



Westside
Regional
Alliance of
Councils

westsidecouncils.com

Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council
Brentwood Community Council
Del Rey Neighborhood Council
Mar Vista Community Council
Neighborhood Council of Westchester-Playa
North Westwood Neighborhood Council
Pacific Palisades Community Council

Palms Neighborhood Council
South Robertson Neighborhoods Council
Venice Neighborhood Council
West LA-Sawtelle Neighborhood Council
Westside Neighborhood Council
Westwood Community Council
Westwood Neighborhood Council

August 22, 2025

To: Governor Gavin Newsom; Senators Ben Allen and Lola Smallwood Cuevas; Assemblymembers Isaac Bryan, Jacqui Irwin, Tina McKinnor and Rick Chavez Zbur; Mayor Karen Bass; Councilmembers Heather Hutt, Traci Park, Nithya Raman and Katy Yaroslavsky

Via email to all the above (to the Governor via his Deputy Regional Director Vishesh Anand)

Re: WRAC Opposes Legislation Mandating Housing Density Streamlining Without Clear Funding Mechanisms (including SB 79)

Honorable Governor, Senators, Assemblymembers, Mayor and Councilmembers:

As you know, the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) is a cooperative coalition, founded in 2009, of all fourteen neighborhood and community councils on the Westside of Los Angeles, located in State Senate Districts 24 and 28; State Assembly Districts 55, 42, 61 and 51; and City Council Districts 5 and 11 and portions of Districts 4 and 10. Collectively, WRAC represents over 500,000 Angelenos.

WRAC has long opposed statewide housing density legislative mandates that erode local zoning control and fail to protect the public safety of constituents. Our members have become increasingly concerned about the burden that such legislation places on local government, by straining existing infrastructure and funding resources and failing to provide funding mechanisms to support the resulting impacts on cities.

We now write to you, as the state and city officials who represent WRAC Member Councils, to advise you of the following position adopted by more than a majority of our councils:

"The State of California has enacted a series of housing-related bills aimed at increasing residential density in cities and municipalities statewide, including SB 9, SB 10, and others. While the stated intent of these bills is to address the statewide housing crisis, mentation of these measures often places significant burdens on local government without providing the necessary infrastructure, services, or fiscal support. These mandates frequently override local planning authority, diminish the ability of cities to tailor land use to their unique needs and capacities, and strain existing infrastructure and funding resources.

"The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) therefore:

"1) requests that our elected state officials take steps to initiate a pause on all enacted legislation that provides for statewide housing density and/or streamlining mandates, unless and until clear funding mechanisms are identified and enacted to accompany the legislation, in order to support the resulting impact on infrastructure, public safety, and municipal services;
and

"2) opposes any pending and future legislation that proposes statewide housing density and/or streamlining mandates, unless clear funding mechanisms are identified to accompany any such

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bills, in order to support the resulting impact on infrastructure, public safety, and municipal services.

"The imposition of increased density — without accompanying state funding or resources allocation — exacerbates existing challenges, particularly in areas vulnerable to wildfire, evacuation constraints, and other environmental or geographic hazards, such as the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone, Flood Zones or other environmentally sensitive locations as determined by local governments throughout the state."

The above motion, or modified versions in keeping with its spirit, has been passed by the following nine WRAC Member Councils: Bel Air-Beverly Crest NC, Brentwood CC,* Mar Vista CC,* Pacific Palisades CC,* South Robertson Neighborhoods Council,* West LA-Sawtelle NC, Westside NC, Westwood CC, Westwood NC (*modified versions). No WRAC Member Councils have opposed this motion.

We therefore respectfully request that steps be taken by our state officials to place a pause on all enacted legislation that provides for statewide housing density or streamlining mandates until clear funding mechanisms are enacted to accompany such legislation.

We further oppose all pending and future legislation – including SB 79¹ – unless clear funding mechanisms are identified to accompany the bills, to support the resulting impact on infrastructure, public safety, and municipal services.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Robin Greenberg and Christina Spitz

Robin Greenberg, Chair

Christina Spitz, Vice-Chair

Westside Regional Alliance of Councils

cc (via email):

Hon. Hydee Feldstein-Soto, Los Angeles City Attorney

¹See WRAC's letter to the Assembly opposing SB 79:

<https://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/WRAC-letter-Assembly-Rules-re-SB-79.pdf>. Since this letter was written, 3 more councils have passed motions expressly opposing SB79, for a total of 12 WRAC councils specifically opposed to the bill.

We further note that the **Los Angeles City Council has voted to add opposition to SB 79** to its state legislative agenda, unless amended to exclude municipalities with a state-approved and compliant Housing Element (such as Los Angeles); action final on 8/20/25. See the Resolution adopted by the City Council: https://cityclerk.lacity.org/online/docs/2025/25-0002-S19_misc_03-28-25.pdf.