

Our Neighborhood Voices Initiative

APRIL 2023

Our
Neighborhood
Voices

California's Land Use Policy is Broken!

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Multi-year legislative effort to eliminate local democracy regarding housing and land use

- ▶ Increase density under guise of need for “affordable housing” with little to no affordability requirements or funding
- ▶ Eliminates environmental review and community input
- ▶ Puts developers and big real estate in charge of what gets built and where it gets built
- ▶ Long-term goal to eliminate single family zoning, even though this is the type of housing preferred by a huge majority of residents

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Trickle-Down Housing Doesn't Work!

- ▶ Massive underproduction of low & moderate income housing by elimination of most Federal and State funding for past 10-15 years
- ▶ “Densification” does not increase affordability
- ▶ Happening in tandem with huge increase in institutional investment in single family housing
- ▶ **Disparate impact on communities of color & middle class**
- ▶ **Massive transfer of wealth from Main Street to Wall Street**
- ▶ **No due process or equal protection, and no affordability!**
- ▶ **Locks people out of and destroys dream of single-family home**

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California politicians are eliminating local democracy

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State policies are eliminating local democracy, in order to solve the real affordable housing crisis.

Their ENDGAME emerged on Feb. 13 by Senator Wiener:

- ▶ 3 existing state laws and new SB 423 will interact with California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for all cities/counties Housing Elements at middle of 6th cycle

Sen. Scott Wiener introduced SB 423 which will eliminate local control across the State of California halfway through the 6th RHNA cycle

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2023: Builder's Remedy Projects

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If a city or county does not have a 'substantially compliant' housing element, **this 20-year-old law allows ANY PROJECT of ANY SIZE at ANY LOCATION**

Santa Monica got hit with 12 projects, totaling 4000 units, just a few days before adopting their Housing Element!

YIMBY Law is offering to fund project proposals under Builders Remedy and is suing many cities.

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100% Affordable Housing Exemption!

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- ▶ We are **FOR 100% affordable housing**
- ▶ Our initiative will allow for streamlining for:
 - ▶ 100% affordable housing, with 80% AMI or less
 - ▶ Only in areas that your CITY allows them (what works for YOUR city!)
 - ▶ Complies with Objective Design Standards
 - ▶ Prevailing wage for workers
 - ▶ Skilled and trained workforce

Very important for farmworker housing, homeless shelters, other supportive housing for many groups.

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Builder's Remedy Projects

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One 90-unit BR project in Santa Monica



One 20-unit BR project in Los Altos Hills on a 2-acre parcel in a single-family home neighborhood



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One 85-unit BR project in Mountain View on a 1/2-acre parcel where a single-family home now exists

What is the Initiative?

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The “Our Neighborhood Voices” Initiative is working to qualify a Constitutional Amendment for the 2024 ballot. The initiative will allow **local laws to prevail** over state laws when a conflict exists for land use and zoning laws.

- ▶ **Immediately** after adoption:
 - ▶ allows communities to choose to adopt state laws on land use and zoning, or not
 - ▶ allows cities to pick and choose zoning and land use laws that work for their communities
- ▶ With support from: Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), California Contract Cities, South Bay Council of Governments, hundreds of community leaders and elected officials and **more than 50,000 California residents from all over our state.**

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Who Supports the Initiative?

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- ▶ 36 individual cities have signed resolutions
- ▶ SCAG, the Southern California Association of Governments, with 191 cities in Southern California
- ▶ California Contract Cities with 80 cities
- ▶ South Bay Council of Governments with 16 cities
- ▶ Over 200+ individual City and County Leaders
- ▶ Over 50,000 individual residents
- ▶ With support from: Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), California Contract Cities, South Bay Council of Governments, hundreds of community leaders and elected officials and **more than 50,000 California residents from all over our state.**

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How does the Initiative Poll?

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- Problemsky Research shows STRONG support (~65%) and we only need 50% to win!

Question: This year the California legislature voted to strip local communities of their role in deciding how some residential homes and apartments are built and located. Under new laws, developers can build as many as 6 units on a single residential lot, and neighbors and local elected officials have no say in the matter. The legislators who supported removing local decisions about land use say it will make more housing available in places where it is needed. Opponents say we don't need to take away local land use authority to build more affordable housing. A statewide initiative seeks to restore powers taken away by the legislature to make local land use decisions.

**IF THE ELECTION WERE HELD TODAY,
HOW WOULD YOU VOTE?**

65% Vote Yes on a Statewide Initiative to Restore Local Land Use Powers Taken by the Legislature

64.8%

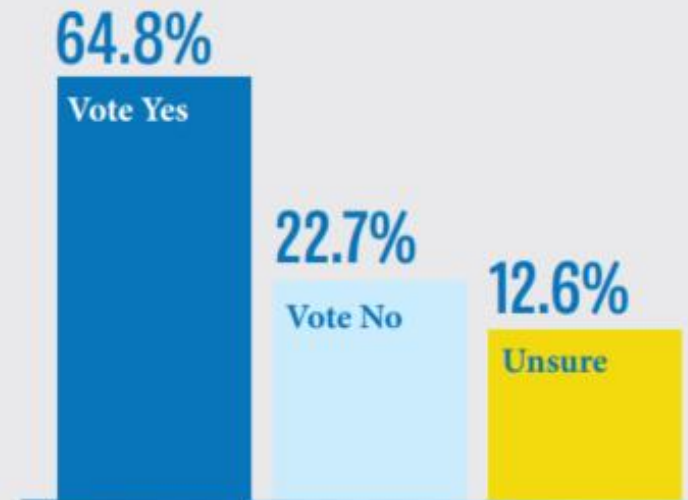
Vote Yes

22.7%

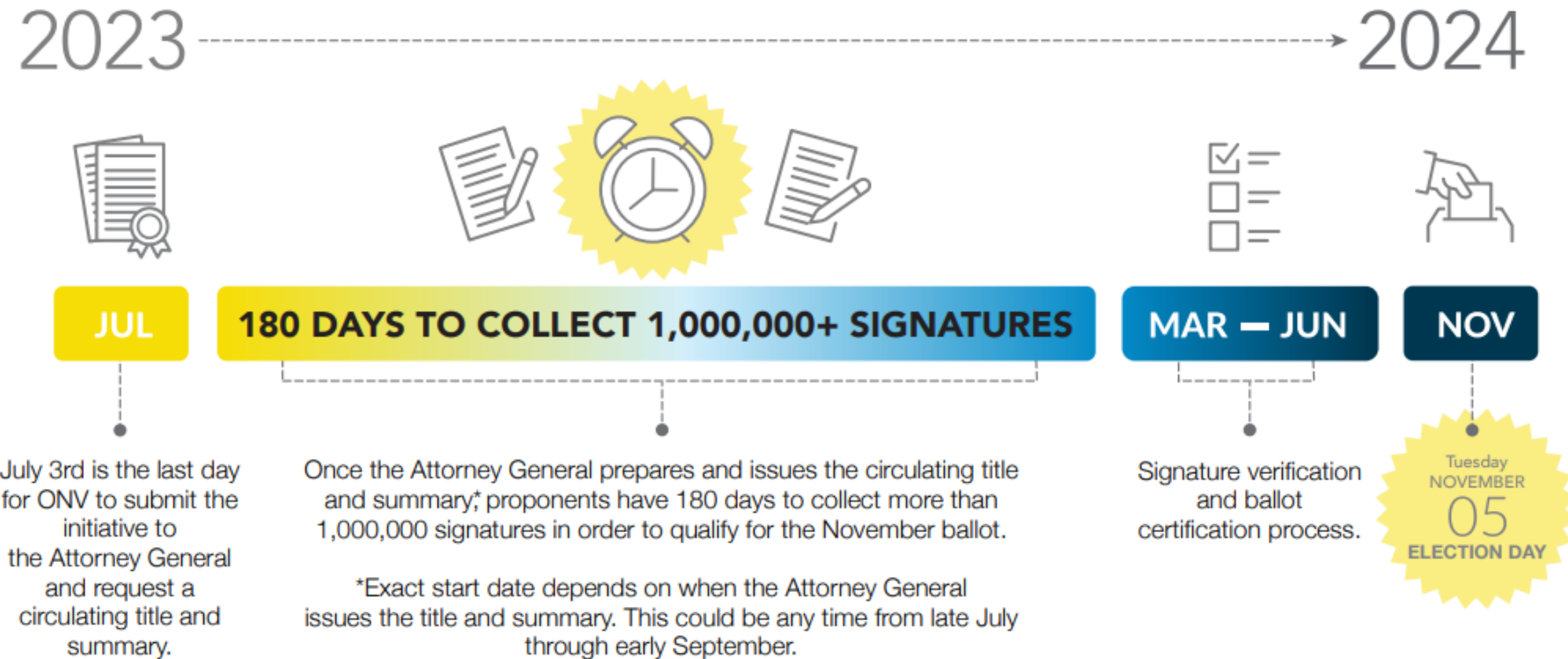
Vote No

12.6%

Unsure



2024 Ballot Initiative Signature Collection Timeline



Wiener's YIMBY Consequences: 55-story skyscraper in residential Outer Sunset



EXCLUSIVE: Skyscraper Proposed For 2700 Sloat Boulevard In Outer Sunset, San Francisco



"It's a distraction from the housing work that we're doing. I don't think they're relying on any housing law that I've authored as a legislator. I think they are relying on the state-density bonus law which has been around for 40 years,"
— Sen. Scott Wiener.

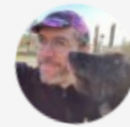


Jon @JTomaz12 · Apr 17

Replying to @SonjaTrauss

Just voted yes. Let's pump up these numbers #housing Twitter.

#YIMBY @cayimby @SFyimby @penforeveryone



Brian Hanlon @hanlonbt · Apr 13

It's so beautiful 🥰

Wiener, the Yimbys, and the 50-story tower

An ambitious politician is backing away from the Yimby position in the face of a project that is going to be deeply unpopular.

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Join Our Neighborhood Voices!

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- ▶ Statewide coalition of local electeds, affordable housing advocates and community activists qualifying a constitutional amendment in 2024

We need your help to spread the word, educate your neighbors, raise \$\$\$ and get ready to collect signatures later in 2023!

*Help us fight for **YOUR** community:*
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This could be where we are headed –
unless we **stand together and fight back!**

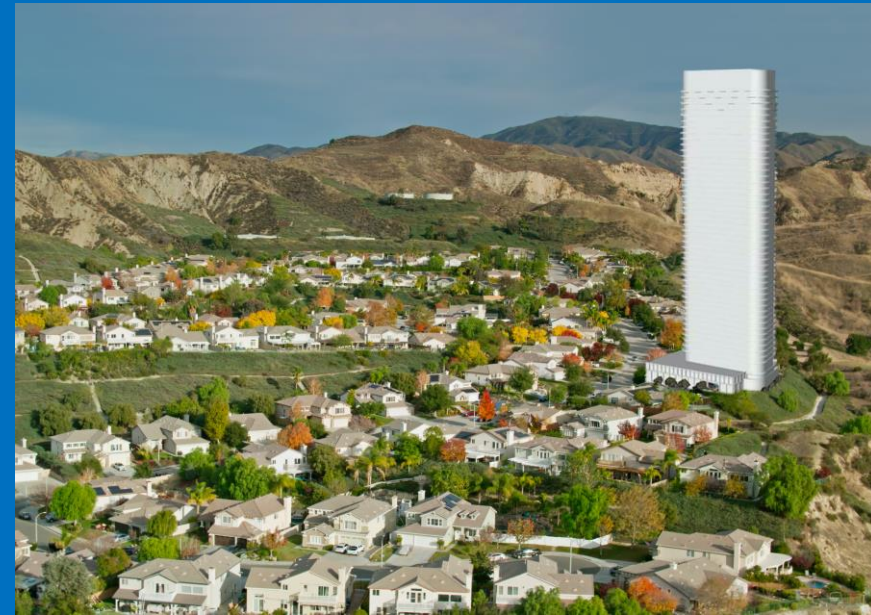


San Diego

**EXCLUSIVE: Skyscraper Proposed For 2700
Sloat Boulevard In Outer Sunset, San Francisco**



San Francisco



Los Angeles

**How much is it worth to you to determine
what happens in your city?**

Join Our Coalition Today!

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Picture from house parties
John may have pictures
List of endorsers?
Bill might have some too!

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**All Political Power
Resides in the People!**

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JOIN US and Donate!



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