



DISCUSSION ITEMS

Agenda Item # 9

AGENDA REPORT SUMMARY

Meeting Date: May 26, 2020

Subject: Legislative Update

Prepared by: Chris Jordan, City Manager

Attachment(s):
None

Initiated by:
City Council

Previous Council Consideration:

Fiscal Impact:
Not Applicable

Environmental Review:
Not applicable

Policy Question(s) for Council Consideration:

- N/A

Summary:

- At its meeting of April 28, the City Council directed this subject be added to the May 12 agenda
- Councilmembers plan to discuss the City's position and possible responses to pending State and Federal legislation

Recommended Motion:

Discuss pending legislation and direct staff accordingly.

City Manager

CJ

Reviewed By:

City Attorney

JH

Finance Director

SE

Regular Meeting
May 26, 2020
Los Altos City Council

Item #9

The Legislative Committee will propose two things:

1. A general letter to our Legislative representatives regarding housing legislation. (specific points to be covered by the committee during presentation discussion).
2. A letter to HCD, copy to and separate letter to MTC and ABAG, regarding delaying the RHNA process. Draft of letter to HCD below:

Gustavo Velasquez, Director
Department of Housing and Community Development
2020 West El Camino Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95833

Dear Director Velasquez:

We write to convey our concerns with the timeline for the State to provide bulk allocations to the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) as part of the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) process. We recognize that the Department of Housing and Community Development has recently delayed the release of the allocation from April to sometime this summer. However, the full impact of COVID-19 on State and local economies will likely not be fully identified until later this year. Any projections regarding growth should be paused until a clearer picture of the economy emerges.

The Department of Finance (DoF), which provides key demographic data to HCD, is understandably prioritizing the impact of unemployment and other effects on the State budget. We urge HCD, in conjunction with DoF, to consider a significantly later release of the RHNA allocations, so that projections of future population and jobs truly reflects the full impact on our local economies. If the current timeline proceeds, then the number should be reviewed next year and revised accordingly.

Sincerely,

Cc: Keely Martin Bosler, Director, Department of Finance
Therese Watkins McMillan, Executive Director, Association of Bay Area Governments
Senator Jerry Hill, 13th Senate District
Assemblymember Marc Berman, 24th Assembly District