



November 17, 2020

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

SUBJECT: City of Laguna Beach Support for Request to Convene a Special Closed Meeting of the SCAG Regional Council to Discuss the Recommendations of the SCAG RHNA Litigation Committee

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 SCAG 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 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, we understand that you reconvened the SCAG RHNA Litigation Committee, 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 consensus of the RHNA Litigation Committee that SCAG does 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 Committee and receive the information that was presented to the RHNA Litigation Committee. You responded that you needed to hear from a cross-section of members and be respectful of all viewpoints, to see if there are any concerns with the recommendation of the RHNA Litigation Committee.

The City of Laguna Beach is responding to your outreach. We support the request that the SCAG Regional Council conduct a special closed meeting to discuss the RHNA Litigation Committee'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



The Honorable Rex Richardson
November 17, 2020
Page 2

recommendation of the Regional Council. We hope that this special meeting can be convened immediately.

Sincerely,



Bob Whalen
Mayor
City of Laguna Beach

cc: Kome Ajise, SCAG Executive Director
SCAG RC District 12 Representative Fred Minagar, City of Laguna Niguel
Marnie Primmer, Executive Director, OCCOG