***LETTERS MUST BE EMAILED RATHER THAN USING THE PORTAL THIS TIME. Here are the email addresses for the Budget Chairs:***

Senator Nancy Skinner senator.skinner@senate.ca.gov

Assembly Member Phillip Ting assemblymember.ting@assembly.ca.gov

Senator Anna Caballero senator.caballero@sen.ca.gov

Assembly Member Wendy Carrillo Assemblymember.Carrillo@assembly.ca.gov

\*\*\*CITY LETTERHEAD\*\*\*

DATE

The Honorable Nancy Skinner The Honorable Phillip Ting

Chair, Senate Budget Committee Chair, Assembly Budget Committee

State Capitol, Room 5019 State Capitol, Room 6026

Sacramento, CA 95814 Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Anna Caballero The Honorable Wendy Carrillo

Chair, Senate Budget Subcommittee #4 Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee #4

State Capitol, Room 5019 State Capitol, Room 6026

Sacramento, CA 95814 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chairs Skinner, Ting, Caballero, and Carrillo:

The **City/Town of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** respectfully requests a budget commitment to cities of at least $10 billion in the 2021-2022 State Budget to help cities recover from the pandemic, bolster investment towards meaningful solutions to homelessness, improve housing affordability, and advance critical infrastructure.

The fiscal consequences of the pandemic have had real world impacts on the city services Californians depend on daily. Nine out of 10 cities are currently experiencing a revenue shortfall due to the pandemic, 7 out of 10 cities anticipate that this shortfall will continue into next year, and 3 out of 4 cities will not, or are unsure if they can, balance their next budget without cutting services and staff.

**State how the pandemic has specifically negatively impacted your city and the services it provides**

While the local relief included in the American Rescue Plan will help cities continue to fight the pandemic and begin to rebuild their local economies, fiscal gaps still persist for many cities, whose revenue losses and unplanned expenditures far exceed the anticipated relief.

**Please state how additional state funding would assist your city and your community.**

The state budget surplus presents a historic opportunity to invest in cities, to ensure an equitable and comprehensive recovery, and address generational crises that were exacerbated by the pandemic. We urge the State and Legislature to appropriate at least $10 billion to cities, specifically:

* **$2 BILLION IN DIRECT AND FLEXIBLE STATE AID**. To address local budget gaps left by the American Rescue Plan Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund and to prevent sustained cuts to good government jobs and jumpstart core services including the easing of municipal hiring freezes. **If city still has budget gaps after American Rescue Plan funds, please state how additional state funding would assist your city and your community.**
* **$5 BILLION FOR EVIDENCE-BASED HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING SOLUTIONS.** To support cities in their efforts towards ending homelessness and increasing the construction of housing that is affordable to all Californians. **If applicable, state here how the pandemic has impacted housing and homelessness in your city and how additional funding would help those efforts.**
* **AT LEAST $3 BILLION FOR BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE.** To support expansion and related infrastructure upgrades in unserved and underserved communities to help cities catalyze projects statewide. **If applicable, state how this investment in broadband would help your city and your community thrive.**
* **$225 MILLION TO HELP FUND THE MANDATES TO DIVERT ORGANIC WASTE FROM LANDFILLS.** To enable cities and the State stay on course to meet our ambitious goals to reduce landfill disposal. **If applicable, state how these funds would specifically assist your city comply with the new regulations.**

All levels of government have worked together to combat this pandemic. As our work together shifts to recovery for all, let us continue that strong partnership by ensuring that no community is left behind. Thank you for considering our request for assistance to protect local government operations and jobs, and to help the **City/Town of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** emerge from this pandemic stronger than ever.

Sincerely,

NAME

TITLE

CITY/TOWN of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

cc: Your Senator & Assembly Member

Your Cal Cities Regional Public Affairs Manager (via email)

League of California Cities (Cal Cities), cityletters@cacities.org