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