



LEAGUE OF
**CALIFORNIA
CITIES**

2026 General Assembly Packet



2026 General Assembly Packet

2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

8:30-10:30 a.m.

September 25, 2026

Anaheim Convention Center, Room 257

AGENDA

- I. **Welcome, Call to Order, Establish Quorum**
Gabe Quinto; President, League of California Cities; Mayor, El Cerrito
- II. **Overview and Procedures**
Nicholas Ghirelli; Parliamentarian; City Attorney, Paramount, Rancho Cucamonga and Seal Beach
- III. **Report of the Resolutions Committee**
David Cohen; First Vice President, League of California Cities; Chair, Resolutions; Council Member, San Jose
- IV. **Consent Calendar**
Resolution No. 1 *ACTION (pg. 3)*
- V. **Adjourn**

General Assembly Voting and Discussion Procedures

Discussion Procedures:

Discussion procedures during the General Assembly are guided by two calendars: the Consent Calendar and the Regular Calendar. As seen below, resolutions are calendared by the recommendations they receive from policy committees and the Resolutions Committee.

Policy Committee Recommendation	Resolutions Committee Recommendation	Calendar
Approve	Approve	Consent Calendar
Approve	Disapprove or refer	Regular Calendar
Disapprove or refer	Approve	Regular Calendar
Disapprove or refer	Disapprove or refer	Does not proceed to General Assembly

The 2026 Resolution No. 1 received approved as amended positions from the Housing, Community, and Economic Development Committee and the Resolutions Committee. As such, the resolution will be on the Consent Calendar.

The Resolutions Committee Chair will present the Consent Calendar as one motion during the General Assembly. Unless an item on the Consent Calendar is set aside by the majority of the General Assembly, a vote will be taken on the whole calendar. If an item is set aside, it will be opened for discussion, followed by a vote.

Voting Procedures:

Per Cal Cities Bylaws Article XII, Sec. 2, all votes will be conducted by voice vote first. If the presiding official cannot determine the outcome, a vote will be taken by an alternative method, typically by a raise of voting cards. A roll call vote may be called for by delegates of 10% or more of the General Assembly.

2026 Resolution

1. Resolution No. 1 submitted by City of Murrieta
 - Letters of concurrence submitted by:
 - i. City of Banning;
 - ii. City of Calimesa;
 - iii. City of Canyon Lake;
 - iv. City of Carson;
 - v. City of Highland;
 - vi. City of Moreno Valley;
 - vii. City of Norco;
 - viii. City of San Jose;
 - ix. City of Torrance;
 - x. City of Walnut;
 - xi. Crystal Ruiz, Mayor, City of San Jacinto;
 - xii. Jessica Alexander, Mayor, City of Temecula
 - Referred to Housing, Community, and Economic Development Committee
 - HCED Policy Committee Recommendation: **Approve as Amended**
 - Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **Approve as Amended by HCED Policy Committee**

Resolution No. 1
Submitted by City of Murietta *as*
Amended by the Housing,
Community, and Economic
Development Committee

1. A RESOLUTION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES CALLING FOR A WORKING GROUP TO CONSIDER A STATE ~~CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT OR OTHER FORM OF INITIATIVE~~ LEGISLATIVE OR POLICY SOLUTION TO ENSURE FINAL LOCAL AUTHORITY OVER HOUSING AND LAND USE DECISIONS AND TO ADVOCATE FOR ADDITIONAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING FUNDING TO SUPPORT AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

Source: City of Murrieta

Concurrence of five or more cities/City Officials

City Officials: City of Banning; City of Calimesa; City of Canyon Lake; City of Moreno Valley; City of Norco; City of Torrance; Crystal Ruiz, Mayor, City of San Jacinto; Jessica Alexander, Mayor, City of Temecula

Referred to: Housing, Community, and Economic Development Committee
Housing, Community, and Economic Development Committee

Recommendation: **APPROVE AS AMENDED**

Resolutions Committee Recommendation: **APPROVE AS AMENDED BY HCED POLICY COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, California cities have historically been responsible for adopting general plans and zoning regulations, reviewing housing development proposals, and providing or coordinating the streets, water, wastewater, public safety, parks, transportation, and other infrastructure and services necessary to support responsible, environmentally sound, and well-planned residential growth; and

WHEREAS, the League of California Cities is dedicated to protecting and expanding local control for municipalities across the state to ensure their orderly growth and development; and

WHEREAS, the League of California Cities recognizes that local zoning is a primary function of cities and an essential component of home rule, and that a city's general plan should guide its land use planning and strategic decision-making free from pre-emption by the state; and

WHEREAS, increasingly prescriptive statewide housing mandates and development approval requirements can override locally adopted plans, zoning standards, and public review procedures without adequately accounting for differences that exist in each unique jurisdiction in infrastructure capacity, water availability, wildfire and evacuation risks, environmental constraints, fiscal impacts, public service needs, and community priorities; and

WHEREAS, California's housing goals can be more effectively advanced through state funding, streamlined environmental requirements, and voluntary partnerships that support housing production while preserving the authority of locally elected officials to determine how and where housing is best planned and approved;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the General Assembly of the League of California Cities, assembled during the Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, on September 25, 2026, that the League of California Cities support the development ~~and advancement of a state constitutional amendment or other~~ **of** ~~a~~ legislative or policy ~~or ballot-based~~ strategy to restore and strengthen local authority over housing and land use matters within municipal boundaries, including general plans, housing elements, zoning, density, design and development standards, project siting, and the approval or denial of housing development applications; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any ~~constitutional amendment or alternative~~ strategy should preserve the State's authority to establish broad statewide housing goals and enforce constitutional and civil rights, fair housing requirements, building and life-safety standards, and generally applicable environmental protections, while protecting cities from state actions that compel, through funding conditions or state law, the approval of housing developments that are inconsistent with locally adopted requirements; override local zoning or density standards; or invalidate locally adopted housing or land use decisions when a city has planned in good faith to accommodate its regional housing needs allocation and maintains adequate capacity for housing at all income levels; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the League of California Cities consider establishing a statewide working group or other appropriate committee(s) to evaluate and develop a ~~proposed constitutional amendment or other~~ legislative **or** policy solution, ~~or ballot-based strategies~~ to restore and strengthen local authority over housing and land use matters including but **not** limited to: conducting appropriate legal, fiscal, and policy analyses; engaging cities and other stakeholders; **advocating for additional affordable housing funding**, and building a statewide coalition to restore and strengthen local authority over housing and land use ~~matters of proponent supporters in preparation for; the November 2030 General Election, or within another reasonable time frame~~ as determined by the working group.

Resolution No. 1: Background Information

Background Information for Resolution

Source: City of Murrieta

Background:

California cities are responsible for planning residential growth, adopting general plans and zoning regulations, reviewing development proposals, and providing or coordinating the infrastructure and public services necessary to support new housing. Since 2010, the State has enacted more than 500 housing-related laws that have increasingly shifted housing and land use authority away from local governments. These laws have expanded by-right development, limited locally adopted standards and review processes, and established enforcement mechanisms, including the builder's remedy, that may override local plans and zoning. Although these measures are frequently presented as solutions to housing affordability, many increase development capacity or restrict local review without delivering the meaningful production of housing needed to address the housing crisis.

At the same time, the State has continued to prioritize increased development capacity without adequately accounting for the infrastructure, public services, economic realities, and safety measures necessary to support housing growth. State mandates often fail to reflect local conditions, including roadway and utility capacity, water availability, wildfire exposure, environmental limitations, fiscal impacts, and the availability of essential services. Cities are consequently required to accommodate additional housing while receiving no funding or assistance to address the resulting infrastructure and service demands.

Local elected officials are directly accountable to the residents who experience the effects of development decisions and are responsible for balancing housing production with infrastructure capacity, public safety, environmental protection, fiscal sustainability, and community needs. Cities of all types in California have been grappling with this dynamic, ranging from urban to rural, coastal to inland, small to large, northern to southern, voicing concerns to legislative representatives with minimal responsiveness. This is an issue of statewide concern that needs the strength and diversity of the League of California Cities to pursue a long-term solution.

The proposed resolution directs the League of California Cities to establish a statewide working group to evaluate a constitutional amendment or other legislative, policy, or ballot-based strategies to restore and strengthen local authority over housing and land use decisions. The working group would be tasked with developing a more balanced framework that preserves the State's role in establishing broad housing goals and enforcing constitutional, civil rights, fair housing, building, life-safety, and environmental requirements, while restoring meaningful local authority to allow cities to determine how statewide housing

objectives should be implemented in a manner that reflects local conditions and community priorities while continuing to support responsible housing production.

As the primary statewide organization representing California cities, the League is uniquely positioned to lead this effort. Its established policy, legal, legislative, communications, and advocacy networks enable it to convene municipalities, evaluate potential strategies, conduct legal and fiscal analyses, build consensus, engage stakeholders, and coordinate with statewide decision-makers. League leadership would help ensure that any recommendation reflects the collective interests of California municipalities and would provide the credibility, organizational capacity, and statewide reach necessary to advance a viable strategy.

Resolution No. 1: Letters of Concurrence



City of Banning Office of the Mayor

July 23, 2026

President Gabe Quinto
League of California Cities
1400 K Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Support for a Resolution Establishing a Working Group to Evaluate a State Constitutional Amendment or Other Initiative to Restore Local Housing and Land Use Authority

Dear President Quinto,

The City of Murrieta is sponsoring a resolution for consideration by the General Assembly of the League of California Cities to establish a statewide working group to evaluate a constitutional amendment or other legislative, policy, or ballot-based strategies to restore and strengthen local authority over housing and land use decisions.

The proposed resolution, together with the required background materials, will be submitted to the Cal Cities for consideration at the 2026 Annual Conference in Orange County on September 24 and 25, 2026. The resolution would direct the League to convene a working group to evaluate potential approaches for addressing the increasingly broad and prescriptive state mandates affecting local housing, zoning, development standards and project approval authority.

On behalf of the City of Banning, this letter confirms our support for the City of Murrieta's submission of the proposed resolution and its consideration by the League of California Cities General Assembly at the 2026 Annual Conference.

Respectfully,

Richard Royce, Mayor
District 4, City of Banning

Colleen Wallace, City Council Member
District 5, City of Banning
President, Riverside County Division
League of California Cities

City of Calimesa

908 Park Avenue, Calimesa, California 92320
Telephone 909.795.9801 Facsimile 909.795.4399

www.calimesa.gov

"Preserving and enhancing the open space atmosphere and quality of life in Calimesa"



July 21, 2026

President Gabe Quinto
League of California Cities
1400 K Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Support for a Resolution Establishing a Working Group to Evaluate a State Constitutional Amendment or Other Initiative to Restore Local Housing and Land Use Authority

Dear President Quinto,

The City of Murrieta is sponsoring a resolution for consideration by the General Assembly of the League of California Cities to establish a statewide working group to evaluate a constitutional amendment or other legislative, policy, or ballot-based strategies to restore and strengthen local authority over housing and land use decisions.

The proposed resolution, together with the required background materials, will be submitted to Cal Cities for consideration at the 2026 Annual Conference in Orange County on September 24 and 25. The resolution would direct the League to convene a working group to evaluate potential approaches for addressing the increasingly broad and prescriptive state mandates affecting local housing, zoning, development standards, and project approval authority.

On behalf of the City of Calimesa, this letter confirms our support for the City of Murrieta's submission of the proposed resolution and its consideration by the League of California Cities General Assembly at the 2026 Annual Conference.

Sincerely,

Jeff Cervantez
Mayor
City of Calimesa



July 23, 2026

President Gabe Quinto
League of California Cities
1400 K Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Support for a Resolution Establishing a Working Group to Evaluate a State Constitutional Amendment or Other Initiative to Restore Local Housing and Land Use Authority

Dear President Quinto,

The City of Murrieta is sponsoring a resolution for consideration by the General Assembly of the League of California Cities to establish a statewide working group to evaluate a constitutional amendment or other legislative, policy, or ballot-based strategies to restore and strengthen local authority over housing and land use decisions.

The proposed resolution, together with the required background materials, will be submitted to Cal Cities for consideration at the 2026 Annual Conference in Orange County on September 24 and 25. The resolution would direct the League to convene a working group to evaluate potential approaches for addressing the increasingly broad and prescriptive state mandates affecting local housing, zoning, development standards, and project approval authority.

On behalf of the City of Canyon Lake, this letter confirms our support for the City of Murrieta's submission of the proposed resolution and its consideration by the League of California Cities General Assembly at the 2026 Annual Conference.

Sincerely,

Arron Brown
City Manager
City of Canyon Lake



CITY OF CARSON

The Jewel of the South Bay

CITY COUNCIL

August 4, 2026

President Gabe Quinto
League of California Cities
1400 K Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Support for a Resolution Establishing a Working Group to Evaluate a State Constitutional Amendment or Other Initiative to Restore Local Housing and Land Use Authority

Dear President Quinto,

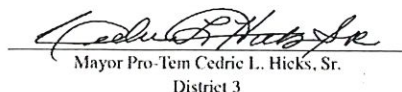
The City of Murrieta is sponsoring a resolution for consideration by the General Assembly of the League of California Cities to establish a statewide working group to evaluate a constitutional amendment or other legislative, policy, or ballot-based strategies to restore and strengthen local authority over housing and land use decisions.

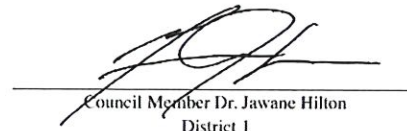
The proposed resolution, together with the required background materials, will be submitted to Cal Cities for consideration at the 2026 Annual Conference in Orange County on September 24 and 25. The resolution would direct the League to convene a working group to evaluate potential approaches for addressing the increasingly broad and prescriptive state mandates affecting local housing, zoning, development standards, and project approval authority.

On behalf of the City of Carson, this letter confirms our support for the City of Murrieta's submission of the proposed resolution and its consideration by the League of California Cities General Assembly at the 2026 Annual Conference.

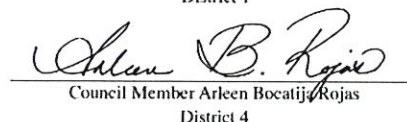
Sincerely,


Mayor Lula Davis-Holmes


Mayor Pro-Tem Cedric L. Hicks, Sr.
District 3


Council Member Dr. Jawane Hilton
District 1


Council Member Jim Dear
District 2


Council Member Arleen Bocatiya Rojas
District 4



September 15, 2026

President Gabe Quinto
League of California Cities
1400 K Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Support for a Resolution Establishing a Working Group to Evaluate a State Constitutional Amendment or Other Initiative to Restore Local Housing and Land Use Authority

Dear President Quinto,

The City of Murrieta is sponsoring a resolution for consideration by the General Assembly of the League of California Cities to establish a statewide working group to evaluate a constitutional amendment or other legislative, policy, or ballot-based strategies to restore and strengthen local authority over housing and land use decisions.

The proposed resolution, together with the required background materials, will be submitted to Cal Cities for consideration at the 2026 Annual Conference in Orange County on September 23 through September 25. The resolution would direct the League to convene a working group to evaluate potential approaches to address increasingly broad and prescriptive state mandates affecting local housing, zoning, development standards, and project approval authority.

The Highland City Council places significant importance on the principle that “one size does not fit all communities”. California's cities differ substantially in their geography, infrastructure, housing needs, economic conditions, community character, and long-term planning objectives. Decisions regarding how a community grows and develops are therefore best informed by the local circumstances and priorities of the residents and communities most directly affected by those decisions.

For the City of Highland, local authority over land use and development is reflected directly in the City's Municipal Code. The Municipal Code provides for a range of local development review processes allowing the City to evaluate development proposals within the context of Highland's General Plan, adopted land use districts, development standards, infrastructure, public services, and community priorities.

The City Council believes that greater local control allows communities to develop solutions that are responsive to their unique circumstances, while still recognizing the importance of statewide housing and planning objectives. Statewide policy can establish important goals; however, local governments should retain meaningful authority to determine how those goals are implemented within their individual communities.

Mayor
Penny Lilburn

Mayor Pro Tem
Jimmy Saldana

City Council
Gregory Hogan

City Council
Larry McCallon

City Council
John P. Timmer

City Manager
Carlos Zamano

27215 Base Line • Highland, CA 92346

Tel: 909.864.6861 • Fax: 909.862.3180 • www.highlandca.gov



On behalf of the City of Highland, this letter confirms our support for the City of Murrieta's submission of the proposed resolution and its consideration by the League of California Cities General Assembly at the 2026 Annual Conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Penny Lilburn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Penny" being more prominent than the last name "Lilburn".

Penny Lilburn
Mayor
City of Highland



July 23, 2026

President Gabe Quinto
League of California Cities
1400 K Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Support for a Resolution Establishing a Working Group to Evaluate a State Constitutional Amendment or Other Initiative to Restore Local Housing and Land Use Authority

Dear President Quinto,

The City of Murrieta is sponsoring a resolution for consideration by the General Assembly of the League of California Cities to establish a statewide working group to evaluate a constitutional amendment or other legislative, policy, or ballot-based strategies to restore and strengthen local authority over housing and land use decisions.

The proposed resolution, together with the required background materials, will be submitted to Cal Cities for consideration at the 2026 Annual Conference in Orange County on September 24 and 25. The resolution would direct the League to convene a working group to evaluate potential approaches to address increasingly broad and prescriptive state mandates affecting local housing, zoning, development standards, and project approval authority.

On behalf of the City of Moreno Valley, this letter confirms our support for the City of Murrieta's submission of the proposed resolution and its consideration by the League of California Cities General Assembly at the 2026 Annual Conference.

Sincerely,

Brian Mohan
City Manager
City of Moreno Valley



CITY OF NORCO

HORSETOWN USA

July 22, 2026

President Gabe Quinto
League of California Cities
1400 K Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Support for a Resolution Establishing a Working Group to Evaluate a State Constitutional Amendment or Other Initiative to Restore Local Housing and Land Use Authority

Dear President Quinto,

The City of Murrieta is sponsoring a resolution for consideration by the General Assembly of the League of California Cities to establish a statewide working group to evaluate a constitutional amendment or other legislative, policy, or ballot-based strategies to restore and strengthen local authority over housing and land use decisions.

The proposed resolution, together with the required background materials, will be submitted to Cal Cities for consideration at the 2026 Annual Conference in Orange County on September 24 and 25. The resolution would direct the League to convene a working group to evaluate potential approaches for addressing the increasingly broad and prescriptive state mandates affecting local housing, zoning, development standards, and project approval authority.

On behalf of the City of the Norco, this letter confirms our support for the City of Murrieta's submission of the proposed resolution and its consideration by the League of California Cities General Assembly at the 2026 Annual Conference.

Sincerely,

Kevin Bash
City Council Member
(951) 768-8981

September 23, 2026

Gabe Quinto
President, League of California Cities
1400 K Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for Resolution No. 1 Submitted by the City of Murrieta and as Amended by the Housing, Community, and Economic Development Committee

Dear President Quinto:

On behalf of the City of San José, I write in support of the resolution to establish a statewide working group to develop a legislative or policy strategy to restore and strengthen local authority over housing and land use matters and to advocate for additional funding for affordable housing development. If the General Assembly were to pass the resolution, the City of San José would like to participate in this working group.

The City of San José appreciates the concerns expressed by the City of Murrieta under Resolution No. 1 and endorses the amendments offered by the Housing, Community, and Economic Development Committee. Fundamentally, the City of San José concurs that local governments are best positioned to make housing and land use decisions that advance housing goals in their jurisdictions.

However, should the General Assembly adopt Resolution No. 1, the City of San José encourages the legislative or policy strategy to reflect a nuanced approach to this issue while balancing the need for greater housing production statewide. Over the last several years the City of San José has advanced multiple pro-housing policies, including permit streamlining and zoning reforms uniquely designed for our setting. As a result, San José has over 27,000 housing units that are entitled, but cannot proceed due to market conditions and other factors beyond the City of San José's control. The City of San José would like to join the working group to promote local decision-making and ultimately build more affordable housing for all Californians.

Sincerely,



Emily Lam

Director, City Manager's Office of Administration, Policy, and Intergovernmental Relations

For questions, please contact Han Kang, Chief Intergovernmental Relations Officer, City Manager's Office of Administration, Policy, and Intergovernmental Relations, at han.kang@sanjoseca.gov.

CC: Montana Cruz, Regional Public Affairs Manager – Peninsula Division, League of California Cities



CITY OF T O R R A N C E

SHARON KALANI
MAYOR

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS
DAVID KARTSONIS – District 1
BRIDGETT LEWIS – District 2
ASAM SHEIKH – District 3
VACANT – District 4
BETTY LIEU – District 5
Dr. JEREMY GERSON – District 6

July 29, 2026

President Gabe Quinto
League of California Cities
1400 K Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for a Resolution Establishing a Working Group to Evaluate a State Constitutional Amendment or Other Initiative to Restore Local Housing and Land Use Authority

Dear President Quinto,

The City of Murrieta is sponsoring a resolution for consideration by the General Assembly of the League of California Cities to establish a statewide working group to evaluate a constitutional amendment or other legislative, policy, or ballot-based strategies to restore and strengthen local authority over housing and land use decisions.

The proposed resolution, together with the required background materials, will be submitted to Cal Cities for consideration at the 2026 Annual Conference in Orange County on September 24 and 25. The resolution would direct the League to convene a working group to evaluate potential approaches for addressing the increasingly broad and prescriptive state mandates affecting local housing, zoning, development standards, and project approval authority.

On behalf of the City of Torrance, this letter confirms our support for the City of Murrieta's submission of the proposed resolution and its consideration by the League of California Cities General Assembly at the 2026 Annual Conference.

Local authority is essential because cities are best positioned to craft housing strategies tailored to their unique community conditions, infrastructure capacity, and geographic needs.

When given the flexibility to plan locally, cities can achieve meaningful housing results while maintaining the character and balance of their communities.

The City of Torrance has consistently demonstrated that local control and proactive housing production go hand in hand:

- **Housing Corridor Overlay Zone:** Through our approved 6th Cycle Housing Element, Torrance created the Housing Corridor Overlay (HCO). This targeted local framework allows for by-right housing and mixed-use development across seven key commercial and transit-adjacent corridors, streamlining approvals and incentivizing production across a full range of income levels.
- **Housing Element Progress & Accountability:** As documented in our Housing Element Annual Progress Reports (APR), Torrance actively tracks, updates, and implements programs—such as aligning our Land Use and Safety Elements—to clear barriers for residential development while ensuring robust infrastructure and public safety standards.

These initiatives illustrate that local governance can effectively drive housing opportunities without one-size-fits-all mandates from the state. Restoring and protecting local land use authority will allow cities across California to continue developing solutions that work best for their residents.

If you have any questions or require further discussion, please feel free to contact Carlos Huizar, Management Associate at (310) 618-5880 or via email at CHuizar@TorranceCA.gov.

Sincerely,



Sharon Kalani
Mayor, City of Torrance

cc:

Ron Holiday, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Murrieta
Lori Stone, City Councilmember, City of Murrieta
Jeff Kiernan, Los Angeles County Division, jkiernan@cacities.org
League of California Cities, cityletters@cacities.org
Joe A. Gonsalves & Sons, gonsalvi@gonsalvi.com



CITY OF WALNUT

August 24, 2026

President Gabe Quinto
League of California Cities
1400 K Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Support for a Resolution Establishing a Working Group to Evaluate a State Constitutional Amendment or Other Initiative to Restore a Local Housing and Land Use Authority

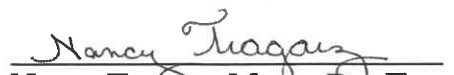
Dear President Quinto,

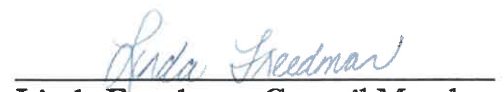
The City of Murrieta is sponsoring a resolution for consideration by the General Assembly of the League of California Cities to establish a statewide working group to evaluate a constitutional amendment or other legislative, policy, or ballot-based strategies to restore and strengthen local authority over housing and land use decisions.

The proposed resolution, together with the required background materials, will be submitted to Cal Cities for consideration at the 2026 Annual Conference in Orange County on September 24 and 25, 2026. The resolution would direct the League to convene a working group to evaluate potential approaches for addressing the increasingly broad and prescriptive state mandates affecting local housing, zoning, development standards and project approval authority.

On behalf of the City of Walnut, this letter confirms our support for the City of Murrieta's submission of the proposed resolution and its consideration by the League of California Cities General Assembly at the 2026 Annual Conference.

Respectfully,


Nancy Traganz, Mayor Pro Tem


Linda Freedman, Council Member


Kaylee M. Law, Council Member

July 23, 2026

Mr. Gabe Quinto, President

League of California Cities

1400 K Street, Suite 400

Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Support for Murrieta's Proposed Resolution on Housing and Local Governance

Dear League of California Cities Leadership,

I am writing in my individual capacity as Mayor of the City of San Jacinto to express my strong support for the City of Murrieta's proposed resolution, which is scheduled for consideration by the General Assembly at the 2026 Annual Conference.

This resolution represents a timely and important opportunity to thoughtfully examine the balance between California's statewide housing goals and the fundamental constitutional principle of local governance. The proposal to establish a statewide working group to explore a potential constitutional amendment, legislative reforms, or other policy initiatives would create a valuable forum for assessing how local authority over housing and land use decisions can be strengthened while still addressing the State's housing challenges.

Cities are uniquely positioned to understand the distinct needs, opportunities, and constraints of their communities. Local elected officials are directly accountable to the residents they serve and are best equipped to make land use decisions that reflect a community's character, infrastructure capacity, economic development priorities, environmental stewardship, and long-term vision. Moreover, local governments carry the primary responsibility for protecting public safety. Issues such as housing density, transportation, emergency access, wildfire preparedness, evacuation routes, law enforcement and fire service capacity, water availability, and critical infrastructure are inherently local matters that demand the knowledge, judgment, and responsiveness of those who serve their communities daily.

While the State has a critical role to play in addressing California's housing needs, a collaborative approach that respects local expertise and preserves meaningful local discretion will result in stronger, safer, and more sustainable communities. The proposed working group offers a constructive path forward to evaluate policies that achieve our shared housing objectives while restoring an appropriate balance between state direction and local authority.

Although this letter reflects my personal position as Mayor and does not constitute an official action or policy of the City of San Jacinto or the San Jacinto City Council, I respectfully endorse the City of Murrieta's submission of this resolution and encourage its favorable consideration by the League of California Cities General Assembly.

Thank you for your leadership and your thoughtful consideration of this important matter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Crystal Ruiz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping line extending from the end of the name.

Crystal Ruiz

Mayor

City of San Jacinto



City of Temecula

41000 Main Street ■ Temecula, CA 92590
(951) 694-6416 ■ Fax (951) 694-6499 ■ TemeculaCA.gov

July 23, 2026

Mr. Gabe Quinto, President
League of California Cities
1400 K Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: **Support for the City of Murrieta's Resolution Establishing a Working Group to Evaluate a State Constitutional Amendment or Other Initiative to Restore Local Housing and Land Use Authority**

Dear President Quinto:

I am writing in my individual capacity as Mayor of the City of Temecula to express my strong support for the City of Murrieta's proposed resolution for consideration by the General Assembly of the League of California Cities at the 2026 Annual Conference.

The proposed resolution presents an important opportunity to thoughtfully evaluate the appropriate balance between California's statewide housing objectives and the constitutional principle of local governance. Establishing a statewide working group to examine a potential constitutional amendment, legislative reforms, or other policy initiatives will provide a meaningful forum to assess how local authority over housing and land use decisions can be strengthened while continuing to address the State's housing challenges.

Cities are uniquely positioned to understand the needs, opportunities, and constraints of their communities. Local elected officials are accountable to the residents they serve and are best equipped to make land use decisions that reflect a community's character, infrastructure capacity, economic development goals, environmental stewardship, and long-term vision. Equally important, local governments bear the primary responsibility for protecting public safety. Decisions regarding housing density, transportation, emergency access, wildfire preparedness, evacuation routes, police and fire service capacity, water availability, and critical infrastructure are inherently local matters that require the knowledge and judgment of those who serve their communities every day.

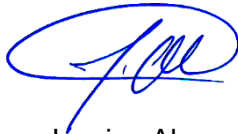
While the State has an important role in addressing California's housing needs, a collaborative approach that respects local expertise and preserves meaningful local discretion will produce stronger, safer, and more sustainable communities. The proposed working group offers an opportunity to evaluate policies that achieve these shared objectives while restoring an appropriate balance between state direction and local authority.

Mr. Gabe Quinto, President
League of California Cities
July 23, 2026
Page 2

Although this letter reflects my personal position and is not an official action or policy of the City of Temecula or the Temecula City Council, I respectfully endorse the City of Murrieta's submission of this resolution and encourage its favorable consideration by the League of California Cities General Assembly.

Thank you for your leadership and your thoughtful consideration of this important issue.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Alexander', enclosed within a blue oval.

Jessica Alexander
Mayor, City of Temecula
*Signing in her individual capacity
and not on behalf of the City of Temecula
or the Temecula City Council.*

Resolution No. 1: Staff Analysis

League of California Cities Staff Analysis on Proposed Resolution No. 1

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Committee: Housing, Community, and Economic Development

Summary:

Proposed Resolution No.1 states that the League of California Cities (Cal Cities) will:

1. Support the development and advancement of a state constitutional amendment, legislative, policy, or ballot-based strategy that restores and strengthens local authority over housing and land use matters, including general plans, housing elements, zoning, density, design and development standards, project siting, and the approval or denial of housing development applications.

Pursuant to the proposed resolution, the strategy should preserve the State's authority to set broad statewide housing goals and enforce civil rights, fair housing, building safety, and environmental standards, while protecting local control by preventing the State from compelling approval of developments that conflict with local requirements, overriding local zoning or density standards, or overturning local land use decisions where a city has planned for and maintained sufficient capacity to meet its housing obligations.

2. Consider establishing a statewide working group or other appropriate committee(s) to evaluate and develop a proposed constitutional amendment or other legislative, policy, or ballot-based strategies to restore and strengthen local authority over housing and land use matters. The proposed resolution state: conducting legal, fiscal, and policy analyses; engaging cities and other stakeholders; and building a statewide coalition of proponent supporters in preparation for the November 2030 General Election, or within another reasonable time period.

Background:

Provided in the background statement, the City of Murrieta is sponsoring this resolution in response to concerns over state laws that have increasingly reduced city discretion over housing and land use decisions, including legislation that requires ministerial or by-right approvals for housing projects, limits the application of local development standards, and strengthens state enforcement mechanisms against local governments.

The City of Murrieta, in their background statement, maintains that these legislative efforts have not resulted in sufficient housing production to address California's housing shortage and have not adequately accounted for local infrastructure, public service needs, public safety, market, and fiscal considerations.

The proposed resolution states that California's housing goals are better advanced through state funding, streamlined environmental requirements, and voluntary partnerships, while preserving local authority over how and where housing is best planned and approved.

Consideration of the resolution may be informed by a brief examination of how the California Constitution allocates authority between the State and cities with respect to land use decisions.

The Constitution grants cities the power to adopt local laws to protect the public's health, safety and welfare. This grant is called the "police power," which is the basis for local land use regulation. The Constitution grants charter cities the additional power to adopt local laws affecting "municipal affairs." This power, commonly referred to as "home rule" is based on the principle that a city, rather than the state, is in the best position to identify and satisfy the needs of the local community.

The Constitution's broad grant of police power contains a significant limitation. Local law adopted under the police power is not valid if it "conflicts" with state law. A local law "conflicts" with state law when it regulates the same "field" in which the Legislature has stated its intent to occupy. In that case, state law is said to "preempt" the local law and it cannot be enforced.

An ordinance adopted by a charter city under the municipal affairs power cannot be enforced if it affects a "matter of statewide concern." The subjects that have been identified as "matters of statewide concern" have changed over the years due to economic, social, and political circumstances.

Since the 1960s, the state has enacted numerous laws that limit or preempt aspects of local land use and zoning authority. These laws include the Fair Employment and Housing Act, Housing Element Law, Housing Accountability Act, Density Bonus Law, Permit Streamlining Act, Accessory Dwelling Unit laws, California Environmental Quality Act, and others. In recent years, several laws have been enacted that Cal Cities was the leading opposition force against, as many of the proposals pre-empted local land use authority, limited public review, and constrained local flexibility. In support of its housing and land use legislation, the Legislature has cited a statewide housing crisis, the need for increased housing production at all income levels and asserts that a uniform approach to local land-use decision making is required.

Discussion:

The resolution does not prescribe a specific policy mechanism and the eight letters in support recommend creating a working group or committee to evaluate potential approaches, including legislative proposals, constitutional amendments, or ballot initiatives to strengthen local authority over housing and land use matters.

A discussion of a strategy to restore and strengthen local authority over housing and land use matters will need to consider the California Constitution's framework for both preemption of police power enactments and municipal affairs, discussed above. It will also need to determine whether changes to the California Constitution will be proposed, and whether they constitute an amendment or a revision which require different processes.

A constitutional revision is a multistep process blending legislative consensus, voter support and on occasion, a constitutional convention. It requires significant public engagement.

A Constitutional amendment would require a ballot initiative, which includes gathering enough valid signatures to qualify for the ballot, building large coalitions to support election efforts, and campaigning to voters to support the initiative. This process can involve significant costs. In the last major election for ballot initiatives in 2024, proponents spent [\\$8 - \\$18 million](#) to qualify for the ballot and nearly [\\$700 million](#) spent for the full election cycle, averaging out to about \$100 million per ballot initiative.

Cal Cities has been engaged in ballot advocacy for over 20 years. In the early 2000's, Cal Cities developed a ballot advocacy infrastructure that included forming an issue political action committee, fundraising, establishing a network of regional managers, and building a coalition with other organizations to ultimately advocate on the ballot measure. Ballot advocacy requires approval of the Board of Directors with a supermajority vote.

In the Legislature, Cal Cities continues to play an active and influential role to ensure that local flexibility and autonomy in the land use and housing space is maintained, engaging on dozens of bills every legislative session to ensure that cities' voices are heard at the state capitol. Below, under "Existing Policy," you will find information about local control, housing and land use policies Cal Cities is currently pursuing.

Fiscal Impact:

The resolution itself would not have a significant direct fiscal impact. However, depending on what actions follow, the fiscal costs could be significant if they involve initiating a ballot measure. As discussed above, successful ballot advocacy may require tens of millions of dollars.

Existing Cal Cities Policy:

Vision

To be recognized and respected as the leading advocate for the common interests of California's cities.

Mission Statement

To expand and protect local control for cities through education and advocacy to enhance the quality of life for all Californians.

We Believe

- Local self-governance is the cornerstone of democracy.
- Our strength lies in the unity of our diverse communities of interest.
- In the involvement of all stakeholders in establishing goals and in solving problems.
- In conducting the business of government with transparency, openness, respect, and civility.
- The spirit of honest public service is what builds communities.
- Open decision-making that is of the highest ethical standards honors the public trust.
- Cities are vital to the strength of the California economy.
- The vitality of cities is dependent upon their fiscal stability and local autonomy.
- The active participation of all city officials increases the League's effectiveness.

- Partnerships and collaborations are essential elements of focused advocacy and lobbying.
- Ethical and well-informed city officials are essential for responsive, visionary leadership and effective and efficient city operations.

Zoning

Cal Cities believes local zoning is a primary function of cities and is an essential component of home rule. The process of adoption, implementation and enforcement of zoning ordinances should be open and fair to the public and enhance the responsiveness of local decision-makers. State policy should leave local siting and use decisions to the city and not interfere with local prerogative beyond providing a constitutionally valid procedure for adopting local regulations. State agency siting of facilities, including campuses and office buildings, should be subject to local notice and hearing requirements in order to meet concerns of the local community. Cal Cities opposes legislation that seeks to limit local authority over parking requirements.

Housing Element

Housing issues should be addressed in the general plan as other planning issues are. The housing element should be prepared for the benefit of local governments and should have equal status with the other elements of the general plan.

Encourage Full Community Participation

Foster an open and inclusive community dialogue and promote alliances and partnerships to meet community needs.

Well-Planned New Growth

Recognize and preserve open space, watersheds, environmental habitats, and agricultural lands, while accommodating new growth in compact forms, in a manner that:

- De-emphasizes automobile dependency;
- Integrates the new growth into existing communities;
- Creates a diversity of affordable housing near employment centers;
- Provides job opportunities for people of all ages and income levels.

Support:

The following letters of concurrence were submitted with the resolution by the July 25 deadline:

City of Banning

City of Calimesa

City of Canyon Lake

City of Moreno Valley

City of Norco

Crystal Ruiz, Mayor, City of San Jacinto

Jessica Alexander, Mayor, City of Temecula

Parliamentary Procedures

Parliamentary Procedure Basics Relating to Cal Cities General Assembly

*(adapted from Robert's Rules of Order Newly
Revised¹)*

Note: This document is designed to provide practical examples of common procedural matters encountered. It strives to provide guidance to foster productive and efficient meetings; it is not meant to be an exhaustive or comprehensive discussion of Robert's Rules. As always, it is the role and discretion of the chair to provide helpful guidance to individuals that may digress from the appropriate form and substance related to the conduct of meetings and the presentation of motions and other procedural matters set forth below.

I. COMMON MOTIONS

1. Main Motions

Purpose: To introduce items to the committee for their consideration.

Example: "I move to support AB 123."

2. Motion to Amend

Purpose: Retains the main motion under discussion but changes it in some way. *Example:* "I move to amend the (presented main) motion to support AB 123 if amended."

2a. "Friendly" Amendments

Purpose: To offer an amendment to the main motion that is still supportive of the main motion.

Example: If there is currently a motion to support AB 123 on the floor and a committee member makes a "friendly" amendment to support AB 123 and also request that staff report back after contacting the sponsor for clarification on specific language.

Note: This is commonly mishandled procedurally. Often the individual that seeks to offer the "friendly" amendment will inquire if the maker of the original motion will "accept" the amendment, and if so the chair will treat the motion as amended. This is not the proper way to handle such an amendment. It is not the discretion of the mover of the original motion (or the chair) to accept or decline the amendment, rather it must be adopted by the committee.

If it appears to the chair that an amendment (or any other motion) is uncontroversial, it is proper for the chair to ask if there is "any objection" to adopting the amendment. If no objection is made, the chair may declare the amendment adopted. If even one member objects, however, the amendment is subject to debate and vote like any other, regardless of whether its proposer calls it "friendly" and regardless of whether the maker of the original motion endorses its adoption.

3. Substitute Motion

Purpose: Removes the motion under discussion and replaces it with a new motion.

Example: When there is a main motion on the floor to support a bill, a substitute motion would be, "I move a substitute motion that the committee oppose AB 123."

Addressing Multiple Motions

The following examples provide guidance relating to how multiple motions are handled, and the impact failed substitute motions have on original (main motions) and any proposed amendments. The last motion presented should be considered first.

Note: Substitute motions commonly occur during meetings, yet Robert's Rules does not make a distinction between motions to amend and substitute motions. However, motions to amend must be considered prior to a main motion. Because the use of "substitute" motions is fairly widespread, the label as it is reflected in practice is used in the examples below. Rosenberg's Rules of Order do reference substitute motions and their impact is also reflected below.

Example 1

Committee Member 1: "I move that we support AB 123."

Committee Member 2: "I move that we support AB 123, if

amended." *Committee Member 3:* "I move a substitute motion that we oppose AB 123."

Characterizing the Motions:

In the above example:

Committee Member 1 has made a (main) motion.

Committee Member 2 has made an *amendment* to Committee Member 1's motion. Committee Member 3 has made a *substitute* motion to Committee Member 1's motion.

Order for Consideration and the Possible Outcomes

Committee Member 3's motion is considered first. If Committee Member 3's motion *fails*, Committee Member 2's motion will be considered next. If Committee Member 2's motion *fails*, Committee Member 1's motion will be considered. If Committee Member 2's motion *passes*, there is no need to consider Committee Member 1's motion.

If Committee Member 3's motion *passes*, there is no need to consider Committee Member 1's motions because Committee Member 3's motion replaces Committee Member 1's original motion. There is also no need to consider Committee Member 2's motion since it is an amendment to Committee Member 1's motion that has been replaced by Committee Member 3's substitute motion.

Example 2

Committee Member 1: "I move that we support AB 123."

Committee Member 2: "I move a substitute motion that we oppose AB

123." Committee Member 3: "I move that we oppose AB 123 unless amended."

Characterizing the Motions

In the above example:

Committee Member 1 has made a (main) motion.

Committee Member 2 has made a substitute motion to Committee Member 1's motion. Committee Member 3 has made an amendment to Committee Member 2's substitute motion (sometimes referred to as a substitute to a substitute motion).

Reviewing the Possible Outcomes

Committee Member 3's motion should be considered first. If the motion *fails*, Committee Member 2's motion is considered.

If Committee Member 2's motion *passes*, it is not necessary to consider Committee Member 1's motion because Committee Member 2's motion substitutes for it.

If Committee Member 3's motion *fails*, Committee Member 2's motion is considered. If Committee Member 2's motion *fails*, the substitute motion for Committee Member 1's motion fails, and Committee Member 1's motion is considered.

If Committee Member 3's motion *passes*, it is not necessary to consider Committee Member 1's motion because Committee Member 3's motion substitutes for it.

Example 3

Committee Member 1: "I move that we support AB 123."

Committee Member 2: "I move a substitute motion that we oppose AB 123." Committee Member 3: "I move a substitute to the substitute

motion that we take no position on AB 123."

Characterizing the Motions

In the above example:

Committee Member 1 has made a (main) motion.

Committee Member 2 has made a substitute motion to Committee

Member 1's motion Committee Member 3 has attempted to make a substitute to Committee Member 2's substitute motion (sometimes referred to as a substitute to a substitute motion).

Reviewing the Possible Outcomes

While procedurally permissible, in an effort to avoid confusion

Committee Member 3's motion should *not* be entertained by the chair until Committee Member 1 and Committee Member 2's motions have been discussed and voted upon.

Committee Member 2's motion should be considered first. If the motion *fails* Committee Member 1's motion is considered. If Committee Member 1's motion *fails*, then Committee Member 3's may make the motion to "take no position on AB 123."

If Committee Member 2's motion *passes*, it is not necessary to consider Committee Member 1's motion because Committee Member 2's motion substitutes for it.

4. Motion to Withdraw

Purpose: To withdraw an item from discussion.

Making the Motion to Reconsider: Only the individual that made the initial motion can make a motion to withdraw an item from discussion. The individual may interrupt a speaker (after being recognized by the chair) to withdraw the motion under discussion at any time.

Note: This type of motion typically occurs following some debate by the committee that may provide additional information that influences the mover to reconsider continued debate on the original motion presented. Another member may subsequently make the same motion after it has been properly withdrawn.

Example: "Madame Chair, I move to withdraw my motion to support AB 123."

5. Motion to Reconsider

Purpose: To revisit discussion of an issue.

Making the Motion to Reconsider: A motion to reconsider must be made by an individual that previously voted in the majority of the

original motion. A motion to reconsider made by an individual that previously voted in the minority must be characterized as out of order.

Timing: A motion to reconsider must be made at the same meeting where the original motion was discussed, or the next meeting of the body. Motions for reconsideration following the next meeting are out of order.

Example: "I move to reconsider the committee's position to support AB 123."

6. Motion to Table

Purpose: This motion is often used in the attempt to "kill" a motion by setting it aside. The option is always present, however, to "take from the table," for reconsideration by the committee.

Note: This type of motion should be reserved to temporarily set an item aside if agreed upon by a majority of the committee to take up an item of immediate urgency.

However, in practice it is sometimes used as an option to end debate and prevent a vote, and not typically to take up an item of immediate urgency. This is technically improper procedure (or out of order) under Robert's Rules.

Example: "I move that the committee table the motion to support AB 123."

7. Call for the Question

Purpose: To refocus the committee on the agenda in the event there is sentiment that the discussion has drifted. The individual seeking to end debate must first be recognized by the Chair, make the motion and the motion must receive a second. The motion must be adopted by a 2/3 vote or unanimous consent.

Example: "I move the previous question."

8. Motion to Appeal

Purpose: To appeal a ruling made by the chair. A committee member may move to appeal a ruling by the Chair, but it must be seconded and receive a majority vote to be reversed.

Example: "I move to appeal the Chair's ruling that the committee approved support of AB 123."

II. OTHER ITEMS

1. Point of Privilege

Purpose: To draw attention to an item that interferes with the comfort of the meeting.

Example:

Committee Member: "Point of privilege." *Chair:* "State your point."

Committee Member: "Madame Chair, may we inform the hotel staff that the room is uncomfortably hot and request that the air conditioning be adjusted."

2. Point of Order

Purpose: To draw attention to inappropriate conduct at the meeting.

Example:

Committee Member: "Point of order." *Chair:* "State your point."

Committee Member: "Madame Chair, the motion was approved without opportunity for debate."

3. Public Comment

In the spirit of the Brown Act an opportunity for public comment is included on policy committee agendas. The chair should exercise discretion in determining the appropriateness and extent of public comment during committee meetings setting reasonable limits as needed.

III. HOW TO PRESENT A MOTION

1. Obtain the floor by raising your voting card and wait to be recognized by the chair.
2. Make your motion.
 - a. Always state a motion affirmatively. For example, "I move that we support AB 123..." rather than, "I move that we do not take a position ...".
 - b. Avoid comments unrelated to the subject of the motion.
 - c. Avoid making any arguments supporting your motion at this time, simply state the motion.
3. Wait for someone to second your motion.
4. If there is no second to your motion it is lost and no vote will be taken by the committee.
5. If there is a second to your motion the chair should re-state the motion.
 - a. The chair will say, "it has been moved and seconded that we ..." This places the motion before the committee for consideration and action.

- b. The committee then either debates the motion or may move directly to a vote.
 - c. Once a motion is presented to the committee by the chair it becomes "committee property," and cannot be changed by the maker of the motion without the consent of the committee.
- 6. At this point the individual making the initial motion (the mover) may elect to expand on the motion. For example, this would be the appropriate time for the mover to present an argument in support of the motion.
- 7. The chair should always recognize the mover first.
 - a. All comments and debate must be directed to the chair.
 - b. Keep to the time limit (if any) for speaking that has been established.
 - c. The mover may speak again only after other speakers are finished, unless called upon by the chair.
- 8. Putting the Question to the Committee
 - a. The chair asks, "Are you ready to vote on the question?"
 - b. If there is no more discussion, a vote is taken on the motion.
 - c. If the motion passes, the committee moves on to the next item on the agenda.
 - d. If the motion fails, and no other motion is on the floor, then a new motion is in order.

Note: If a motion to support AB 123 fails, this does not mean that there is opposition to AB 123 by default. A separate motion to oppose AB 123 or some other formal motion must be made and voted on by the committee.

IV. VOTING ON A MOTION

1. Voting is Conducted by Voice

The chair asks those in favor to say, "aye," those opposed to say "no." If the outcome is unclear by voice, a hand vote may be taken. Any member may move for an exact count. Following the vote, the chair should announce the outcome.