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CITY MANAGER

Patrick Johnson

September 18, 2018

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
VIA Email: Leg.Unit@gov.ca.gov

RE: SB 1333 (Wieckowski) Planning and Zoning: Charter Cities - Request Veto

Dear Governor Brown:

The City of Vista urges your veto on SB 1333 (Wieckowski), which would apply nearly all of the planning and zoning statutes to charter cities.

Historically, the Legislature has acknowledged the special Constitutional status of charter cities by selectively preempting charter cities when issues of statewide concern are present. Under existing law, the most essential provisions of the planning and zoning statutes already apply to charter cities. For example, housing element and accessory dwelling unit law already apply to all cities.

The flexibility afforded by adopting a charter allows cities to make the best decisions for their citizens based on local conditions, even if generally applicable state law provides otherwise. SB 1333 runs contrary to these principles by subjecting numerous charter city land use actions to regulation by the state.

The City of Vista supports efforts that provide flexibility and gives greater authority in meeting the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) requirements. The City advocates for efforts that enhance local control of resources, programs and tools that allow the City to address the needs and concerns of its residents, and opposes any efforts that preempt local authority. SB 1333 removes authority and reduces flexibility for cities to meet their RHNA. For these reasons, the City of Vista respectfully urges you to veto SB 1333 (Wieckowski).

Sincerely,

Judy Ritter
Mayor
City of Vista

cc: Senator Bob Wieckowski
Graciela Castillo-Krings, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of Governor Brown
Senator Patricia Bates, FAX: 916-651-4936
Assemblymember Rocky Chavez, FAX: 916-319-2176
Assemblywoman Marie Waldron; chris.khine@asm.ca.gov
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