

Sincerel

Jim B. Clarke Mayor

CC:

The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, Member of the State Senate The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, Member of the State Assembly The Honorable Jim Frazier, Member of the State Assembly The Honorable Members of the Assembly Transportation Committee The Honorable Members of the City Council John M. Nachbar, City Manager



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THOMAS AUJERO SMALL VICE MAYOR

COUNCIL MEMBERS JIM B. CLARKE GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS

December 22, 2017

President Michael Picker California Public Utilities Commission 505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Draft Resolution E-4097

Dear President Picker,

Over the past three years, the City of Culver City has been actively researching and evaluating options to implement a community choice energy program to benefit our residents and businesses. After much consideration, we recently joined the Los Angeles Community Choice Energy (LACCE) program with the understanding that LACCE would be filing an addendum to its certified implementation plan to include us and many other Southern California cities in its Phase 2 launch in June 2018. This plan was included in their Implementation Plan and well known to and acceptable to both the CPUC and Southern California Edison.

Inexplicably and without due process, Draft Resolution E-4907 proposes new rules for how and when community choice power providers could launch and make changes to procurement rules outside the normal rulemaking process. Such changes could have serious financial implications to LAACE and the City of Culver City by delaying our entry into service and appears to have been deliberately proposed to harm our interests. The CPUC did not seek information from nor did it consult with LACCE staff or with the City of Culver City in preparing this draft resolution. Instead, it appears that the draft resolution solely relies on evidence from investor-owned utilities, which has not been subject to review or examination. Not only is this draft resolution an act of bad faith, it is unwarranted.

Indeed, resource adequacy issues are already part of an existing CPUC proceeding and should be addressed in that venue so that all information on which a decision is made is vetted in a public and transparent manner rather than having the CPUC rely on the private, undisclosed, and unexamined information that led to a deeply flawed and unnecessarily rushed draft resolution.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Cooper Mayor



9770 CULVER BOULEVARD CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA 90232-0507 CITY HALL Tel. (310) 253-6000 FAX (310) 253-6010 JEFFREY COOPER MAYOR

THOMAS AUJERO SMALL VICE MAYOR

COUNCIL MEMBERS JIM B. CLARKE GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS

December 22, 2017

Commissioner Martha Guzman Aceves California Public Utilities Commission 505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Draft Resolution E-4097

Dear Commissioner Aceves,

Over the past three years, the City of Culver City has been actively researching and evaluating options to implement a community choice energy program to benefit our residents and businesses. After much consideration, we recently joined the Los Angeles Community Choice Energy (LACCE) program with the understanding that LACCE would be filing an addendum to its certified implementation plan to include us and many other Southern California cities in its Phase 2 launch in June 2018. This plan was included in their Implementation Plan and well known to and acceptable to both the CPUC and Southern California Edison.

Inexplicably and without due process, Draft Resolution E-4907 proposes new rules for how and when community choice power providers could launch and make changes to procurement rules outside the normal rulemaking process. Such changes could have serious financial implications to LAACE and the City of Culver City by delaying our entry into service and appears to have been deliberately proposed to harm our interests. The CPUC did not seek information from nor did it consult with LACCE staff or with the City of Culver City in preparing this draft resolution. Instead, it appears that the draft resolution solely relies on evidence from investor-owned utilities, which has not been subject to review or examination. Not only is this draft resolution an act of bad faith, it is unwarranted.

Indeed, resource adequacy issues are already part of an existing CPUC proceeding and should be addressed in that venue so that all information on which a decision is made is vetted in a public and transparent manner rather than having the CPUC rely on the private, undisclosed, and unexamined information that led to a deeply flawed and unnecessarily rushed draft resolution.

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December 22, 2017

Commissioner Carla J. Peterman California Public Utilities Commission 505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Draft Resolution E-4097

Dear Commissioner Peterman,

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CITY OF CULVER CITY

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COUNCIL MEMBERS JIM B. CLARKE GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS

December 22, 2017

Commissioner Liane M. Randolph California Public Utilities Commission 505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Draft Resolution E-4097

Dear Commissioner Randolph,

Over the past three years, the City of Culver City has been actively researching and evaluating options to implement a community choice energy program to benefit our residents and businesses. After much consideration, we recently joined the Los Angeles Community Choice Energy (LACCE) program with the understanding that LACCE would be filing an addendum to its certified implementation plan to include us and many other Southern California cities in its Phase 2 launch in June 2018. This plan was included in their Implementation Plan and well known to and acceptable to both the CPUC and Southern California Edison.

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Jeffrey Cooper Mayor



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COUNCIL MEMBERS JIM B. CLARKE GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS

December 22, 2017

Commissioner Clifford Rechtschaffen California Public Utilities Commission 505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Draft Resolution E-4097

Dear Commissioner Rechtschaffen,

Over the past three years, the City of Culver City has been actively researching and evaluating options to implement a community choice energy program to benefit our residents and businesses. After much consideration, we recently joined the Los Angeles Community Choice Energy (LACCE) program with the understanding that LACCE would be filing an addendum to its certified implementation plan to include us and many other Southern California cities in its Phase 2 launch in June 2018. This plan was included in their Implementation Plan and well known to and acceptable to both the CPUC and Southern California Edison.

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Jeffrey Cooper Mayor



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COUNCIL MEMBERS GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS THOMAS AUJERO SMALL

February 17, 2017

Elizabeth Scheehle Branch Chief, Oil and Gas and GHG Mitigation Branch California Air Resources Board 1001 "I" Street Sacramento, CA, 95814

Subject: Revised Draft Regulation for Greenhouse Gas Emission Standards for Crude Oil and Natural Gas Facilities

Dear Ms. Scheehle:

The City of Culver City supports reasonable environmental regulations aimed at enhancing air quality. We seek to improve air quality in Culver City and the surrounding areas, and we want to ensure that air quality and public health are protected during oil and gas drilling. As such, the City of Culver City strongly supports the proposed rule to regulate greenhouse gas emissions from oil and gas facilities in California. We would like to thank the California Air Resources Board staff for being a national leader in promoting clean air. We especially value the provisions that:

- Require a quarterly baseline inspection requirement (without a step-down).
- Specify the use of continuous ambient air quality monitoring along the fencelines of natural gas storage facilities.
- Prioritize natural gas capture over combustion requirements.

These policies will result in the detection of more leaks, better maintenance, cleaner air, and improved public health.

We urge you to hasten the timeframe for adopting and implementing the rule. In this draft, implementation is delayed at least a year from when it was initially proposed. Clean air cannot wait. We also urge you to create a detailed plan for the CARB and local air pollution districts to implement the new regulations, including periodic audits of newly regulated faciltes. With these improvements, CARB will ensure California remains a world leader in the protection of clean air and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

If you have any questions, or wish to discuss this further, please contact Jesse Mays, Assistant to the City Manager, at (310) 253-6009.

Sincerely

Jim B. Clarke Mayor

cc: The Honorable Members of the City Council John M. Nachbar, City Manager



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COUNCIL MEMBERS JIM B. CLARKE GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS

November 14, 2017

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein United States Senate 331 Hart Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 The Honorable Kamala Harris United States Senate 112 Hart Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Subject: Opposition to Draft Bill Limiting Local Authority Over Wireless Facilities

Dear Senator Feinstein and Senator Harris:

The City of Culver City urges your opposition to a Senate Commerce Committee draft bill in its current form, which would force local governments to lease out publicly owned infrastructure, eliminate reasonable local environmental and design review, and eliminate the ability for local governments to negotiate fair leases or public benefits for the installation of "small cell" wireless equipment on taxpayer-funded property.

Just this year, the wireless industry pursued similar failed legislation here in California that sought to achieve many of the elements present in this draft bill. The City of Culver City was especially concerned about shifting authority away from our residents, businesses, and communities over to a for-profit industry whose shareholder returns potentially outweigh their considerations for the health, safety, aesthetic, and public benefits of our community.

To be clear, the City of Culver City shares your goal of ensuring all our residents have access to affordable, reliable high-speed broadband and eagerly welcome installation of wireless infrastructure in collaboration with local governments. In fact, the City of Culver City has nearly completed a \$5 million construction project to install a fiber optic backbone network throughout the City. This project will greatly enhance access to broadband in the community and will soon be available for wireless carriers to utilize. However, the proposed legislation in its current form will not help in achieving these goals.

Instead, this draft would impose sharply reduced "shot clock" time limits for local governments to process potentially unlimited wireless facility applications for all sizes, "deem granted" applications for facilities, when local governments are unable to meet the stringent time limits regardless of its safety impacts or delays caused by incomplete applications.

The draft bill also interferes with the ability for our City to both manage our own property and receive appropriate compensation for its use. The City of Culver City actively manages the rights of way to protect our residents' safety, preserve the character of our community, and maintain the availability of the rights of way for current and future uses. By stringently limiting those factors, which we may consider in our own land use decisions, and by restricting compensation only to the "actual costs" we incur to process applications, this bill would limit our ability to adequately serve and protect our residents and obtain the true value of the use of infrastructure assets paid for by local taxpayers.

On behalf of the City of Culver City, thank you for your consideration of this request. As Congress considers efforts to improve the rollout of wireless and broadband deployment, we urge you to carefully consider efforts that are more balanced over attempts to simply undermine input from your constituent residents, businesses, and local governments. If you have any questions, or if you wish to discuss this further, please contact me at (310) 344-8033.

Sincerely, Mavor

cc: The Honorable Karen Bass, United States House of Representatives The Honorable Members of the City Council John M. Nachbar, City Manager



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COUNCIL MEMBERS GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS THOMAS AUJERO SMALL

February 13, 2017

The Honorable Kamala Harris United States Senate 112 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Subject: Infrastructure Financing Depends on the Municipal Bond Tax Exemption

Dear Senator Harris:

As you may be aware, Representatives Hultgren and Ruppersberger, Co-Chairs of the Congressional Municipal Finance Caucus, are circulating the attached letter, regarding infrastructure financing and municipal bond tax exemption, to Members of Congress. Both of these Congressmen have accepted a call to action to address threats to tax exempt municipal financing. In 2015, they co-authored a letter, garnering support from 120 Members of Congress, urging House leadership to protect the status of tax exempt municipal bonds. Over the past two years, they have worked with state and local governments to educate other policymakers on the importance of the tax exemption.

Municipal bonds, such as those which may be issued by cities like Culver City, are necessary to fund public projects. I wanted to take this opportunity to reach out to you in hopes that you will sign on to the attached letter. If you would like to sign the below letter, please contact Bill Hulse (Representative Hultgren's office) at <u>Bill.Hulse@mail.house.gov</u> or David Heitlinger (Representative Ruppersberger office) at <u>David.Heitlinger@mail.house.gov</u>. Additionally, if you have any questions, or if you wish to discuss this further, please contact me at (310) 775-1664.

Jim B. Clarke Mayor

Attachment

cc: The Honorable Members of the City Council John M. Nachbar, City Manager

Dear Colleague Letter

Dear Chairman Brady and Ranking Member Neal:

As Congress considers tax reform and infrastructure financing, we, the undersigned, write to express our strong support for an already potent tool already in hand – the tax-exempt municipal bond. For more than a century, states and local governments have depended on this reliable and efficient means of financing.

Nearly two-thirds of core infrastructure investments in the United States are financed with municipal bonds. In 2015 alone, more than \$400 billion in municipal bonds were issued to finance the projects that touch the daily lives of every American citizen and business. They are the roads we drive on, schools for our children, affordable family housing, water systems that supply safe drinking water, courthouses, hospitals and clinics to treat the sick, airports and ports that help move products domestically and overseas, and, in some cases, the utility plants that power our homes, businesses, and factories. These are the pro-growth investments which spur job creation, help our economies grow, and strengthen our communities.

A combination of local control and local responsibility makes municipal bonds an incredibly effective and efficient tool. Voters throughout the country overwhelmingly support tax-exempt municipal bonds, which are either approved by locally-elected officials or directly through bond referenda – fiscal federalism at its finest. This must help explain why the default rate is less than 0.01%. Federal tax exemption reduces the cost of issuing municipal bonds, but it is these voters who will pay the interest and principle on this debt. As a result, over the last decade overall state and local borrowing has actually declined in proportion to the economy, while still financing more than \$2 trillion in new infrastructure investments. And, if simply left alone, municipal bonds likely will finance another \$3 trillion in new infrastructure investments by 2026.

Furthermore, millions of Americans depend on municipal bonds for their economic security, and invest in them because of their low-risk nature. Nearly three-quarters of individual investors earn less than \$200,000 per year and more than three-quarters are 55 or older. Businesses also rely on municipal bonds as a safe, stable, long-term investment.

In conclusion, changes to the tax-code should recognize the vital role of tax-exempt municipal bonds. Any changes under consideration to the tax exempt status that would increase the cost of financing for states and local government should be provided very careful consideration. We believe the current tax-exempt status contributes to efficient economic growth that benefits all Americans.



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COUNCIL MEMBERS GÖRAN ERIKSSON MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS THOMAS AUJERO SMALL

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