

VILMA CUELLAR STALLINGS
Mayor

ISABEL AGUAYO Vice Mayor

ANNETTE C. DELGADILLO
Councilmember

PEGGY LEMONS Councilmember

BRENDA OLMOS Councilmember

April 5, 2023

The Honorable Anna Caballero State Capitol, Ste. 7620 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SUPPORT FOR SB 747 - LAND USE REFORM TO THE SURPLUS LAND ACT

Dear Senator Caballero:

The City of Paramount is pleased to support SB 747, which contains much needed clarifications and reforms to the Surplus Land Act (SLA) and reaffirms the role of existing Economic Opportunity Law that is used by local agencies to acquire and dispose of property to improve economic opportunities for local residents.

The implementation of the SLA, including recent guidelines by the Housing and Community Development Department (HCD) has created immense delays and difficulties for local government agencies dealing with the use of their properties to further housing and economic development goals in service of their residents. SB 747 addresses these concerns through an array of helpful changes to the SLA, including clarifying that only leases of less than 35 years are subject to the SLA, providing exemptions to assist transit, transit-oriented development, airports, ports and other important agency uses, and avoiding delays for affordable housing developments which comply with the SLA's affordability requirements.

The City of Paramount currently owns a property zoned as Family Residential (R-M) which was formerly utilized as a Firehouse Activity Center. It has been vacant since 2016, and with no real use to the City, Paramount plans to sell the property. Paramount's decision-making process in this project was significantly slowed by the HCD's review under the SLA, however we believe SB 747 will prevent future delays in economic development projects for the City.

Thank you for your leadership in beginning to apply a sharper legislative focus on the application of the SLA to ensure that the administration of the law remains consistent with legislative intent and avoids unintended delays or conflicts with other laws and policy priorities the Legislature has enacted- including actions to support and further economic development.

For these reasons, the City of Paramount is pleased to support SB 747. Please feel free to contact City Manager, John Moreno at (562) 220-2225, whenever needed. On behalf of the City of Paramount, we thank you for your efforts in this matter.

CITY OF PARAMOUNT

Vilma Cuellar Stallings

Mayor

CC. Honorable State Senator Lena Gonzalez, 33rd District
Honorable Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon, 62nd District
Kristine Guerrero, Regional Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities
Jorge Morales, Legislative and Governmental Affairs Consultant, California Contract Cities
Association