March 15, 2017

The Honorable Scott Wiener
State Capitol, Room 4066
Sacramento, CA 95814-4900


Dear Senator Wiener,

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I regretfully write to you in OPPOSITION to SB 35 (Wiener) as this legislation would strip local governments of important, longstanding authorities to maintain oversight and approval processes of infill developments.

Specifically, SB 35 (Wiener) would require infill housing developments with certain features to be subject to a ministerial approval process. These developments would also be exempt from obtaining a conditional use permit.

The City of Beverly Hills has long supported the preservation of local control, as localities are best suited to aptly address the needs of local constituents. The “streamlined” approach in this legislation would limit public input and we strongly feel that public engagement often leads to better projects. This proposal preempts local discretionary land use authority and prevents municipalities like ours from best serving our communities.

For these reasons, the City of Beverly Hills OPPOSES SB 35 (Wiener). Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John A. Mirisch
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

cc: The Honorable John Moorlach, 37th Senate District
    The Honorable Richard Bloom, 50th Assembly District
    The Honorable Ben Allen, 26th Senate District
    Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw / Yoder / Antwih, Inc.