City of Long Beach
Working Together to Serve

Memorandum

Date: October 18, 2016

To: State Legislative Committee Members

From: Patrick H. West, City Manager

Subject: **2016 Long Beach Legislative Bill Positions**

The City of Long Beach (City) took a position on 30 distinct legislative proposals since the start of the 2016 State Legislative Session. All bills that have passed the Legislature, and have been signed by the Governor, will take into effect on January 1, 2017, unless a provision calls for a different effective date, or there is an urgency clause. Bills that did not advance to the Governor's desk will not be moving forward. Of the 30 bills on which Long Beach took a position, 15 were enacted into State law. A description of the final outcome for each bill is provided below. Attached for your information are the letters of support and opposition that the City sent.

Economic Development

Support for Assembly Bill 806 (Dodd) – Community Development: Economic Opportunity. This bill allows cities to acquire, sell, or lease city-owned real property to promote economic development. AB 806 was signed into law as Chapter 503, Statutes of 2016.

Support for Senate Bill 936 (Hertzberg) - California Small Business Expansion Fund: Corporate Guarantees. This bill would increase the number of business development loans that can be supported through the California Small Business Loan Guarantee Program (SBLGP). By reducing the required loan loss reserve from 20 percent to the federal minimum of 10 percent, SB 936 makes California more business friendly, and enables a greater number of small businesses to access critical loan funding. SB 936 was signed into law as Chapter 713, Statutes of 2016.

Gun Control

Support for Assembly Bill 1664 (Levine) – Firearms: Assault Weapons. This bill would help prevent gun violence by closing a loophole in existing State law that has allowed some weapons to operate similarly to assault weapons with the use of a "bullet button," but not be regulated as such. AB 1664 was ordered to the Senate Appropriations Committee inactive file and will not become State law.

Support for Assembly Bill 1673 (Gipson) – Firearms: Unfinished Frame or Receiver. This bill would expand the definition of a firearm to include "frame or receiver blank," "casting," or "machined body" that is designed and clearly identifiable as a component of a functional firearm. This would prevent prohibited possessors from gaining access to partial-completion forms of firearms. AB 1673 was vetoed by the Governor on July 1, 2016. In his veto message, the Governor stated that this bill could trigger potential criminal penalties by defining certain metal components as a firearm.

Support for Assembly Bill 1674 (Santiago) – Firearms: Waiting Period. This bill would help prevent gun violence by capping the amount of firearms that may be purchased by a person at one

per month – the same restriction currently in place for handguns. AB 1674 was vetoed by the Governor on July 1, 2016. In his veto message, the Governor stated that AB 1674 would burden lawful citizens who wish to sell certain firearms they no longer need.

Support for Senate Bill 880 (Hall) – Firearms: Assault Weapons. This bill helps prevent gun violence by closing a loophole in existing State law that has allowed some weapons to operate similarly to assault weapons with the use of a "bullet button," SB 880 was signed into law as Chapter 48, Statutes of 2016.

Support for Senate Bill 894 (Jackson) – Firearms: Lost or Stolen: Reports. This bill would require firearm owners to report lost or stolen firearms within five days of the time they knew, or reasonably should have known, that the firearm had been lost or stolen. SB 894 was vetoed by the Governor on July 1, 2016. In his veto message, the Governor stated that he did not believe this bill would help identify gun traffickers or enable law enforcement to disarm people prohibited from having guns.

Support for Senate Bill 1235 (de León) – Ammunition. This bill expands upon and strengthens the State's existing ammunition regulatory framework by requiring businesses to obtain a State license to sell ammunition, log information about ammunition transactions, and screen the ammunition purchaser for any prohibitions at the point of sale. SB 1235 was signed into law as Chapter 55, Statutes of 2016.

Support for Senate Bill 1446 (Hancock) – Firearms: Magazine Capacity. This bill strengthens California's gun control laws by amending the definition of "capacity to accept more than 10 rounds" to mean capable of holding more than 10 rounds of ammunition. SB 1446 was signed into law as Chapter 58, Statutes of 2016.

Support for Senate Joint Resolution 20 (Hall) – Gun Violence: Research. This resolution urges the United States Congress to lift an existing prohibition against publicly funded scientific research on the causes of gun violence and its effects on public health, and to direct funding to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other agencies falling under the Department of Public Health and Human Services (HHS). SJR 20 was signed into law as Chapter 82, Statutes of 2016.

Public Safety

Support for Assembly Bill 1771 (O'Donnell) – Prostitution. The City sponsored and supported AB 1771. This bill was intended to combat commercial sex trade by increasing the maximum penalty for the misdemeanor crime of supervising sex trafficking victims from six months to a year. Long Beach supports increasing penalties for those involved in aiding and abetting sex with a minor that prove effective in curtailing these crimes, and believes AB 1771 would meet this objective. AB 1771 was gutted and amended on August 19, 2016. In its amended form, this bill was referred to the Senate Rules Committee, and will not be moving forward in the current legislative year.

Support for Assembly Bill 2626 (Jones-Sawyer) – Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training: Procedural Justice Training. This bill would support quality law enforcement and promote greater community awareness within law enforcement agencies by requiring procedural justice and implicit bias training as a part of a peace officer's training. AB 2626 was referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file, and will not be moving forward in the current legislative year.

Opposition on Senate Bill 876 (Liu) - Homelessness. The City opposed SB 876 on the basis of local control. SB 876 failed the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee on a vote of 2-7 and did not move forward in the process towards becoming State law.

Support for Senate Resolution 84 (Hall) – Relative to Homelessness. On July 19, 2016, the Long Beach City Council voted to support a resolution that respectfully requests that the Governor and State Legislature declare a state of emergency to combat homelessness in California. SR 84 was held in the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee, and will not be moving forward in the current legislative year.

Affordable Housing

Support for Assembly Bill 1934 (Santiago) – Planning and Zoning: Development Bonuses: Mixed-Use Projects. This bill would create a new density bonus available to affordable housing and commercial developers who partner to construct a mixed-use project. Long Beach supports efforts to maximize funding and funding flexibility for the development and enhancement of affordable and accessible housing within the City. AB 1934 was signed into law as Chapter 747, Statutes of 2016.

Opposition on Assembly Bill 2501 (Bloom) – Housing: Density Bonuses. This bill limits the ability for a city to interpret its own development standards, as it relates to density bonuses. It would also place the burden of proof on a city for the denial of a requested concession or incentive. The Governor signed AB 2501 into law as Chapter 758, Statutes of 2016.

Support for Senate Bill 1053 (Leno) – Housing Discrimination: Applications. This bill would amend the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA) to clarify that housing subsidy vouchers would be a protected source of income. Long Beach supports efforts to maximize funding for the enhancement of affordable housing within the City. SB 1053 was referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file, and will not be moving forward in the current legislative year.

Support for Senate Bill 1380 (Mitchell) – Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council. This bill would require a State program that provides housing or housing-related services to people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, to adopt guidelines and regulations to include Housing First policies. Long Beach practices a Housing First policy and supports this policy shift at the State level. SB 1380 was signed into law as Chapter 847, Statutes of 2016.

Transportation

Support for Assembly Bill 1780 (Medina) - Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: Trade Corridors. This bill would have established a dedicated funding stream for the Trade Corridor

Improvement Fund (TCIF) by continuously appropriating 20 percent of the annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) funds. AB 1780 was referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file, and will not be moving forward in the current legislative year.

Support for Senate Concurrent Resolution 102 (Nguyen) - Joan Lind Van Blom Memorial Bridge. The Long Beach City Council voted on April 19, 2016 to support SCR 102, which designates the bridge on Pacific Coast Highway between Loynes Drive and Second Street in the City as the Joan Lind Van Blom Memorial Bridge. SCR 102 was signed into law as Chapter 94, Statutes of 2016.

Stormwater

Support for Assembly Bill 2594 (Gordon) – Stormwater Resources: Use of Captured Water. This bill clarifies that public agencies with stormwater management plans in place have the authority to use captured stormwater from urban areas to the extent that the water augments existing water supplies. AB 2594 was signed into law as Chapter 526, Statutes of 2016.

Support for Senate Bill 1298 (Hertzberg) – Local Government: Fees and Charges. This bill would define "sewer" to include storm drainage, conforming to an existing definition in the California Public Utilities Code. This clarification would have made it clear that local agencies have the authority to finance sewer system projects in the same manner that sewer service projects are financed. SB 1298 was ordered to the State Assembly inactive file, and will not be moving forward in the current legislative year.

Support for Senate Bill 1328 (Lara) – Stormwater Capture and Treatment Projects: Funding. The City strongly supports increased funding to facilitate the deployment of stormwater capture projects and groundwater recharge facilities, which would increase the resiliency of local water supplies, and reduce the dependence of water imports. This bill would have provided an opportunity to sensibly pair existing State funding with local projects that meet stormwater, drought and climate change goals. SB 1328 was vetoed by the Governor on September 24, 2016. In his veto message, the Governor stated that this bill could create a potentially duplicative program. The Governor directed the Natural Resources Agency to work with the State Water Resources Control Board to ensure that stormwater projects are included in the Urban Greening Program.

Local Control

Support for Assembly Bill 2722 (Burke) – Transformative Climate Communities Program. This bill creates the Transformative Climate Communities Program to fund the development and implementation of neighborhood-level transformative climate community plans that promote sustainability, recognize and mitigate climate change, and foster economic growth. AB 2722 was signed into law as Chapter 371, Statutes of 2016.

Opposition to Assembly Bill 2788 (Gatto) – Wireless Telecommunications Facilities. This bill would reduce local control over local land use authority, including locally adopted zoning regulations, specifically by permitting specified "small cell" wireless antennas and related equipment without local review. AB 2788 was held in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee, and will not be moving forward in the current legislative year.

Support for Senate Bill 1374 (Lara) – the Lower Los Angeles River Recreation and Park District. This bill would help to promote the development of open space and parks for the benefit of communities along the Lower Los Angeles River. SB 1374 was signed into law as Chapter 486, Statutes of 2016.

Human Resources

Opposition on Assembly Bill 2835 (Cooper) – Public Employees: Orientation and Informational Programs: Exclusive Representatives. The City recognizes that employee orientations can be a useful tool to inform and train new employees about a career in the public sector and their responsibilities and employment rights, and benefits and other services available to them. However, the City opposed AB 2835 on the basis of local control, as it threatens to place costly logistical and administrative burdens on public employers. AB 2835 was ordered to the State Senate inactive file, and will not be moving forward in the current legislative year.

Public Health

Support for ABx2-7 (Stone) – Smoking in the Workplace. This bill removes many of the exemptions in State law that allow tobacco smoking in certain workplaces. Long Beach is supportive of efforts to protect the health and safety of its community. ABx2-7 was signed into law as Chapter 4, Statutes of 2016.

Support for Senate Bill 1300 (Hernandez) – Medi-Cal: Emergency Medical Transport Providers: Quality Assurance Fee. This bill would have increased Medi-Cal emergency medical transportation rates in order to maintain the high level of care that is expected of emergency medical transport programs statewide. SB 1300 was vetoed by the Governor on September 27, 2016. In his veto message, the Governor stated that the structure rate increase proposed in SB 1300 is unlike any other fee structure supported by health care-related quality assurance fees. The Governor opined that the rate structure could potentially put the State General Fund at risk for paying the increased rate if revenues fall short or if the fee is reduced or removed in the future.

Support for SBx2-5 (Leno) – Electronic Cigarettes. This bill protects the community and its youth by regulating electronic cigarettes as tobacco products under the State's smoke-free laws and the Stop Tobacco Access to Kids Enforcement (STAKE) Act. SBx2-5 was signed into law as Chapter 7, Statutes of 2016.

If you have questions or comments, please contact Diana Tang, Manager of Government Affairs, at (562) 570-6506.

cc: Mayor and Members of the City Council
Charles Parkin, City Attorney
Laura Doud, City Auditor
Tom Modica, Assistant City Manager
Arturo Sanchez, Deputy City Manager
All Department Directors
Lana Haddad, Director of Government and Public Affairs
Rebecca Jimenez, Assistant to the City Manager
Diana Tang, Manager of Government Affairs
Samara Ashley, Director of Government Relations

Attachment
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MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

September 19, 2016

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

Re: Support for Assembly Bill 806 (Dodd) – Community Development: Economic Opportunity

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write to urge your signature on Assembly Bill 806 (Dodd). This bill would allow cities to acquire, sell, or lease city-owned real property to promote economic development. Long Beach supports efforts to develop and promote policies that help cities foster greater economic opportunity.

In 2013, the Legislature adopted SB 470, which was sponsored by the City of Long Beach to promote economic development on a local level, give local governments tools at no cost to the State, allow local governments to use funds in a manner that promotes economic opportunity, and provide cities and counties with certain powers previously afforded to redevelopment agencies that were critical to economic development. SB 470 declared that it is the policy of the State of California to protect and promote the sound development of economic opportunity in cities and counties. AB 806 takes this existing state law a step further by enabling cities and counties to create economic opportunities through the acquisition, sale or lease of properties and to boost rehabilitation of commercial buildings by offering loans to owners or tenants.

With the passage of AB 806, counties and cities would be able to enter into agreements that can help create job opportunities and promote affordable housing projects. This bill will offer communities additional tools that can be used to rehabilitate deteriorated areas, attract and retain jobs, and improve local quality of life.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports AB 806 and urges your signature on this bill.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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333 West Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, California 90802

MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

March 22, 2016

The Honorable Jerry Hill
Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee
California State Capitol, Room 2053
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for SB 936 (Hertzberg) California Small Business Expansion Fund

Dear Chairman Hill:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write to support SB 936 (Hertzberg), a bill that will increase the number of business development loans that can be supported through the California Small Business Loan Guarantee Program (SBLGP). By reducing the required loan loss reserve from 20% to the federal minimum of 10%, SB 936 makes California more business friendly, and will enable a greater number of small businesses to access critical loan funding.

State law requires 20% of each dollar of loan guarantee be set aside in a reserve that will increase to 25% in 2018. This percentage is well above the 10% authorized by federal law. The current requirement, and future increase means fewer loans can be supported, as valuable lending capacity at the California iBank will be dedicated to the loan reserve. While the reserve account is important and protects lenders against losses, the iBank reports losses on SBLGP funds have amounted to less than 1% of the reserve account since 2011. This data enables me to support reducing the 20% loan loss reserve requirement to 10%.

Long Beach is proud to support our local business community, where 98% of businesses have less than 30 employees. SBLGP past practice shows loans are issued to an average borrower-size of 500 or fewer employees. This means nearly all Long Beach businesses would be eligible for the SBLGP program.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports SB 936 (Hertzberg).

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly, 63rd District
The Honorable Robert M. Hertzberg, State Senate, 18th District
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

August 23, 2016

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

RE: Support for SB 936 (Hertzberg) California Small Business Expansion Fund

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write to support SB 936 (Hertzberg), a bill that will increase the number of business development loans that can be supported through the California Small Business Loan Guarantee Program (SBLGP). By reducing the required loan loss reserve from 20% to the federal minimum of 10%, SB 936 makes California more business friendly, and will enable a greater number of small businesses to access critical loan funding.

State law requires 20% of each dollar of loan guarantee be set aside in a reserve that will increase to 25% in 2018. This percentage is well above the 10% authorized by federal law. The current requirement, and future increase means fewer loans can be supported, as valuable lending capacity at the California iBank will be dedicated to the loan reserve. While the reserve account is important and protects lenders against losses, the iBank reports losses on SBLGP funds have amounted to less than 1% of the reserve account since 2011. This data enables the City to support reducing the 20% loan loss reserve requirement to 10%.

Long Beach is proud to support our local business community, where 98% of businesses have less than 30 employees. SBLGP past practice shows loans are issued to an average borrower-size of 500 or fewer employees. This means nearly all Long Beach businesses would be eligible for the SBLGP program.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach has been in support of SB 936, which has received unanimous votes in the Legislature, and respectfully request your signature on this bill.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

March 16, 2016

The Honorable Mark Levine
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 2141
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Assembly Bill 1664 (Levine) – Firearms: assault weapons

Dear Assemblymember Levine:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Assembly Bill 1664 (Levine). This bill would help prevent gun violence by closing a loophole in existing State law that has allowed some weapons to operate similarly to assault weapons with the use of a "bullet button", but not be regulated as such. Long Beach supports strengthening gun control laws that promote public safety and reduce the number of assault weapons in California.

While the State has led the nation in prohibiting ownership of assault weapons equipped with detachable ammunition magazines, a modification to assault weapons known as the "bullet button" circumvents California's Assault Weapon Ban. Because the "bullet button" is required to release the ammunition magazine, and it cannot be released by hand, "bullet button" firearms are not included in the prohibition. AB 1664 would require owners who, between January 1, 2001 and December 31, 2016, lawfully possessed firearms with "bullet buttons" to register them as assault weapons by July 1, 2018 with the Department of Justice (DOJ).

AB 1664 strengthens California's Assault Weapon Ban by amending the definition of "assault weapons" and defining "fixed magazine" in statute for the purposes of "assault weapons" classification. Clarifying the definition of "assault weapons" would also authorize the DOJ to ban from sale or transfer assault weapons with "bullet buttons." Long Beach is supportive of these changes to State law.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports AB 1664.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly, 63rd District
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

June 30, 2016

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

Re: Support for Assembly Bill 1673 (Gipson) – Firearms: unfinished frame or receiver

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Assembly Bill 1673 (Gipson). This bill would expand the definition of firearm to include "frame or receiver blank," "casting" or "machined body" that is designed and clearly identifiable as a component of a functional firearm, which would prevent prohibited possessors from gaining access to partial-completion forms of firearms.

Current State law requires background checks and retention of transfer records, but does not prohibit the purchase of partial-completion receivers, which may be modified into functioning firearms untraceable to law enforcement. Further, the requirements concerning background checks or a serial number have been circumvented through the creation and marketing of partial-completion receivers and frames. AB 1673 represents a sensible solution to align partial-completion forms of firearms with State law.

The change to State law would require background checks for the purchase of "frame blanks," "receivers," "castings," and "machined bodies" and require mandatory serial number applications, thereby closing a loophole. Long Beach is supportive of these changes to State law that further strengthen gun control laws by ensuring prohibited possessors cannot own guns.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports AB 1673 and respectfully request your signature on Assembly Bill 1673 (Gipson).

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

March 16, 2016

The Honorable Miguel Santiago
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 5191
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Assembly Bill 1674 (Santiago) – Firearms: assault weapons

Dear Assemblymember Santiago:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Assembly Bill 1674 (Santiago). This bill would help prevent gun violence by capping the amount of firearms that may be purchased by a person at one per month – the same restriction currently in place for handguns. Long Beach supports strengthening gun control laws that promote public safety and reduce the number of firearms in California.

Over the past ten years, Californians have purchased more long guns than handguns, including 538,149 guns in 2013. In 2009, the Department of Justice (DOJ) entered 26,682 crime guns into the Automated Firearms Systems database, of which 11,500 were long guns. Further, long guns are a significant piece of the State's gun trafficking problem. The DOJ found in 2010 that half the illegal firearms recovered from prohibited persons are long guns. AB 1674 represents a sensible solution to gun trafficking in California.

Studies have shown that firearms sold in multiple purchases to the same buyer are frequently used in crime and that laws limiting multiple purchases help reduce gun trafficking. The Legislature enacted a law to limit the purchase of handguns to one per person per month in 1999. AB 1674 would impose similar limitations on the purchases of long guns. Long Beach is supportive of these changes to State law.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports AB 1674.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly, 63rd District
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

June 30, 2016

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

Re: Support for Assembly Bill 1674 (Santiago) – Firearms: assault weapons

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Assembly Bill 1674 (Santiago). This bill would help prevent gun violence by capping the amount of firearms that may be purchased by a person at one per month – the same restriction currently in place for handguns. Long Beach supports strengthening gun control laws that promote public safety and reduce the number of firearms in California.

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Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports AB 1674 and respectfully request your signature on Assembly Bill 1674 (Santiago).

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

February 22, 2016

The Honorable Isadore Hall, III
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 4085
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Senate Bill 880 (Hall) – Assault Weapons

Dear Senator Hall:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Senate Bill 880 (Hall). This bill would help prevent gun violence by closing a loophole in existing State law that has allowed some weapons to operate similarly to assault weapons with the use of a "bullet button", but not be regulated as such. Long Beach supports strengthening gun control laws that promote public safety and reduce the number of assault weapons in California.

While the State has led the nation in prohibiting ownership of military-style assault weapons equipped with detachable ammunition magazines, a modification to assault weapons known as the "bullet button" circumvents California's Assault Weapon Ban. Because the "bullet button" is required to release the ammunition magazine, and it cannot be released by hand, "bullet button" firearms are not included in the prohibition. SB 880 would require owners who, between January 1, 2001 and December 31, 2016, lawfully possessed firearms with "bullet buttons" to register them as assault weapons by July 1, 2018 with the Department of Justice (DOJ).

SB 880 strengthens California's Assault Weapon Ban by amending the definition of "assault weapons" and defining "fixed magazine" in statute for the purposes of "assault weapons" classification. Clarifying the definition of "assault weapons" would also authorize the DOJ to ban from sale or transfer military-style assault weapons. Long Beach is supportive of these changes to State law.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports SB 880.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker-Elect Anthony Rendon, State Assembly, 63rd District
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

June 30, 2016

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

Re: Support for Senate Bill 880 (Hall) – Assault Weapons

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Senate Bill 880 (Hall). This bill would help prevent gun violence by closing a loophole in existing State law that has allowed some weapons to operate similarly to assault weapons with the use of a "bullet button", but not be regulated as such. Long Beach supports strengthening gun control laws that promote public safety and reduce the number of assault weapons in California.

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SB 880 strengthens California's Assault Weapon Ban by amending the definition of "assault weapons" and defining "fixed magazine" in statute for the purposes of "assault weapons" classification. Clarifying the definition of "assault weapons" would also authorize the DOJ to ban from sale or transfer military-style assault weapons. Long Beach is supportive of these changes to State law.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports SB 880 and respectfully request your signature on Senate Bill 880 (Hall).

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
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MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

June 30, 2016

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

Re: Support for Senate Bill 894 (Jackson) – Firearms: lost or stolen: reports

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Senate Bill 894 (Jackson). This bill would require firearm owners to report lost or stolen firearms within five days of the time they knew, or reasonably should have known, that the firearm had been lost or stolen.

Long Beach supports strengthening gun control laws that promote public safety by stemming the flow of guns to prohibited persons, such as gang members and criminals or minors. When a crime gun is traced by law enforcement to the last known purchasers, that person may falsely claim that the gun was lost or stolen to hide his or her involvement in the crime or in gun trafficking. The lack of a reporting requirement enables individuals, who purchase guns legally and sell them to prohibited persons, to shield their criminal activity and continue to sell guns illegally. SB 894 would provide a tool for law enforcement to detect firearms trafficking and charge criminals who engage in such activity. This reporting requirement would also assist in the prosecution of individuals who falsely claim that a crime gun traced to them was lost or stolen.

SB 894 would ensure that those who purchase firearms are held accountable for them and stolen firearms are not sold and recirculated in our local communities. Law enforcement's early awareness of lost and stolen guns would enhance their ability to recover those guns and reduce gun violence in our neighborhoods. Long Beach supports this improvement to public safety in California.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports SB 894 and respectfully request your signature on Senate Bill 894 (Jackson).

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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CITY OF LONG BEACH

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PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER

June 30, 2016

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

Re: Support for Senate Bill 1235 (de León) – Ammunition

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Senate Bill 1235 (de León). This bill would expand upon and strengthen the State's existing ammunition regulatory framework by requiring businesses to obtain a State license to sell ammunition, log information about ammunition transactions, and screen the ammunition purchaser for any prohibitions at the point of sale. Long Beach supports strengthening gun control laws that would enable ammunition tracking.

California has enacted legislation designed to prevent prohibited persons from procuring "handgun ammunition;" however, State law does not extend this limitation to all types of ammunition. In order to appropriately restrict the purchase of handgun ammunition, it would be appropriate for the State to have an accurate database of businesses engaged in the sale of ammunition. SB 1235 would, commencing January 1, 2018, require an ammunition vendor to obtain a license from the Department of Justice (DOJ) in order to sell ammunition. Ammunition sales would then be carried out by the licensed vendor, who would screen purchasers to ensure that individuals are not prohibited from owning or possessing ammunition.

The sale and distribution of ammunition has remained largely unregulated. SB 1235 is one solution to reduce easy access to ammunition by prohibited persons. Long Beach supports strengthen the ammunition regulatory framework to ensure that prohibited possessors of firearms cannot purchase ammunition.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports SB 1235 and respectfully request your signature on Senate Bill 1235 (de León).

Sincerely,

Patrick H. West
CITY MANAGER

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

February 29, 2016

The Honorable Loni Hancock
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 2082
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for Senate Bill 1446 (Hancock) – Firearms: magazine capacity

Dear Senator Hancock:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Senate Bill 1446 (Hancock). This bill would help reduce gun violence by prohibiting the possession of large-capacity magazines. Long Beach supports strengthening gun control laws that promote public safety and reduce the number of military style magazines in California.

While the State prohibits the importation, manufacture, and sale of large-capacity ammunition magazines, possession of such a magazine is not prohibited. These large-capacity magazines can hold upwards of 100 rounds of ammunition, which allows for a shooter to rapidly fire without reloading. Such a magazine is not intended for hunting or target shooting. SB 1446 would, commencing July 1, 2017, prohibit the possession of any large-capacity magazine, regardless of the date the magazine was acquired.

SB 1446 strengthens California's gun control laws by amending the definition of "capacity to accept more than 10 rounds" to mean capable of holding more than 10 rounds of ammunition. Clarifying the definition would also require a person in lawful possession of a large-capacity magazine prior to July 1, 2017, to dispose of the magazine. Long Beach is supportive of these changes to State law.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports SB 1446.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker-Elect Anthony Rendon, State Assembly, 63rd District
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District
Senate Committee on Public Safety

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MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

June 30, 2016

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

RE: Support for Senate Bill 1446 (Hancock) – Firearms: magazine capacity

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Senate Bill 1446 (Hancock). This bill would help reduce gun violence by prohibiting the possession of large-capacity magazines. Long Beach supports strengthening gun control laws that promote public safety and reduce the number of military style magazines in California.

While the State prohibits the importation, manufacture, and sale of large-capacity ammunition magazines, possession of such a magazine is not prohibited. These large-capacity magazines can hold upwards of 100 rounds of ammunition, which allows for a shooter to rapidly fire without reloading. Such a magazine is not intended for hunting or target shooting. SB 1446 would, commencing July 1, 2017, prohibit the possession of any large-capacity magazine regardless of the date the magazine was acquired.

SB 1446 strengthens California's gun control laws by amending the definition of "capacity to accept more than 10 rounds" to mean capable of holding more than 10 rounds of ammunition. Clarifying the definition would also require a person in lawful possession of a large-capacity magazine prior to July 1, 2017, to dispose of the magazine. Long Beach is supportive of these changes to State law.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports SB 1446 and respectfully request your signature on Senate Bill 1446 (Hancock).

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Anthony Rendon, State Assembly, 63rd District
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

February 22, 2016

The Honorable Isadore Hall, III
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 4085
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Senate Joint Resolution 20 (Hall) – Publicly Funded Gun Violence Research

Dear Senator Hall:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Senate Joint Resolution 20 (Hall). This resolution urges the United States Congress to lift an existing prohibition against publicly funded scientific research on the causes of gun violence and its effects on public health, and to appropriate funds to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other agencies falling under the Department of Public Health and Human Services (HHS).

Since 1996, Congress has adopted annual policy riders, known as the "Dickey Amendment" and the "Rehberg Amendment," that effectively prohibit the federal CDC and other agencies under the federal HHS from conducting publicly funded scientific research on the causes of gun violence or its effects on public health. Former Representative Jay Dickey, the original author of the "Dickey Amendment," has stated that he regrets offering the amendment and thinks it should be repealed. President Obama issued an executive action in 2013 directing the CDC to resume gun violence research. However Congress has provided no funding and the restrictive language remains in place.

Although Members of Congress may disagree about how best to respond to the problem of gun violence, the lack of research makes it difficult to objectively assess the public health impacts and to provide sound public safety policies for local communities. Federal research is necessary to ensure that all communities are safe from gun violence. Passage of this resolution would provide funding for the purpose of conducting research to find a comprehensive evidence-based federal approach to reducing gun violence in our communities. Long Beach is supportive of finding a solution to promote public safety.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports SJR 20.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker-Elect Anthony Rendon, State Assembly, 63rd District
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

March 14, 2016

The Honorable Reginald B. Jones-Swayer, Sr.
California State Assembly, Public Safety Committee
1020 N Street (LOB), Room 111
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Assembly Bill 1771 (O'Donnell) – Prostitution

Dear Chairman Jones-Swayer, Sr.:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Assembly Bill 1771 (O'Donnell). This bill would combat commercial sex trade by increasing the maximum penalty for the misdemeanor crime of supervising sex trafficking victims from 6 months to a year. Long Beach supports increasing penalties for those involved in aiding and abetting sex with a minor that prove effective in curtailing these crimes, and we believe AB 1771 would meet this objective.

While human traffickers are subject to felony prosecution, this charge is only applied on relatively few occasions because sex trafficking victims often do not cooperate with law enforcement. This is especially true in cases where the trafficker is an active gang member and the victim fears retaliation from the gang. In cases where victims do not provide statements against the trafficker, only the misdemeanor charge with a maximum sentence of 6 months in county jail can be filed. By increasing the punishment to 12 months in jail, AB 1771 would close a loophole that currently allows serious criminals avoid accountability for their crimes.

AB 1771 would help protect the victims of this underground sexual abuse. By holding offenders more accountable, the victims of sex trafficking would have a better opportunity to heal and recover their lives. Long Beach is supportive of increasing the maximum penalty for this crime.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports AB 1771.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District
The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly, 63rd District
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District

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PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER

May 9, 2016

The Honorable Reginald Jones-Sawyer
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 4126
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Support for AB 2626 (Jones-Sawyer): Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training: procedural justice training

Dear Assemblymember Jones-Sawyer:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write in support of AB 2626. This bill supports quality law enforcement and promotes greater community awareness within law enforcement agencies by requiring procedural justice and implicit bias training as a part of a peace officer's training. I am proud to share the City of Long Beach is home to numerous ethnic groups who add depth to our local culture and economy, and has already committed to implementing the same training that will be required by this bill in our City this year.

AB 2626 is consistent with local policies the Long Beach Police Department has adopted. The City of Long Beach is encouraged to learn that the legislation would require the State Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training to develop and disseminate similar guidelines and training for peace officers on principled policing, which would include the subjects of procedural justice and implicit bias, similar to training that is being implemented in Long Beach.

Recently endorsed by the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing, procedural justice and implicit bias training provide positive reinforcement of the Long Beach Police Department's values and culture. This year, every Long Beach Police Officer will receive the first of a two-part in-house training on procedural justice and implicit bias. The curriculum was developed in partnership with private and non-profit organizations and will be the first of its kind in the Los Angeles/Orange County area. We are proud to be able to provide this training in an effort to continue to enhance the public's trust in our officers and Police Department.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports AB 2626.

Sincerely,

Patrick H. West
CITY MANAGER

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER

February 22, 2016

The Honorable Carol Liu
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 5097
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Opposition to Senate Bill 876 (Liu) – Homelessness

Dear Senator Liu:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write in strong opposition to Senate Bill 876 (Liu). As one of the first cities in America to bring veterans homelessness near "functional zero", Long Beach has a strong history of working with all members of our homeless population to transition to housing. We recognize that like our City, our homeless population is diverse and each individual's needs are unique. The City opposes SB 876 on the basis of local control, as it threatens to undo much of the progress that has made in recent years to transition individuals experiencing homelessness into permanent housing.

The City of Long Beach provides a range of services at our Multi-Service Center, which is a facility that is dedicated to assisting homeless individuals transition into permanent housing. The City's strategic plan to reduce homelessness prioritizes four goals. We strive to: (1) Reduce the number of people who become homeless; (2) Increase the number of homeless individuals placed into permanent housing; (3) Decrease the length of homeless episodes; and (4) Provide community-based services that prevent homelessness before it happens and diminish opportunities for homelessness to recur. These services have proven to work.

Instead of assisting individuals with a transition into permanent housing and employment, SB 876 runs counter to the City's local strategy for reducing homelessness. The Long Beach City Council has adopted a plan that works, and the City believes it is the best plan for improving the quality of life for all Long Beach residents, homeless or not.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach opposes SB 876.

Sincerely,

Patrick H. West
CITY MANAGER

cc: The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Anthony Rendon, State Assembly, 63rd District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

August 12, 2016

The Honorable Jim Beall, Chair
California State Senate, Transportation and Housing
State Capitol, Room 4203
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Senate Resolution 84 (Hall) – Relative to Homelessness

Dear Chairman de León:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Senate Resolution 84 (Hall). On July 19, 2016, the Long Beach City Council voted to support a resolution that respectfully requests that the Governor and State Legislature declare a state of emergency to combat homelessness in California.

Long Beach has a strong history of working with all members of our homeless population to transition to housing. The City provides a range of services at our Multi-Service Center, which is a facility that is dedicated to assisting homeless individuals transition into permanent housing. However, homelessness continues to be one of the most pervasive issues facing local agencies today. The homeless crisis endangers the health and safety of thousands of California residents, specifically veterans, women, children, LGBT youth, seniors and persons with disabilities.

According to the United State Department of Housing and Urban Development there were over 115,000 homeless individuals in California in 2015, by far the most of any state in the country. The scale of homelessness statewide threatens economic stability by burdening public safety, emergency medical services and social services. When the Assembly passed House Resolution 56 urging the Governor to declare a state of emergency on homelessness, it was expressing its opinion that homelessness is beyond the control of local authority and requires state emergency assistance. SR 84 would clarify that the Senate believes the Governor should take any measure necessary to unilaterally combat homelessness statewide.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports SR 84 (Hall).

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

September 20, 2016

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

Re: Support for Assembly Bill 1934 (Santiago) – Planning and zoning: development bonuses: mixed-use projects

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Assembly Bill 1934 (Santiago). This bill would create a new density bonus available to affordable housing and commercial developers who partner to construct a mixed-use project. Long Beach supports efforts to maximize funding and funding flexibility for the development and enhancement of affordable and accessible housing within the City.

Long Beach recognizes that California's overall affordable housing stock struggles to meet the needs of the State's residents. By encouraging greater production of affordable units throughout the State, AB 1934 would create a development bonus for commercial developers who partner with an affordable housing developer to construct affordable units. Long Beach believes that AB 1934 is one step forward in the right direction to foster non-traditional developer's entrance into the housing market to construct affordable housing.

AB 1934 would also help balance cities' economic development with construction of affordable housing. The types of projects promoted by this bill could result in mixed-use developments, or could result in the commercial and residential development on separate sites. In either case, the off-site housing must be in close proximity to schools and employment centers, and within a half-mile of public transit. To this end, AB 1937 provides Long Beach with the opportunity to strengthen our community by creating jobs and stimulating local economic development.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports AB 1934, and respectfully request a signature on Assembly Bill 1934(Santiago).

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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CITY OF LONG BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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September 20, 2016

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

Re: Opposition to Assembly Bill 2501 (Bloom) – Housing: density bonuses

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write in opposition to Assembly Bill 2501 (Bloom). This bill would limit the ability of a city to interpret its own development standards, as it relates to density bonuses, and a city would bear the burden of proof for the denial of a requested concession or incentive.

AB 2501 would prohibit a city from requesting special studies or reports from a developer, as the city conducts its due diligence on evaluating the project, if the project involves a density bonus. Long Beach processes many permits for development projects, and at times requests special studies if the project necessitates additional analysis. As density bonus projects already do not conform to the City's existing planning and zoning standard and disallowing full project analysis could be detrimental to the welfare of our neighborhoods.

Further, AB 2501 states that the burden of proof to deny any requested incentive is on the city denying the incentive, and does not allow any request for information to justify the incentive. Such a provision removes any requirement for a developer to demonstrate that the requested incentive would contribute to the economic viability of lower income housing. In our experience, changes proposed by AB 2501 would adversely impact quality developments in the City.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach opposes AB 2501, and respectfully request a veto on Assembly Bill 2501 (Bloom).

Sincerely,

Patrick H. West
CITY MANAGER

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

March 16, 2016

The Honorable Hannah-Beth Jackson
California State Senate, Judiciary Committee
State Capitol, Room 112
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Senate Bill 1053 (Leno) – Housing discrimination: applications

Dear Chairwoman Jackson:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Senate Bill 1053 (Leno). This bill would amend the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA) to clarify that housing subsidy vouchers would be a protected source of income. Long Beach supports efforts to maximize funding for the enhancement of affordable housing within the City.

California is experiencing high housing costs that crowd out family spending on basic necessities, such as food and health care. According to the Legislative Analyst's Office, the poorest 25% of California households spend on average 67% of their income for housing. Though the Federal Housing Choice Vouchers provides significant rental subsidies to many low-income families, families are forced to return their vouchers to their local housing authority because they cannot find a landlord willing to accept them. Source of income discrimination is illegal under the FEHA, but the law has been interpreted to exclude vouchers. SB 1053 would provide all Californians with a full and fair opportunity to seek housing by ensuring that landlords cannot deny applicants because they receive federal rental subsidies.

Providing voucher holders with equal housing opportunity is crucial to addressing California's ongoing housing crisis and ensuring economic mobility. These vouchers are an effective means of ensuring that children are not trapped in areas of concentrated poverty. For these children, the opportunity to move to a more economically diverse neighborhood leads to improved health, greater academic success, and long-term economic mobility. Long Beach is supportive of amending the FEHA to provide low-income families the same opportunity to apply for housing as other Californians, tearing down unnecessary barriers that perpetuate a cycle of poverty.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports SB 1053.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker-Elect Anthony Rendon, State Assembly, 63rd District
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District
The Honorable Mark Leno, State Senate, 11th District

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MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

September 22, 2016

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

Re: Support for Senate Bill 1380 (Mitchell) – Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write to urge your signature on Senate Bill 1380 (Mitchell). This bill would require a State program that provides housing or housing-related services to people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness to adopt guidelines and regulations to include Housing First policies. Long Beach supports legislation that seeks to address the state of emergency, as it relates to homelessness in our City, and many cities across California.

SB 1380 defines "Housing First" to mean the evidence-based model that uses housing as a tool, rather than as a reward, to provide and connect homeless people to permanent housing as quickly as possible. Housing First providers offer services as needed and requested on a voluntary basis and do not make housing contingent on participation in services. The City of Long Beach uses a "Housing First" model as part of our successful homeless supportive services program, and supports its development statewide.

Long Beach has been a leader in the region with respect to addressing homelessness. Our Multi-Service Center (MSC) facility houses twelve public and private partner organizations that work together to promote self-sufficiency and rebuild the lives of those experiencing homelessness. In 2010, the Long Beach City Council adopted "5 Key Community Strategies" to combat homelessness, which were to increase affordable housing, promote economic stability, provide support services to prevent homelessness, expand participation to all sectors of the community and use a data and research driven approach. Thanks to these efforts, in the past year alone, Long Beach has provided shelter to 1,738 individuals. While the City of Long Beach is proud of its multi-stakeholder efforts to combat homelessness, we recognize significant infrastructure and support systems need to be built to ensure all homeless families and individuals have the opportunity to receive permanent, affordable housing and support services.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports SB 1380 and urges your signature on this bill.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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333 West Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, California 90802

MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

May 5, 2016

The Honorable Jose Medina
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 2141
Sacramento, CA 94249

Re: Support for AB 1780 (Medina) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: trade corridors

Dear Assembly Member Medina:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Assembly Bill 1780 (Medina). This bill would establish a dedicated funding stream for the Trade Corridor Improvement Fund (TCIF) by continuously appropriating 20 percent of the annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) funds.

The City of Long Beach is home to the Port of Long Beach (the Port), which is a major local, State, and federal economic engine that moves $180 billion worth of goods each year, and supports 1.4 million jobs. As part of ongoing environmental efforts at the Port, the Port of Long Beach launched a Clean Air Action Plan that has reduced diesel air emissions by 85 percent since 2005. However, the ability for California to handle current and future trade volumes depends on regional and statewide transportation systems that operate efficiently, safely, and competitively.

Long Beach is supportive of developing a sustainable fund in the State to improve trade corridors with a focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, climate change adaptations and other environmental benefits. These types of State investments are incredibly important to sustaining healthy residential neighborhoods along goods movement corridors such as the I-710.

California's transportation infrastructure is in desperate need of repair and AB 1780 provides a sensible solution to funding eligible, high priority freight projects.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports AB 1780.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

May 5, 2016

The Honorable Janet Nguyen
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 3048
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Senate Concurrent Resolution 102 (Nguyen) – Joan Lind Van Blom Memorial Bridge

Dear Senator Nguyen:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Senate Concurrent Resolution 102 (Nguyen). The Long Beach City Council voted on April 19, 2016 to support this resolution, which would designate a specified bridge on State Highway 1 in the City of Long Beach as the Joan Lind Van Blom Bridge.

Joan Lind Van Blom was the first woman to win an Olympic medal for the United States in rowing. She won a silver medal in the single sculls at the 1976 Olympic Games in Montreal and in the quadruple sculls at the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. Additionally, Joan Lind Van Blom had a 35-year career with the Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD) as a physical education teacher and curriculum leader. She motivated students to live healthy and active lives, and was instrumental in securing a million-dollar grant for rowing machines in each of LBUSD's nine high schools.

For her numerous achievements, Ms. Van Blom was inducted in the Wilson High School Hall of Fame, Long Beach State 49er Hall of Fame Century Club, National Rowing Hall of Fame and was declared a Lifetime Member of the Long Beach Rowing Association. Naming the bridge on State Highway Route 1 south of Loynes Drive and north of East 2nd Street, in Long Beach, as the Joan Lind Van Blom Memorial Bridge is a fitting way to commemorate her remarkable lifetime accomplishments and wholehearted commitment to community service.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports SCR 102.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

August 12, 2016

The Honorable Richard Gordon
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 3013
Sacramento, CA 94249

Re: Support for Assembly Bill 2594 (Gordon): Stormwater resources: use of captured water

Dear Assemblymember Gordon:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Assembly Bill 2594 (Gordon). This bill would clarify that public agencies that have a stormwater management plan in place have the authority to use captured stormwater "to the extent that the water augments water supplies supporting existing water rights."

Long Beach strives to be a leader in stormwater best management practices. Recently, the City has partnered with the California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) to design and construct the Long Beach Municipal Urban Stormwater Treatment (LB-MUST) Recycle Facility. This project will capture and divert urban runoff containing pollutants to a newly constructed recycle water treatment facility prior to discharge into the lower Los Angeles River.

AB 2594 strikes the appropriate balance by protecting existing water rights and also expressly authorizing cities to capture and reuse excess stormwater. In its first phase, the LB-MUST Recycle Facility has the potential to produce 337,800 gallons of recycled water per day. Future phases of the project will add an additional production of over 700,000 gallons of recycled water per day. This will provide a new source of recycled water to augment and reduce the City's potable water usage. The LB-MUST Recycle Facility will allow for the future opportunity to irrigate the City's facilities, parkways and parks with recycled stormwater, and to achieve its goal of greening projects along the lower Los Angeles River.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports AB 2594. Thank you for introducing this legislation.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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333 West Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, California 90802

MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

August 30, 2016

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

Re: Support for Assembly Bill 2594 (Gordon) - Stormwater resources: use of captured water

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Assembly Bill 2594 (Gordon). This bill would clarify that public agencies that have a stormwater management plan in place have the authority to use captured stormwater from urban areas "to the extent that the water augments existing water supplies."

Long Beach strives to be a leader in stormwater best management practices. Recently, the City has partnered with the California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) to design and construct the Long Beach Municipal Urban Stormwater Treatment (LB-MUST) Recycle Facility. This project will capture and divert urban runoff containing pollutants to a newly constructed recycle water treatment facility prior to discharge into the lower Los Angeles River.

AB 2594 strikes the appropriate balance by protecting existing water rights and also expressly authorizing cities to capture and reuse excess stormwater. In its first phase, the LB-MUST Recycle Facility has the potential to produce 337,800 gallons of recycled water per day. Future phases of the project will add an additional production of over 700,000 gallons of recycled water per day. This will provide a new source of recycled water to augment and reduce the City's potable water usage. The LB-MUST Recycle Facility will allow for the future opportunity to irrigate the City's facilities, parkways and parks with recycled stormwater, and to achieve its goal of greening projects along the lower Los Angeles River.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports AB 2594, and respectfully request your signature on Assembly Bill 2594 (Gordon).

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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333 West Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, California 90802

MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

August 12, 2016

The Honorable Robert Hertzberg
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 4038
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Senate Bill 1298 (Hertzberg): Local government: fees and charges

Dear Senator Hertzberg:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Senate Bill 1298 (Hertzberg). This bill would define "sewer" to include storm drainage, conforming to an existing definition in the California Public Utilities Code. This clarification would make it clear that local agencies have the authority to finance sewer system projects in the same manner that sewer service projects are financed.

Long Beach strives to be a leader in stormwater best management practices. Recently, the City has partnered with the California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) to design and construct the Long Beach Municipal Urban Stormwater Treatment (LB-MUST) Recycle Facility, which will provide treatment of urban runoff prior to going into the lower Los Angeles River. It offers the City an opportunity to significantly reduce the use of potable water, which reduce the City's operating costs for departments that have access to this "new" source of potable water.

As the development of the LB-MUST Recycle Facility project moves forward, the City will require additional funding to further enhance the planned project. SB 1298 also would amend State law to clarify the statutory authority of local agencies to finance stormwater projects within the strict requirements for transparency and accountability of Proposition 218. This is one tool that local agencies, like Long Beach, can utilize to efficiently manage water supplies and effectively address water pollution.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports SB 1298 (Hertzberg).

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

May 16, 2016

The Honorable Ricardo Lara
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 5050
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Senate Bill 1328 (Lara): Stormwater capture and treatment projects: funding

Dear Senator Lara:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write to express the City's ***support as amended*** position on SB 1328 (Lara). Long Beach strongly supports increased funding to facilitate the deployment of stormwater capture projects and groundwater recharge facilities, which would increase the resiliency of local water supplies, and reduce the dependence on water imports. However, the City would like stormwater projects along the Los Angeles River and San Gabriel River to be prioritized equal to projects in disadvantaged communities, as defined by Section 39711 of the Health and Safety Code.

Long Beach strives to be a leader in stormwater best management practices. Recently, the City has partnered with the California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) to design and construct the Long Beach Municipal Urban Stormwater Treatment (LB-MUST) Recycle Facility, which will provide treatment of urban runoff prior to going into the lower Los Angeles River.

As the development of the LB-MUST Recycle Facility project moves forward, the City will require additional funding to further enhance the planned project. SB 1328 provides an opportunity to sensibly pair existing State funding with local projects that meet stormwater, drought and climate change goals. Long Beach is an ideal location to build an urban runoff and treatment facility because of its proximity to the Los Angeles River. This location allows for the opportunity to irrigate the City's facilities, parkways and parks with recycled stormwater.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports SB 1328 (Lara), as amended. Thank you for introducing this legislation.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

September 1, 2016

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

Re: Support for Senate Bill 1328 (Lara) – Water delivery projects: reduction of greenhouse gas emissions: funding

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Senate Bill 1328 (Lara). Long Beach strongly supports increased funding to facilitate the deployment of stormwater capture projects and groundwater recharge facilities, which would increase the resiliency of local water supplies, and reduce the dependence on water imports.

Long Beach strives to be a leader in stormwater best management practices. Recently, the City has partnered with the California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) to design and construct the Long Beach Municipal Urban Stormwater Treatment (LB-MUST) Recycle Facility, which will provide treatment of urban runoff prior to going into the lower Los Angeles River.

As the development of the LB-MUST Recycle Facility project moves forward, the City will require additional funding to further enhance the planned project. SB 1328 provides an opportunity to sensibly pair existing State funding with local projects that meet stormwater, drought and climate change goals. Long Beach is an ideal location to build an urban runoff and treatment facility because of its proximity to the Los Angeles River. This location allows for the opportunity to irrigate the City's facilities, parkways and parks with recycled stormwater.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports SB 1328 and respectfully request your signature on Senate Bill 1328 (Lara).

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

September 8, 2016

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

Re: Support for Assembly Bill 2722 (Burke) – Transformative Climate Communities Program

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write to urge your signature on Assembly Bill 2722 (Burke). This bill creates the Transformative Climate Communities Program, administered by the Strategic Growth Council (SGC).

Earlier this year, I was proud to join a coalition of California mayors in support of SB 32. In that same vein, Long Beach supports the creation of a Transformative Climate Communities Program. The City has been a consistent strong supporter of statewide policies that promote sustainability, recognize and mitigate climate change, and foster economic growth. To this end, Long Beach looks forward to partnering with the State and our local community on initiatives and benefits afforded through AB 2722.

As an example of the multi-stakeholder type of collaborative work that the Transformative Climate Communities Program values, Long Beach puts forth the Livable West Long Beach Plan. Because of its proximity to the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles, the West Long Beach community is impacted by Port-related industrial uses, other industrial uses (e.g. refineries), as well as associated truck and rail traffic. A survey of existing conditions – including demographics, environmental conditions, and land uses – has yielded valuable context for the projects and programs identified in the Plan. As a first step in the project process, neighborhood assets were mapped, including schools, institutions, parks and health facilities. Land use maps and the delineation of neighborhood boundaries also informed the preliminary analysis.

Since the development of the Livable West Long Beach Plan, the City and our community have been seeking a range of funding sources to implement projects identified in the Plan. It is our belief that the Transformative Climate Communities Program provides essential opportunities for these types of collaborations, which are necessary to comprehensively address the burdens of disproportionately impacted communities that have suffered from decades of environmental pollution.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports AB 2722 and urges your signature on this bill.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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333 West Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, California 90802

MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

June 20, 2016

The Honorable Mike Gatto
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 5136
Sacramento, CA 94249

Re: Opposition to AB 2788 (Gatto) Wireless telecommunications facilities

Dear Assemblymember Gatto:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write in opposition to Assembly Bill 2788 (Gatto). This bill would reduce local control over local land use authority, including locally adopted zoning regulations, specifically by permitting specified "small cell" wireless antennas and related equipment without local review.

Long Beach strictly enforces locally adopted zoning regulations related to wireless telecommunication facilities in accordance with State and federal law. The City will lose authority to regulate the aesthetic impacts of wireless telecommunication facilities as the allowed by-right applies to "small cells" wireless installations that require time for important environmental, engineering and aesthetic review. The collocation and siting of wireless telecommunications facilities are matters best addressed by local governments.

AB 2788 imposes challenging timeframes on local governments, making it difficult to involve the community, and address the aesthetic issues that are at the heart of the concerns of the community. This bill would facilitate a dramatic expansion of wireless telecommunication facilities, which would result in a negative impact to Long Beach's skyline and building aesthetics, and these are inconsistent with the City's General Plan policies for attractive and well-designed development. The City must retain our existing authority to regulate local land uses, infrastructure aesthetics and implement the City Council's adopted General Plan.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach opposes AB 2788.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

July 22, 2016

The Honorable Ricardo Lara
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 5050
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Senate Bill 1374-Lower Los Angeles River Recreation and Park District

Dear Senator Lara:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write in support of Senate Bill 1374. This bill will help to promote the development of open space and parks for the benefit of communities along the Lower Los Angeles River. The Los Angeles River flows through many disadvantaged communities, where residents are disproportionally impacted by poor air quality from local heavy industry and congested transportation corridors and suffer from a severe lack of access to recreational opportunities and outdoor space.

While the Los Angeles River serves an important purpose as a flood control channel, it also presents a unique opportunity for open space development, urban greening, and is a relatively untapped recreational resource for the region. With the recent establishment of numerous groups, including the Lower Los Angeles River Working Group and multiple conversations about a new vision for the Los Angeles River, there is growing need for action along the Los Angeles River.

Through the formation of the Lower Los Angeles River Recreation and Park District, SB 1374 will promote the development of open space and parks along the Lower Los Angeles River. In addition, SB 1374 will establish a Board of Directors for the District, which will include two public members appointed by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, as well as one representative each from nine different cities, including the City of Long Beach. Long Beach has a vested interest in making sure the Lower Los Angeles River receives adequate funding for the development and revitalization of open space and parks.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports SB 1374.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

September 1, 2016

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

Re: Support for Senate Bill 1374 (Lara) – the Lower Los Angeles River Recreation and Park District

Dear Senator Lara:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write in support of Senate Bill 1374 (Lara). This bill would help to promote the development of open space and parks for the benefit of communities along the Lower Los Angeles River. The Los Angeles River flows through many disadvantaged communities, where residents are disproportionally impacted by poor air quality from local heavy industry and congested transportation corridors and suffer from a severe lack of access to recreational opportunities and outdoor space.

While the Los Angeles River serves an important purpose as a flood control channel, it also presents a unique opportunity for open space development, urban greening, and is a relatively untapped recreational resource for the region. With the recent establishment of numerous groups, including the Lower Los Angeles River Working Group and multiple conversations about a new vision for the Los Angeles River, there is growing need for action along the Los Angeles River.

Through the formation of the Lower Los Angeles River Recreation and Park District, SB 1374 would promote the development of open space and parks along the Lower Los Angeles River. In addition, SB 1374 would establish a Board of Directors for the District, which would include two public members appointed by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, as well as one representative each from nine different cities, including the City of Long Beach. Long Beach has a vested interest in making sure the Lower Los Angeles River receives adequate funding for the development and revitalization of open space and parks.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports SB 1374, and respectfully request your signature on Senate Bill 1374 (Lara).

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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CITY OF LONG BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER

August 15, 2016

The Honorable Jim Cooper
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 5158
Sacramento, CA 94249

Re: Opposition to Assembly Bill 2835 (Cooper) Public employees: orientation and informational programs: recognized employee organizations

Dear Assemblymember Cooper:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write in strong opposition to Assembly Bill 2835 (Cooper). This bill would require all public employers to provide an in-person employee orientation to all newly hired public employees within two months of the time of hire. We recognize that employee orientations can be a useful tool to inform and train new employees about a career in the public sector and their responsibilities and employment rights, and benefits and other services available to them. However, the City opposes AB 2835 on the basis of local control, as it threatens to place costly logistical and administrative burdens on public employers.

The City of Long Beach currently provides a four hour new employee orientation session for all new permanent employees bimonthly. The City also annually hires hundreds of temporary employees that often are only employed for one day. It is not feasible for the City to provide a formal new employee orientation sessions to temporary employees. All employees, including temporary employees, are onboarded and provided with relevant policies and employment information through an electronic system. By mandating the frequency and expanding the meaning of a "new employee" to include temporary employees, this bill would significantly increase administrative costs for public agencies that are needed for other local services.

Further, in-person orientation sessions require public employers to utilize additional staff or overtime to cover classes and other services during orientation sessions. The City hires employees sporadically in a variety of different job classifications, at various work locations and work schedules. In the future, the City would like to move away from in-person to webinar type orientation sessions or in another manner that would allow employees to easily participate in an employee orientation session. However, AB 2835 would prevent public employers from utilizing more cost efficient and effective methods of conducting new employee orientations.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach opposes AB 2835 (Cooper).

Sincerely,

Patrick H. West
CITY MANAGER

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

March 21, 2016

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

Re: Support for ABx2-7 (Stone) – Smoking in the workplace

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support ABx2-7 (Stone). This bill would remove many of the exemptions in State law that allow tobacco smoking in certain workplaces. Long Beach is supportive of efforts to protect the health and safety of its community.

California became the first State in the country to ban smoking in nearly every workplace, effectively banning smoking in indoor public spaces. However, exemptions is current law that cover all "enclosed" places of employment, allows for smoking in certain indoor work environments. ABx2-7 would establish a statewide ban on smoking in hotel lobbies, hotel meeting and banquet rooms, warehouses, employee break rooms, gaming clubs, and bars and taverns. This bill also would prohibit smoking in public areas of owner-operated businesses and lowers the percentage of allowable available smoking rooms in hotels from 65 percent to 20 percent.

It is well known that secondhand smoke is an air containment and there is no safe amount of exposure to the chemicals emitted. ABx2-7 protects the health and safety of California's workforce and consumers from the effects of secondhand smoke.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach is proud to support ABx2-7. We respectively request your signature on ABx2-7 (Stone).

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly, 63rd District
The Honorable Mark Stone, State Assembly, 29th District
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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333 West Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, California 90802

MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

September 12, 2016

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

Re: Support for Senate Bill 1300 (Hernandez) – Medi-Cal: Emergency Medical Transport Providers: Quality Assurance Fee

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write to urge your signature on Senate Bill 1300 (Hernandez). This bill would increase Medi-Cal emergency medical transportation rates in order to maintain the high level of care that is expected of emergency medical transport programs statewide. Long Beach supports efforts to ensure quality emergency medical care for all Californians.

Inadequate Medi-Cal reimbursement for ambulance transport is a long-standing issue and places a strain on the state's emergency medical services (EMS) system. By increasing Medi-Cal emergency medical transportation rates through levying a Quality Assurance Fee (QAF) on three emergency medical transportation reimbursement codes, SB 1300 would enable medical transport providers, including the City of Long Beach, to draw down additional federal Medicaid without imposing a cost to the state General Fund.

While the costs to provide essential ambulance services have significantly increased during the past decade, Medi-Cal reimbursement has not kept pace with these increased costs and has in fact declined to less than the amounts paid in 1999. With the passage of SB 1300, emergency ambulance service providers will receive much needed financial relief, which will help to ensure that all California residents and visitors continue to receive the highest quality emergency medical care.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports SB 1300 and urges your signature on this bill.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

March 21, 2016

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

Re: Support for SBx2-5 (Leno) – Electronic Cigarettes

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support SBx2-5 (Leno). This bill protects the community and its youth by regulating electronic cigarettes as tobacco products under the state's smoke-free laws and the Stop Tobacco Access to Kids Enforcement (STAKE) Act.

Long Beach takes the health and safety of our community incredibly seriously. On March 4, 2014, the Long Beach City Council voted to adopt one of the State's strictest e-cigarette ordinances. The City's municipal code currently classifies e-cigarettes as tobacco products, and treats the vaporized devices in much the same way as regular cigarettes, banning their use in restaurants, bars, workplaces, City parks and beaches. Long Beach's municipal code also bans e-cigarette sales to minors under the age of 18 and subjects vendors to inspections and potential sting operations by the City's health department.

Because of statutory discrepancy among State regulation of electronic cigarettes and tobacco products, there is a real concern for addressing electronic cigarette marketing tactics, accessibility to youth, and growing usage among young adults.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach is proud to support SBx2-5. We respectively request your signature on SBx2-5 (Leno).

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly, 63rd District
The Honorable Mark Leno, State Senate, 11th District
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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