



American Planning Association
California Chapter

Creating Great Communities for All

APA CALIFORNIA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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The 2022 Legislative Session Comes to an End

The Legislature adjourned on August 31, bringing the 2022 California Legislative Session to a close. Before leaving, legislators passed several planning related bills that are now awaiting action from the Governor. All bills on the Governor's desk must be acted on by September 30.

As always, hundreds of bills of interest to planners moved through the Legislature this year. While continuing to focus on housing and homelessness through policy related proposals and through funding in the budget, the state also focused more broadly on data and accountability, both in enforcement of new housing laws and statewide audits of various agencies. With that said, several high-profile planning bills made it to the Governor and included enforcement provisions, like other recent housing bills that have passed. Bills such as [AB 2011 \(Wicks\)](#) and [SB 6 \(Caballero\)](#), which would provide streamlining to allow housing development on commercial properties, [AB 2097 \(Friedman\)](#), which would eliminate parking requirements on qualifying developments and [AB 2234 \(R. Rivas\)](#), which would streamline the post entitlement permit process, all cleared the Legislature after several rounds of amendments.

In addition, the Legislature considered proposals to overhaul how developments are approved in high fire areas and the budget focused funding for infill development to steer growth away from such hazard areas. However, major proposals to address the planning process in high fire areas like [SB 12 \(McGuire, 2021\)](#) and [AB 2705 \(Quirk-Silva\)](#) failed to pass.

The Legislature also focused on climate change and related impacts dealing with deployment of more ZEV infrastructure, broader coordination at the state, regional and local level for transportation planning and improvements of non-vehicular transportation options, such as [SB 932 \(Portantino\)](#) and [SB 922 \(Wiener\)](#). Several bills were also introduced in the final days of session to fulfill the Governor's climate and energy goals. The Legislature passed proposals to shore up grid reliability during the state's shift to clean energy, set new interim targets for reaching 100% clean electricity, codify the state's goal to reach carbon neutrality by 2045, and mandate buffer zones around new oil and gas wells.

Wondering What Happened to all the Planning-Related Bills? The summary above is just a brief snapshot of the Legislature's work this year. For more details, please join us at the APA California Conference in Anaheim (or streaming live) on October 2, for the Legislative Update Session. We will provide an in-depth recap of the 2022 Legislative Session at look forward to seeing you there!

If you're interested in looking up *all* planning related bills APA California tracked this year and their status, please visit the [APA California website](#) for a comprehensive list with links to bill language.

APA California's Work in the Legislature

APA California actively engages in the Legislature on many bills throughout the year, and often in advance of bills being introduced or amended. In fact, we work closely with legislative and committee staff on technical advice and address clarifications to bills on many proposals each year. In addition, we frequently partner with other organizations to advocate on bills and continue to look forward to expanding our partnership network.

Please reach out with questions to policy@apacalifornia.org and lauren@stefangeorge.com.