



MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

February 12, 2015

The Honorable Brian Maienschein
California State Assembly, Committee on Local Government
1020 N Street, Room 157
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: Sponsorship and Support for AB 204 (O'Donnell) – Los Angeles County Oversight Board Extension

Dear Assemblymember Maienschein:

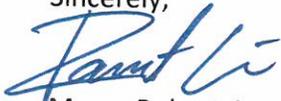
On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write in support of AB 204 (O'Donnell). This bill applies specifically to Oversight Boards in the County of Los Angeles (County) and is being proposed to help ensure the expeditious wind-down of former redevelopment activities. Existing law requires all 71 Oversight Boards in the County to dissolve and transfer all fiduciary oversight duties to a single County Oversight Board by July 1, 2016. Long Beach is concerned that funneling the workload of 71 Successor Agencies into a single County Oversight Board will cause substantial gridlock in the redevelopment dissolution process, and cause the dissolution of the former Long Beach Redevelopment Agency to slow down.

AB 204 seeks to give individual Oversight Boards and their companion Successor Agencies the ability to choose whether to continue the existing partnership past July 1, 2016, or transfer all fiduciary oversight responsibilities to a single County Oversight Board, as directed by existing State law. The purpose of this legislation is to expeditiously wind-down former redevelopment activities. Legislation to extend the authority of Oversight Boards in the County is necessary, as the County of Los Angeles has a uniquely large number of Oversight Boards, as compared to other counties in the State.

By extending the authority of individual Oversight Boards in the County, AB 204 allows the institutional knowledge that has been cultivated since the establishment of the Oversight Board to continue assisting Successor Agencies in the County the dissolution process. This institutional knowledge is key to ensuring that financial transactions and tax distribution occurs smoothly, and without delay because of a lack of experience with the matter. AB 204 also shields the single County Oversight Board from having to immediately tackle workload that would have otherwise been spread across 71 Oversight Boards.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach is proud to sponsor and support AB 204. We urge the State Assembly Committee on Local Government to pass this bill. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Diana Tang, Manager of Government Affairs to the City of Long Beach at (562) 570-6506 or diana.tang@longbeach.gov.

Sincerely,



Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34^h 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