July 1, 2020

The Honorable Richard Bloom
California State Assembly, 50th District
State Capitol, Room 2003
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 74 (Mitchell) Budget Act of 2020- CARES Act Funding

Dear Assembly Member Bloom,

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I write to you to thank you for voting in support of SB 74 (Mitchell), Budget Act of 2020, which increased the state’s CARES Act funding allocation to cities to $500 million and established a floor allocation of $50,000 per city.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, cities have been coordinating across jurisdictional lines; enacting emergency measures to slow the spread of the coronavirus; taking action to protect individuals and small businesses; and incurring significant unplanned expenses to protect public health and the economy. These actions have saved lives and serve as a model for the rest of country as California leads the way in its response to the pandemic.

The City of Beverly Hills appreciates the Legislature’s recognition that cities big and small throughout the state are experiencing severe budget shortfalls due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This increase in CARES Act funding allocated to cities will help each jurisdiction recover faster from the economic fallout due to the pandemic. It will also allow cities to reopen their community without furthering city revenue shortfalls and threatening core city services. If this proposed allocation is approved, the City of Beverly Hills will receive approximately $425,383 in support of our COVID-19 efforts, which has included extended hours for public safety, assisting our community, and operating our City Hall remotely in order to provide key services to our community.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring cities throughout the State of California, have the much needed CARES Act dollars to offset expenses incurred while fighting the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sincerely,

Lester J. Friedman
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills