



MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

August 21, 2015

The Honorable Ricardo Lara
California State Senate, Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 2206
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Opposition to AB 57 (Quirk) Telecommunications: Wireless Telecommunications Facilities

Dear Chairman Lara:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write in opposition to Assembly Bill 57 (Quirk). This bill reduces local control over local land use authority, including locally adopted zoning regulations, specifically by providing that a collocation or siting application for a wireless telecommunications facility is deemed approved if specified conditions are met.

Long Beach strictly enforces locally adopted zoning regulations related to wireless telecommunication facilities in accordance with State and federal law. The City will lose significant authority to regulate the aesthetic impacts of telecommunication facilities as the *deemed approved* applies to new and collocation wireless installations that require more time for important environmental, engineering and aesthetic review. The collocation and siting of wireless telecommunications facilities are matters best addressed by local governments.

AB 57 imposes challenging timeframes on local governments, making it difficult to involve the community, and address the aesthetic issues that are at the heart of the concerns of the community. This bill will facilitate a dramatic expansion of telecommunication facilities, which will result in a negative impact to the Long Beach's skyline and building aesthetics, and these are inconsistent with the City's General Plan policies for attractive and well-designed development. The City must retain our existing authority to regulate local land uses, infrastructure aesthetics and implement the City Council's adopted General Plan.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach opposes AB 57.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Garcia", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Anthony Rendon, State Assembly, 63rd District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District