

Creating Great Communities for All

January 31, 2024

Assemblymember Laura Friedman 1020 N Street, Room 5150 Sacramento, California 95814

SUBJECT: AB 930 (Friedman) Local government: Reinvestment in Infrastructure for a Sustainable and Equitable California (RISE) districts. – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Friedman:

The American Planning Association, California Chapter is pleased to support AB 930, which would authorize two or more local governments to jointly form a Reinvestment in Infrastructure for a Sustainable and Equitable California (RISE) district to unlock tax increment financing for infrastructure and equitable development in location-efficient areas.

APA California is a non-profit organization made up of practicing planners, citizens and public officials committed to advancing the practice of local, regional, and statewide planning throughout urban, suburban, and rural California. As adopted in APA California's Legislative Platform, *Plan California*, our organization is supportive of efforts that provide local resources to fund affordable housing and infrastructure in communities throughout the state, with a focus on supporting infill development.

We believe AB 930 comes at a critical time when local governments are working hard to address the housing crisis by meeting new housing targets, promoting infill development where possible to avoid sprawl and creating more resilient housing by redirecting housing away from high hazard areas, when possible. However, infrastructure, particularity in infill areas through the state, are in desperate need of maintenance and substantial upgrades. This is a costly demand that makes meeting housing goals even more challenging. Additionally, one of the major obstacles to building housing, particularly in infill areas is the cost of critical infrastructure, which often neither the developer or the city or county has the finances to fund.

While we are acutely aware that the state is facing another significant budget shortfall, we also know that the Legislature and the Administration are committed to addressing our housing and climate crisis. AB 930 provides opportunities and investments for local governments to focus development in infill areas throughout the state that will ultimately reduce GHG emissions by creating more walkable, vibrant, and resilient communities.

We appreciate your dedication to this important issue, and for all the reasons listed above, are pleased to support AB 930. If you have any questions, please contact our lobbyist, Lauren De Valencia, with Stefan/George Associates at <u>lauren@stefangeorge.com</u>.

Sincerely,

cc:

Erik de Kok, AICP Vice President Policy and Legislation APA California

The Governor The Office of Planning and Research

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