



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

April 30, 2019

Honorable Members of the City Council
c/o City Clerk
City Hall
200 North Spring Street, Room 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Council File: 19-0002-S38, Resolution to Oppose SB-50 (Wiener)

Honorable Members,

As you know, California is facing a housing affordability crisis that demands urgent action. Up and down the state, housing supply is not keeping pace with demand, leading to ever increasing costs that have created a humanitarian crisis on our streets, and taken a heavy toll on our residents, our economy, and our environment. In light of the magnitude of this challenge, Senator Scott Wiener's Senate Bill 50 (SB-50) merits careful consideration.

I enthusiastically embrace efforts to increase housing around our growing public transit system, and I am proud of the work that we are doing here in Los Angeles to address the urgent need to build. In the last five years, Los Angeles has led the state by meeting a higher percentage of our housing goals than any other jurisdiction. We have permitted more than 95,000 units of housing since I took office, and we are ahead of schedule to reach the goal I set in 2013 to permit 100,000 units by 2021. Our Transit Oriented Communities (TOC) program has far surpassed expectations with more than 13,000 units of housing proposed in just over a year, with substantial affordability requirements linked its incentives.

We're also in the process of the largest land use planning effort in City history — updating all 35 of our community plans by the end of 2024 — and that process is part of the solution. For example, through a recently completed community-based planning process, the updates to our three South Los Angeles area Community Plans created

the capacity for 48,000 additional housing units in these areas. We need to continue to increase the capacity for more housing in our plans and, together, we are taking important steps towards that goal.

I share the concerns of the City Council and it is critical that any state housing legislation, including SB-50, build on our progress, not undermine it. Key elements of the bill that may address our collective concerns still require clarification and refinement, and the bill's author continues to incorporate amendments that address outstanding issues. I am hopeful that legislation will emerge that strategically addresses the need for heightened urgency in growing our state's housing stock, while also protecting renters from displacement, incentivizing maximum affordability and taking into account local commitment — and progress — in the context of this crisis. It is with that hope that I return this resolution opposing SB50 without signature.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Garcetti". The signature is stylized and includes a horizontal line extending to the right.

ERIC GARCETTI
Mayor