



CITY OF LAVERNE CITY HALL

3660 "D" Street, La Verne, California 91750-3599
www.cityoflaverne.org

August 27, 2024

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

Submitted via email
Leg.Unit@gov.ca.gov

RE: Veto Request for Senate Bill 937 (SB 937): Development projects: fees and charges.

Dear Governor Newsom:

I am writing on behalf of the City of La Verne to strongly urge your veto of SB 937. This legislation, which extends housing entitlements by 24 months and defers the payment of development impact fees until a certificate of occupancy is issued, poses serious risks to our city's ability to manage growth and maintain essential services.

Development impact fees are not merely a formality; they are a critical funding source that ensures our infrastructure keeps pace with new developments. These fees are necessary to provide the roads, water systems, and emergency services that our residents rely on. Deferring their collection will delay these essential services, directly impacting the safety and well-being of our community.

Furthermore, the 24-month extension of housing entitlements severely limits our ability to respond to changing circumstances. This extension could force us to adhere to outdated plans that no longer meet the needs of our city or its residents. Such rigidity undermines our local authority and hampers our ability to ensure that developments align with current community priorities.

This bill may be well-intentioned, but it is fundamentally flawed in its approach. It sacrifices local control and fiscal responsibility in favor of short-term expediency. We urge you to veto SB 937 and instead consider alternatives that truly support both affordable housing and the ability of cities to govern effectively.

Sincerely,

Tim Hepburn
Mayor

C: City Council
Ken Domer, City Manager