



Meeting Date: 05 / 01 / 07

| ACTION   | TYPE OF ITEM   |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Approved Recommendation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Info/Consent       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ord. No(s). _____       | <input type="checkbox"/> Report                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Res. No(s). _____       | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing (Info/consent) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____             | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____                   |

Prepared By: Martin R. Erickson Agenda Item No. I-2  
 Reviewed By: City Manager [Signature] City Attorney [Signature] Finance SW Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** April 22, 2007  
**TO:** City Council  
**FROM:** Martin R. Erickson, Legislative Affairs Manager

**SUBJECT:** Opposition to SB 303 (Ducheny) Local Government, Housing; support of AB 1233 (Galgiani) State Library, homework assistance.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That City Council:

1. Execute a letter of opposition to SB 303 (Ducheny)
2. Execute a letter support to AB 1233 (Galgiani)

**DISCUSSION**

Staff monitors legislation at all levels of government on an ongoing basis. It is recommended that City Council take action on the following bills:

Opposition to SB 303 (Ducheny): The League of California Cities is encouraging all member cities to oppose SB 303 (Ducheny) in its present form as it would make major changes to land use practices in California. This bill mirrors last year's SB 1800, which was opposed by the League. City Planning staff has also reviewed this legislation and recommends opposition.

SB 303 doubles the planning period (from 5 to 10 years) for the regional housing needs allocation (RHNA). At the same time, it requires local agencies to pre-zone their housing need for the entire 10 year period. Moreover, it would require that every single site be analyzed to ensure that the size, configuration, use, physical and environmental characteristics, adjacent uses, market demand, and infrastructure will "realistically accommodate" the planned density of the parcel.

Support of AB 1233 (Galgiani): This legislation would provide for \$3 million to be distributed through the California State Library to libraries throughout the state for live on-line tutoring assistance (*Live Homework Help*). This is a service which is currently funded through the City of Oxnard's library budget. *Live Homework Help* is available daily from 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week for assistance in math, science, and English and 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday from a computer in the library. Spanish -language tutoring is available for math and science.

With the recent grand opening of the South Oxnard Branch Library, *Live Homework Help* is another valuable service provided to Oxnard's youth. City of Oxnard library staff has reviewed this request and support this legislation.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

There is no financial impact at this time as these items involve pending state legislation.

Attachment #1 Letter in opposition to SB 303 (Ducheny).

Attachment #2 Letter in support of AB 1233 (Galgiani).

May 1, 2007

The Honorable Sheila Kuehl  
State Senator, 23rd District  
State Capitol, Room 5108  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Opposition to SB 303 (Ducheny) Local Government, Housing**

Dear Senator Kuehl:

The City Council of the City of Oxnard encourages you to oppose SB 303 and urge your "No" vote. Oxnard's population of nearly 200,000 residents represents one-quarter of Ventura County's population, and this bill would negatively impact the City's residents.

It is interesting to note that the 1962 City of Oxnard General Plan contained a population projection of nearly 800,000 residents, and the 1979 General Plan contained a projection of over 500,000 residents. Both plans were prepared by expert planning consultants, and it reminds us that population projections are not sacrosanct. SB 303 is, in essence, mandated planning to population projections, which are inherently speculative.

SB 303 doubles the planning period (from 5 to 10 years) for the regional housing needs allocation (RHNA). At the same time, it requires local agencies to pre-zone their housing need for the entire 10 year period. Moreover, it would require that every single site be analyzed to ensure that the size, configuration, use, physical and environmental characteristics, adjacent uses, market demand, and infrastructure will "*realistically accommodate*" the planned density of the parcel.

The City of Oxnard has been recognized for its efforts to provide affordable housing, which is an especially challenging issue in Ventura County where the median home price exceeds \$600,000. SB 303 fails to specifically address the need for affordable housing and ignores competing state policies for resource management.

While this bill may be well-intended, it applies a flawed approach that fails to appreciate the spectrum of issues that affect land availability. Local governments do not need more state mandates; they need more funding tools to assist with the development of infrastructure in infill areas and the production of affordable units.

Letter of Opposition to SB 303 (Ducheny)

May 1, 2007

Page 2 of 2.

We thank you for taking into account our serious concerns on this measure. Please do not hesitate to contact Martin R. Erickson, Legislative Affairs Manager at (805) 385-7870 should you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Thomas E. Holden  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dean Maulhardt  
Mayor Pro Tem

\_\_\_\_\_  
John C. Zaragoza  
Councilmember

\_\_\_\_\_  
Andres Herrera  
Councilmember

\_\_\_\_\_  
Timothy B. Flynn  
Councilman

cc: Genevieve Morelos, Analyst, League of California Cities

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ATTACHMENT 1  
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May 1, 2007

The Honorable Gene Mullin  
Chair, Assembly Education Committee  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Support of AB 1233 (Galgiani) State Library: homework assistance**

Dear Chairman Mullin:

The City Council of the City of Oxnard encourages you to support AB 1233 by Assembly Member Galgiani. Oxnard's population of nearly 200,000 represents one-quarter of Ventura County's population, and this measure is important to our libraries as it will provide needed funding to continue and enhance our free on-line tutoring assistance, *Live Homework Help*.

AB 1233 provides for \$3 million to be distributed through the California State Library to libraries throughout the state for live on-line tutoring assistance. Currently, those that provide the service are funded either through a full or partial federal grant administered through the State Library, local library budgets, and private grants. Continuance and expansion of the program would be achieved through passage of this bill.

*Live Homework Help* is available daily from 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week for assistance in math, science and English and 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday from a computer in the library. Spanish-language tutoring is available for math and science. The City of Oxnard recently opened its newest library, the South Oxnard Branch Library, which boasts state-of-the-art amenities for Oxnard's youth, including the highly effective *Live Homework Help* service.

Please do not hesitate to contact Martin R. Erickson, Legislative Affairs Manager at (805) 385-7870 should you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

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Dr. Thomas E. Holden  
Mayor

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Letter of Support for AB 1233 (Galgiani)  
May 1, 2007  
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Dean Maulhardt  
Mayor Pro Tem

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John C. Zaragoza  
Councilmember

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Andres Herrera  
Councilmember

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Timothy B. Flynn  
Councilman

cc: Assembly Member Cathleen Galgiani  
Consultant, Assembly Education Committee

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ATTACHMENT 2  
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