



CITY OF LA VERNE CITY HALL

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

September 4, 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 98 (AB 98): Planning and zoning: logistics use: truck routes.

Dear Governor Newsom:

I am writing on behalf of the City of La Verne to strongly urge your veto of Assembly Bill 98 (AB 98) if it comes to your desk. This bill represents a significant overreach by the state, imposing burdensome mandates on local governments that undermine our land use authority and place unnecessary financial strain on our communities.

AB 98 restricts the development of new or expanded warehouses within 900 feet of sensitive receptors unless specific state-mandated standards are met. By enforcing a one-size-fits-all approach, AB 98 strips local governments of the flexibility needed to make decisions that are best suited to our unique circumstances.


The bill also mandates costly updates to our circulation elements, requiring cities to account for truck routes, signage, parking, and idling. Cities that fail to comply face fines of \$50,000 every six months from the Attorney General. This punitive approach adds to the financial burdens on local governments already managing limited resources.

Furthermore, AB 98 risks driving away job-creating investments, particularly in regions that rely on economic development opportunities. The bill's rigid standards could also push logistics operations further from population centers, increasing transportation costs and emissions—counterproductive to the bill's intent.

Moreover, the last-minute "gut and amend" process used to push this legislation forward neglects to incorporate input from all relevant parties, including local governments, community stakeholders, and industry representatives. This rushed process has resulted in a bill that fails to appropriately balance the needs of all parties involved. Properly shaping legislation requires collaboration and thoughtful consideration, both of which were absent in the drafting of AB 98.

For these reasons, I urge you to veto AB 98 if it comes to your desk to protect local authority, support economic development, and ensure that legislation of this magnitude is shaped through an inclusive and thoughtful process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Hepburn". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "T".

Tim Hepburn
Mayor

C: City Council
Ken Domer, City Manager