TA
CORRESPONDENCE
as of
8-23-2019
August 12, 2019

The Honorable Jim Beall
California State Senate
State Capitol Building, Room 2082
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SUPPORT SB 5 (Beall) — Building Affordable and Inclusive Communities OR Affordable Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization

Dear Senator Beall:

On behalf of the San Mateo County Transit District (District), the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (Caltrain), and the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (Transportation Authority) I write in SUPPORT of Senate Bill 5 and its approach to tackling the housing crisis in California.

By establishing a new local/state partnership local jurisdictions will be able to use their own county’s local property tax to fill the funding gap left by the dissolution of redevelopment in 2012 and loss of federal funding. Senate Bill 5 allows local governments to collaborate on state-approved redevelopment plans, which would be funded by reduced contributions to local Education Revenue Augmentation Funds (ERAFs), awarded to state-approved projects.

This bill restores and provides resources to communities to help build transit-oriented development, affordable housing, repair infrastructure, and revitalize our neighborhoods and downtowns.

Senate Bill 5 provides timely and on-going funding for affordable housing projects to give economic relief for working families while also creating good-paying construction jobs in communities throughout our state. By funding infrastructure, as well as housing, SB 5 helps alleviate concerns raised in local communities about the impacts new housing will have on already overtaxed infrastructure.

We also appreciate the efforts to include accountability and oversight to ensure the development of housing for Californians at all income levels. The bill also clearly safeguards funding for education by requiring a state funding backfill.

For these reasons, we respectfully SUPPORT SB 5.
Honorable Jim Beall
SB 5
2 of 2

Please feel free to contact Casey Fromson, Director of Government and Community Affairs, at (650) 508-6493 or via email at fromsonc@samtrans.com if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Jim Hartnett
General Manager/Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director

cc: Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board of Directors
    San Mateo County Transit District Board of Directors
    San Mateo County Transportation Authority Board of Directors
    Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers State Legislative Delegation
    San Mateo County Transit District Legislative Delegation
    San Mateo County Transportation Authority Legislative Delegation