



ANNETTE C. DELGADILLO  
Mayor

PEGGY LEMONS  
Vice Mayor

ISABEL AGUAYO  
Councilmember

BRENDA OLMOS  
Councilmember

VILMA CUELLAR STALLINGS  
Councilmember

September 18, 2024

Governor Gavin Newsom  
1021 O Street, Suite 9000  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 1037 (Wiener) Planning and zoning: housing element: enforcement  
Request for VETO**

Dear Governor Newsom,

The City of Paramount regrettably requests a **veto** on SB 1037 (Wiener), which would allow the Attorney General to take legal action against a city and seek fines up to \$50K each month for failure to adopt a compliant housing element or if the city does not follow state laws that require ministerial approval of certain housing projects.

Under existing law cities can be subject to significant fines and penalties for violating certain housing laws. However, before fines are imposed, a city has the ability to correct the action. Additionally, enhanced fines are not imposed unless the city fails to follow a court order or acts in bad faith.

Unfortunately, as currently drafted, SB 1037 does not provide an opportunity for cities to correct an honest mistake or address a genuine difference in interpreting the law. Even those jurisdictions acting in good faith could be subject to significant fines and be required to pay the Attorney General for all costs investigating and prosecuting the action, including expert witness fees and attorney fees.

SB 1037 relies on increased fines when there is already an array of compliance tools available to the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). Instead, the City of Paramount would prefer cities to have more access to technical assistance for the development and completion of housing elements. Paramount benefited from such assistance at the start of the 6th Cycle, and the assistance helped result in a compliant housing element without delay. Jurisdictions should have increased technical assistance throughout the housing element process, not more punitive actions. Much needed housing construction will follow.

For these reasons, the City of Paramount requests a **veto** on **SB 1037**. Please feel free to contact City Manager John Moreno at (562) 220-2225, if you have any questions. We thank you for your time and consideration.

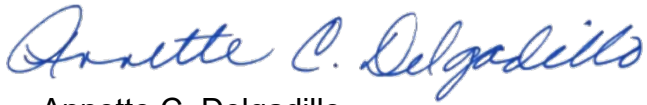
---

*Dedicated to providing fiscally responsible services that maintain a vibrant community.*

16400 Colorado Avenue • Paramount, CA 90723-5012 • Ph: 562-220-2000 • [paramountcity.com](http://paramountcity.com)

[facebook.com/CityofParamount](https://www.facebook.com/CityofParamount) | [instagram.com/paramount\\_posts](https://www.instagram.com/paramount_posts) | [youtube.com/CityofParamount](https://www.youtube.com/CityofParamount)

CITY OF PARAMOUNT



Annette C. Delgadillo  
Mayor

Cc: Honorable Scott Wiener  
Honorable State Senator Lena Gonzalez, 33rd District  
Honorable Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon, 62nd District  
Kristine Guerrero, Public Affairs Director, League of California Cities  
Jorge Morales, Legislative and Governmental Affairs Consultant, California Contract Cities Association