

Communication from Public

Name: Barbara Broide

Date Submitted: 04/01/2025 01:50 PM

Council File No: 25-0002-S19

Comments for Public Posting: SB 79 is another State attempt led by Scott Wiener to remove local authority over land use. It must be opposed. The measure undermines all the hard work done to craft the City's Housing Element. As has been expressed on countless occasions: blanket upzoning done by State law is simply BAD policy. It abdicates the city's responsibility to do planning. Instead, it allows developers to become a city's planners -- cherry picking lots where they can maximize profits without regard to neighbors, neighborhoods, infrastructure, etc. Additionally, the bill builds on the State's approach to punish cities with threats of invoking the Housing Accountability Act's dreaded Builder's Remedy rather than to provide resources and tools to support sustainable development. Six story apartment buildings placed on lots near transit with ministerial approval disenfranchises all those who seek to build livable communities. Senator Wiener's unyielding fixation on passing legislation that promotes blanket upzoning and housing density without attention to all the additional factors that make for healthy communities ignores the needs for jobs/housing balance, quality of life issues, ability of cities to efficiently provide for infrastructure when growth is not focused to specific neighborhoods. It is important that this proposed Council File be moved through committees quickly so that the City's lobbyists can join with other cities to oppose it. LA SHOULD NOT REMAIN SILENT.

Communication from Public

Name: Maria Pavlou Kalban- United Neighbors

Date Submitted: 04/01/2025 03:52 PM

Council File No: 25-0002-S19

Comments for Public Posting: Two months ago the City Council approved a Housing Element that will add substantial density throughout the city. The Planning Department did not find the need to add more density, beyond what SB 9 allows, in single family neighborhoods. The City Council agreed to support the Planning Department's Housing Element without allowing a last minute amendment that would have added density to single family areas. Now the State is introducing SB 79 that upends the City's planning process before it is even implemented. It makes all the millions of dollars it cost to create the Housing Element a total waste. This bill weaponizes bus stops. Any bus whose route has a dedicated bus lane no matter how short, qualifies for SB 79 on every one of its stops. It allows within a 1/2 mile radius of that bus stop 6-7 story apartments. This impacts huge areas of the city and makes planning the city impossible. Because it requires no affordable housing it will undermine the City's own CHIP program which will impact its ability to meet the RHNA mandate at all levels of affordability. It will impact Historic Districts that are easy targets for gentrification. It impacts light industrial zones, future areas for new job growth and it impacts residential neighborhoods that will not have the infrastructure to support the randomness of these developments. We hope the City Council stands up for local control and for the City's right to plan for more affordable housing while protecting existing housing if the City has an approved Housing Element. We hope the City Council votes to oppose SB 79 and allows Planning to implement the Housing Element that address critical issues in the city. We need Los Angeles to lobby against this bill.