



November 30, 2020

The Honorable Rex Richardson
President
Southern California Association of Governments
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700
Los Angeles, CA 90017

SUBJECT: City of Irvine Support for Request to Convene a Special Closed Meeting of the SCAG Regional Council to Discuss the Recommendations of the SCAG RHNA Litigation Study Team

President Richardson:

We have been monitoring the information and discussions that have been raised by jurisdictions, on whether the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) followed housing law in issuing a housing need of 1.34 million units to the Southern California Association of Governments region. This was an issue that was raised by SCAG staff in its own September 18, 2019 objection letter to HCD, and a reason why SCAG initially established and convened meetings of a SCAG Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) Litigation Committee back in late 2019. At that time, it was reported that no litigation would be pursued.

Since that time, and at the request of SCAG RHNA Subcommittee Chair Peggy Huang, I understand that you reconvened the SCAG RHNA Litigation Study Team, and further, that a meeting was held on November 2, 2020 to continue discussions on the issue. You reported out at the November 4, 2020 SCAG Executive/Administration Committee meeting and the November 5, 2020 SCAG Regional Council meeting, that there was a general consensus of the RHNA Litigation Committee that SCAG not pursue any litigation actions against HCD.

At the November 5, 2020 Regional Council meeting, two Regional Council members asked if a special closed session of the SCAG Regional Council could be scheduled, to further discuss the recommendation of the RHNA Litigation Study Team and receive the information that was presented to the RHNA Litigation Study Team. You responded that you needed to hear from a cross-section of members and be respectful of all

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viewpoints, to see if there are any concerns with the recommendation of the RHNA Litigation Committee.

The City of Irvine is responding to your outreach. We support the request that the SCAG Regional Council conduct a special closed meeting to discuss the RHNA Litigation Study Team's recommendation. As a SCAG member jurisdiction, we feel this discussion has direct relevance to our jurisdiction and our RHNA allocation, and merits the additional consideration and recommendation of the Regional Council. We hope that this special meeting can be convened immediately.

Sincerely,



Christina L. Shea
Mayor
City of Irvine

cc: Irvine City Council
Marianna Marysheva, Interim City Manager
Michelle Grettenberg, Assistant City Manager
Pete Carmichael, Director of Community Development
Tim Gehrich, Deputy Director of Community Development
Kerwin Lau, Manager of Planning Services
Marika Poynter, Principal Planner
Kome Ajise, SCAG Executive Director
Marnie Primmer, Executive Director, Orange County Council of Governments