

August 26, 2021

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor State of California  
State Capitol, First Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 9 (Atkins) – Increased Density in Single-Family Zones – OPPOSE**

Dear Governor Newsom:

On behalf of the City of Carson, we are writing to express the City's adamant opposition to SB 9 by Senate President Pro-Tem Atkins and request that you take a **public position in opposition to SB 9 prior to September 14.**

This bill mandates ministerial approval for proposed housing developments that would result in up to six, potentially more, dwelling units on single-family lots where currently only one dwelling unit exists, and it would require cities to ministerially permit the development of a duplex or subdivision of a parcel into two equal parcels (minimum lot size of 1,200 square feet).

No environmental review is allowed to assess and to try to mitigate the potential negative impacts of such developments on local communities. SB 9 is a top down, one-size-fits-all approach that will create unintended consequences on the resources of local communities, or worse, if a local community is not in a position to study or mitigate certain impacts, it can create public health and safety concerns in local communities.

We understand and appreciate California's housing crisis and we welcome the opportunity to partner with the State to address housing needs for all Californians, but SB 9 is not the solution. It will have grave unintended consequences and does not address the need for more affordable units. SB 9 continues a one-size-fits-all approach to the housing crisis by circumventing local control and the ability of residents to plan for and shape the future of their community. This bill will encourage large-scale investors and builders to exploit SB 9 provisions.

Lastly, SB 9 will reduce the housing choices that are available within our communities. Local jurisdictions should be allowed to determine the appropriate mix of housing solutions and location that are right for their communities, which may include single-family housing. State-driven

ministerial or by-right housing approval processes fail to recognize the extensive public engagement associated with developing and adopting zoning ordinances and housing elements that are certified by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD).

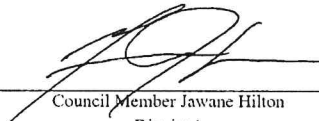
Again, the City is mindful that housing affordability and homelessness are among the most critical issues facing California cities. We are committed to being part of the solution to the housing shortfall across all income levels. We also recognize that any effort to increase housing production must take into consideration local needs and the City's ability to plan for and accommodate higher density residential development that fits within the fabric of our community.

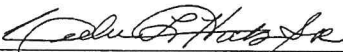
Please know the city of Carson desires to work collaboratively to spur much needed housing construction in a way that effectively considers all factors, needs and community engagement. For these reasons, the City of Carson respectfully requests your timely, public opposition to and intention to veto SB 9 prior to September 14th.

Sincerely,

  
Mayor Lula Davis-Holmes

  
Mayor Pro-Tem Jim Dear

  
Council Member Jawane Hilton  
District 1

  
Council Member Cedric L. Hicks, Sr.  
District 3

VACANT  
Council Member