May 12, 2021

The Honorable Ben Allen  
California State Senate, 26th District  
State Capitol, Room 4076  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 809 (Allen) – Multijurisdictional regional agreements: housing element  
The City of Beverly Hills – Support

Dear Senator Allen,

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I write to inform you of our support position for your SB 809, which would authorize a local government to satisfy part of its housing requirement by adopting a voluntary, multijurisdictional regional agreement with one or more regional partners.

SB 809 allows for cross-jurisdictional resource sharing to aid housing development and allocate credit for the housing among its partners. Such partnerships could lead to opportunities for local governments to successfully address equity in housing while working in concert with one another to provide opportunities and solutions that reflect the housing elements and general plans of each participating local government, which best reflect the individual nature of that locality.

Our City views housing as a regional issue, not a jurisdictional issue. Creating partnerships with other cities will allow us to work cohesively with our neighboring cities to identify land and develop housing that benefits not only Beverly Hills, but the region.

In addition, we continue to strongly advocate for local control as it relates to local land use and zoning decisions. SB 809 maintains local control and, through this regional approach, provides a vital process to meet state housing and land use goals.
For these reasons, we are pleased to support SB 809, and we look forward to working with your office to ensure its successful passage.

Sincerely,

Robert Wunderlich
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

Cc: Members and Consultants, Senate Housing Committee
    Members and Consultants, Senate Governance and Finance Committee
    The Honorable Richard Bloom, Assemblyman 50th District
    Andrew Antwih, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange