



American Planning Association
California Chapter

Creating Great Communities

May 26, 2021

The Honorable Scott Wiener
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 5100
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: Support as Amended for SB 477 (Wiener) – New General Plan Annual Progress Report Requirements

Dear Senator Wiener:

The American Planning Association, California Chapter (APA California) is pleased to support your bill, SB 477, which adds a number of requirements to the annual progress report (APR) that local governments are required to submit to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) each year in relation to their housing elements.

In the last several years, the Legislature has passed a number of measures that streamline and encourage housing development, however not all new development tools are currently included in current APR requirements. APA California believes the additional data to demonstrate how these new measures are being applied will provide transparent public access and demonstrate progress jurisdictions are making on implementing new housing laws. At the same time, this data will also demonstrate the types of streamlining tools developers are utilizing to provide for more housing in communities.

APA California appreciates the recent amendments that will allow local agencies to submit website links to their schedules of mitigation fees, rather than the schedules themselves, which can be lengthy standalone reports that would not be easily included in the current APR format. As California continues to face an unprecedented housing crisis, compounded by the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, we appreciate all your efforts on this important issue. If you have any questions, please contact our lobbyist, Lauren De Valencia, with Stefan/George Associates, lauren@stefangeorge.com, 916-443-5301.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Eric S. Phillips' with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Eric S. Phillips
Vice President, Policy and Legislation APA California

cc: Members of the California State Senate
Senate Republican Caucus
The Governor
The Office of Planning and Research