CITY OF LONG BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER

May 1, 2018

The Honorable David Chiu
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 4112
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Opposition to Assembly Bill 2162 (Chiu): Planning and Zoning: Housing Development: Supportive Housing

Dear Assemblymember Chiu:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write to respectfully oppose Assembly Bill 2162 (Chiu). This bill proposes to require local governments to approve of supportive housing in areas zoned for multifamily and mixed-use on a by-right basis. This bill also limits the local government's ability to impose any minimum parking requirements for such units if a development is within one half mile of a public transit stop. While the City recognizes the value of supportive housing for individuals overcoming addiction, it is important to balance these needs with those a healthy and vibrant economic environment that serves the diverse needs of the Long Beach community.

The City of Long Beach has cultivated a unique and diverse urban fabric over the years. This is due in part to our City planners who follow a careful, yet expeditious process that evaluates planned residential and commercial uses on a case by case basis, and who manage compliance based on locally established zoning ordinances and planning overlay documents. In contrast, AB 2162 would require the City to allow for supportive housing without discretionary consideration.

Long Beach does not currently engage in by-right zoning because this approach does not facilitate building safety, or consider the capacity for immediate public infrastructure to support additional demand for services. AB 2162 is well-intended, but the by-right approach disrupts the current processes by which governments have been able to support a thriving economy, low-unemployment rate and new housing developments.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach respectfully opposes AB 2162 (Chiu).

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 Steven Bradford, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District