

Claudia Bill-de la Peña
Mayor

April 27, 2021

The Honorable Scott Wiener
Chair, Senate Housing Committee
State Capitol Building, Room 5100
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 8 (SKINNER) HOUSING CRISIS ACT OF 2019
NOTICE OF OPPOSITION (AS AMENDED 3/18/21)

Dear Chair Wiener:

The City of Thousand Oaks must respectfully oppose SB 8. This bill would extend the sunset date for the Housing Crisis Act of 2019 from 2025 to 2030. The Housing Crisis Act (SB 330) was signed into law and enacted by the Governor in 2020. This law declared a statewide housing crisis and froze nearly all development related fees when a developer submits a “preliminary” application, including essential project specific fees until 2025.

While this law has only been in effect for the last year, SB 8 is pre-mature. To extend the sunset date for another five years to ten years without any demonstrated proof that more housing has developed is simply too soon. Many cities, including the City of Thousand Oaks are in the process of amending their General Plan and updating their Housing Element which will open greater opportunities for housing. SB 8 does not give adequate time to allow new zoning opportunities to emerge. Extending the sunset date should only be considered after greater analysis and data collection is made for the first five-year cycle, when new Housing Elements are in effect to determine if the Housing Crisis Act of 2019 made a significant difference in producing additional housing.

SB 8 now also expands the definition of “housing development project” to include both discretionary and ministerial projects, as well as projects to construct single dwelling units. This bill now applies to housing projects of any size. SB 330 only designated housing projects to mean:

- (A) Residential units only.
- (B) Mixed-use developments consisting of residential and nonresidential uses with at least two-thirds of the square footage designated for residential use.
- (C) Transitional housing or supportive housing.

More time should be given to tract data on the results of SB 330 as more General Plans are in the process of adoption next year. SB 8 is simply too soon.

For the reasons stated above, the City of Thousand Oaks opposes SB 8.

Sincerely,



Claudia Bill-de la Peña
Mayor

cc: Honorable Nancy Skinner
Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin
Senator Henry Stern
David Mullinax- Regional Public Affairs Manager, dmullinax@cacities.org
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Joe A. Gonsalves and Son

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