



## CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE ▪ BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

Julian A. Gold, M.D., Mayor

July 12, 2023

The Honorable Buffy Wicks  
Chair, Assembly Committee on Housing and Community Development  
1020 N Street, Suite 156  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 747 (Caballero) Surplus Land Act; Exemptions; Leases  
City of Beverly Hills – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Wicks:

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I write to you in SUPPORT of SB 747 (Caballero). This bill, with its meaningful reforms to the Surplus Land Act (SLA) and the Economic Opportunity Law (EOL), presents an opportunity to catalyze local economic growth and address the critical need for housing in our community.

The revisions by SB 747 to the SLA are particularly encouraging, including the introduction of an alternative set of provisions under the EOL, allowing cities and counties more flexibility to manage their property. Furthermore, by expanding the definition of "exempt surplus land" and modifying SLA procedures, SB 747 gives local agencies the necessary flexibility to utilize land for maximum community benefit, while still maintaining strong protections for affordable housing.

The additional categories of land introduced under SB 747, including lands used for joint developments between transit operators and public agencies, lands purchased with federal funds, and lands transferred to a community land trust under specified conditions, provide our City with more opportunities to develop meaningful projects which serve the public interest.

SB 747 also proposes critical modifications to the existing definitions and procedures in the SLA, including expanding the exemption for smaller parcels not contiguous to state or local agency-owned land and removing the requirement for certain affordable housing projects to be put out for open, competitive bids. These changes will streamline the land disposal process, reduce bureaucratic barriers, and foster expedited development, all of which align with our City's vision for sustainable and balanced growth.

Additionally, the expansion of the definition of "agency's use" to include land planned for transit or transit-oriented development; broadband equipment or wireless facilities; and

buffer sites near waste disposal sites could help our City address a broader range of community needs. The clarity provided by this legislation will empower local agencies to make the best use of surplus land and strengthen our ability to address pressing issues such as housing, infrastructure development, and climate resilience.

The changes proposed by SB 747 offer the City of Beverly Hills a clear framework for property management that is comprehensive, flexible, and focused on the needs of our community. For these reasons, the City of Beverly Hills SUPPORTS SB 747 (Caballero).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julian A. Gold".

Julian A. Gold, M.D.  
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

cc: The Honorable Anna Caballero, Senator, 14th District  
The Honorable Ben Allen, Senator, 24th District  
The Honorable Rick Zbur, Assemblymember, 51st District  
Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange