



MAYOR REX RICHARDSON

June 10, 2025

The Honorable Josh Lowenthal
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 8320
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for AB 649 (Lowenthal)—Disability Access: Construction-Related Accessibility Claims

Dear Assemblymember Lowenthal,

On behalf of the City of Long Beach (City), the City is in strong support of AB 649, which seeks to amend existing provisions regarding construction-related accessibility claims by establishing the Small Business Right to Cure Program.

The City is committed to creating an inclusive environment that prioritizes accessibility for all residents and visitors. The City recognizes the importance of upholding the rights of individuals with disabilities while also supporting our local small businesses that are integral to the economic vitality of our community. Everyone benefits when businesses are accessible and successful.

AB 649 introduces a balanced approach by providing small businesses with a six-year period following a Certified Access Specialist (CAsp) inspection to address identified accessibility violations without being subject to minimum statutory damages, provided they meet specified conditions. This initiative encourages proactive compliance and remediation efforts, ultimately enhancing accessibility across the state. This bill will encourage more businesses to obtain CAsp inspections to ensure their businesses are fully compliant with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act, providing predictability and confidence to countless small business and individuals with disabilities in Long Beach.

By facilitating a collaborative process that promotes both accessibility and economic sustainability, AB 649 aligns with the City's dedication to equitable and inclusive community development. For these reasons, the City supports AB 649.

Sincerely,

Mayor Rex Richardson
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Lena Gonzalez, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 65th District