



# CITY OF LA VERNE CITY HALL

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May 13, 2025

Assembly Appropriations Committee  
1021 O Street, Suite 8220  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Submitted via the Legislative Position Letter Portal

**RE: Support to AB 650 (Papan) Planning and zoning: housing element: regional housing needs allocation.**

Dear Honorable Assembly Appropriations Committee Members:

On behalf of the City of La Verne, we express our support for Assembly Bill (AB) 650, which introduces much-needed improvements and clarifications to the Housing Element Law and the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) process.

For local governments like La Verne, this bill represents a significant step toward providing predictability and fairness in the complex and resource-intensive housing planning process. The adjustments proposed by AB 650 will provide cities with earlier notice and clearer guidance in advance of required housing element updates. This additional lead time will allow for more thoughtful and inclusive community planning, improved coordination with regional councils of government (COGs), and a more orderly approach to meeting housing obligations.

AB 650 also adds transparency to the review process by requiring the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to provide specific guidance when determining noncompliance and outlining the steps a city must take to remedy deficiencies. This clarity will reduce uncertainty, help cities avoid costly delays, and enable better allocation of local staff and financial resources.

As a City that strives to meet its housing responsibilities while balancing community needs and maintaining essential services, La Verne appreciates the bill's focus on enhancing collaboration between HCD and local governments. The changes offered by AB 650 will help cities like ours navigate this demanding regulatory landscape more effectively and allow us to plan for housing growth in a realistic and achievable way.

For these reasons, the City of La Verne strongly supports AB 650 and urges its passage. We appreciate your leadership and commitment to providing cities with the tools and flexibility they need to meet housing goals in a fair and reasonable manner.

Sincerely,

Tim Hepburn  
Mayor