March 15, 2021

Senator Susan Eggman
State Capitol, Room 4052
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for SB 621 (Eggman) Streamlining for Conversations of Hotels and Motels

Dear Senator Eggman:

The American Planning Association, California Chapter (APA California) is pleased to support your bill, SB 621, which would provide a streamlined process for converting hotels and motels into permanent multifamily housing with a specified percentage of units affordable to lower-income households.

APA California supported your proposal in 2020 and is pleased to see this bill back again this year. Importantly, our organization is also appreciative that the bill was reintroduced with language specifically requested by APA California in the 2020 that made a number of clarifications and also ensured the bill would not override existing local ordinances where a higher percentage of affordability is required than what is required under this bill.

As California continues to face an unprecedented housing crisis, compounded by the recent and ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, APA California supports efforts to streamline and encourage housing development and appreciates your efforts on this important issue. If you have any questions, please contact Lauren De Valencia, Stefan/George Associates, APA California’s lobbyist, at 443-5301, lauren@stefangeorge.com.

Sincerely,

Eric Phillips
Vice President Policy and Legislation
APA California

cc: Senate Housing Committee
Senate Republican Caucus
The Governor
The Office of Planning and Research
The Department of Housing and Community Development