



MAYOR REX RICHARDSON
CITY OF LONG BEACH

March 18, 2026

The Honorable Rick Zbur
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 4250
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Letter of Support for AB 1740 (Zbur)—Urban, Transit-Rich Coastal Communities

Dear Assemblymember Zbur,

On behalf of the City of Long Beach (City), the City is in strong support of AB 1740 (Zbur)—Urban, Transit-Rich Coastal Communities, which would allow cities like Long Beach to make strategic transit and infrastructure investments in the coastal zone with greater ease and certainty.

The Coastal Zone in Long Beach is home to residents, small businesses, park space, and other valued community assets that all benefit from a healthy shoreline. The City has worked closely with the California Coastal Commission (Commission) for many years to protect coastal resources, expand access to the coast, and balance development opportunities with ecological goals. AB 1740 would allow cities who meet a narrow set of criteria, including those with high quality transit and bike infrastructure, to be designated as an Urban Multimodal Community (UMC). UMC's would be granted oversight authority and be exempted from Commission approval for a limited set of projects, including updates to existing buildings, regulating parking requirements, adding bus or bike infrastructure, constructing housing that would otherwise be granted under state law, and regulating outdoor dining.

The City recently celebrated approving entitlements for more than 5,000 units of housing over the last three years, including entitlements for single family homes, affordable and market-rate units, and ADU's. However, building housing in the coastal zone continues to be a challenge due to regulatory uncertainty and lengthy review processes, significantly limiting the development of new affordable housing opportunities in high-resource areas. AB 1740 will help cities with demonstrated commitment to public transit and multimodal transportation meet local and state housing goals with continued collaboration with the Commission.

Additionally, AB 1740 would allow UMC's to permit and manage temporary events. Long Beach hosts a variety of special events along and at the coast, helping facilitate greater use of our coastal resources. The city is proud to serve as a major Venue City for the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games and aims to offer vibrant and lively experiences for athletes, spectators, and visitors from around the world by activating public spaces throughout the city. AB 1740 will help ensure the City is able to responsibly plan and permit for the Olympics and other upcoming regional and international events.

From the Shoreline Pedestrian Bike path to the Colorado Lagoon, the City has made significant investments in coastal accessibility and habitat protection. AB 1740 will ensure the City is able to continue investing in the coastal zone with fewer delays and regulatory costs.

Had AB 1740 been in place already, additional coastal and public serving amenities could be available for the public to utilize and enjoy today. For these reasons, the City strongly supports AB 1740.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rex Richardson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rex Richardson
Mayor of Long Beach