



December 1, 2020

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

RE: Request to Convene a Special Meeting of the SCAG Regional Council to Consider the Information and Recommendations of the SCAG President's RHNA Litigation Study Team

Dear President Richardson,

Thank you for honoring our September 18, 2020 request (attached) and reconvening a closed meeting of the SCAG RHNA Litigation Study Team on November 2, 2020.

The OC Mayor Group requested this meeting to allow the RHNA Litigation Study Team to consider:

- a) whether the State Department of Housing and Community Development (State HCD) failed to follow housing law in calculating the SCAG regional housing need number of 1.34 million units for the 6th cycle RHNA; and,
- b) new 2020 information released after State HCD's October 2019 regional housing determination, which question the accuracy of the 1.34 million housing units assignment and identify significantly lower numbers in the order of 650,000 housing units or less for the SCAG region.

At the 11/05/2020 meeting of the SCAG Regional Council, you reported out that the RHNA Litigation Study Team:

- 1) considered the February 2020 Freddie Mac report; and,
- 2) determined, via a consensus majority, that litigation against State HCD was not the path to pursue, and that other options could be pursued. You also stated that an option is for subregional Councils of Government to separately pursue litigation, if they are so concerned.

Upon hearing your verbal report, our colleagues – City of Mission Viejo Councilmember Wendy Bucknum and City of Anaheim Councilmember Trevor O'Neil – sought clarifying information to understand the recommendation of the RHNA Litigation Study Team.

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Given and respecting the closed session nature of the RHNA Study Team discussions, they requested that a separate meeting of the SCAG Regional Council be convened, to allow the entire Regional Council to receive and discuss the same information that was presented to the SCAG RHNA Litigation Study Team, and thereby better understand the reasoning and factors that led to the Litigation Study Team's recommendation to not pursue litigation. SCAG Executive Director Kome Ajise also clarified that it is the prerogative of the SCAG Regional Council to consider litigation.

We believe our colleagues' request is sensible, worthwhile and deserving of the opportunity for further discussion.

We would therefore respectfully request that a special closed meeting of the SCAG Regional Council be convened, to thoughtfully discuss the recommendation of the SCAG RHNA Litigation Study Team to not pursue litigation, and determine, for the entire SCAG region, the appropriate actions to pursue.

With sincere appreciation,



Harry Sidhu
Mayor
City of Anaheim



Marty Simonoff
Mayor
City of Brea



Katrina Foley
Mayor
City of Costa Mesa



Cheryl Brothers
Mayor
City of Fountain Valley



Jennifer Fitzgerald
Mayor
City of Fullerton



Steven R. Jones
Mayor
City of Garden Grove




Lyn Semeta
Mayor
City of Huntington Beach



Christina Shea
Mayor
City of Irvine



Bob Whalen
Mayor
City of Laguna Beach



Janine Heft
Mayor
City of Laguna Hills



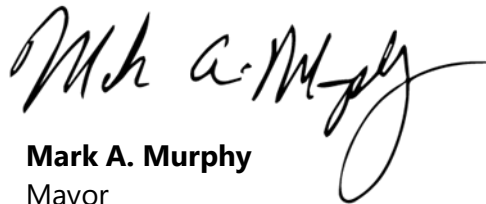
Richard D. Murphy
Mayor
City of Los Alamitos



Brian Goodell
Mayor
City of Mission Viejo



Will O'Neill
Mayor
City of Newport Beach



Mark A. Murphy
Mayor
City of Orange



Ward Smith
Mayor
City of Placentia



Bradley J. McGirr
Mayor
City of Rancho Santa Margarita

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Laura Ferguson
Mayor Pro Tem
City of San Clemente



Miguel A. Pulido
Mayor
City of Santa Ana



Allan Bernstein
Mayor
City of Tustin



Tri Ta
Mayor
City of Westminster



Beth Haney
Mayor
City of Yorba Linda

Enclosure:
Orange County Mayors Letter dated September 18, 2020

cc: Kome Ajise, SCAG Executive Director
Orange County Mayors
Council Member Trevor O'Neil, Chair, OCCOG Board of Directors
Council Member Wendy Bucknum, Vice-Chair, OCCOG Board of Directors
Orange County Representatives on SCAG Policy Committees and Regional Council
Orange County City Managers Association
Marnie O'Brien, OCCOG Executive Director
Nate Farnsworth, OCCOG TAC Chair