Dear Senator Newman,

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I write to inform you that our city has adopted a position of SUPPORT for SB 991 (Newman). This bill would authorize, until January 1, 2029, local water agencies to use the progressive design-build method of project delivery for specified projects over $5 million.

Progressive design build integrates both the design and construction phases to optimize innovation, speed, quality control, and single-point accountability. This early collaboration benefits the public agency owner by providing the opportunity to add the design-build team to the overall project team early in the design phase affording the public agency owner and the design build team more opportunities to collaborate during the project’s design phase. Early collaboration is key to reducing project risk, cost, and schedule.

Existing law limits the use of design-build by cities to construction/improvements of buildings, parks and recreational facilities, along with wastewater facilities, solid waste management facilities, or water recycling facilities. This bill would expand cities’ ability to use design-build for construction water resources facilities and infrastructure.
California is in another cycle of drought. The latest U.S. Drought Monitor update, published in June, showed about 12% of the state is now under “exceptional” drought, the worst possible category, up from 0% just three months ago. The update also showed that more than 97% of the state is under extreme, severe, or exceptional drought, the three worst categories. SB 991 would ensure that progressive design-build is another ‘tool in the toolbox’ that public agency owners could use to deliver water projects assisting local agencies in addressing the state’s critical need for additional water supply and development.

For these reasons, the City of Beverly Hills SUPPORTS SB 991. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lili Bosse
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

Cc: The Honorable Ben Allen, Senator, 26th District
    The Honorable Richard Bloom, Assemblymember, 50th District
    Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange