September 28, 2015

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

Re: Support for Assembly Bill 35 (Chiu and Atkins) – Income taxes: credits: low-income housing: allocation increase

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write in support of Assembly Bill 35 (Chiu and Atkins). This bill would expand the State’s Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) by $300 million annually. The need for affordable housing exists in Long Beach, and with the dissolution of redevelopment, State and new local resources will be required.

The growing demand for housing development in California has resulted in an oversubscription to the State’s affordable housing tax credit program, which is utilized by local developers. Further, recent changes to State law requires cities, and consequently developers, to focus affordable housing dollars on extremely low and very low income housing. While this type of housing is essential for many, it is also the most expensive type of housing in which to invest. Long Beach believes that AB 35 is one step forward in the right direction to providing affordable housing.

With these considerations in mind, the City of Long Beach, along with numerous local governments, support AB 35 and respectively requests your signature on AB 35 (Chiu and Atkins).

Thank you for considering this bill.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

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