CITY OF LONG BEACH

Office of the City Manager
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September 1, 2022

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for AB 2234 (Rivas and Grayson)—Postentitlement Phase Permits

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I urge your signature on Assembly Bill 2234. This legislation will help modernize permitting systems to ensure jurisdictions facilitate the development of housing across California, one of the state's greatest needs.

The proposal would require local permitting agencies to provide information online and develop efficient permitting timelines in line with the City of Long Beach's current practices. The Long Beach Development Services Department has created an accessible, user-friendly online Development Permit Center to better serve customers as they work through the plan review and permitting process, and we have seen great success allowing not only in-person permitting but also online options for customers. Through these efforts and strong collaboration with development partners, the City has tripled housing production during the last three years compared to earlier periods of time.

We especially appreciate the flexibility offered in AB 2234 for jurisdictions, like the City of Long Beach, that are currently in the process of developing online permitting software for housing development. This flexibility will allow us to continue to scale-up our online customer service efforts and not only build an online system that facilitates housing development but create the best possible system for our City and residents.

Given these reasons, the City requests your signature on AB 2234.

Sincerely,

THOMAS B. MODICA
City Manager

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
       The Honorable Lena Gonzalez, State Senate, 33rd District
       The Honorable Tom Umberg, State Senate, 34th District
       The Honorable Steven Bradford, State Senate, 35th District
       The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
       The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District