



February 6, 2017

The Honorable Toni G. Atkins
Member, California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 4072
Sacramento, CA 95814
Via FAX: (916) 651-4939

RE: Notice of Support SB 2 (Atkins) - Building Homes and Jobs Act

Dear Senator Atkins,

The City of Hayward supports your SB 2, the Building Homes and Jobs Act. This measure would generate hundreds of millions of dollars per year for affordable rental or ownership housing, supportive housing, emergency shelters, transitional housing and other housing needs via a \$75 recordation fee on specified real estate documents.


Cities, including the City of Hayward, are eager to help encourage the construction of affordable housing. However, with the loss of over \$1 billion per year of redevelopment housing funds, most lack the resources to do so. While the timeliness of the environmental review, permitting, and approval processes can always be improved to help reduce costs, affordable housing projects require some form of financial assistance. This measure is a significant step in the right direction.

From 2011-2015, rents in Hayward increased by 33% while prices for single family detached homes increased by 84%. Affordable housing is a scarcity in our City. Bay Area regional housing market conditions have hit hardest at not only our lower income families, but also middle class families who are even struggling to find housing that doesn't require them to pay a majority of their income for rent. As a City where the median household income is only \$62,013, the need for affordable housing is dire and immediate.

SB 2 would provide an ongoing, permanent state source of funding for much needed affordable housing projects.

For these reasons, the City of Hayward **supports** SB 2.

Sincerely,


Barbara Halliday
Mayor

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Senator Bob Wieckowski, 10th District
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