



March 14, 2018

To: Holly J. Mitchell – California State Senator, District 30
Members of the California Senate Committee on Transportation and Housing:
Senator Jim Beall (Chair)
Senator Anthony Cannella (Vice Chair)
Senator Benjamin Allen
Senator Bill Dodd
Senator Ted Gaines
Senator Mike McGuire
Senator Mike Morrell
Senator Richard D. Roth
Senator Nancy Skinner
Senator Andy Vidak
Senator Bob Wieckowski
Senator Scott D. Wiener

OPPOSITION to California Senate Bill 827 ([SB827](#))

Dear Senator Mitchell and Members of the California Senate Committee on Transportation and Housing,

During the March 12, 2018 monthly meeting of Neighbors United, Faircrest Heights' neighborhood association, attendees approved a motion to **OPPOSE California Senate Bill 827** (SB827, Wiener), which would exempt residential development projects within a ½ mile radius of a major transit stop or a ¼ mile radius of a high-quality transit corridor from a variety of existing controls related to height, parking, density, and floor area ratio.

Our neighborhood has a longstanding record of civic engagement and strong relationships with local and state officials with whom we have worked to shepherd the future of our city *responsibly*. SB827's arbitrary state infringement into local land use and planning policy flies in the face of time-honored traditions of transparency and community engagement, and would wreak havoc on city infrastructure, affordability, diversity, livability, and the environment. SB827 would eviscerate local input in land use decisions; moot the City's current efforts to update community plans and a general plan tailored to the geographic, demographic, socioeconomic, and environmental needs of Los Angeles; and would actually work *against* some local initiatives to create more affordable housing.

It should be intuitively obvious that all regions, cities, towns, and neighborhoods are not alike - and that the responsible stewardship of our communities requires thoughtful planning and land use policy integrating local input and expertise. **SB827's 'one size fits all/top down' approach would work at odds with its stated goals and is an affront to our shared values. The bill should be withdrawn without delay.**

Sincerely,

Laura Anderson
President, Neighbors United

Traci Considine
Land Use Chair, Neighbors United

cc: Vince Bertoni – Director of Planning, Los Angeles
Richard Bloom – California Assemblymember, District 50
Eric Garcetti – Mayor, City of Los Angeles
José Huizar – Los Angeles City Councilmember, District 14; Chair, Planning and Land Use Management Committee
B. Kane, D. Dahlke, H. Feldstein – P.I.C.O. Neighborhood Council President/Land Use Chairs
David Ryu – Los Angeles City Councilmember, District 4
Herb J. Wesson – Los Angeles City Council President; Councilmember, District 10