



CITY OF LONG BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER

April 24, 2018

The Honorable Mike McGuire
California State Senate Committee on Governance and Finance
State Capitol, Room 408
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Opposition to Senate Bill 831 (Wieckowski): Land Use: Accessory Dwelling Units

Dear Chair McGuire:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write to respectfully oppose Senate Bill 831 (Wieckowski). This bill proposes to limit a local government's ability consider square footage of a lot when considering an approval of an accessory dwelling unit (ADU) and prohibits an agency from requiring replacement of offstreet parking when garages or carports are demolished for construction of ADU in zoning areas for single-family and multifamily dwellings. SB 831 requires a city consider for approval an ADU permit despite not having an ordinance within 60 days, otherwise the ADU permit is deemed approved without city action.

Long Beach understands the need to address California's housing crisis. The City recently updated our ADU ordinance to increase our housing stock and safely permit dwelling units. Whereas in 2016, zero ADU permits were issued, Long Beach issued 21 new permits in 2017. As we near the end of the first quarter of 2018, 22 new ADU permits have already been issued and 98 new ADU applications are pending approval contingent upon cleared building safety inspections.

As the City continues to add more ADUs to our housing stock, it is essential these dwellings be permitted through a process that ensures building safety and availability of essential public services such as police, fire, parks, and utilities. These public services contribute to quality of life for our residents—something that the City of Long Beach values highly. While the City understands the urgency of resolving the California housing crisis, this must be done in a responsible manner. SB 831 puts our residents' quality of life at risk.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach respectfully opposes SB 831 (Wieckowski).

Sincerely,



Patrick H. West
CITY MANAGER

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Bob Wieckowski, State Senate, 10th District
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
California State Senate Committee on Governance and Finance