



CITY OF LA VERNE 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 Assembly Bill 2729 (AB 2729): Development projects: permits and other entitlements: fees and charges.

Dear Governor Newsom:

On behalf of the City of La Verne, I respectfully urge you to veto AB 2729, which significantly restricts local agencies' ability to manage fee collection and maintain local control over residential development projects. This bill undermines local governments by imposing rigid limitations on when and how fees or charges can be collected, particularly by preventing collection earlier than the final inspection or certificate of occupancy in most cases. Such restrictions disregard the diverse needs of our community and hamper our ability to effectively manage development and fund necessary infrastructure projects.

The delayed collection of crucial fees, as mandated by this bill, could impede the timely completion of essential public improvements, placing additional strain on existing resources. The requirement to return fees if construction does not commence within 24 months, combined with the prohibition on charging interest, introduces financial uncertainty that could lead to underfunded infrastructure and public services. Additionally, limiting the collection of utility service fees to only capacity charge connections further restricts our ability to manage and fund essential services, potentially affecting our capacity to meet debt service obligations and maintain fiscal health.

In conclusion, AB 2729 imposes unnecessary restrictions on local agencies, jeopardizing our ability to effectively manage development, fund infrastructure, and maintain the financial stability of our communities. Local governments are best positioned to determine the timing and method of fee collection based on their unique circumstances and needs. For these reasons, I respectfully request that you veto AB 2729.

Sincerely,

Tim Hepburn
Mayor

C: City Council
Ken Domer, City Manager