



MAYOR STEVEN SCHARF
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September 17, 2019

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, 1st Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 5 (Beall) – Request for Signature

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of the City of Cupertino, I am writing to request your favorable consideration for SB 5, the Affordable Housing and Community Development Investment Program.

The elimination of redevelopment in 2011 created a huge deficit in community revitalization resources throughout California, including an annual loss of \$1 billion in funding for low- and moderate-income housing. SB 5 provides opportunities for communities to access additional tax increment revenues to fund affordable housing, infrastructure, and economic development projects that advance state and local priorities, including reducing greenhouse gas emissions, expanding transit-oriented development, addressing poverty, and revitalizing neighborhoods.

As you know, the state is currently experiencing a housing and homelessness crisis. Coupled with the rising cost of construction, there is the fundamental lack of funding resources and mechanisms provided to local public agencies to help address this crisis. Too often local communities are forced into transformative change without being provided the necessary tools to fund sustainable, responsible, and well-planned development. The time is right for the State to fill the void left by the elimination of redevelopment and provide more tools to support local efforts to build more affordable housing, provide essential infrastructure, and create opportunities in underserved communities.

The City of Cupertino believes that SB 5 recognizes the diversity of California cities and while addressing the need for flexible funding to spur housing construction and revitalize communities.

For these reasons, the City of Cupertino supports SB 5 and would request that you sign the measure into law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Steven Scharf', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Steven Scharf
Mayor, City of Cupertino

cc: Senator Jim Beall