



City of
SANTA CLARITA

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February 11, 2022

Laurene Weste
Mayor

The Honorable Rudy Salas
California State Assembly, District 32
1021 O Street, Room 4610
Sacramento, CA 95814

Jason Gibbs
Mayor Pro Tem

Dear Assembly Member Salas:

SUBJECT: AB 916 (SALAS): OPPOSE

Marsha McLean
Councilmember

On behalf of the Santa Clarita City Council, I am writing to respectfully express our opposition to Assembly Bill 916, related to residential dwelling expansions and accessory dwelling units (ADU). The Santa Clarita City Council voted unanimously to oppose this measure on February 8, 2022.

Bill Miranda
Councilmember

The City of Santa Clarita (City) recognizes the importance of land use planning and development of housing to meet population growth and community needs. In that vein, the City has issued approximately 236 ADU permits since the State Accessory Dwelling Unity law (ADU) took effect on January 1, 2017.

Cameron Smyth
Councilmember

While we appreciate your goal to expand housing, Assembly Bill 916 significantly preempts local land use authority. Specifically, the bill preempts the City's ability to properly review projects that add bedrooms to existing residential dwellings and impose reasonable ADU requirements and/or conditions that take into consideration the City's residential character and local unique characteristics.

The City has experienced significant growth in the last 30 years, more than doubling in population to over 228,000 residents. With such rapid growth, the City has diligently worked to ensure that housing development planning and standards, including policies related to ADUs and existing residential dwelling expansions, recognize and incorporate the unique community needs, topography and geography of Santa Clarita.



The City has the tools, knowledge and policies in place to continue to plan and develop innovative residential units that enhance the quality of life for our community. It is critical for the City to maintain local land use authority and ensure that the City continues to have the ability to consider unique factors when reviewing housing development plans, including the expansion of existing residential dwellings and ADU projects.

For these reasons, the City of Santa Clarita respectfully opposes Assembly Bill 916. We look forward to working with your office to address our concerns. Should you or your staff require any further information regarding our position on this bill, please feel free to contact Intergovernmental Relations Analyst Masis Hagobian at (661) 286-4057 or mhagobian@santa-clarita.com.

Sincerely,



Laurene Weste
Mayor

LW:MH

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cc: Members of the City Council
Senator Scott Wilk
Senator Henry Stern
Assemblywoman Suzette Valladares
Assembly Member Tom Lackey
Kenneth W. Striplin, City Manager
Frank Oviedo, Assistant City Manager
Leadership Team
Masis Hagobian, Intergovernmental Relations Analyst
Jennifer Quan, League of California Cities
California Contract Cities Association
Joë A. Gonsalves & Son