



Housing Advisory Commission

CONSENT CALENDAR

April 23, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
 From: Housing Advisory Commission
 Submitted by: Xavier Johnson, Chairperson, Housing Advisory Commission
 Subject: Senate Constitutional Amendment 1 and Assembly Bill 10

RECOMMENDATION

Endorse Senate Constitutional Amendment (SCA) 1 and Assembly Bill (AB) 10.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

There are no direct fiscal impacts to supporting (SCA) 1 and (AB) 10.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The pieces of legislation described below have each been recently introduced for the 2019-2020 legislative session. The Berkeley Housing Advisory Commission considered both (SCA) 1 and (AB) 10 and recommended that the City Council endorse both measures at the February 7, 2019 Housing Advisory Commission meeting. The voting results are included below.

Action: M/S/C (Tregub/Sargent) to recommend to City Council to endorse Senate Constitutional Amendment (SCA) 1.

Vote: Ayes: Johnson, Lord, Sargent, Sharenko, Simon-Weisberg, Tregub, Wolfe and Wright. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Owens (excused).

Action: M/S/C (Tregub/Sargent) to recommend to City Council to endorse Assembly Bill (AB) 10.

Vote: Ayes: Johnson, Sargent, Sharenko, Simon-Weisberg, Tregub, Wolfe and Wright. Noes: Lord. Abstain: None. Absent: Owens (excused).

BACKGROUND

(SCA) 1 – introduced by Senators Allen and Wiener and co-authored by Senator Lara – propose that an amendment be placed on a future California State ballot that repeals Article 34 of the California State Constitution. This article presently “prohibits the development, construction, or acquisition of a low-rent housing project ... in any manner by any state public body until a majority of the qualified electors of the city, town, or

county in which [such a project] is proposed approve [it] by voting in favor at an election...”¹

(AB 10) – introduced by Assembly Members Chiu, Bonta, Maienschein, Reyes, and Wicks and with multiple coauthors) – “for calendar years beginning in 2020, would increase the aggregate [low-income] housing [tax] credit dollar amount that may be allocated among low-income housing projects by an additional [\$500 Million] ... and would allocate to farmworker housing projects [\$25 Million] of that amount.”²

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Investment in affordable housing opportunities, when coupled with viable transit options, has been found to contribute to reductions in vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gas emission reductions.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Berkeley City Council supports various efforts to invest in affordable housing, including at the state level.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

The Berkeley City Council can recommend for endorsement on a portion of the proposed pieces of legislation, or propose additional legislation to the endorsement request. While other housing bills of interest have been introduced for the 2019-2020 legislative session, their language is likely to change significantly in the coming months. Hence it is recommended that the City of Berkeley watches these bills, but takes no action at this time on these other bills.

CITY MANAGER

The City Manager concurs with the content and recommendations of the Commission’s Report.

CONTACT PERSON

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http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201920200SCA1&search_keywords=articl+34

² http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201920200AB10